



"A Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!"™

August 2026

Golden GRRROWL

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

An Interview with Bailey

by Mary Lemma

GRRR: Bailey, tell your GRRR friends a little about your life since you were adopted. How are things going?

Bailey: OMG. First, I must mention my foster parents. They were great, and when I met up with them again at the gala in... I think it was June of 2024, when I was an ambassador dog, it was really nice to see them again. I'm pretty sure they could see I'd landed in a good "forever" home. Get it? *FURever*? If I remember right, the foster dad thought I'd make a good therapy dog, and he mentioned Pet Partners. More on that later. Meantime, Mary Kenton and the GRRR peeps were so nice to me while I was at Phoebe's Place.

Anyway, whenever I tell people I'm a Golden Angel, they look at me like, "You must think you're pretty special, calling yourself that." Like I'm bragging or something. I'm a Golden Angel because GRRR members have donated to this fund that helps pay for dogs to get serious medical treatment. In my case, I needed TWO hip replacements! Not one, like Mom had, but two! I was born with this thing called hip something—oh, yeah, hip dysplasia. The surgeries went well, and I heeled—oops, *healed*—really well, and thanks to Mom and Dad following the doctor's orders and our big, fenced property. I can run all over the place and say hi to people and their dogs as they walk past, and play with my sister, a big giant fluffball called a Great Pyrenees mix. She's getting on in years but still wants to play sometimes.



From Golden Angel to Therapy Dog

GRRR: Bailey, you mentioned therapy work. What's that about?

Bailey: It's when you go to places to help people feel better—you know, less stressful and stuff. Ya can't just show up at places—there's lots of training before you get evaluated. Like how to ignore startling noises, or like when people are arguing or speaking loudly; or to ignore equipment, like wheelchairs or crutches, and even other dogs who may be in a therapy situation. Um, I had to go through a few evaluations before I could get registered as a therapy dog. It was Mom's fault, though. As you probably know, training us dogs is as much about training our hoomans.

Anyway, what I do is go to the Parker library—with Mom, of course—so kids who struggle with reading can practice without being judged. The kids and their

Bailey providing comfort to a child at the Parker Library

mom or dad come and sit in this room with us. There's a table with books, or they can bring their own.

So all I do is lie there, and the kids read to me! They pet me while they read! And once in a while, when they stop petting, I, um, let them know I'd like more by extending my front leg towards them. I do that with other people too. And the kids are really calm while they read. Each session lasts about 15 minutes; then another child comes. It's by appointment. And of course we can take a quick break between visits.

Mom: What Bailey doesn't mention—through no fault of her own, of course—is how much her visits bring smiles to everyone she encounters. With rare exception, adults and children stop to pet her, which she loves. And for me, it's heartwarming to be in the welcoming atmosphere as we enter the library. I'm reminded of the physicians who founded Pet Partners, recognizing the value of the human/animal bond.

Bailey: I know, *right*? Another place I've visited is Rocky Vista University's School of something—oh, yeah: Osteopathic Medicine. The students and staff there are so cool! All I have to do is lie in the lobby on the floor, leashed, of course, with my vest, and people love on me! Whether staff members are on their way to meetings, or between meetings, or the students are between classes or on their way to the cadaver lab, most of them stop to visit. Mostly they smile and laugh and tell me how cute I am. Or ask how old I am. Sometimes they say I remind them of their own dogs, or if they're from a different state, that they miss their dogs.

And Mom, she'll talk to people—ya know, ask them about their work or goals, that sort of thing. It's so much fun! In fact, Mom signed us up for when the new academic year starts! Oh! Toward the end of last semester, RVU hosted a barbecue for the students and the Pet Partners teams! I got to meet a couple of other therapy teams and, to Mom's surprise, I didn't try to eat the food! Go figure, right?

GRRR: Wow, Bailey! Good to see you're busy and that you and people love each other so much—not that your GRRR friends are surprised.

Mom: Ah, another thing. Bailey hasn't shared a funny little bit of mischief she likes. Tell your readers, Bailey.

Bailey: Oh okay. Well, I like to take things like socks and reading glasses and, um, “relocate” them. I do it while Mom and Dad are sleeping. I'll take one sock from Mom's shoe that's on the floor by her side of the bed and take it to the other side of the bed and leave it on the floor, so in the morning Dad can pick it up and take it to where it belongs. Oh! And if Mom's shoes are there but with no socks, I take the shoe to the other side of the room!

I do the same thing with Mom's reading glasses when I can reach them, like on the side table when she reads. They don't get mad at me; they just try to remember to put the socks, shoes, and glasses where I can't reach them.

Talk about how a “Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!” I sure changed theirs! 💙



Bailey giving comfort to a student while mom watches



Ambassador Dog Bailey with Mary and Joe greeting her foster parents at the GRRR gala

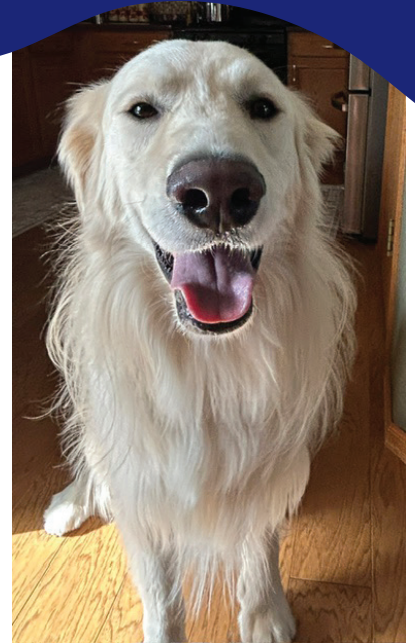
Recent Rescues

Dear GRRR:

Winston (formerly Atlas) made himself immediately at home. While he is still shy around new people, he is devoted to his new family. He loves to run and play with his puppy brother, Taika, in the backyard, get belly rubs, or lie under my desk as I work from home. We've been taking Winston to different places and meeting new people to help him get socialized. Being so tall, Winston also likes to help himself to food on the counter. We are working with him daily and making sure we don't keep food in reach! Otherwise, he is very well behaved and we are grateful that Winston is part of our family!

