



Gold Ribbon Rescue

Rescuing and Rehabilitating Golden Retrievers in Central Texas

August 2016



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Dawn Marie Rae

Send comments or
suggestions to:
Newsletter@grr-tx.com

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www.grr-tx.com

A Message from Our President:



Dear Friends,

A big, big thank you to our Permanent Foster sponsors and our Extraordinary Golden Fund contributors!

Out of the 12 Goldens we've designated and placed in foster homes permanently, 10 are now sponsored. Blanca and Duchess still need sponsors and Wheeler is available for a co-sponsorship. Our program and your sponsorships help us pay for the lifelong care of these dogs that are not adoptable, for a variety of reasons, and to keep them healthy and happy for the rest of their lives. For more information and to meet our Permanent Fosters, click [here](#).

Our EGF contributions are a way for you to donate in any amount and helps care for our Goldens who need atypical medical care that our regular membership and adoption fees are unable to cover. In the last two months, the flood of dogs coming in has increased exponentially, a majority of them senior dogs. It's like someone has broken the proverbial dam. For more information and to meet our EGF Goldens, click [here](#).

Mark your calendars for the **Swimfest at the Quarries Hyde Park** on August 20th and our **GRR Golden Gala** on October 1st, our big fall event to be held at Stone House Vineyard. See the articles below for more information. I hope you'll join us at both events!

Enjoy!

-Margo

In this issue:

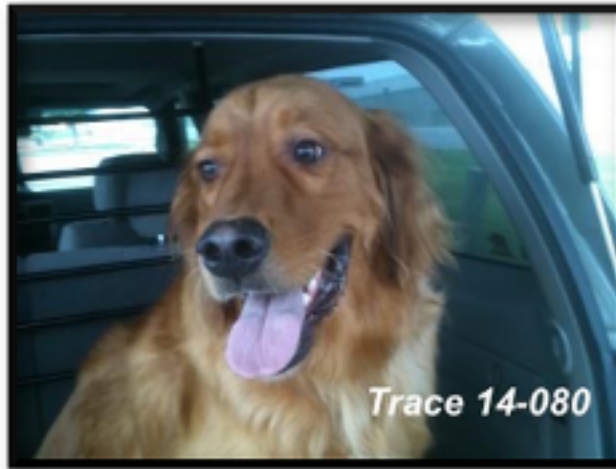
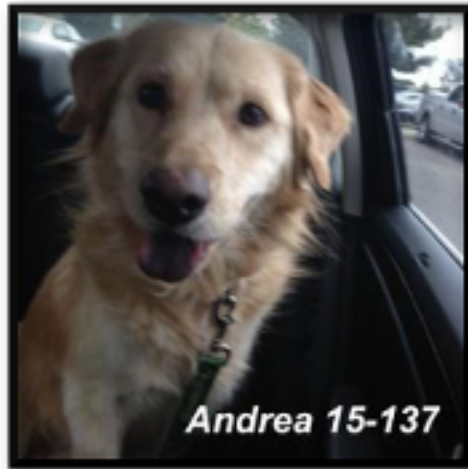
- Meet the Smith pack with their 4 Goldens.
- Dear Goldie is back, giving some advice about getting photobombed.
- Read about Linda Gunter and her service dog, Leo, and...
- From shy to shining, meet Sasha 16-041 in her new home with Jennifer Grossman.



[Our Permanent Fosters](#) Click on the link to see them all!



[Our Extraordinary Goldens \(EGF\)](#) Click on the link to see them all!



Current and Upcoming Events

Swimfest at the Quarries Hyde Park

When: August 20th from 10 to 1 pm

Where: 11400 N Mopac Expy

Austin, Texas 78759

Admission: Admission is \$25 for your immediate family of 2 and 4 leggers.

Come join us for some fun lakeside at the Quarries Park. The area will be fenced in so that your pooches can enjoy themselves safely with leash-free abandon. A wonderful brunch will be included. Guaranteed good time for all! Please RSVP and pre-pay [here](#).



The Third Annual GRR Golden Gala - October 1st!



Please plan to join us for our third annual **GRR Golden Gala** at the [Stone House Vineyard](#) on Lake Travis.
24350 Haynie Flat Road
Spicewood, TX 78669
6:30pm - 9:30pm

[Map Directions](#)

Exceptional wines and wine tastings
Fabulous Italian dinner by [Food! Food!](#)
Live and silent auctions
Music and dancing
Golden friends and friends of Golden friends

Tickets are \$65.00 per person. Space is limited and pre-paid reservations are required for this event. Visit our [website](#) to purchase tickets or [donate](#) if you can't attend.

We hope to see you there!

Our live and silent auctions need items for donations. Examples are:

Art
Airline miles (travel or hotel)
Sporting event tickets
Golf related items
Restaurant gift certificate
Theater, movie or entertainment venue tickets
Boutique gift item or certificate
Wine basket
Jewelry
Golden Retriever-related items

Please contact [Paula Ellis](#) for more information about the auction items.



In Loving Memory - Chloe (Razzles 10-184)

Kristi Tenreiro - July 25 2016



My heart is broken today. Our beautiful Chloe aka Razzles 10-184 crossed over the rainbow bridge yesterday. Some of you may remember that she got sick over Thanksgiving and we were told she had end stage liver disease. They encouraged us to put her down, but she rallied back with a lot of love, very strict diet and natural supplements. She was happy and playful for another 7 months and then we started to notice the decline. She was a beautiful, playful, smart little girl and we will miss her terribly. Thank you GRR for bringing her into our lives. She was loved so much and gave us so much in return.

Dear Goldie

Dawn Marie Rae

I am an elderly, but still very attractive, Australian Shepherd with two sisters who have an excessive interest in themselves. These two swishy Golden Girls think glomming onto the camera lens at every opportunity is their entitlement in life.

