



Gold Ribbon Rescue

Rescuing and Rehabilitating Golden Retrievers in Central Texas

October 2016



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Newsletter Editor:
Dawn Marie Rae

Send comments or
suggestions to:
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A Message from Our President:



Dear Friends,

I hope everyone enjoyed our wonderful Golden Gala, where we enjoyed a beautiful view, outstanding food, and lots of friends we haven't seen for awhile! Thanks for making it a big hit! See also some of our upcoming events: Dogtoberfest, our Annual Business Meeting, our San Antonio BBQ event, and Developing a Well Socialized Dog with the Canine Center.

I'd like to recommend a book I've found most insightful and informative for me personally. In [From Property to Family: American Dog Rescue and the Discourse of Compassion](#), Andrei Markovits and Katherine Crosby describe a "discourse of compassion" that actually alters the way we treat persons and ideas once scorned by the social mainstream. This "culture turn" has also affected our treatment of animals inaugurating an accompanying "animal turn". In the case of dogs, this shift has increasingly transformed the discursive category of the animal from human companion to human family member. One of the new institutions created by this attitudinal and behavioral change towards dogs has been the breed specific canine rescue organization, examples of which have arisen all over the United States beginning in the early 1980s and massively proliferating in the 1990s and subsequent years. I hope you enjoy it! Don't forget to use [Amazon Smile](#) when you order.

Our **GRR 2017 calendars** are now available for pre-order. See link below. AND, we have an opportunity to receive grant money for Gold Ribbon and for yourself from the **Petco Foundation**, see the full article below!

Enjoy!
-Margo

In this issue:

- Teaching hand commands before your dog is deaf
- An update on Diesel (now Dexter) -
- Where are they now? Jake and the Paley's

- And a love principle to live by.



Happy dreams of tennis balls... (Happy 13-058)

Current and Upcoming Events



The Timmy Show - Rated PG-13 (Timmy 13-086)

Dogtoberfest

When: Saturday, October 15th

Time: 10:00 - 4:00 pm

Where: At the Domain Austin (11410 Century Oaks Terrace) Austin, Texas
(between Dillards and Dick's Sporting Goods)

Every year, Dogtoberfest Austin holds two events in the Domain. DogtoberTROT, a 1k walk for two-legged and four-legged friends, kicks off the festivities. Dogtoberfest happens directly afterward, and includes a Silent Auction, Canine Costume Contest, Wiener Dog Races, pet-related demonstrations, and more. For more information, please visit the [Dogtoberfest](#) website. Join us as we kick off another year of helping local dog rescue organizations and visit our Gold Ribbon Rescue booth!

Annual GRR Member Meeting

When: October 29, 2016

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Where: The Patio at Upper Crust Bakery 4508 Burnet Rd, Austin 78756
Update GRR activities, financials, and proposed changes to the GRR Bylaws
Members only. No dogs. Refreshments available for purchase.

San Antonio

Two Bros. BBQ Meet

When: November 5th

Time: 1pm - 4pm

Where: [Two Bros. BBQ Market](#) 12656 West Ave San Antonio, Texas

Large wooded area for the 4 leggeds and a playground for the young two-leggeds, oh, and great BBQ. Join us for a wonderful afternoon in San Antonio!

Educational Seminar “Developing the Well Socialized Dog”

When: Saturday, December 3, 2016

Time: 12:30 - 4:30 PM

Where: [The Canine Center](#) 11400 290 West

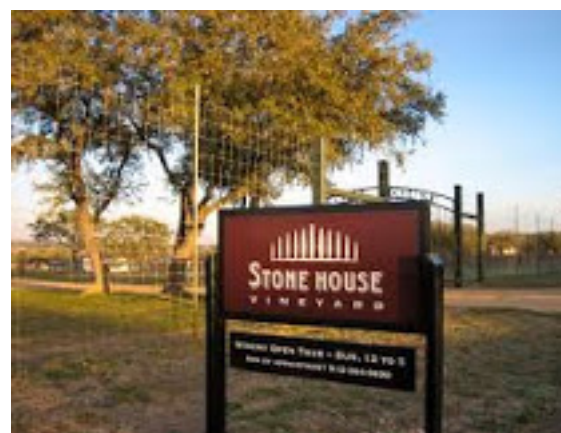
Austin, TX 78737

More details soon.

The 3rd Annual Golden Gala - Fabulous!

Thanks to each and every one of you for joining us at [Stone House Vineyard](#) this past Saturday. The weather was awesome, the food was superb, and the venue was absolutely beautiful! The planners of this event worked very hard to bring it all to you in the most perfect of settings. We hope you enjoyed it!





See over 100 [photos and a slideshow](#) from Scott Thomas, photographer extraordinaire! (To download any photos, click on the photo and then right click to save or download image.)

Thanks to our planners:

Paula Ellis
Pam Phillips
Karen Mackie

Thanks to our underwriters:

Linda Anthony
Nancy Dean
[Food! Food!](#) by Susan Eggert
Kelly Topfer
Chris and Susan Wilson

Thanks to our auction donors:

Carol Adams
Austin Urban Vet Center
Aqua Tots Swim Schools
Canine Center for Training and Behavior
Chris Chappell
Jacquelyn and Daniel Foreman
Robin Early and Emily Oliver
Candice Gourley
Carey Gunther
Dan, Melinda and Elle Hansen
Dawn Hinckley
Mark and Mary Martinez
Sandy Morris
Dr. Andy and Lynn Neillie
Dan O'Reilly
Pam Phillips
Dawn Marie Rae
Amy and Stephen Sebesta
David Slater
Donnie and Cheryl Smith
Ken Strange
Lonni Swanson
Scott and Sheila Thomas
Alan and Cyndi Weiner

An Update About Mason 16-090 - Our Newest Extraordinary Golden!