Heather Meier

Winston



Hi GRRR,

We've only had Birdie (formerly Bambi) for 10 days, but she's already made herself right at home. She's fitting in wonderfully with our family and keeping her older brother, Chip, on his toes. At four years old, she has endless energy. We're convinced she may secretly be a puppy.

Birdie has truly never met a stranger and is at risk of being stolen everywhere she goes. The groomer, the vet, fellow pedestrians... everyone falls in love with her. At home, she's enjoying daily walks, backyard games of fetch, and relaxing with her humans once she's finally worn out.

She's as sweet as can be and is learning her manners, although bunnies continue to test her self-control. Let's just say loose-leash walking is at the top of our to-do list!

Welcome home, Birdie girl!

Rachael & RJ Falco



Hi GRRR:

Mack (formerly Maximus) is a gem – we hit the dog lottery! Mack loves to swim, play ball (he's quite OCD about this), and take long walks. He's so well trained, he waits for "Bon appetit" before he eats.

GRRR was a wee bit worried about him being toy possessive and needing socialization, but he loves all beings including squirrels, and happily shares his toys. Mack is our little rock star!

Thanks, GRRR, for all the Goldens you help.

Kathy Leedom

Mack



Recent Rescues



Charlie Needs a Job

From the cold January day we brought Charlie home from GRRR, we knew he was special. As one of Ella's — also known as Josie's — offspring, Charlie quickly showed us that he was both a cuddler and a social soul.

The GRRR staff had socialized him well, and Charlie's uniqueness showed immediately: he doesn't bark — he yodels. He "talks" to the vet for a good five minutes before an exam can begin. He wears a hat when he goes for walks and spends a good part of the day sleeping on the couch.

Since he had mastered the art of being relaxed, we decided he needed a job. Charlie is laid back, unbothered by much of anything, and happy to meet every person and dog he encounters, so therapy work seemed like the perfect fit. After being tested and observed in a hospital setting, Charlie passed his evaluations and became a certified therapy dog. Charlie takes his role seriously, greeting everyone with a wagging tail and accepting every pet with great joy. We are so proud of him. At home, Charlie still enjoys couch time cuddling with "big lamby." His responsibilities also include supporting his anxious brother, Kelton. They are a great pair, and we love them both. Charlie may have needed a job, but it turns out he was already made for one: bringing comfort, laughter, and calm wherever he goes.

Krista Elezian

Charlie & Kelton



Hello GRRR:

Three months ago, we adopted Chief and Olive. Today, we wanted to share an update on how these two bonded best friends are doing!

- Miss Olive has officially claimed her title as the alpha. She isn't friendly towards other dogs, which we are working on. She loves the TV.
- We learned Chief is terrified of thunder and fireworks, which is a first for us.
- Opposites at the Lake: Lake life is their absolute passion, but they enjoy it in their own unique ways.
- Chief the Fisherman: Chief sits intently on the dock, waiting patiently for a fish to be caught. The moment a fish is hooked, he explodes with excitement!
- Olive the Swimmer: Olive is a true water baby. She can happily swim in circles for hours without ever getting tired.
- They adapted perfectly from day one. They never let us out of their sight. Olive lays under my home office desk during the day and Chief follows Scott around.

Thank you for keeping these two together and trusting us with them. Watching them navigate life, protect each other, and enjoy the lake has been a true joy.

Scott & Dunja



Chief & Olive

Dear GRRR,

We adopted Huck (formerly Freddy), six months ago. It has been quite a journey, and his true personality emerges more each day. Huck is a sweet, goofy pup who is gaining confidence and learning that he no longer needs to be afraid. He has gained 10 pounds and is now very close to his ideal weight.

Huck loves carrying around his stuffies, stealing shoes, relaxing in the yard, and jumping onto the bed to wake up his humans at sunrise. He adores his big brother, Bentley, and is learning a lot from him. He is also making great progress with his commands and manners; he recently graduated from Basic Obedience training at Front Range K9 Academy and continues to work on perfecting his new skills.

It's so nice to not see him jump at every sound or shadow anymore. He is finally coming out of his shell and starting to live the life he (and all dogs) deserve.

Best regards,

Susan Liddell-Caudill

Bentley and Huck



Dear GRRR:

When our wonderful Perry died suddenly in May, we were devastated. A couple of dogless weeks later we thought it might be time to get out of our funk and honor his memory with a new Goldie. Lucky for us a dog had arrived that week, who Mary described as around 5, sweet, beautiful, and very big. I think she said big several times. We came to meet the dog Mary had called Redford, and fell in love instantly. I think we thought sweet before we thought big. But I don't have to bend at all to pet him.

The dog we later named Woody came in with no information, tags, chips or anything, but he clearly was well taken care of. His past is a mystery, but we think he was loved. He has all the basic training along with being a top-notch retriever. I don't believe I've had a Golden who not only gets the ball, but drops it at my feet! What a guy!



