



# Golden Tales

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April 2021

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## A Message From Our President



Hello Friends,

I hope you have been able to get out a little bit and enjoy the spring weather. It has been nice to see the wildflowers starting to rear their pretty heads. This is my favorite time of the year and our dogs love it as well because we are now on the hunt for the best trails to find the prettiest flowers.

At the end of March we hosted a surprise farewell Zoom event to say good bye to Margo and Gary Biba. We heard from a few people that they did not receive a notice of the event and then found it in the spam folder. As a reminder, please check your spam folders occasionally to see if you may have a GRR email hiding in there. If you receive the

newsletter you are on our main email distribution list. Here is the [link](#) of the recorded event for those that missed the call and want to watch it.

I want to give a special thank you to all who donated to Amplify Austin and helped raise just over \$7000.00 for GRR. We are grateful for your support. The 2020 Gold Ribbon Rescue Annual Report was sent out in early March and you can review it [here](#) and find a copy, as well as previous year's reports, on the GRR website. GRR will be receiving a generous donation from Tomlinson's from their Pound 4 Pound program and we are very thankful to have the opportunity to be able to provide some high quality food for our foster families.

I want to continue to remind you that GRR is always ready, willing and able to help Golden Retrievers in need. We appreciate you being the voice to let your community know that rescue should be a top consideration when you learn of someone needing to rehome their Golden. Thank you for your support of Gold Ribbon Rescue.

Warm regards,  
Michelle Goldberg

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Do you have questions or comments for the Board? We value your input. Please send a note to [grrboard@grr-tx.com](mailto:grrboard@grr-tx.com) and include **Questions For The Board** in the subject line. We hope to hear from you! The next board meeting is **May 8, 2021**.

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## Farewell to Margo



## Thank You!

On March 25th we had a Surprise Farewell on Zoom for Margo and Gary. They will be leaving us this month for their next adventure in North Carolina. We can't thank Margo enough for all of her hard work for the past twenty-one years in making Gold Ribbon Rescue one of the preeminent rescues in Texas. Our very best wishes to Margo and Gary as they embark on their next chapter.

**We'll miss you!**





# HAPPY EASTER!





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## Thank You for Your Generosity!

### Amplify Austin Day 2021

On March 4th at 6:00 p.m. through March 5th at 6:00 p.m. Austin hosted Amplify Austin, their biggest day of giving. Thanks to you, our generous donors, Gold Ribbon Rescue received \$7175 in donations and we will be receiving matching funds from an anonymous donor soon. Your generosity allows GRR to continue to help Golden Retrievers in Central Texas and beyond.



## AmazonSmile

We also received a donation of \$969.31 from AmazonSmile, which we greatly appreciate. We have received total donations of \$9253.11 from AmazonSmile, all at no cost to you. Thanks to you all for shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and selecting Gold Ribbon Rescue as your charity.

## We Really Appreciate It!

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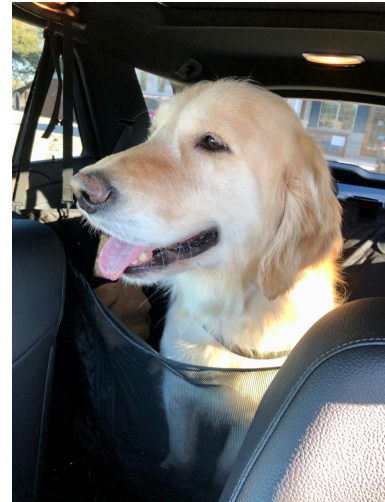
### Adopted!

#### Maple (Harmony 21-004T)

Maple was adopted February 28th. She came from a shelter in Izmir, Turkey into the loving arms of GRR volunteers in Houston to Manchaca Village Vet Center in Austin to her new forever family!

We always say it takes a village (and it DOES!). So whatever your role in bringing Harmony home and into her forever life - THANK YOU! She is happy, healthy and super playful.

Harmony, now Maple, loves long walks, luxurious sunny naps, fun training sessions (she is SO smart and learning so fast!), car rides with mom and dad and playing endless games of tug of war with her toys! She is thriving!



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#### Amber 20-082

Amber was adopted on March 2nd and now goes by Stella (as in stellar!). So happy her new mom and Stella have found each other!



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#### **Emerie -21-007**

Emerie, now known as Emme, was adopted on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Emerie was found as a stray in San Antonio. A Good Samaritan took her in (along with a Mastiff) and then contacted GRR for assistance. Of course we jumped in!

Emme is the sweetest dog and will live out her life in Georgetown with cousins to play with!