Mom sees me with my loving eyes and cute face, gets her phone camera ready, calls to me to smile and say cheese - and here they come, front and center in under 2 seconds. And, my mom posts our photos every single day!

Result? I get photobombed every single time. It's being whispered by those on social media that I have been sent to the back of the class by these two vain and slobbery redheads when, in fact, I am the original resident dog. I need to be treated with much more respect than this and get these two floozies to give me some room. What's with these two anyway?

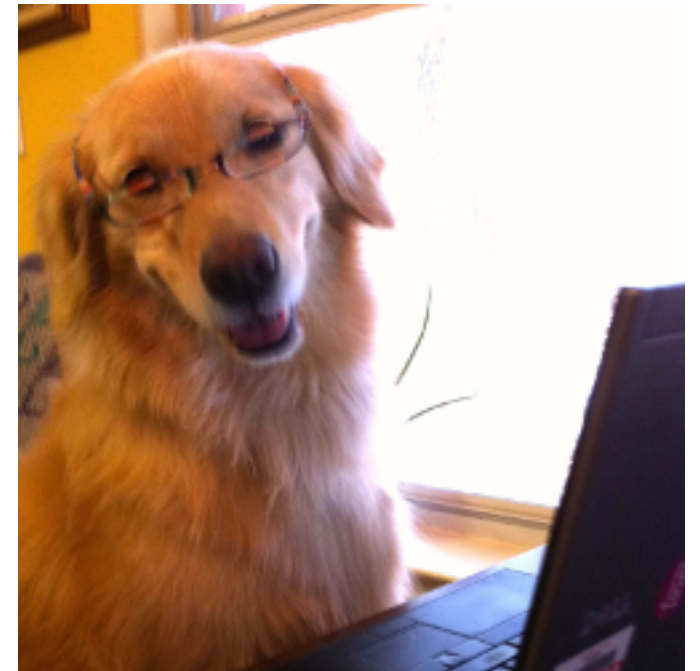
- Photobombed in Fredericksburg

Dear Photobombed,

There are quite a few apps out there to remove them from the picture, but Mom has to deal with that herself or learn to capture your gorgeous face where they can't jump in. (I'm wondering how she can hold down a job and live on social media all day.) In the meantime, these pushy Goldens need some training.

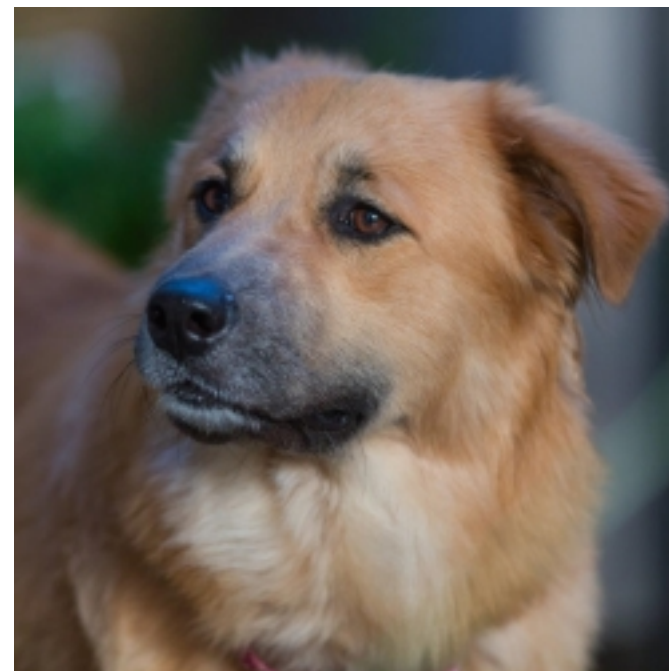
Be even sweeter to them than usual. Tell them they're beautiful. Tell them you'll share your food. Tell them you'll secure extra treats for them. Succeed in making them feel like utter swine. If all else fails, pee on them. I've done it before. It works.

Photobombed - name withheld for protection



Where Are They Now? Sasha 16-041

Candice Gourley with Jennifer Grossman



We're all a collection of our past experiences - canines and humans alike. Whatever Sasha experienced left her scared, shy, reserved and completely lacking confidence.

Our "meet and greet" did not go well. Forget about getting near her - Sasha was uncomfortable when we so much as looked at her. Tail tucked between her legs, ears flattened, Sasha barely tolerated me sitting near her, and would not come near Eric. I only touched her once before we left, both questioning whether we were the right family for this girl.

The first night together was more of the same. Sasha was scared and uncomfortable. Inexperienced dog people, we neglected to put a baby gate at the foot of the stairs and Sasha barricaded herself upstairs where she remained for hours, refusing to come down and growling at me whenever I approached. I was quickly losing whatever little confidence I had, and Sasha sensed this - which only made matters worse.

Carol Blackwell and Scott Thomas to the rescue.

Next thing I knew, Scott came over, lured Sasha downstairs and put a leash on her. Leash in hand, I felt a little more comfortable and confident.

Looking back, I realize this shift in attitude triggered a shift in response. Later that evening when I took her out before bed, while sitting on the patio wondering whether we made the right decision, Sasha approached me and handed me her paw. I think I'll remember that moment forever.

Today, Sasha prances around the neighborhood during her daily walks – tail high and proud. She plays like a puppy, and at times mistakes me for a fellow litter mate, I suspect. Sasha loves when we rub her tummy and is particularly skilled at repositioning our hands when she thinks we're cutting her time short. She follows the "sit" command almost every time and will sit without being asked whenever she sees her harness. Sasha is becoming more willful and will stage a "sit-in" on her walks when I'm not moving in her preferred direction.

We spend most mornings together as we're the early risers of the family. Each day, Sasha greets me by handing me both of her paws. We like to think of this as her version of a hug.

We can hardly remember all of the rules we had in mind when Sasha joined our family. She's on the couch. She's at the foot of the bed, snoring like an old man.