He has fit right into the Fraser lifestyle, meeting the neighbor humans and dogs, running, sniffing and checking it all out. We look forward to many healthy, happy years with this fellow and hope whoever gave him a good start to life can rest knowing he will be loved.

Judi Servoss and Joel Carmichael

Woody



Dear GRRR:

Here is my Lola, who is doing great! She was a stray and is about 9 years old. She needs and will get a few medical things, but she is doing well overall and has settled in nicely. I do believe she knows her name now, which was new to her when she came to GRRR. She is super sweet and wants constant attention, so household chores have to be accomplished with only one hand.

Thanks, Karina Vancamp

Lola



Recent Rescues

Dear GRRR:

It's been a month now and Murphy has truly found his place and is forever a member of our family. He had a few rough nights here and there during the first couple of weeks while he figured us out, but the last two weeks he has settled in and truly loving us and we love him. Thank you for letting us adopt such a great boy.

Matthew Hillary



Murphy

Dear GRRR:

Millie "adopted" my husband Stan immediately when he entered GRRR's dog play area ten years ago. Millie stayed by Stan's side as he filled out paperwork. She now lays on his feet when he's reading or watching TV.

We talk about GRRR on our walks all the time! She is now 12.

Karen Nakandakare

Millie



Dear GRRR:

I adopted this sweet girl right before her 10th birthday back in March. Murphy is amazing and a perfect fit for me! We have been on many adventures and she's come so far! Murphy enjoys riding in a car now and is loving daily walks, making every day as special as possible! Her favorite place is my couch! No problems here!

Thank you GRRR and Roberta for working with me to make this happen!

Margo Noel

Murphy



Hi GRRR:

Ralphie is a total character. When we brought him home at 8 weeks he weighed 10 pounds. Now at 6 months he is 55 pounds. He is going to be a big boy. He is smart and cuddly. He is quite the talker, his husky shines through!

Ralphie goes to work with me every day and gets so many pets. He is the love of our lives and we are excited to help him grow into the best doggie ever!

Carrie Hibbard

Ralphie



Dear GRRR:

We just finished swimming in the lake with Poudre. He is doing great. Super sweet.

Robyn Elmslie

Poudre



Dear GRRR:

Welcoming Ruby (previously Violet) into our home has been wonderful. She has quickly settled in to routine. Ruby is very well mannered at home and has a fun way of telling us when she needs out for potty break – she brings a toy to us then heads for the back door. She is a sweetheart. Loves going to the park and path by the creek, playing fetch in our yard, and zoomies in backyard, but can quickly settle while in the house. Ruby loves car rides too. She has a multitude of toys and her favorites are lamb chop and hedgehog.

Ruby is just starting training to refine basic skills and she's very smart but easily distracted. She's nervous with new people, however she really warms up once she knows you. In the short time we've had her she's learned to shake hands and fetch.

Ruby has that Golden zest for life. Fun things we've seen her do:

1. blowing bubbles in ice water
2. she can hear worms in the yard (I swear she can !)
3. chases butterfly shadows
4. stretches out to twice normal length when waking up

I'm sure her list of accomplishments will grow as we get to know her better. Ruby makes us smile and laugh.

Brian and Pamela Rose

Ruby



Recent Rescues

Dear GRRR:

It was our first big trip with Skye and she did great! We went fishing in Durango, Gunnison, Rifle, and Grand Lake. She had her first swimming experience at Grand Lake, although the water was cold so she didn't stay in long. She definitely thought the swim buoys were balls and tried to fetch them!

Darrell & Leanne Jones

Skye



Hi GRRR!

Lilly has settled in so well! We haven't even had her three months yet and it's like she's always lived with us. She absolutely loves her big brothers; they wrestle a lot and nap together. She loves her daily walks, exploring everything, and car rides. Lilly is the absolute best dog, with such a sweet demeanor, and we can take her anywhere. She's so calm. She loves to snuggle, though can be a bit of a bed hog! Thank you for matching her with us, she couldn't be a more perfect fit for our family!

Mandy and Craig (and Magnus, Milo, and Lilly)

Lilly, Magnus, Milo

Hi GRRR!

Otis (formerly Jack) and Maple (formerly Jill) reunited for their birthday this weekend! It was so fun to see the similarities between the two even though they grew up apart.

We will definitely be getting them together more often going forward!

Sean Knudson (Maple's dad) and
Mollie Maistelman & Mitchell Morgan (Otis' parents)