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#### **Rusty 13-101**

Rusty, forevermore known as Quinn, was adopted on March 5th. Rusty was originally adopted from GRR back in 2013. His adopter became ill so he returned to GRR for a second chance. Rusty is now in his permanent forever home and is knowing lots of love and attention. Congratulations to Nancy and Quinn!



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#### **Dream 21-002T**

Celebration Sunday! Another one of the magnificent five most recently rescued from Istanbul, Turkey: Dream was adopted by her foster family on March 7th. They describe their "Emma" as a true Dream from heaven! They are crazily in love with her and giving her a most wonderful life!

Her family and Emma could not be happier!

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#### **Peace 21-006T**

Peace was adopted on March 9th and it looks like that will always be a special day for his new family. Peace joins his four-legged brother, Phoenix (19-023C), who is from China and they are getting along great. It's quite the international family!





**Phoenix 19-023C**



**Peace 21-006T**



**Snow? No!**

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**Murphy 21-009**

Murphy, that cute pup now known as Rosie, was adopted on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Rosie's new "brother" Bruce, who is a one year-old Golden, is thrilled to have a new playmate.. Another happy ending for this sweet pooch and her new family!





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## The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Dog Owners

### Whole Dog Journal

Almost 30 years ago, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* by Dr. Stephen Covey was published for the first time. The self-help book went on to be called the “most influential business book of the 20th century.” To date, more than 25 million copies of the book have been sold.

As a small business owner, I found the book very enlightening and helpful, but I mostly found myself relating to Dr. Covey’s “7 habits” as things that would really help anyone who lived with and worked with dogs!

As a professional dog trainer, I get to work with people from all walks of life and the dogs they love. Interestingly, no matter who they are, what they do for a living, or what kind of dog they have, their issues are similar: They call me because they want their dog to stop doing “X.” Usually, they say they have “tried everything, but the dog just won’t listen.” I love the opportunities I have to work with so many amazing dogs. But a lot of what I do comes down to coaching the dog’s owners on how to look at things differently to obtain a new outcome.

With Dr. Covey’s “seven habits for success in business” in mind, allow me to apply them to people who want a more successful relationship with their dogs.

#### 1. Be proactive

Much of the old-fashioned dog training we were exposed to growing up focused on waiting for the dog to make a mistake and then harshly correcting him. While most of us simply accepted this as “how you train a dog,” we were missing the bigger picture. This method never taught the dog what he was supposed to do in that situation the next time.

Continue reading [here](#).

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**Tintin (Rocky 20-101)**  
**Margo Biba**



We adopted our rowdy 11 month-old foster pup, Tintin, on March 21st. "Tintin is a constant source of happy craziness and we love him immensely. Our other dogs' comments:

- \* #16-108 Skeeter (age 11) whispers, "Tintin is insane. He jumps up in the air and flies over me when we're in the backyard."
- \* Bella Wolfhound (age 5) groans, "Tintin pulls on my ears. He is nuts."
- \* #12-138 Bijou (age 8) smugly brags, "I taught Tintin to wrestle, retrieve tennis balls, jump on the bed, eat poop, and steal stuff off counters."
- \* #16-007 Rosebud (age 12) laughs, "I adore Tintin! He entices me to wrestle, run, bark, and wrestle some more. I had no idea how much fun life could be, before Tintin arrived. And I'm exercising so much that I've lost seven pounds!"





## Jack - A Survivor's Story

By Becki Adler



It was February 17, 2021 and the snow and ice storm was at its absolute worst. That night Jack's long battle with multiple cancers began to turn, bringing him into a sudden decline. I spent the night on the floor with him as he took deep breaths, stroking and telling him how much we loved him and what a good boy he was. Because 2222 Veterinary Clinic was closed, we were unable to find any ER that was open that was within a reasonable distance to drive to on ice. With the help of a friend, early the next morning we were able to find a vet who would help us. Jack crossed over The Rainbow Bridge on February 18th, finally free of pain.

Jack AKA Bob 17-127 (somewhere around 9 or 10 years of age) came to us in the fall of 2017. He had been found as a stray by a Good Samaritan in the area of RR N620. She had intended to keep him but decided against it and so he made his way to us. When we picked him up at Manchaca Village Vet he happily came out, leash in mouth. I soon learned this was to be his habit, to the delight of many.

Jack was a beautiful redhead who had many different medical issues, but you would never know it. He was always happy and playful and gave us his love in abundance. Not long after surrendering to our hearts and adopting him, we learned he had severe acid reflux, a malformed esophagus, and some kind of previously undiagnosed trauma to his eye as well as cancer. We slowly learned what medicines and food worked for him and we settled into our lives together.