Pam Parmiter and Tom Walter



September 27th

Mason (GRR 16-090) says good morning, and happy ToT. His stitches are out, cone is off, and can walk with me to get the mail. Life is good.

September 25th

Hanging out with Mason (GRR 16-090) on a quiet afternoon. Still sporting his bandana from Central Texas Veterinary Specialty Hospital. His expression sums up "Bob got sprayed by a skunk?" (Yes, Pam was giving our other Golden, Bob, the hydrogen peroxide & Dawn soap bath last night.)

September 13th update

I went to the vet hospital today to drop off some more food for Mason (16-090). Was able to visit with him for a while, lots of pets but he was happy. He was brought into the room, smelled his food and realized that Mom and Dad did not leave him again! He thought he was coming home, but not quite ready. Wound needs to be assessed tomorrow. He is a bundle of sweetness and the look in his eyes when he saw me there, versus a stranger, priceless! He is able to place some weight on his leg, but not much. Have placed area rugs on the tile, have now 2 XL crates and he has a new pillow top, memory foam bed (may last a week LOL)

Only 10 to 12 months old, this gangly boy needs an expensive surgery on his leg and knee. X-rays have revealed a serious problem. Mason was almost certainly hit by a car several months back, before he even cropped up at the shelter, and the films show the aftermath of the trauma: "left femoral malunion with a secondary grade 4/4 patellar luxation." In other words, the blow broke his left femur, which was then left to heal on its own. The bone knitted, but the two pieces are misaligned, with one of them twisted and angling inward. On top of that, his kneecap (patella), which should sit neatly in the groove at the end of his femur, is out of place; "grade 4/4" means it doesn't move back into position even occasionally, but is actually stuck and fixed outside its normal resting spot. No wonder Mason is limping and can't extend his knee without pain!

Luckily, there's a solution: surgery to rebreak the bone, align it correctly with the help of pins and plates, and get his kneecap back where it should be at the same time. After that, he'll need 8 full weeks of very strict activity restriction: no rioting, running, jumping, wrestling, or puppy crazies. And after that, another 8 weeks of gradually increasing gentle exercise to strengthen the new repairs. The price tag for the surgery is steep (\$2200 - even after our discount), and going slow will be a very tall order for a peppy young dog. Lots of mental stimulation and plenty of company will get him through it, and the prize will be a leg that's just a little bit lame and working almost the way it ought to—certainly well enough to dance a jig. In fact, we'll all be kicking up our heels in just a few months!

Click [here](#) to read his full story and [donate](#) to our Extraordinary Golden Fund if you can. Thank you so much for any help you can give.



Pre-order your GRR 2017 Calendars Here!



[Order Now!](#)

YOU could win up to \$100,000 for GRR and \$1000 for yourself - Read on...!

Dawn Marie Rae



Calvin Wencka

The **Petco Foundation** wants to make Holiday Wishes come true for deserving animal welfare organizations throughout the country during our 2016 Holiday Wishes Grant Campaign, in partnership with Petco.

We invite adopters to share their stories of love! Tell us how the love of your adopted pet changed your life for the better and give the animal welfare organization you adopted from the chance to win a \$100,000 grant award.

From GRR:

- The story must be 500 words or less.
- Two photos with high resolution is required. A video is optional.
- This must be a pet you adopted from GRR and who is living with you now.
- You must include a contact from GRR for verification of your adoption should your entry win. This should be Tim Tierney email: timjtierney@gmail.com phone: 512-773-4844
- Please provide the name of our rescue, Gold Ribbon Rescue and the original name and GRR dog # and current dog's name in your submission.
- **Submission deadline: Oct. 15, 2016 at 11:59 p.m. CST**

Get more information and submit your adoption story [HERE!](#)

Important: Read the FAQs [HERE](#).

\$100,000 grant award for the animal welfare organization
\$1,000 Petco gift card for the adopter

Four 2nd Prize Winners:
\$50,000 grant award for the animal welfare organization
\$500 Petco gift card for the adopter

Eight 3rd Prize Winners:
\$25,000 grant award for the animal welfare organization
\$250 Petco gift card for the adopter

Twenty to Forty Runner-ups:
\$5,000 or \$10,000 grant award for the animal welfare organization
\$50 Petco gift card

Dog Parks are Not People Parks...

What to know before you go...



We all love to see our dogs in a social situation with other dogs, running free and playing together. It's also wonderful exercise, especially for apartment-bound dogs, but also a time when owners can share their love of their furry kids with each other and other dog lovers. These parks, however, are not for human socialization. Stay acutely in tune with your dog.

If you're thinking of taking your canine pal to a dog park for exercises and socialization, there are some things that you need to pay attention to in order to ensure a happy and safe experience.

Healthy chases look like one dog chasing after another. One dog being chased initiates the game, and the dog being chased does not have his tail tucked under. If a dog is shy and vulnerable, that vulnerability will make other dogs take advantage. Be a 'Triple A' owner: alert, attentive and engaged. Interrupt your dog frequently. Watch for wagging tails, which is a good sign, and for stiff posture, which is not.