Otis and Maple

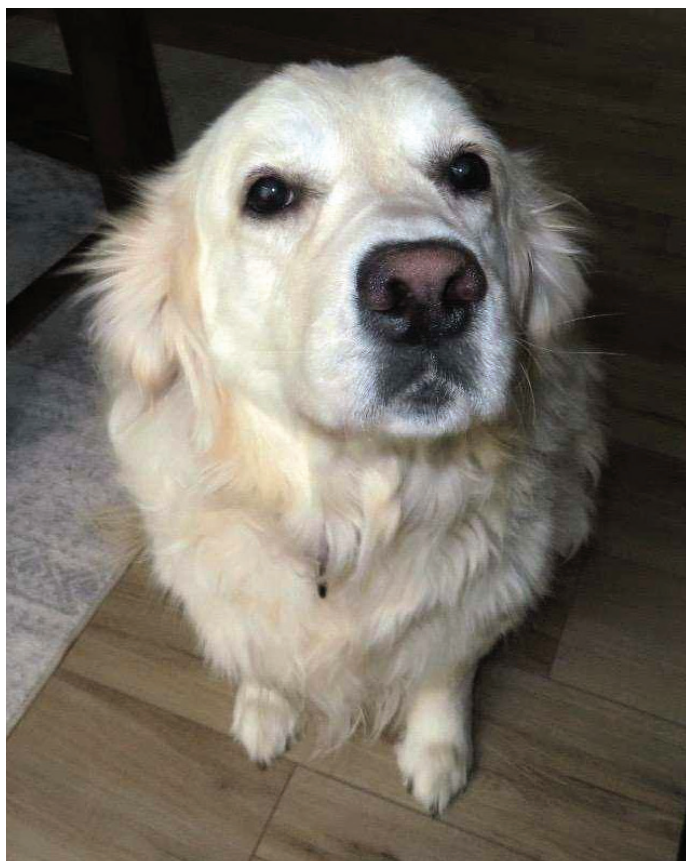


Dear GRRR:

We love you guys! Here are some pictures of Bear, the best dog in the world. We adopted him from GRRR in September 2024.

Nick & Hilary Sontag

Bear



Dear GRRR:

We celebrated Bella's (formerly Bea) birthday over the weekend. Even though she wasn't thrilled to wear her birthday crown, I assure you she's happy and doing great!

Matt Grimaldi

Bella



Hi GRRR:

We had a milestone day today and Finona completed a 1 mile walk! When we started walking, she could hardly make it around the block without taking a rest. We gradually increased our walking distance until she reached the milestone today.

Thought you'd like to know. She's happy and doing great!

Cory Carlson

Fiona

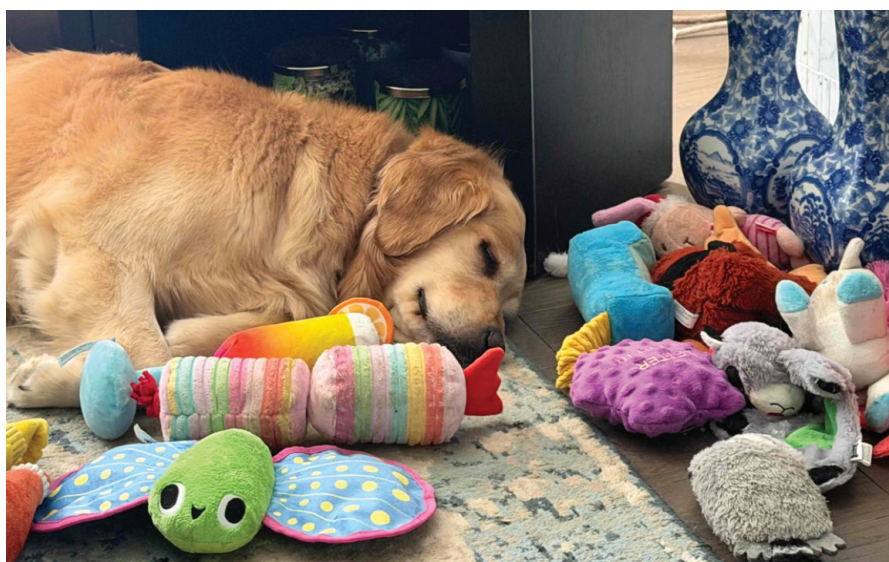
Recent Rescues

Dear GRRR:

Ringo is loving his new home and his fun adventures.

John Sheldon

Ringo



Dear GRRR:

Pupdate on Sweet Savannah. This girl loves her toys...at least 15 in the photo. I tried putting them back in the toy box but they bring her such joy I don't have the heart to move them.

Savannah living her best life. We love her to the moon and back.

Sandy & Brian Kibling

Savannah



Dear GRRR:

We adopted Jackson (formerly George). Progress has been slow but we are making progress. Jackson loves playing with Kody and they do this often. He has been a good boy, and other than a few holes dug in the backyard, he has been easy to take care of.

Jerry and Kathy Schell

Jackson



You're Invited!

30th Anniversary!

GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE OF THE ROCKIES RESCUE REUNION PICNIC

est.

1996



SHY DOG AREA

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 • 11AM - 2PM

PHOEBE'S PLACE: 15350 W. 72ND, ARVADA

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 2026 Picnic T-Shirts and 2027 Calendars!

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



President's Report

by Mike Degroff, President

Our 2026 Gala is officially in the record books, and you all delivered! We officially smashed our previous records for both donations and overall funds raised. We gathered at a great venue, Baldoria on the Water, for a spectacular evening. The atmosphere was incredible, the company was unmatched, the enthusiasm for GRRR tremendous and a truly wonderful time was had by all.

Our guest speaker, Tracey Callahan Molnar, shared her experiences with the USA Gymnastics Team. She even brought a very special VIP (Very Important Pup)—USA's "Goodest Boy" and gymnastics superstar Golden Retriever, Beacon! Hearing about Beacon's vital, spirit-lifting role with the USA gymnastics team reminded us all exactly why we do what we do. We also learned that Golden Retrievers like to sit in the refrigerator (you had to be there), so set your plans to attend next year to be in the know.

If you did not win that special auction prize you had your eye on, rest assured that plans for the 2027 gala are already underway. Keep your eyes peeled for more information coming soon!

Whether you attended the gala, sponsored the event, donated items, volunteered your time, bid fiercely in the auction, or simply cheered us on from afar—thank you. Your generosity directly helps us create more second chances for Goldens in need.

