

Golden Tales

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GRR Store

February 2023

A Message From Our President



Hello friends,

Happy Valentine's Day to you and your loved ones. It is February and love is in the air. Well, at least for skunks it is. Their mating season starts this month, which is why we often see them associated with Valentine's Day. It's a time to be extra careful and watchful because having your dogs sprayed by a skunk is definitely a horrible experience. We have had it happen three times in our suburban backyard. There is a great recipe to use to bathe your dog if they do get sprayed. This concoction is mild dish soap (I prefer blue Dawn), baking soda and hydrogen peroxide. Check out [Safe Ways to Get Rid of the Skunk Smell on Dogs I FvMID](#).

The first time our dogs (four of them to be exact) were sprayed I was in a panic. I had the smelliest, wet dogs and my husband was out of town. I had no idea what to do so I did a very quick internet search and came across what I needed.

I put my dogs in the garage (it was cool enough) and ran to the corner Walgreens. I placed all of my basket contents on the counter, which were four large bottles of the dish soap, four boxes of baking soda and four bottles of hydrogen peroxide, plus a very large bottle of wine. The lady who was checking me out asked what I was doing because I had some very odd items. All I said was my dogs were sprayed by a skunk and this is what you are supposed to use. She immediately understood the need for the large bottle of wine and agreed I would need it. So now these items are always in stock in our laundry room, and we have needed to use them a few times. It is much better to be prepared than to get caught without the proper supplies.

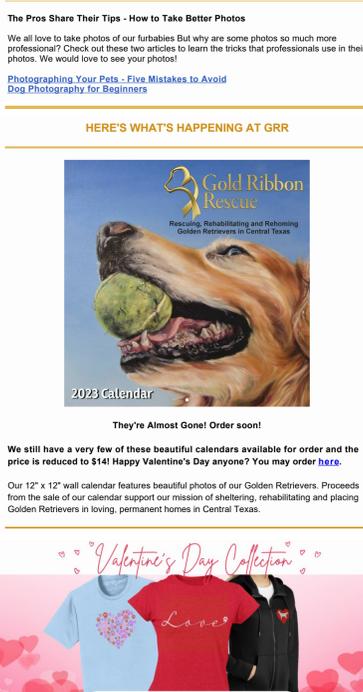
Also, on the topic of love, I cannot say enough about how much I love the support our GRR community provides for the dogs in need that we bring in. Every time we ask for help, you step up. I want to say a huge thank you to all who donate for Charlie to get his new hip and I know we will have so much more support for Amplify Austin that will take place early next month. We are so grateful for all that you give to GRR and to the dogs. Thank you so much!

As always GRR is ready, willing and able to help Golden. If you know of a Golden in need or one to be surrendered, please always remember to contact our intake team at [Intake Team](#) or call our hotline at 512-659-4633 as our social media pages aren't monitored for posts of dogs in need.

Warm regards,
Michelle

Do you have questions or comments for the Board? We value your input. Please send a note to the [GRR Board](#) and include [Questions For The Board](#) in the subject line. We hope to hear from you! The next board meeting is **March 25, 2023**.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



The More You Know

Volunteer Orientation Webinar

Our next volunteer webinar will be **February 16th** so grab a friend and a computer and learn about all the opportunities Gold Ribbon Rescue has to offer! There's something for everybody!

When: February 15, 2023
Time: 6:30 - 7:15 p.m.
RSVP Deadline: Please RSVP to [Denise Martinez](#) by February 13th if you are planning on attending.

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer, mobile app or room device
[Click here to join the meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 515.844.119.006
Passcode: 65AWPQ

Important Information About Adoptions

Gold Ribbon Rescue is committed to providing the medical care and vetting of all dogs that find their way into our rescue. The vetting process consists of vaccinations, fecal and heartworm tests, spay and neuter, rabbing, nail trim and any other medical needs the dog has. Some of these consist of treating for mange, parasites, ear infections, or even more costly conditions such as orthopedic surgery, dental cleaning with tooth extractions, and heartworm treatment just to name a few.

Although GRR will continue to fundraise in order to ensure the funds are available to treat dogs in our care, with rising medical expenses we must increase our adoption fees. Having a dog fully vetted with a spay or neuter, even with our vet partners' discounts, runs around \$750. Beginning with applications received on or after February 15th, we will increase our adoption fees in order to meet the rising costs of medical care. **Please note that the application fee is unchanged at \$25, but the fee will no longer be applied to the adoption fee.** The new adoption fees are as follows:

- 0-7 years old \$550
- 8-10 years old \$350
- 11 years old and older \$250

As always, a dog must be medically cleared before it may be adopted. We make all medical records available to the adopter and we disclose all that we know about a dog and any issues. We appreciate the hundreds of families who choose to rescue a pet instead of purchasing one and especially those that choose to adopt Golden.