Watch for common behaviors that can happen in large groups that can indicate your dog isn't having fun:

- Bullying
- Group chase (risky and unhealthy - dangerous)
- Hunting (usually hunting small dogs)
- Mobbing (two or more dogs against one)
- Targeting (one dog becomes obsessive about pursuing another)

It's also important to know your park. The more open the park, the less the dogs feel threatened. Take your dog when there are no other dogs present for the first time. Introduce him/her at the perimeter before entering the park. Avoid small and confined parks with a large number of dogs inside.

Another alternative allowing your dog to have fun and good exercise are play-dates with trusted dogs that know each other and get along well. A dog's most important play partner is a human being and the best interaction is to take your dog hiking and walking with YOU.

Thanking the GRR Web Team

Dawn Marie Rae



Each of us who volunteer for GRR add great value in the rescuing, the rehabilitation, and the rehoming of our precious Goldens. Each of us gives the time we can and uses the experience we bring to the table in unique ways.

The GRR web team is one of which works and contributes behind the scenes of the intake, fostering, and adoption activities, but plays an important role nonetheless.

It's where potential adopters and fosters come and learn about our dogs and for others to learn about our organization. It's where GRR publicizes our fundraisers and events. It's where our volunteers come to use all of our internal forms and documentation. In tandem with other social networking platforms, this is one part of our external face to our communities in central Texas.

The Team:

Karen Watkins: Karen is our system administrator. She maintains our backups and makes sure our security

updates are current. She has designed a more modern looking website coming soon this month - a huge job! Her expertise is exceptional.

Scott Hubbard: Scott works for Relevant Tools, (who maintains our databases). He also works very closely with me to get campaigns and fundraisers set up on the website. He was instrumental in our online presence when we brought the Turkey Dogs in. He helps me with a lot of other content changes. He has been invaluable to me in getting the newsletter's design improved and more professional looking. I can't say enough.

Barbara Tankey: Barbara (and her team of writers) pour through intake forms, surrender forms and photos to produce and posts the dog stories you and potential adopters see. She also maintains our Permanent Foster, Memorial, Matched, Adopted and EGF pages. A lot of coordinating and updating there!

Stephen Sebesta: Stephen has worked to update and improve all of our forms, e.g. surrender forms, intake forms, foster report forms etc. to allow for greater ease in filling them out. He made much needed content updates (directed by Kathy Simmons) to all of our forms in record time. He is designing the new Tree of Hope this year for the holidays: a very big undertaking.

Jane Shaughness: Jane posts and maintains all of the events you see and participate in. She gets all the details posted for each event as they become available. She also backs up Barbara when she is away with the dog profiles and stories.

I coordinate and direct this team, but they do all of the real work. I wanted, this month, to say how very much I appreciate and respect them for all of the time they put in, the dedication they bring to this facet of our organization and for all of the skills and education they've passed on to me in the process.

Thank you all. Very much.

Living in a Dog's House - The Gunthert Pack

Dennis and Carey Gunthert



From left to right: Brooklyn, Cassia, lying down is Freedom, and Gracie is up front.

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

We have four full-time Golden Retrievers and typically a foster as well. GRR 08-119 Brooklyn: 15, Cassia: 8, Gracie: 8, GRR 13-110 Freedom, 4.

Describe feeding time.

It's a very orderly affair. Our pack knows where they eat their meals and go to their spots. Well, except for

Freedom – who eats last - has to check on everyone else’s bowls first: and once it’s his turn will do laps around the kitchen island, leaving a trail of drool. They do wait patiently until they are released to eat.

What does your welcome home committee look like?

Unless we’ve been gone for multiple days, we are met with happy smiles and wagging tails. Freedom will usually run to the back door for “Outside” which is what we determined was a better outlet for his excitement than tackling everyone who comes to the door.

Does your housekeeper come daily?

If we had one, it would likely be yes!

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

Two Dyson vacuums! We also have two pushbrooms, a third vacuum for upstairs, plus two rug shampooers (one for large areas and one spot bot).

How do you take everybody for a walk?

This is where we fail to exercise appropriately, as we usually throw the ball with them outdoors or another home-based energy expenditure. We do take them on occasional excursions to the greenbelt for swimming or hiking so it’s a nice treat for everyone. We focus more on mental stimulation and games in the home.

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

We perfected the math – two people = four hands: one for each dog!

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

We managed to win the lottery: not one of our dogs has phobias! There is mild panting with excessive thunder or nearby fireworks but they just pant a little more and we wouldn’t be sleeping through those anyway.

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

Even the imaginary ones can’t get near the house! Gracie regularly alerts us to blowing leaves, squirrels, rabbits, and the new phone book deliveries.



Volunteer Spotlight - Allison Johnson



Allison and Scott with Ginger and Cooper

Tell us a little about you and your dogs.

I work in a skilled nursing facility and my husband travels extensively in his job as a sales manager for a microscope company. We are an active family, with two girls ages 10 and 13. We spend many weeknights and weekends driving our girls to various school and swimming related events.

We adopted our first Golden, Ginger, 6 years ago. At the time, we didn't know very much about Golden Retrievers. We quickly learned how great these dogs were with our children, and how much love they have to offer. We adopted our second Golden, Cooper, one year ago. Cooper is a rambunctious, high-energy, funny, and attention-loving dog. Ginger, on the other hand is laid back, and enjoys watching her active brother while lying on the couch. They are a perfect mix for our family and I couldn't imagine life without them

How long have you been volunteering with GRR?