It was a pleasure to host you and your friends and family. I hope you had a great time and look forward to the next time we all get together. If you have comments on the in-person and/or online event please share them with us so going forward we can continue to make the Gala event more memorable every year.

If you've visited Phoebe's Place recently, you know it looks fantastic. We owe a massive shoutout to the incredible volunteer groups who rolled up their sleeves and put in some serious sweat equity on the site recently.

At the same time, our efforts on the new residence continue to forge ahead. We are highly optimistic that we will see some actual shovels in the ground very soon. Stay tuned!

We are endlessly grateful for our dedicated members, passionate volunteers, and hard-working employees. You are the heartbeat of this organization. Please make sure to continue to volunteer, attend our events, and recruit new members. An easy way to ensure we can continue to provide excellent care for the dogs is to get awareness out there and share GRRR mission with friends and family. 💙



Beacon chillin' in the refrigerator!

GRRR Stats

January 1 - June 30, 2026

Number of Dogs Placed:	122
\$ Spent on Medical Needs:	\$81,151

Newsletter Submissions

We need more updates! We all love reading about your Goldens and we like to hear from you! If you'd like to submit a letter AND photo of your GRRR rescue, email the letter and digital photo to debbie.davis@goldenrescue.com. Deadline for the November 2026 issue is October 7, 2026. Thanks!

Golden Angel: Tripp

by Katie Bates

What a Long Strange 'Tripp' It's Been

His first name was Lucky. At just 12 weeks old, this sweet Golden Retriever puppy had already found himself on an unexpected path. A birth injury had left one of his front legs badly damaged and unusable. While the rest of his litter grew without complication, Lucky's future was filled with uncertainty. Lucky, as we'd soon discover, didn't seem to share those concerns.

When his breeder realized the medical care he needed was beyond what they could provide, they made the decision to surrender him to a rescue equipped to give him the best possible chance. That's when GRRR got the call. When Lucky arrived at GRRR, he romped around the Meet & Greet yard with Cooper, charmed every volunteer, and stole hearts almost instantly. He was simply a happy Golden Retriever puppy, living life the only way he knew how.

As we got to know him, Lucky became Casey, named in honor of another remarkable three-legged Golden Retriever who had come through GRRR years before and whose resilience left a lasting impression on everyone who knew him.

This Casey had plenty of resilience of his own. Dr. Carpenter with Homeward Bound Animal Hospital took x-rays, and we consulted with specialist vet, Dr. Briggs at Canine Orthopedics to explore every possible option. While reconstruction was possible, it would have required multiple surgeries, months of recovery and no guarantee of success. More importantly, it would have required a growing puppy to endure multiple surgeries, months of rehabilitation and an uncertain outcome, all during a time when he should have been chasing balls and simply enjoying being a puppy.

Everyone involved wanted the same thing: the happiest, healthiest future possible for Casey. Mary and the medical team at Homeward Bound reached the difficult, but compassionate decision that amputation would give him the greatest chance at a full and active life.

While awaiting his surgery, GRRR matched this incredibly happy puppy with his new family. His new family welcomed him home before surgery, giving him time to settle in and showered him with love before bringing him back for his amputation. It was there they gave him his new name: Tripp. The name was chosen in memory of the adopter's beloved father who recently passed, a lifelong Grateful Dead fan, inspired by the famous lyric, "What a long strange trip it's been".

Tripp's surgery was a success, and afterwards Tripp returned to Phoebe's Place to recover, where he could be closely monitored and remain just minutes away from his veterinary team if any concerns came up.

That first night after surgery was extremely tough on Tripp. He whimpered. He cried. He struggled to get comfortable. Mary stayed close, comforting him and keeping a watchful eye on him throughout the evening. Even after he finally settled down, she couldn't shake the feeling that maybe...just maybe...they had made the wrong decision. Had they asked too much of such a young puppy?

The next morning, Mary quietly walked to the recovery room, fully expecting to find a groggy puppy still feeling the effects of surgery. Instead...Up popped Tripp's little golden head. Bright-eyed. Tail wagging. Ready for breakfast and ready for whatever came next! Mary was in shock!



Watching him run around and play quickly made her forget he just went through surgery and only had three legs. The truth is, we're not entirely convinced Tripp ever realized he was supposed to have four.

We tend to focus on what's missing. Dogs focus on what's possible. While the humans in Tripp's story worried about his future, Tripp was busy living it.

We don't see a three-legged dog. We see Tripp.

Tripp represents so much more than a successful surgery. He represents every dog whose story starts with heartbreak, takes a few strange twists, and ends exactly where they belong...into a loving home. He also reminds us why the Golden Angel Fund exists...to give dogs facing extraordinary medical challenges the opportunity to discover what comes next.

For Tripp, his challenging journey has included difficult decisions, extraordinary compassion, a family who saw everything he could be, not everything he was missing, and countless people who refused to let his story end before it truly began.

And if Tripp has taught us anything, it's this:

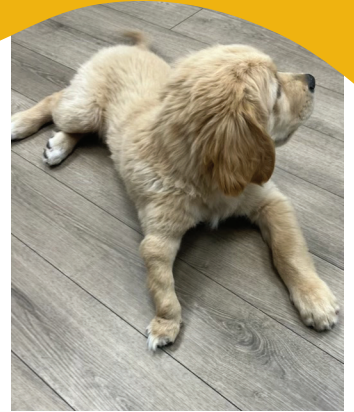
Life isn't defined by what happens to us.

It's defined by what we do with the next step.

Or, in Tripp's case.....the next three.