A creature of habit, Jack worked us into his daily schedule. He loved to walk and so walk we did, making new friends along the way. Clearly, he was a celebrity here in our neighborhood as he gladly greeted all. He loved everyone including his best friend, our neighbor's cat. (I'm not sure the cat felt the same but at least he tolerated Jack's infatuation.) When I look back on it, he loved everyone and was loved back by many.

In 2018 we learned that another type of cancer had invaded his body. We were told he had a month or a little more at best. He was happy and active, so we decided to give him his best life ever! That summer Jack went on a road trip with us to spend the summer in the Northern California redwood country. He thrived, making new friends, and being loved by my friend of many years and her family and friends as well. On his second summer road trip he accompanied Mike and I to our home in Jamestown, RI, a tiny island in the Narragansett Bay. Jack loved every moment there and was always happy to be with us, no matter where we were. We were a pack.



I don't need to tell you about the loss we feel each and every day because being animal lovers you know that feeling all too well. However, I choose to remember him as the happy, loving, beautiful big boy he was. As with all of our dogs, his ashes will remain with us here in Austin. However, this summer we will return to our island home and spread some of



Jack's ashes there as well. We will sit on a beach and when the winds allow....and the sun begins its descent turning the sky as red as his coat....we will release our boy and watch for a rainbow.

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## 5 Simple Steps to Improve Your Dog's Quality of Life

### Whole Dog Journal

**Fix these little things to make your dog far more comfortable.**

Clipping your dog's nails is much easier if she's got white nails, which allow you to see the "quick" inside. Those of us whose dogs have thick, black nails have to guess where the quick is and take more care not to clip it.

If there was something simple you could do that would make your dog much happier, you'd do it in a flash, right?

Every day I see owners going to great lengths, and spending small fortunes, to indulge their dogs. That's why I'm perplexed when I see those very same folks ignoring the smaller, easy-to-rectify issues that diminish their dog's daily quality of life, causing anything from mild irritation to major pain.

Marketers may sell us on products for our dogs: expensive food and treats, beds, and toys. But some of the most important keys to our dogs' happiness are free or low-ticket items that nobody advertises – so they can often go under the radar. Here are five simple things that you can fix to greatly improve your dog's quality of life:

**1. LONG NAILS.** Ready for the hard truth? You need to be clipping or grinding your dog's nails every three weeks.

I know. Your dog hates it. You hate it. So you put it off, and ask the vet or groomer to do it whenever your dog goes in. Unfortunately, unless you're in the habit of monthly visits, that's not nearly enough.

Continue reading [here](#):

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## In Memoriam - Brad 14-030

### Dana Kyrish

One day a girl was looking for a Golden Retriever to join her family. I found GRR and from the moment I saw his picture online, I fell in love with a rescue named Brad (14-030). He came into GRR's care with cancer, heartworms and dysplasia in all four limbs, but he was my lemon and I was not going to let anyone stop me from adopting this dog. He gave us years of joy and love and I know we made his life safe, comfortable, and happy for as much time as we could have him.

Over the past year, he worsened and was mostly deaf and blind, had trouble getting around and cancer inevitably came back into his life. I never even



dreamed we would have him as long as we did. I always knew that day would come, but you are never prepared for it as many of you know. He declined rapidly in the past few months.

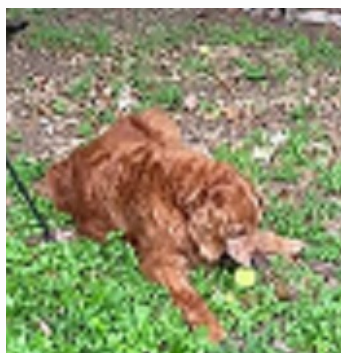
On March 10th we had to say goodbye to Brad. He left this earth with me holding his head in my hands. From the first day he came into my life to the last, I will always love him forever.

I'm not sure if this is therapeutic for me to write this or I am still in denial, but GRR gave me this special dog and I can't thank you enough for the opportunity and time I had with him, so I wanted to let you know that his journey ended and he will never be forgotten.



### Thoughts, Prayers and Remembrance...

Duke (Duce 15-102)  
Fitzwilliam Darcy (Comanche 10-021)  
Brad 14-030  
Mason 16-090  
Timber 10-114







**Mason 16-090**



**Timber 10-114**



Newsletter Editor: Dorii Olsen

Send comments or suggestions to: [newsletter@grr-tx.com](mailto:newsletter@grr-tx.com)

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**Gold Ribbon Rescue | 512-659-4653 | 1101 W 34th St #336, Austin TX 78705**  
**[www.grr-tx.com](http://www.grr-tx.com)**