We started volunteering about 5 years ago fostering and providing respite care for the organization. It's hard to guess how many dogs have gone through our home. I can safely say each dog has their own unique personality and I love being part of finding a perfect home for them.

What is your favorite part above all?

The best part of volunteering is seeing these dogs go into a loving, new forever home. We always enjoy meeting other families who also love Golden Retrievers.

Describe a cute/funny/interesting story while volunteering in this position. We have a cat who could care less about our dogs and our fosters. When a dog comes from a shelter, you never know much about them. It's our job to love them, but also learn their personality traits and quirks. We learn very quickly if a foster is good with cats. I will never forget one particular foster who loved chasing our cat up and down the stairs. Thank goodness for baby gates!

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

Keep an open heart and mind when welcoming a Golden you know little about into your home. Volunteering is such a rewarding experience and it's very fulfilling to know they have a wonderful future ahead of them in a new home within the GRR community.

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

Inspiring and rewarding.

Teach Your Dog Hand Signals BEFORE He is Deaf

[Dog Training Excellence](#) and [I Love Dogs](#)



Dog training hand signals are very useful for several reasons: Canines are visually oriented animals and will understand hand signals for dogs very well. They can read your body language more easily than understand your spoken words.

Some training methods use cues that can then become the actual hand signal! This makes an easy transition from getting the behavior going to putting it under the control of a dog training hand command.

Dog hand signals are a great tool to use with deaf dogs as well as in obedience competition where verbal commands might not be heard or are not allowed. It is easier for dogs to understand a hand signal than a verbal command.

It is another way to build communication and trust with your pet as well as to enhance his confidence. When a dog understands what he is being asked to do, he feels safer, because he knows what to do.

- From [Dog Training Excellence](#)

While training a deaf dog does have a different set of challenges than a hearing dog, it is certainly not impossible to do. A great way to start is by deciding on a set of hand signals you are going to use with your dog and make sure everyone that interacts with him knows those cues. Post them on your fridge so visitors (or forgetful spouses!) can find them easily. To help, here are 10 handy hand signals to use when training your hard of hearing dog.

#1 – Open Hand Down - This has become one of the universal signs for a “sit.” It’s a pretty natural movement that dogs learn quickly.

#2 – Finger Pointing - This is great for teaching a deaf dog if you want him to go somewhere (i.e. a kennel or mat), or to fetch something. You can also use it for “sending” the dog if you are working on agility.

#3 – Thumb Up - Just like for people, you can use this sign to mean “good,” or “yes.” Since they can’t hear a clicker, this can be a great way to “mark” when your dog does something right.

#4 – Okay Sign - This is another sign you can use to as a replacement for “good” or “yes.” Remember to also have positive facial expressions that help your dog understand you are happy.

#5 – Finger Pointing Down - This is the most common sign for telling a dog to “lie down.” Like the one for “sit,” it’s natural to do and easy to remember (which is important).

#7 – Time Out Symbol - Although not commonly used in dog training, you could use it for “leave-it,” “drop,” or “quiet.” The nice thing about this sign is it is clearly different from the others, making it less confusing for your dog.

#8 – Hand Out - This is usually used as a cue to get your dog to “shake” or “high-five.” However, for a deaf dog, you may use it to mean “come to me” or “bring me your toy” as well.

#9 – Two Fingers Pointed at Eyes - You know; the hand-to-eye signal they use in comedies to say “I am watching you”? Well, you could use this same gesture to get your deaf dog to “watch you” (i.e. give eye contact).

#10 – Call Me - Another uncommon signal, this one would be cute for a recall or “watch me” cue. Again, it’s a nice symbol to use because it doesn’t look like the others, make it easier on your dog to learn.

- From [I Love Dogs](#)

Teaching Hand Commands

Dog Training Excellence



Sweet Treet Macaron 15-115 (now Brodie)

You will be applying the principles of operant conditioning!

A behavior will happen more often if it is being rewarded. And your command should act as the "green light" for your pet to do the behavior and get rewarded.

If your furry friend already responds to a dog verbal command, adding a dog hand signal is easy:

1. First do the hand signal.
2. Immediately after say the verbal command (that your pooch already knows).
3. Mark and reward your dog's response.
4. Repeat steps 1-3 several times!
5. Now try the dog hand signal but don't say the verbal cue.
6. If he responds - Mark and reward!

If he doesn't respond to your hand signal be patient and repeat steps 1-4 again until successful.