And what a Lucky dog he is. 💙

Tripp the morning after surgery



Lucky with deformed leg

Golden Angel Update: Louie

by Jessica Houlihan

Hello GRRR friends, it's me—Louie! Here's a pup-date on my big adventure these past few months.

Back in early May, I had a full hip replacement on my right side. I didn't really know what "surgery" meant, but I did know everyone kept telling me I was brave—and they were right.

The doctors fixed my hip, and then I started my eight-week recovery journey.

The recovery came in two parts. First, I had to learn to walk again... very slowly. Five minutes a day felt like forever to a dog who loves zoomies. I also had these shiny staples in my hip, and my mom put me in strawberry-patterned surgical onesies. She said I looked handsome. I disagreed. I tolerated them because I'm a good boy, but wow was I happy when those came off.

Once the staples were out, Dr. Miller said I could walk 20–25 minutes a day, a couple times. That felt amazing. At my four-week checkup, they took pictures of my hip (I think they called them X-rays), and guess what? Everything looked great! I got permission to walk up to an hour twice a day. I felt like a champion.

Even though I had to stay in my pen a lot—and trust me, that was the hardest part—I tried my best to listen and be patient. Peanut butter lick mats and chew treats definitely helped. A LOT.

Then came the big day: Tuesday, July 14th. My eight-week checkup! I took an hour-long car ride to Spry Companions with my paws crossed, hoping I'd get the "all done" news. They took more photos of my hip and had me do some runway-style walks (I nailed them). And guess what? I GOT THE GREEN LIGHT! My right hip is strong, healed, and officially recovered.

That means I'm free from the pen. I can run in the backyard, splash in my pool, and enjoy being the happy, goofy dog I love to be.

I'll take about six months to enjoy my new hip before I go back for my second replacement. But now that I know what to expect—and how strong I am. I'm ready.

I want to thank GRRR, Dr Miller (Spry Companion), and every single donor who helped me get this second chance.

Because of you, I get to live without pain. I get to play. I get to be me.

Love, Louie the Golden Angel. 💕



Louie with Dr. Miller

To help dogs like Tripp and Louie, 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. Thank you!

In Memory

Amari, by Barb Peters

We want to thank you for 7 years with our beautiful, funny, tender-hearted rescue dog we named Amari. She was a 7-year-old puppy mill breeder before we adopted her, and then she lived 7 more years, just recently passing away.

Amari was anxious but brave right from the start. She let us love her through adjusting to living in a home that was safe. She learned to trust us, have opinions, enjoy fur-brushing time and endless snuggles. She was constantly aware and always nearby.

Amari became a happy, friendly, soulful gal full of love for others, especially her kitten. We adopted him a year after she came to live with us, and they were inseparable. A Golden and a chocolate brown once-feral kitten – best friends. We miss her constantly, but we feel deeply grateful to GRRR, and so fortunate to have had time with our dear sweet Amari. Thank you for all you do. 💙



Dillon, by Patty, Brad and Annie Fritz

It was May 2019 - I went to goldenrescue.com and there he was, Turkey dog Drac (Dillon). I knew immediately he needed to come live with us. We filled out an application and waited for Roberta to call. The meet and greet went well. The plan was to pick him up the next day after his vet visit.

When we got home, sister Olive set Dillon straight right away in the front yard, and he always showed respect. He spent several weeks lying on his bed watching us. He even tried taking his bed out the dog door one day. It was quite the site. Dillon enjoyed his walks but didn't play much at first. He would crawl under our bed at night and stay until we got up.

Then one day everything changed. Dillon finally decided he was home and got his gusto. Boy did he have gusto! He decided the couch and bed were the place to sleep and never went back to his bed. He loved breakfast and dinner and had no problem letting us know when it was time. He loved running and playing with his sister Olive. I'm sure some will remember the big white dog barking at you to throw the ball at many of the picnics. We had to leave early most times because he wouldn't slow down.

We lost Dillon in March 2026 to lymphoma. He loved everyone he met, and everyone loved him. The house is quieter these days. We sure miss your gusto Mr. Dil. Thank you to Dillon's sponsor for bringing him to GRRR. 💙



Perry, by Judi Servoss & Joel Carmichael

Perry came to us a few weeks after our sweet Cody had passed away. We had every intention of getting another "partly grown" pup, as soon as our sadness eased. But then I went to a Board meeting and learned of recent Turkey Dog Nutmeg's adventure with "weight gain"...oops. Ten puppies later, my fellow Board members said in unison that "I really needed a puppy." After 2 hours or so, I went home and told Joel that "we needed a puppy." And what a puppy he was! We hadn't had one for nearly 30 years, and forgot how much "fun" lay behind that cuteness.

Despite those early challenges, he grew into a fabulous dog, just born to be a mountain dog in his Fraser paradise. He definitely had a head-strong, feral streak, but his joy was contagious. The only folks who maybe didn't share that enthusiasm were "parents" of the dogs he humped at every GRRR event.

We fervently hoped the Turkey strain would break the dreaded cancer streak, but it was not to be. At only nine, he passed suddenly in the middle of a beautiful May night. The only solace was that he didn't suffer. That was our cross to bear.

But stay tuned, and see the Recent Rescues section... 💙



In Memory

Luna, by Shawn & Dean Dubach

Our beloved dog Luna, a 10½-year-old Flat-Coated Retriever–Border Collie mix, passed away on May 20, 2026, while hiking the Peaks Trail in Breckenridge, Colorado. While it was hard not being able to tell her “goodbye,” we are comforted that she passed while doing what she loved most.