Unbelievably gentle, Sasha remains cautious around our 15 year old cat who is finally starting to emerge from the master closet. Sasha will probably never work as a Walmart greeter and while still a little cautious when meeting new people, fear no longer defines her.

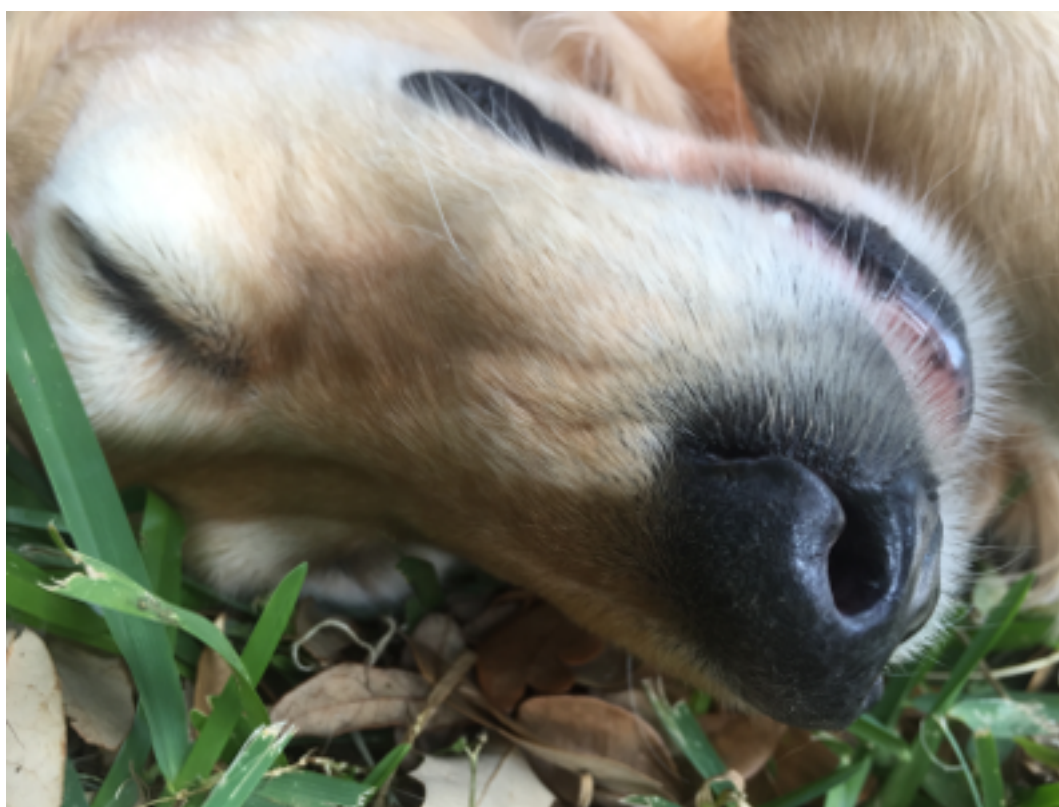
Dogs teach us by example to "live in the moment" and her past doesn't much matter anymore because when we look at Sasha we see a proud, gentle and beautiful dog. And by the way, we don't remember when we last saw Sasha with her tail tucked.



We are proud to present our very first Annual Report covering 2015. Lots of great photos, special highlights of the year and our financial statements. We value all of our supporters: our donors, our volunteers, our foster families, and our adopting families. We want you to know what you have contributed to this organization, and to its successes, throughout the year of 2015. We are eternally grateful for all of your hard work and generous contributions. Click [here](#) to read on and, please enjoy!

The New Golden Owner - Top 10

Amy Sebesta



Maya

I had no idea it would be like this! The new Golden Retriever owner's Top 10 - from the Golden's perspective, of course.

1. Laying on your back is as good as laying on your front.
2. Floppy, I don't know how to say it any other way. Does skin get any looser?
3. Retrieving is somewhat optional, I mean, just go with "Golden", forget the retriever.
4. Hoover and Bissell got nothin' on vacuuming, I mean eating.
5. Grunting is the new purring.
6. When my people sneeze, they get automatic comfort.
7. Training built up my confidence after an uncertain start; worth every cent.
8. I'm as clumsy and self unaware as a drunk person on 6th street or the Riverwalk.
9. Happy ears, seen 'em lately?
10. Best of all, GRR loves me now and forever!

Who Saved Whom? The Story of Linda and Leo...

Linda Gunter



Leo as a puppy / Leo practicing the Karen Overall Relaxation Protocol

I have a huge dog debt to pay.

No, really – I do.

This debt is so enormous that I'm currently working it off one day at a time.

My dogs enabled me from an early age to cope with persistent childhood trauma. So, when I was diagnosed with Anxiety and Panic Disorder and PTSD, naturally I put my trust in my dogs. From the time I was a teenager raising Guide Dogs for the Blind in California, then volunteering in Texas for Service Dogs, Inc. (formerly Texas Hearing and Service Dogs), to my current nine year career at the Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter in Georgetown, I have long witnessed the amazing healing relationships that dogs can inspire.

And honestly, is there anything that a Golden cannot make better? Galileo and I met when he was 4 weeks old. It was an instant connection. Using what I have learned over the years about dog socialization and dog training, I began working and shaping Leo when he was 6 weeks old toward the goal of becoming my own service dog.

Even though the tasks that Leo performs for me are very elementary compared to service dog tasks of a guide dog for a blind person or an alert dog for a deaf person, the training process for any service dog that will be used in public is necessarily rigorous. I am blessed with some very knowledgeable and talented dog trainers that are professional friends and acquaintances I have made through work contacts and volunteering. Leo and I would not be able to make this journey successful without their guidance and professional services.