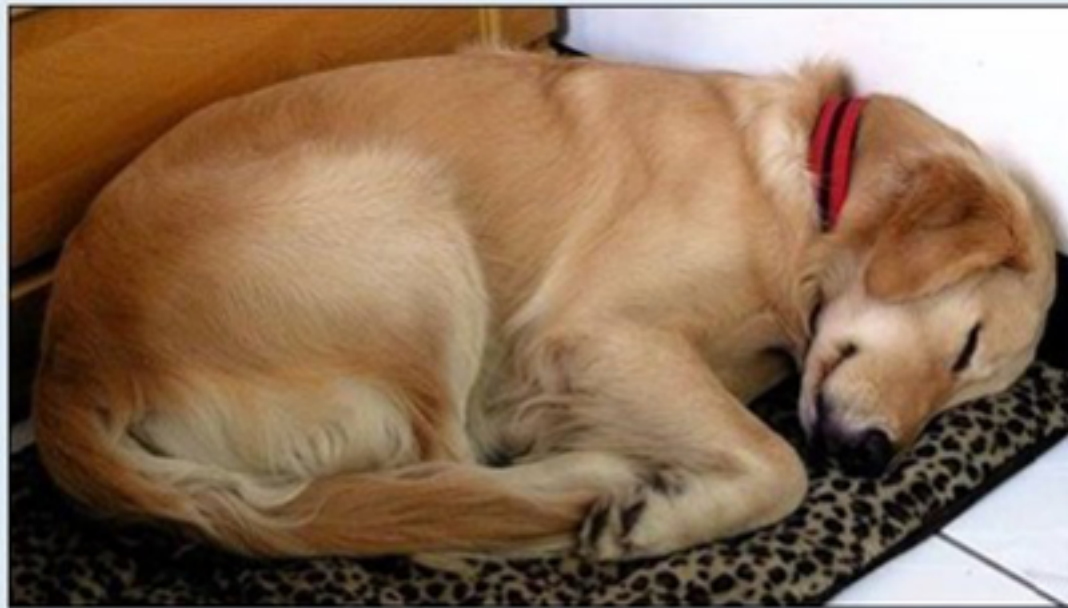
If you are training a new behavior and want to add a dog hand signal follow these steps:

1. Your pet must be rewarded only sometimes (randomly) before you can add a command. Read "How to get a reliable dog training command" for more information.
2. Now do the hand signal.
3. Mark and reward your pet's next response.
4. Repeat steps 3 and 4 several times!
5. If your dog does the behavior without you doing the hand command first- Ignore it!
6. Your puppy must be doing the behavior for you often during a training session (This will happen if you reinforce the behavior a lot! It's basic positive reinforcement.)
7. Repeat steps 3-6 until he is only responding after you do the dog training hand signal.

Once you and your pet are communicating very well, you can start making the hand signals less and less obvious, because your dog will still be able to catch them!

A Tired Old Dog

An older, tired-looking dog wandered into my yard. I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home and was well taken care of. He calmly came over to me, I gave him a few pats on his head; he then followed me into my house, slowly walked down the hall, curled up in the corner and fell asleep.



An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out.

The next day he was back, greeted me in my yard, walked inside and resumed his spot in the hall and again slept for about an hour. This continued off and on for several weeks.

Curious I pinned a note to his collar: 'I would like to find out who the owner of this wonderful sweet dog is and ask if you are aware that almost every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap.'

The next day he arrived for his nap, with a different note pinned to his collar: 'He lives in a home with 6 children, 2 under the age of 3 He's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?'

Thoughts, Prayers and Remembrance



Recent Rainbow Bridge: since September 1, 2016

Rest in peace, our friends and companions...

Allison 15-067

Denali "Brady" 12-110

Scarlett

Cinny

Flash - Cinny's brother

Maggie Marie

Trixie the cat - Paddy's feline sister

Mango

Roxie

Benny

Maya

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

If you would like to submit a memorial of your dog, click [here](#).

Jazz - shown below - rest in peace dear friend.



Maya - shown below - rest in peace MyMy.



Dog #2 - Finding Balance - Iris (Sally 16-018)
Amy and Stephen Sebesta



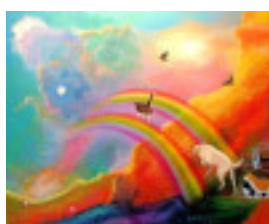
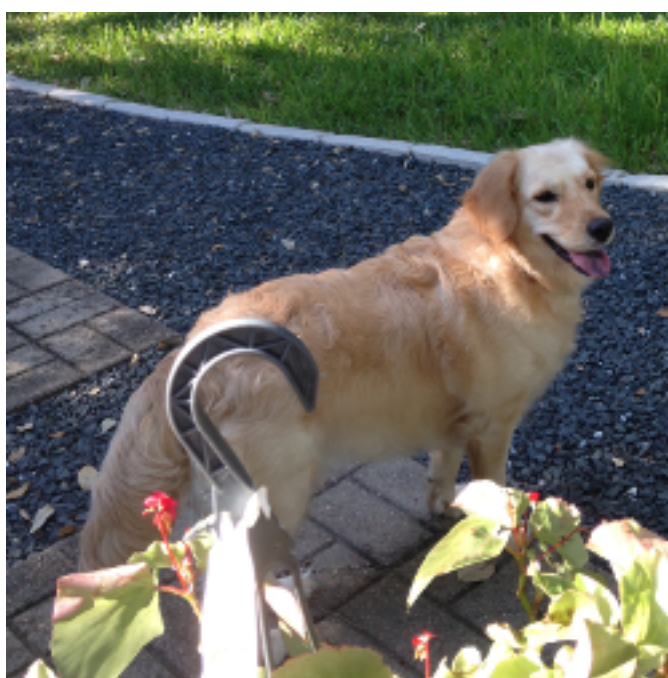
Pictured above: Iris (Sally 16-018) and Maya 14-117, Iris with Amy and Stephen

No, I'm not talking about THAT kind of #2! I'm talking about adding a second pup to your brood. This is a big decision that feels suddenly right when you go to [GRR's web site](#) and see that special dog. This is it. She/he's the one! The one I've been waiting for, the one like the one that got away, or the one that I've been watching for the last six months wondering, why, how come, and all that. Yes, I found #2.

First, #2 is not like #1. Ha. Ok, I'll stop. But seriously, the second fills and complements the first. This is the time to put all your best ideas and learnings to work from your first-dog experience. It's also a time to balance. And, balancing is easier said than done. There are some close **Friends of Balance** to remember...