Luna had a difficult start in life. She was five when we adopted her, and she had already been through five previous homes. She arrived fearful and dog-aggressive, yelping if petted and rolling onto her back and urinating when she was confused or frightened. With patience, consistent training, and love, Luna slowly learned to trust and absolutely thrived.

Luna had many “jobs.” At morning puppy play, she would herd other dogs, acting as the self-appointed fun monitor and keeping play in line with her expectations. On hikes, she watched out for everyone—human and canine—constantly running from the front of the line to the back to check on her “pack.” Luna also pet-sat a friend’s dog with separation anxiety; her calm demeanor helped settle his anxiety until his family returned.

Luna was truly one of a kind and the smartest dog we’ve ever had. She quickly learned not to chase rabbits or deer. She even feigned an injury when she saw our suitcases for our first trip away after adopting her. She suddenly began yelping with each step and holding up a paw. After checking her over, and before canceling our trip, we decided to take her to our neighbors’ house, where she would be staying and whom she was very fond of. The moment we arrived and took her off leash, she ran inside, up the stairs, and was completely healed. From that day on, we knew Luna would try to outsmart us when she chose to.

Each of our dogs has been unique and dearly loved, but Luna stood out. She devoted herself to pleasing her humans and loved with her whole heart. There is now a tremendous void in our lives and hearts. Luna will forever join us on every trail we walked together. We will see you on the other side, sweet girl. 💙



Ripp, by Terri & Jeff Markland

We’ve had good dogs, and we’ve had great dogs. Ripp was one of those once-in-a-lifetime dogs who leaves a mark on your heart forever.

Before he came to GRRR, life hadn’t been kind to him. He had been neglected, underfed, and almost certainly mistreated. He carried some of that history with him, but he never let it define him. Little by little after we adopted him, he settled into our family as though he’d always belonged. We hope that, in time, the love he found with us softened the memories of the life he left behind.

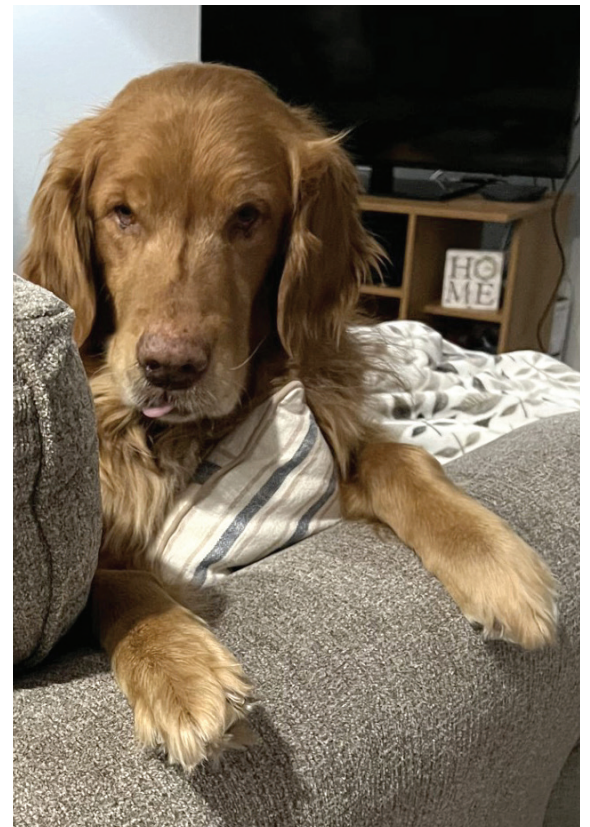
One of the bittersweet realities of adopting an older dog is knowing that your time together may be far too short. We were blessed to have Ripp for three years, and somehow, it still wasn’t enough.

Ripp greeted every morning as if it held a new adventure. He adored his sister, Oaklee, whose steady, calm demeanor helped him discover that people could be trusted and life could be joyful. He loved his squeaky toys, his cozy bed, car rides, camping trips, and, of course, the sofa—which he claimed as his safe spot. He believed every stranger was simply a friend he hadn’t met yet.

Before every walk, he’d bounce with excitement and cover Oaklee with kisses. That was Ripp. Every day was the best day. Every moment was worth celebrating. He loved his life, and he lived with a kind of wholehearted happiness that reminded us not to take life’s simple joys for granted.

Ripp was given a second chance because of GRRR. We are thankful that we got to be the family who shared that chance with him. His story didn’t begin with kindness, but it ended surrounded by love, comfort, adventure, and belonging.

We miss him every single day because he was such a special part of our lives. We’re grateful that, for three precious years, we got to see the world through Ripp’s eyes—a place where every walk was an adventure, every car ride led somewhere wonderful, every squeaky toy deserved one more squeak or shake, and every day was a gift. 💙



Under the Desk News

with Cowboy Cooper

Howdy, friends!

Well... it's been another busy few months of supervising humans. Honestly, I don't know what they'd do without me. Every morning I report to my office (under my mom's desk, obviously) where I monitor important rescue business like dropped snacks, squeaky toy inventory, and whether anyone has remembered to tell me I'm handsome today.

The humans, however, have been obsessed with something called grading and drainage. At first, I thought they were finally digging a giant swimming hole. Turns out I was wrong. I've learned that making Phoebe's Place even better for future Golden Retrievers takes a whole lot of planning. The humans have been meeting with engineers, reviewing maps, and working through all the details to make sure everything is done the right way. I suggested we skip ahead to the digging, but apparently that's why I'm the Chief Nap Officer and not the Project Manager.