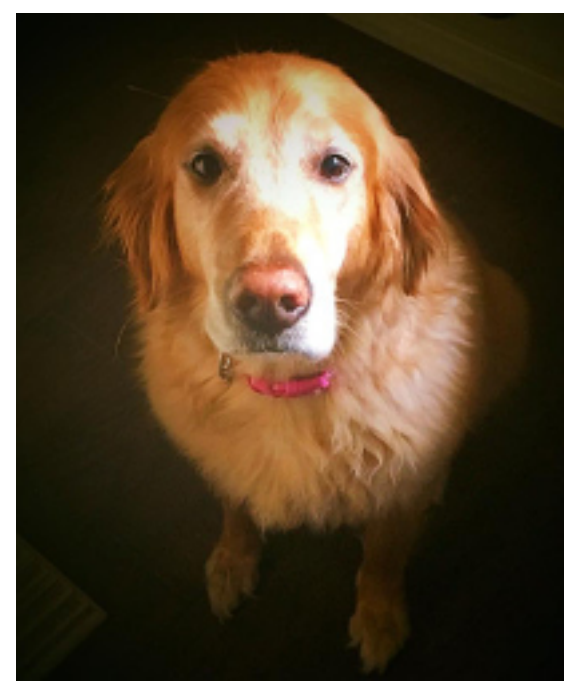
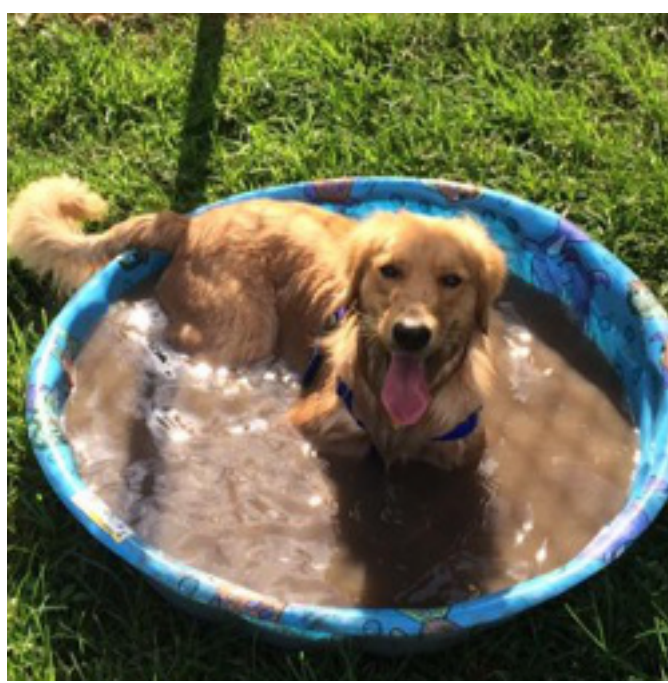
Throughout the past year, Leo has completed foundation obedience classes, Canine Good Citizen evaluation and is currently preparing for the AKC Urban Canine Good Citizen test. A typically gregarious Golden, he helps me at social functions, errands and traveling, as well as, at home. Two of the most critical personality traits for a service dog are that they are people centered (I'm told by trainers that Leo is extremely focused on me) and have nerves of steel. They can startle at loud noises and new situations, but they must recover very quickly and stay on task. The tasks that Leo performs for me help avert and even prevent panic and anxiety attacks, and this allows me to lead a more normal life. Our current focus is on practicing his specialized task training in public and broadening his social exposure.

When I am sitting at the stoplight staring at the car ahead in traffic, I don't need to ponder the question on the bumper sticker "Who Saved Whom?" The answer is written on my heart of hearts. One day I may be finished paying off this well-earned debt. But? I hope not.



Tell a New Dog Hello the Right Way

[Dr. Karen Becker](#)



Fred and Willow

As friendly and sincere as you may be with nothing but the best intentions, the thing dogs typically judge first is whether or not you respect boundaries. Greeting dogs is different than meeting people. Strangers you're introduced to usually smile, look you in the eye and reach out their hand for you to shake.

For want of a better phrase, dogs aren't like that. They prefer a little more space and restraint. If this is new information, or even if you need a quick brush-up course on dog-meeting protocol, read on.

10 Tips to Know When Greeting Dogs

1. **Greet the human first**

As much as you may be taken with a cute little pup or handsome canine, focus first on the human the dog is with.

Dogs seem to be able to zero in on their owners' emotional well-being, as well as body language. If the dog is OK with your interaction with his owner, perhaps he'll be more open to (later) interacting with you.

2. **Ask the dog's owner for permission**

Before approaching a dog you don't know, ask his owner's permission. When Fido establishes that your intent is good, he'll relax and regard you as "safe."

Additionally, there may be good reasons why it's not a good time for interaction. The dog may be ill and not himself, potentially making his behavior erratic, or even contagious to your dog.

3. **Avoid eye contact**

It's different for humans, particularly in the U.S. where people often pass others on the street with a smile, or even stop and converse while looking them straight in the eye.

Dogs have their own code. Dominant dogs may see your eye contact with them as a challenge or desire for dominance. Remembering this may circumvent an unpleasant situation.

4. **Don't be afraid**

Dogs sense it when someone is fearful. It can raise their natural defense mechanisms as well as their aggression. That said, try to relax. While some have the notion that dogs can "smell" fear, it's more likely that they're just good at reading peoples' body language.

Of course, just telling yourself you're not afraid won't necessarily make it so. If you approach a dog and feel a little edgy for whatever reason, pay attention to your gut and pass by with a smile but without attempting interaction.

5. **Avoid a head-on approach**

If you can, position yourself so that you're walking or standing beside the dog rather than coming at him directly from the front. If the dog and his owner are approaching you, turning your body sideways conveys a decreased threat, from the dog's perspective.

At the same time, however, it's always good to keep your peripheral vision peeled to ascertain the dog's body posture. If he seems stiff and is facing you, you may want to keep moving along.