1. **Exercise** - A tired dog is a good dog and can help reduce conflict
2. **Space** - Consider re-arranging to create the illusion of space to protect each dog's bubble
3. **Patience** - Don't try to push the dogs to go too fast, too far, take baby steps.
4. **Time Outs** - Take a break and try again later, maybe after some exercise or added space
5. **Fun** - Who's up for some fun, high-value treats, and learning something new while you're at it? Training is rewarding for all.
6. **Crates** - Great for giving your residents a break and activating time outs, but make sure the crate is loaded with good stuff for return visits (treats)
7. **Cats** - Cats not allowed, at least at first. These strange creatures live by different rules.

The best part of the **Friends of Balance** is that they can also help you in everyday life. Are YOU balanced?



In Loving Memory - Cinny

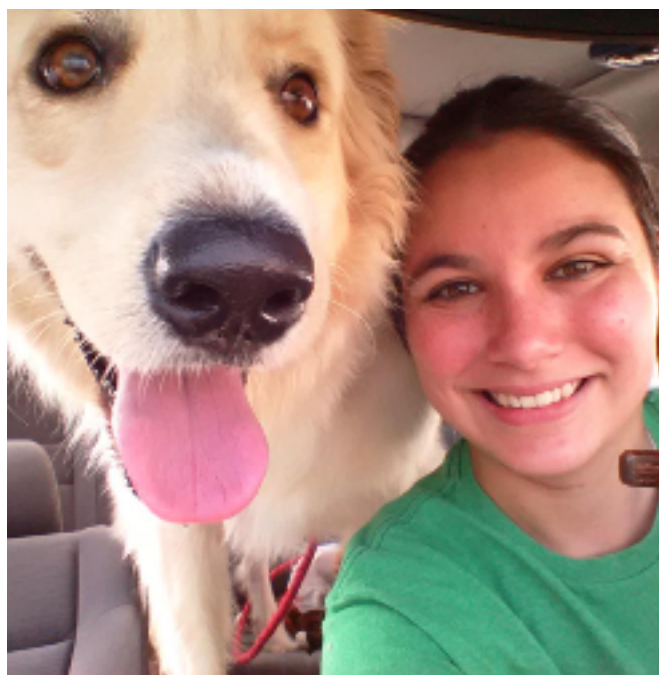
Kelly Polley



September 8th, we (Alex and I) "walked" Cinny to the rainbow bridge wearing her service vest she worked so hard to earn and was so proud of- just after lunchtime. She went gracefully, bravely while trying to reassure us and smile even as she labored for her last breathe. Her passing was sudden, quick to progress and unassisted, except by love and compassion. We took the pink tennis ball Nicky gave her his last Christmas with us and as she was leaving this world we told her that we were now throwing the ball across the bridge to Nicky and to "go get it girl"... she left us then... still holding our hands. There are no words.

Thank You GRR!

Shannon Floiran



Pictured above: BehrBehr and Shannon

I don't have a GRR dog – but I wish I did. There is one in particular I fell in love just by seeing a photo of him. We are not in a current situation to have a third dog, because we have to keep in mind our finances and our two current boys.

For once, I am not here to speak of dogs, which is very strange of me, but rather I want to express how wonderful Gold Ribbon Rescue is as an organization and about the group of amazing people I have come to know.

Ever since I got BehrBehr in February 2013, everyone has always given me a hard time about how I obsess over him and how I need to chill out – "he's just a dog". To those I say, you just don't understand. When I came across GRR the end of January 2016, we were in search of a little brother for BehrBehr. The way Behr is, a puppy would fit into our family best, and be an easier adjustment for Behr since he has always been the only one. We also wanted him to teach the pup the ropes and have the puppy grow up with him. At the time of our search, the Christmas litter was but a few weeks old and all were spoken for. There were no other puppies through the rescue available.

I sent a request to join the closed community Facebook group and was immediately accepted. I spent hours on the group seeing photos of this new litter and everyone else's pups. It took all but a minute to realize that I had finally found a group of people that understood me and how much I care for my boys. Not only do you get a very welcoming community through GRR, but there is no judgment, only support, everyone looks out for each other and they come together and pray for one another when a Golden falls ill. We were accepted even though my boys are non-GRR dogs. The list goes on and on. I could name a hundred more reasons why this rescue as a whole is the best organization I have ever been a part of.

What stands out to me most is how quickly our community/team works to help a Golden in need and get them into GRR care. It's one of the most amazing things I have ever witnessed; along with how quickly people open up their homes for a foster pup. It is truly incredible.

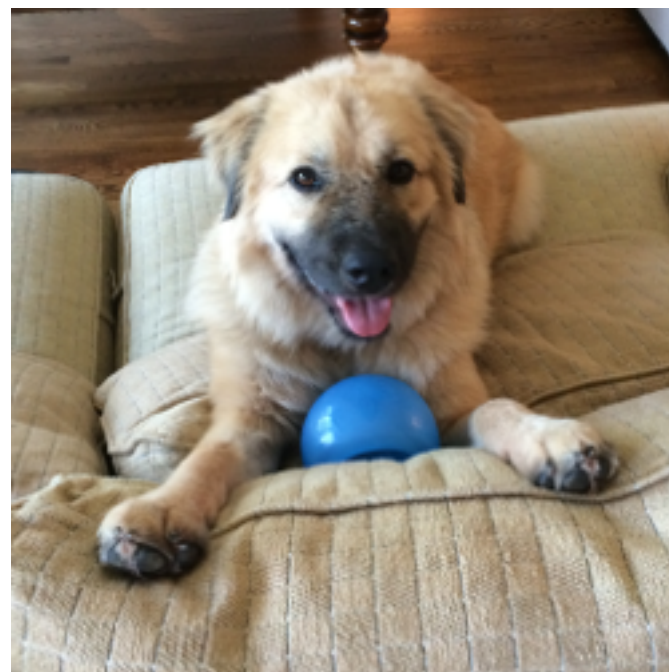
I write this to express my gratitude to all of you in the GRR community because it is amazing what you do and I thank you for being there for us all: for encouragement, for prayers, for just sharing your Golden with all of us.