In other news, quite literally...Francie and mom are getting ready to represent GRRR on Mile High Living on August 6th! Naturally, I assumed they wanted the rescue's most photogenic employee to make the television appearance. Imagine my surprise when I found out I wasn't invited.

Being the professional that I am, I decided to help them rehearse anyway.

Their version:

"Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies has been rescuing dogs for 30 years..."

My version:

"We've spent 30 years finding Golden Retrievers new homes. It only takes about 30 seconds for one to steal your heart... and your spot on the couch."

Personally, I think my script would've earned much better ratings, but nobody asked the guy with four paws.

The good news? They'll be introducing even more people to the incredible work happening at GRRR. That means more supporters, more volunteers, more adopters and best of all... more Golden Retrievers finding loving homes. I suppose that's worth giving up my television debut... this time.

Speaking of stars...

Our 2027 Calendar Contest is officially underway! If your Golden thinks they're influencer material, now's their chance to prove it. Photo submissions are open through August 16th.

Please remind your Golden that blurry zoomies, half a tail, or pictures taken from 300 feet away are considered "artistic," but maybe not calendar-worthy. We want those gorgeous horizontal photos that make everyone say, "Who's a good dog?" (Spoiler alert: it's all of them.)

That's all from under the desk this quarter. Now, if you'll excuse me, I need to sniff out the mysterious boxes Mary has been bringing upstairs while preparing for our 30th Anniversary Reunion Picnic on September 19th. She keeps getting excited about old newsletters and GRRR memorabilia. I keep getting excited because every box has the potential to contain snacks.

Either way, it's pretty incredible to think that for 30 years, people just like you have helped Golden Retrievers find their way home.

Stay Golden, Spurs up. Cowboy Cooper out. 🐾



2027 Calendar Photo Contest

It's calendar contest time again, which means it's time to send in your photos for the 2027 GRRR Calendar! Thanks to all who already sent in entries!

Reminder: photos must be horizontal to fit the calendar layout.

The deadline is **EXTENDED TO midnight on Sunday, August 16** so you have time go get those great shots! Entry is still just \$5 per photo –unchanged for 22 years! And there's no limit to how many you can submit. The more, the merrier! Ready to show off your Golden?

Get all the details and entry form at goldenrescue.com



You Made a Difference!

Spring Fling

Thanks to all who came out for fun in the sun at our long-running first party of the year! We netted \$2,739 from merchandise and raffle sales - thank you! 💕

GRRR Gala

Our 2026 Gala, Saddles and Second Chances, raised \$277,619 for Golden Retrievers in need making it the highest Gala total in GRRR history! That's over \$30,000 more than last year, and it's all thanks to this amazing community.

Whether you attended, sponsored, donated, volunteered, bid in the auction, or cheered us on from afar, thank you for helping us create more second chances for Golden Retrievers in need. 💕

Colfax Marathon

We had fun cheering on the runners and got \$375 in donations from the crowd. 💕

Denver Dog Fair

We enjoyed meeting so many dog lovers, catching up with familiar faces, and introducing new people to GRRR. Thank you to everyone who stopped by our booth, asked questions, shared stories, or simply said hello.

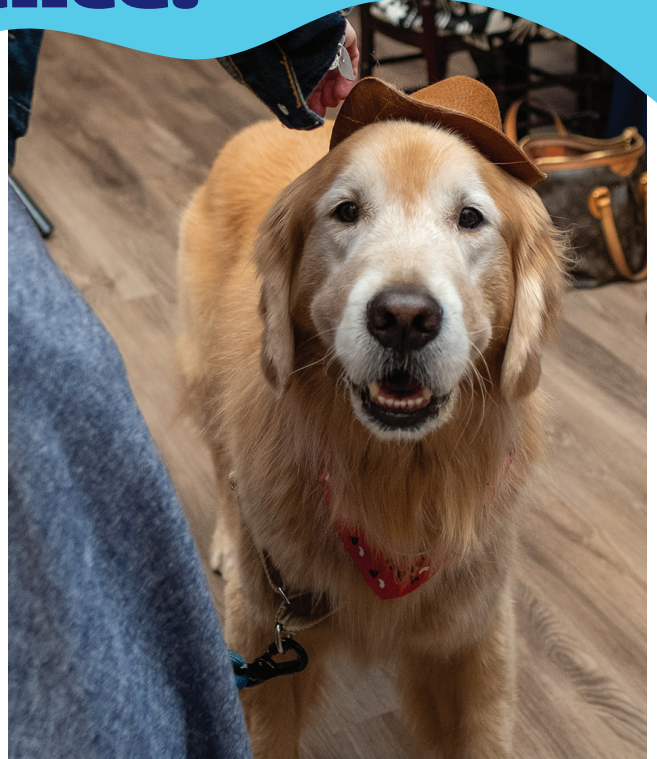
We raised \$356, and your support helps us continue changing the lives of Golden Retrievers in need. 💕

Golden Angel Fund

All the GRRR dogs (and humans) are so grateful that we can help so many Golden Retrievers with medical needs because of your generosity. We received \$9,315 for our Angels from generous donors in the first two quarters of 2026. Thank you! 💕

King Soopers Rewards

419 households raised \$2,043 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! 💕



Gala Guest of Honor - Therapy dog Beacon



Raising money at the Denver Dog Fair



King Soopers Rewards



Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies

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**Join us at the
Rescue Reunion Picnic!
Saturday, Sept 19!**



“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

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 to fill out the volunteer application. Thanks!

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Thank you for your support!
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