6. **Don't bend over the dog**

Humans are usually taller than dogs, so it may seem natural to bend over them, but this is rarely a good approach when greeting a dog who's unfamiliar with you.

Depending on the situation, you can squat down and get more on his level, at a distance that respects his space.

7. Let them come to you

When advancing toward an unknown dog and his owner and a "meet and greet" is imminent, walk slowly. Walking directly toward them quickly may make a dog react out of instinct, which may not have a good outcome. Dogs are usually relaxed and even friendly if they're familiar and comfortable with the person approaching them. If yours isn't a familiar face, allowing the dog to approach you first is a good rule of thumb.

8. Offer your closed fist, palm down

After you've spent enough time for the dog to feel comfortable in your presence, bring your slightly balled fist toward the dog's nose for him to smell rather than your open hand, fingers extended. Your fist is smaller, so it seems less threatening.

9. Avoid touching his head or hindquarters

When a dog sniffs your closed fist and he remains composed, relaxed and close to you, you can then pet him lightly with the back of your open hand on his shoulder, neck or chest.

Unless he's completely at ease with you, and especially if you just met him, the top of a dog's head as well as his hindquarters should remain off limits. You want to keep the dog from feeling threatened, and these are moves he may perceive as such.

10. When a dog is done interacting, respect that

When a dog allows you to step into his orbit, let him decide how long the "close encounter" should last. If he moves away, let him, and don't keep reaching toward him. He's allowed you to say hello, so let that suffice for your first introduction. Never reach toward a dog that has backed away from you.

You may have experienced petting a dog who suddenly whipped his head toward your hand and bumped it with his nose. That's not likely a "keep petting me" signal but just the opposite. If this ever happens, stop doing whatever it is you're doing that the dog may not be appreciating.

If, however, the dog has a wide-legged stance, locks eyes on you and backs up, take it as a warning and stop what you're doing immediately. It could be that the dog has, for whatever reason, found you intimidating and is getting ready to defend his territory. Then is the time to discreetly move away.

[Meet two newcomers from Waco - Sisters Mitzi 16-087 and Sadie 16-086! More about them soon!](#)



In Loving Memory - Lady Priscilla

Marilyn Hankins



This afternoon, we had to put to sleep, one of our dear, beloved, Golden Retrievers.

Priscilla had been my smiling, loving, and faithful furry friend since she was a puppy. She was 13 years old. She had gone deaf, and her eyes were bad. She could barely get up, even to go to the bathroom, or to go eat, or to get a drink. The Vet is sure that she had cancer.

It was time to do what was right for her - and not to prolong her suffering. I know I have done the right thing, and yet I feel as if somehow, I have betrayed her trust, and her friendship and love. I think I'm going to need grief counseling after this one. I don't know if it's normal, but right now, I feel really numb, and frozen. I wanted Priscilla to not be in pain anymore.

I loved her big, round, soft, Golden doe-eyes, her lovely smile and no matter what kind of pain she was in. She smiled, through it all. She was a great example of love, and strength, kindness, and beauty, that came from within her Golden's heart.

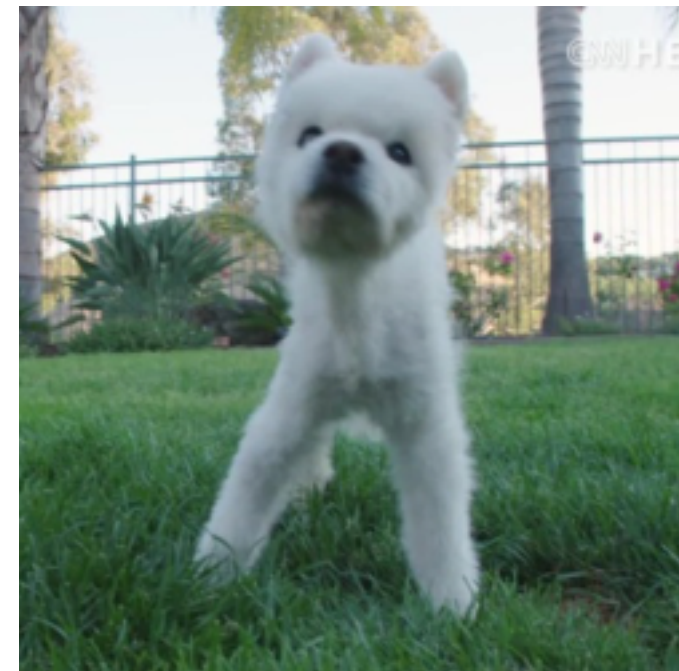
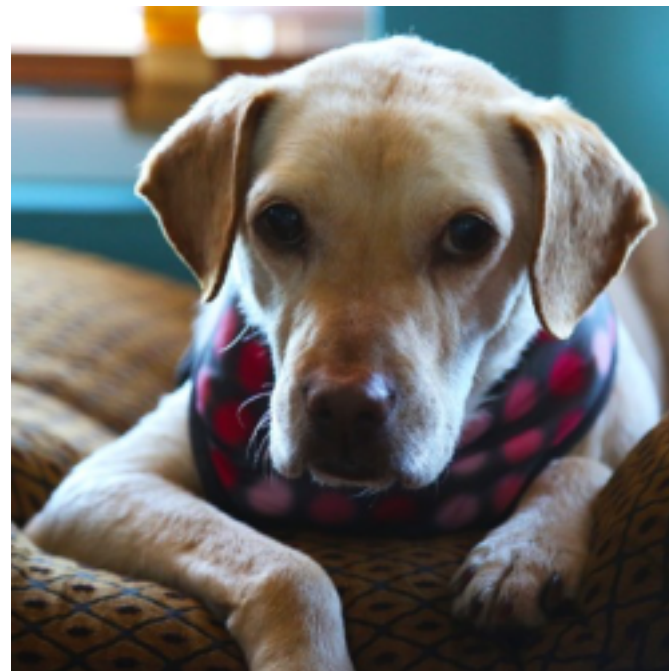
Priscilla was both grand and a Duchess. Above all, she was the most faithful, kind, and loving Fur Friend to me that I could have had the privilege to know. Good-bye, my sweetest, most beautiful friend.