You see the logo – 'Go Golden – Go Gold Ribbon'. I can tell you what that means to me. It means to live the Golden life and share the beauty of that with each other, through rescue, in any way possible.

Thank you GRR!

Remember Diesel? Now, He's Dexter - From Rags to Riches!

Lisa Savage



September, 2016 update of Dexter (Diesel 16-009)

I just returned from our evening walk when some neighbors I had not met before stopped me to gush over "how beautiful a dog he is! So beautiful!" They wanted to know his breed. His DNA says 75% Great Pyrenees! The new friend said "that's what I thought." Some other friends who have seen him a few times since his rescue but not in a few weeks could not get over his general fluffiness and major thick coat. One of their kids asked "Why is his tail so thick? It looks like a squirrel." Ha! Hard to believe his tail used to resemble a snake, all hairless and pitiful. Well, this guy has the MOST abundant, thick coat you can imagine. From jackal-looking to fluffy, furry, fabulous! He continues to grow a little fuzz in patches within the scar areas on his legs. My groomer is sure to provide a "comb over" for areas that need a bit of camo.

D-man continues to amuse us with his cute face, bit of mischievousness and general affability. He has two "BOE" or "bursts of energy" daily, usually after eating and a walk. He and my husband do the boy thing, wrestle, run around, chase. He then morphs into a restful, calm mode, as in a sheep guardian on a hillside. He continues to enjoy playmates at daycare twice a week and is fully integrated into our home and routine. He understands that Sundays mean a ride to get a kolache, and he loves a car ride no matter where we are going. So cute...the minute he gets in the back seat, he puts his head on the armrest and starts loud snoring! Sometimes when we arrive home, he is not interested in waking up or getting out. It's relaxing to him. If he has not had a ride in a day or two, he will stand at the back door, look at me, look at door, look at me, look at door....I usually get the message and we find somewhere to go...maybe get the mail, run an errand or just take a ride for a ride's sake!

Dexter is less clingy than he was at first, although he can be quite insistent about attention when he is in BOE mode. He is more content to be "around" than attached to my side now when we are home, although he never turns down a nice massage and an ear rub. He is a pretty quiet soul, although the GP in him does provide for a deep bark when warranted. A couple weeks ago he got back to his guardian roots when a pack of coyotes was heard nearby. Best home security system ever invented!

We are looking to cooler weather, given the big 'ole fur coat. He likes a nice, long walk when it's cooler; this summer we have moderated according to the heat, but lately the break in the triple digits has been to his liking. He is not a swimmer at all, and our invitations to him to cool off on the tanning ledge of our pool are met with a firm "no, thanks". Not having to deal with what I call "wet retriever" is an OK thing! Speaking of which, funny

thing. .we are now 0 for 2 on getting a Golden Retriever from GRR. Ha! Our last GRR dog (Goldie, '05) did look the part, but was zero percent golden retriever, according to the genetic test. Dexter does not look the part, but is also a lucky "OTG" (other than Golden)...to have been given a new lease on life by GRR. We remain grateful to our GRR teams and friends for helping all of us get back to equilibrium. Our home is now balanced again, with a canine family member!



Diesel 16-009 at intake

Where Are They Now? Jake 15-065

Solomon and Rebecca Paley



We are so very in love with Jake...best Golden ever. He goes with my husband, Dr. Paley, to work every day. Jake greets patients, gets treats, sits with them during their consultation, and goes for walks with the staff during the morning and afternoon.

When we first adopted Jake he weighed a whopping 111 pounds. Our vet said that he needed to lose weight approx. 30+ pounds. At his last weigh in, he was 77 pounds. We were so thrilled.

Jake loves vegetables. We keep all veggies in the office for Jake to eat. We tell our patients that Jake promotes good health as well as Dr. Paley. We have had the best experience with GRR. I have attached his recent pictures from his photo shoot. Pictured here are Jake and a picture with him and his sister, Doodah.



In Loving Memory - Scarlett (08-040 June)

Lisa Marshburn Marohnic



We had to say goodbye to our sweet Scarlett yesterday, September 9th. We were matched with her in 2006, and we cannot thank GRR enough for supporting her through heartworm treatment, terrible fleas and ticks, and spaying. She lived her life as if she was always saying "thank you for my life!". Blessings to you all.

Looking For a Forever Home - Stevie (06-152) and Little Miss (11-002)



Little Miss is an 8 year old female and Stevie is an 11 year old male. They are very bonded, so we want to place them together. They adore going to the park, playing with other dogs and hanging out with their foster dad. If you are looking for a sweet pair of seniors, these are the beauties for you. See the full story about both of them [here](#).