No, This is Not a Painting - It's Lola!



Making Dogs' Golden Years Shine... Muttville and a CNN Hero

Meghan Dunn - CNN - July 7, 2016



San Francisco (CNN) As a child, **Sherri Franklin** grew up with a big heart for animals.

As an adult, she channeled that love into volunteer work at the San Francisco humane society. She was ultimately walking dogs there five days a week.

That's when she noticed the older dogs were not being adopted. "Most of them would end up getting

euthanized," Franklin said. "They didn't stand a chance compared to the puppies."

The plight of these senior dogs broke Franklin's heart.

"I could feel their hope draining and my hope draining with them," she said.

So in 2007, Franklin started Muttville out of her home. The nonprofit rescues senior dogs from shelters and finds them forever homes.

Muttville specializes in the adoption of older dogs and matching dogs with senior citizens. The group now has its own facility and has adopted out more than 3,800 senior dogs. Some dogs come to Muttville because their owner passed away or cannot care for them. Each week, the group gets around 150 requests from shelters or individuals to take their elderly dogs.

At Muttville, the dogs roam in large rooms filled with big beds and couches. The organization also has a network of more than 100 foster families, allowing more dogs to be saved.

"They have so much to teach us. I've learned to be present and live in the moment," she said. "They've taught me to let the little stuff fly."

CNN's Meghan Dunn spoke with Franklin about her work. Below is an edited version of their conversation.

CNN: Senior dogs can need a lot of medical care. How does Muttville handle that?

Franklin: We have our own vet suite at Muttville. Every single dog that comes in sees our vet. They get de-fleaed, dewormed; they get their full vaccines and microchipping. And then we go a step further, doing full blood panels and urinalysis. We do that all in-house now, which has just saved us so much time and gotten the dogs ready for adoption so much quicker.

From the moment they arrive at Muttville, if they're in pain, we're going to do something about it. We want our dogs to experience the most health they can have. Some of them are not going to be as healthy, and some of them we can't completely fix. But we're going to give them the best quality of life that we possibly can.

See the full article [here](#) and learn about their Fospice (Foster - Hospice) program or check out the [Muttville website](#) and see how to help.

Thank You Palm Valley Animal Center Friends!

PVAC's Christopher Sotelo and Aurelia Torres



From PVAC's Christopher Sotelo and Aurelia Torres:

"Our rescue program at Palm Valley Animal Center is dedicated to finding great rescues for our pets most in need of a second chance. We find ourselves and our pets very fortunate to have a working partnership with Gold Ribbon Rescue. We appreciate your willingness to help our pets, and even in taking in our Golden Retrievers who arrive in the worse of shape. We love seeing updates on your Facebook pages and meeting with your great volunteers out on rescue runs. We hope we continue our partnership for many years to come and we send a **Big Thank You** to your members and volunteers. Thank you for all you do for these pets and thank you for such a great partnership!"

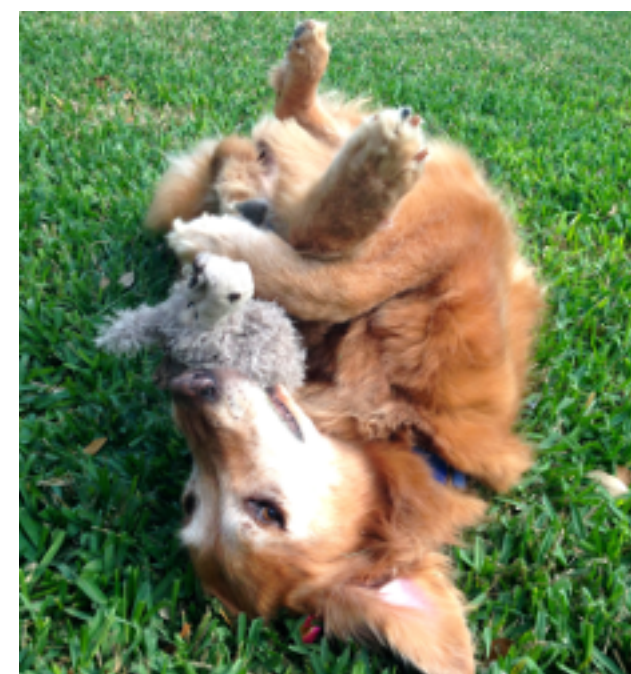
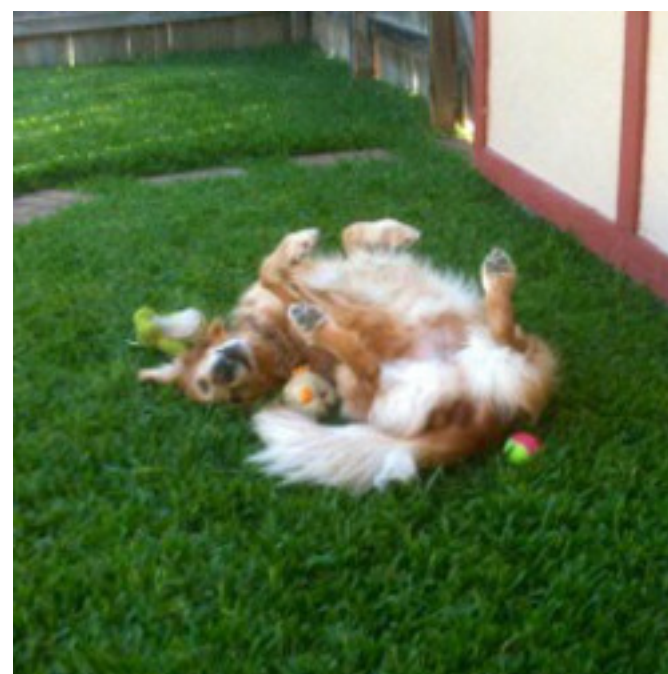
Chris and Aurelia, Compliments to all of you for the great photos and information you send along with your dogs

and for all of your efforts on behalf of these beautiful animals! You're so great to work with and even arrange transport from the Valley to San Antonio for us. A heartfelt thanks!

- **Gold Ribbon Rescue**



Volunteer Spotlight - Dawn Marie Rae



Pictured above: [Sophie and Emma](#)

Tell us a little about you and your dogs.

I am an artist with two redheads. Retiring early from IBM (aka corporate madness), I returned to my love of painting and. Volunteering for GRR and painting gives me a much needed work-life balance.

Both of my girls are GRR dogs. Sophie, age 9, and Emma, age 13, both came to me in 2014. Sophie has turned into the world's biggest goofball and consummate dorkus, while Emma is calm and sweet and will burn through anything edible, left anywhere, by anyone.

How long have you been volunteering with GRR?

When I adopted Sophie in 2014, I started writing profile stories for the web. Shortly afterward, I took on the monthly newsletter as editor. (You're asking: 'Why is she doing an article on herself???' Because I couldn't find anyone at the last minute!!!) I admit that it's a lot of work, but I try to keep us all updated with the organization as a whole, and still after nearly two years, really have fun with it.

I now coordinate our website, newsletter and social media content. And now, in the past year or so, Paula Ellis and I work together to launch fundraising and events. I'm still having fun!

What is your favorite part above all?

I think the best part is seeing the newsletter come to fruition throughout the month: events, fundraisers, special dogs, special volunteers. 'Dear Goldie' is also a blast to write. Getting the newsletter out is a small miracle every month!

Describe a cute/funny/interesting story while volunteering in this position?

While writing the 'Dear Goldie' column one month about counter surfing: deeply focused on the task at hand, researching articles on the web and looking for photos of said act, I hear a boom and a crash in my kitchen. So engrossed was I, that it took me a few minutes to realize that Emma was not under my desk, which is her parking spot, AND that there was absolute quiet, i.e. no snoring. Needless to say, that day I lost an entire cooked pork tenderloin that was parked on TOP of my microwave oven. I needed no further research for the column and no more operant conditioning after that. I am a Pavlov dog forever.

Give one piece of advice for those interested in serving as volunteers?

Although I give a lot of time to GRR, it doesn't have to be that way for everyone. Any time you can spare, even an hour, even an hour every now and then is greatly appreciated. You have skills. AND you have skills you might not even know you have or you might want to acquire some skills. Everyone will help and support you along the way. Everyone makes a difference here. Everyone.

What are one or two words that describe your experience while volunteering with GRR?

Simple. GRR completes my world.



Introducing [K-9 Nannies of San Antonio](#)

JC and Cathy Smith



Cathy and I started volunteering with Gold Ribbon Rescue (GRR) shortly after moving to San Antonio in 2004. We have conducted telephone interviews, intake evaluations, home visits, transported Golden Retrievers, and fostered many of these sweet animals.

As time passed, we were asked to take care of dogs for friends and neighbors when they were away on vacation or traveling on business. We love dogs, (we like cats, too) and talked about starting a pet sitting business for several years, but never pursued the idea. Our research showed there is a big need for pet sitters in our area here in NW San Antonio.

This past February we attended the first Texas Pet Sitters Conference in this area. After attending, we felt this was time to try setting up a "Pet Sitting" business. This will be a "Mom and Pop" venture to help supplement my retirement income. We are insured and registered in accordance with Texas regulations.

Our new business name is "K-9 Nannies of San Antonio". Our clients' pets include, but are not limited to, dogs and cats. They are taken care of in the comfort of their own homes. We especially enjoy taking care of the "Senior" pets.

Cathy and I will continue with our GRR volunteer activities. Please check out our website [here](http://www.k9nannies.com) (www.k9nannies.com) for more information and other services we offer. We are on Facebook at "K-9 Nannies of San Antonio". Both are still undergoing some "tweaks". We hope you'll call us when you need your kids taken care of. We promise to love them, too!

Thoughts, Prayers and Remembrance



Recent Rainbow Bridge: (Since July 1, 2016)

Rest in peace, our friends and companions...

Priscilla - Cushing's disease/cancer

Marco 16-084 - severe neurological issues

Chloe (Razzles 10-184) end stage liver disease

Jager 16-039 - respiratory failure

Listen to the beautiful hymn and video of [A Child's Prayer](#) by Candice Gourley's Mary and Willow, a tribute to our Goldens and other furry friends we so love and miss.

Marco 16-084 shown below - rest in peace.



Living in a Dog's House - Donnie and Cheryl Smith



(l to r) Dooley, Mica, JD, Travis, and cousin Beaux

How many dogs allow you to live with them and what are their names?

We currently have 4 boys:

Mica (13) GRR

JD (10) GRR

Travis (5) our GRR Turkey boy

Dooley (12)

People think having four males would be difficult, but we have no problems with them. There are plenty of toys and love to go around and they all get along wonderfully. We're very grateful for that. If we didn't have to be worried about being on an episode of "Hoarders", we would have more than four.

Describe feeding time.

We feed twice a day and is not as difficult as you might expect. Each dog eats a different amount and they all have different meds that they take. You become the Pied Piper leading the pack down the hallway. Once in the kitchen, they all know to sit and wait until all the food is down and they are given the go ahead to eat. Then step back and don't get in their way.