This 'Love Principle' Applies to Your Dogs as Well as You **[Dr. Karen Becker](#)**



Shadow, Frankie and Lucy

If you live in a multiple-dog home, you may have had the pleasure of witnessing your dogs form strong, life-long bonds. Your two (or more) pups may sleep together, eat together, play together and go on walks together. In fact, it may seem as though they're joined at the hip!

If this sounds familiar, it's important to distinguish between dogs spending time together because they want to and those spending time together because they have to. If there's only one cushy spot to lie on, for instance, or you always take your dogs places together as a pair, the latter may be the case.

This isn't to say that dogs don't enjoy socializing with other dogs; they often do. But, just as is the case with human siblings, spending too much time together can lead to irritation, stress and even aggression.

Why Some Dogs Benefit From Being an 'Only Dog' — Even for a Short While

There are many benefits to having more than one dog, assuming the dogs' personalities mesh well together. The dogs can provide companionship to one another and provide a built-in playmate when you're away.

In some cases, an older established dog can also act as a positive influence on a new addition to your home, especially if the new dog is anxious or fearful. The new dog may take cues from the established dog, leading to feelings of calm.

The new dog may also learn acceptable behaviors regarding where to go to the bathroom from the established pet. (This can also work in the opposite way, however, if the established dog exhibits negative behaviors.) That being said, giving your dogs some time apart can provide a much-needed break.

If your dogs spend virtually all of their time together, minor stresses or irritations can build up into major blowouts.

Time apart makes the heart grow fonder and helps to diffuse any built-up tension.

If You Think Your Dogs Need Time Apart, Here's How You Do It If you think your dogs despise being apart because one of them whines as you take the other away. It could be that they actually despise being left behind as opposed to being temporarily apart from their canine companion.

You can avoid this by having one member of the household take one dog for a walk or play session while you take the other to do a separate activity. If you're the only owner, leave one dog at home with a highly sought-after treat-release toy and take the other dog for a walk, solo.

You don't, by the way, need to take your dogs for separate walks every time. Even one solo walk or activity each week can provide your dog the chance to be his own dog for a while.

You can also simply let your dogs spend time without one another by giving them access to different rooms of the house. That way, they can pick and choose when they want company and when they do not.

At my house I have two females that can aggravate each other. We manage this by regularly giving one dog a raw bone in a bedroom while we take the other dog in the backyard for a fun round of ball chasing, then we switch.

Are Your Dogs Co-Dependent?

On the other end of the spectrum, some dogs are so closely bonded that even a short time apart may cause extreme anxiety. This is also a less-than-ideal situation.

If this is the case for your dogs, you can start out by separating your dogs for very short periods (such as five minutes) at a time (with both dogs engaging in something distractingly fun), then gradually work your way up to longer durations.

While they may not enjoy it at first, learning to be comfortable when away from their "other half" will be helpful if you need to take one dog to the veterinarian or they have to be apart for any other reason.

If you've adopted two dogs from the same litter, they may also display signs of littermate syndrome. This phenomenon occurs when canine siblings are so closely bonded that it may hinder their ability to bond with humans or interact with other dogs.

They may also have extreme separation anxiety if they're separated from their littermate (or, on the flip side, may fight virtually non-stop when they're together).

If your dogs are hyper-attached, whether they're littermates or not, this is an unhealthy form of emotional dependence that can hinder each dog's ability to function as a stable adult dog. If your dogs display signs of hyper-attachment, you can try the following to help develop some emotional independence:

- Provide a separate crate for each dog. You can keep them near each other at first then gradually increase the distance until the dogs can't see each other
- Consider separate training sessions for each dog
- Offer separate play sessions for each dog, including possibly spending time at a fun doggy play group or daycare

Ultimately, like people, most dogs benefit from a good balance of time together and time apart. In many cases, you can let your dogs take the lead on this by providing access to shared spaces, as well as areas where your dog can take some time to himself.



Love me tender,
Love me sweet,
Never let me go.
- Sophie -



In Loving Memory - Maggie Marie

Amy Bowden



I said goodbye to my sweet Maggie Marie this afternoon (September 16th), as she made her way to the Rainbow Bridge. Thankful for my parents who were by our side. Don't think we could have made the journey alone. We had a good two weeks together, for which I am so thankful...but she was beginning to fight for every breath. The cancer was too much for her and she was ready. I am heartsick, but praise God she is no longer in pain. Pop made her a really nice box and Ruby helped us bury her sister beside our precious Daisy, under the beautiful Crepe Myrtle. Ruby and I will never be the same. So glad she allowed us to love her for 10 wonderful years!

GRR Monthly Status Report: August 26 2016 - September 27 2016



Came into care: 16-098 Zoe, 16-099 Daisy, 16-100 Wyatt, 16-101 Tucker, 16-054 Ari, 16-102 Sapphire, 16-103 Jax, 16-104 Ollie, 16-105 Cinnamon.

Adopted: 16-081 Levi, 16-088 Princeton, 16-091 Blue, 16-018 Sally, 16-076 Cash, 16-046 Abby, 16-095 Cotton, 16-074 Tyrion, 16-067 Hyatt

Currently in Foster Care: 57 dogs: 23 Available/Available Soon, 22 Foster-Pend-Adopt/Matched, 12 Permanent Fosters

Help Wanted

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.



We Want to Hear from You!

Dawn Marie Rae



"I didn't do it. Period." - Cooper

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 [Dawn Marie Rae](#). (Please include a photo or two 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.