JD inhales his while Mica and Dooley take a normal amount of time. But Travis seems to savor his. This drives the others crazy because they are done and he is still eating. They think he gets more, but in truth he gets less since he is on a diet. Then the big slurpy drinks of water, outside for their business, and an after-meal nap. What a life!

What does your welcome home committee look like?

Getting home makes the long days and terrible traffic all worth it. You come in the door and you see all four of them running towards you. Some barking, some whining, but all wanting to be petted. Once everyone is petted and has been given their greeting, they go back to what they were doing: resting, chewing on toys, pre-dinner pacing.

What happens when you want to take a vacation?

When we don't take any of them, they go over to my parents' house - "Grammie Camp" as they know it. They love to go see Grammie because she has snacks that she carries in her pockets. My Mom and Dad have a Golden named Beaux (5) as well. When my parents travel, Beaux stays with us. Again, and surprisingly with 5 male dogs, there is no fighting or arguing over anything. They are all treated the same and know how to behave. We really are lucky to have my parents to look after the boys. Sometimes we take some with us and the others stay back at "Grammie Camp".

Does your housekeeper come daily?

We don't have a house keeper. Cheryl and I, mostly Cheryl, do a good job at keeping the hair to a minimum. We vacuum usually every day and sometimes more. Hair is just a basic condiment in our house.

What are some of your favorite cleaning products for the several Chihuahuas of dog hair shed daily?

We purchased a Dyson Animal vacuum a few years ago and that has been a godsend. It's amazing how much hair those guys put off. We recently got another small Dyson rechargeable that we use for spot cleaning. Along with that, we have a Bissell Green Machine and a Bissell upright floor cleaner. Sometimes the vacuums don't work and you need more to clean up "other" messes. We're well stocked in this department!

How do you take everybody for a walk?

Most of the times we take them separately so that it gives us time to spend individual time with each. They seem to enjoy the one on one time and don't feel like they need to "compete" to get petting and interaction.

If you have two hands and 4 dogs, how do you handle all of the nuzzling and competition for loves and

petting?

Usually they split up and go between Cheryl and I. They realize we only have two hands and go to the person who has only one dog with them. When we are by ourselves with them it becomes a bit more difficult, but elbows are also used when needed.

How many pounds of scared dog are crawling up on your lap during thunderstorms and fireworks?

These two events have gotten to be a very interesting time. JD is EXTREMELY scared of both. We medicate him and try to do it in advance whenever possible but it still upsets him. There have been many a night I have laid on the couch holding JD while he cries, shakes and whines. We have tried Thundershirts and all the other "calming" things on the market, which don't seem help as yet. We continue to try different medications to get him more comfortable. Travis has started to get a little antsy during storms when there is lightning, but if you let him up in bed with you he tends to calm down. Dooley doesn't seem to mind and Mica we believe, can't hear, it so he doesn't care.

Does an unfamiliar being more than two inches long ever approach within 20 feet without you knowing about it?

No, absolutely not. We know when any car comes down the street, when any deer pass by the door, and of course when the doorbell rings. Dooley with his deep bark is usually first, then JD and Travis, and once Mica realizes something is happening, he starts in. Once the "emergency" is over, everyone is back to claiming their space again - typical domino effect.

***GRR Monthly Status Report: June 27th – July 25th 2016***

Came into care: 16-068 Shi-Fu, 16-069 Hamilton, 16-070 Beau, 16-071 Jefferson, 16-072 Penelope, 16-073 Kai, 16-074 Tyrion, 16-075 Cha-Cha, 16-076 Cash, 16-077 Blue, 16-078 Jake, 16-079 Barnaby, 16-080 Garrett, 16-081 Levi, 16-082 Weezer, 16-083 Dusty, 16-084 Marco

Adopted: 16-054 Ari, 16-051 Tundra, 16-024 Rhonda, 15-161 Castle, 15-105 Zoey, 16-030 Nala, 15-114 Marshmallow, 16-038 Collin, 16-044 Wonder, 15-117 Short Cake

Currently in Foster Care: 61 dogs (23 Available/Available Soon), 26 Foster-Pend-Adopt/Matched, 12 Permanent Fosters

We Want to Hear from You!

Dawn Marie Rae



Pictured above: Hunter 16-046

Each dog adopted from GRR is special; each has a unique story...and each happy ending is a joy to read. We would love to share YOUR adoption story with our readers. We'd also like to hear a memorial from you if you have lost your GRR dog and would like to pay tribute to them in the newsletter. We welcome article submissions and suggestions on other topics of interest, too.

Not a good writer? It doesn't matter! Just tell us your story and we'll edit it as needed. Help us share your dog's story.

If you would like to contribute something, we'd love to hear it! If you think your story is one our readers would enjoy, please submit it via email to the [editor](#). (Please include a photo or two (in landscape format) in your e-mail and the dog's GRR number and former name, if applicable. Please limit your article to 500 words or less.)

The copy deadline is the 15th of the month.

Help Wanted

Medical Team Member:

20+ hours per week or less, if additional person can volunteer.

Must be available by email and phone: days, evenings and weekends.
Medical background (human or canine) preferred.

Requires reading, filing and responding to emails, faxing authorizations for treatment, regular phone contact with veterinarians, and writing reports. You will work closely with GRR's medical supervisor and medical team, as well as foster families and their foster coordinators. Self-starter, responsible, attention to detail and good people skills a must.

If more than one person will take this on, the hours will be less or modified. Please contact [Margo Biba](#) if you are interested.

Newsletter contributor:

Do you have a special interest or skill with regards to our Goldens, such as obedience, training, nutrition or health issues? We could use some thoughtful dialogue on any topic for the newsletter. Please contact the newsletter editor [here](#).



Web Developer:

Developer needed for content updates, new pages, special promotions and fundraisers. Skills must include Drupal, CSS, JavaScript, and HTML. Approximately 10 hours or less per month. Please contact [Dawn Marie Rae](#) for more information.