The Pros Share Their Tips - How to Take Better Photos

We all love to take photos of our furbabies! But why are some photos so much more professional? Check out these two articles to learn the tricks that professionals use in their photos. We would love to see your photos!

[Photographing Your Pets - Five Mistakes to Avoid](#)
[Dog Photography for Beginners](#)

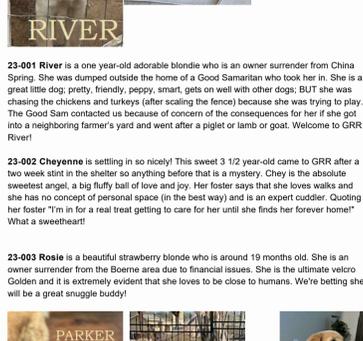
HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT GRR



They're Almost Gone! Order soon!

We still have a very few of these beautiful calendars available for order and the price is reduced to **\$14!** Happy Valentine's Day anyone? [We may order here.](#)

Our 12" x 12" wall calendar features beautiful photos of our Golden Retrievers. Proceeds from the sale of our calendar support our mission of sheltering, rehabilitating and placing Golden Retrievers in loving, permanent homes in Central Texas.

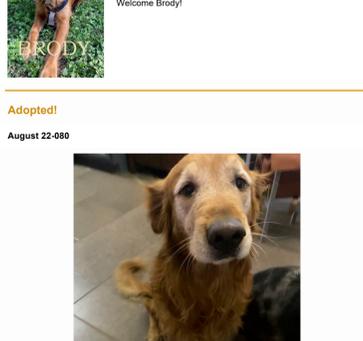


Valentine's Day is February 14th!

Charlie is dandy and noses love roses and wine is fine, but what do Golden lovers love (besides their Golden)? - a stylish shirt that proclaims their love to the world. The GRR store has apparel perfect for your Valentine. Take a peek and order [here](#).

To see our GRR logo T-Shirts, click [here](#).

Let's Rock. Let's Amplify. Let's Save Golden!



Amplify Austin Day is the biggest giving event in Central Texas and it officially begins March 1st at 6:00 p.m. and runs to March 2nd at 6:00 p.m. First organized in 2013, this annual event has raised \$52.8 million dollars, making it the biggest giving event in Central Texas. All donations go to local nonprofits and you may select to whom you would like to donate. Of course we hope you will choose Gold Ribbon Rescue.

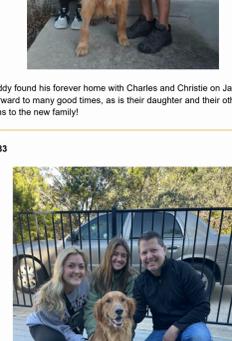
This year our Amplify Austin Day goal is to raise \$12,500 to help save Golden in need and we can't do it without you. Gold Ribbon Rescue has rescued, rehabilitated and placed more than 3,700 dogs in forever homes over the past 25 years. This year we hope to rescue another 85 dogs.

Early giving is open now so you can make an early donation by [clicking here!](#)

Let's Rock. Let's Amplify and Let's Save Golden!

NEWS ABOUT OUR GRR GOLDENS

Introducing Our Newest Permanent Foster - Tripper 22-082



Tripper was named a Permanent Foster because of a malignant melanoma that can be aggressive.

Ten year-old Tripper was an emergency intake to GRR because his elderly owner passed away suddenly, leaving Tripper with no place to go. GRR sprang into action, picked him up and delivered this handsome gentleman to the vet for an exam, vaccinations, neuter, and removal of a growth. His elderly owner did not drive so Tripper had not been to the vet for quite some time. Unfortunately, the growth is a malignant melanoma. The good news is that the surgeon got wide margins when removing the growth, so it was a complete excision. This kind of tumor often means months to live, but since it was so small, we are optimistic that Tripper will survive much longer!

Tripper is enjoying life with his Permanent Foster mom and is getting lots of short walks, cuddles and playtime with his toys. He is a naturally sweet boy and has an outgoing, friendly personality. Tripper is fairly high energy for his age and enjoys every day of the fullest his life is sweet.

Tripper is available for sponsorship or co-sponsorship. Permanent Foster sponsorships help defray the cost of medical care for the permanent sponsor Golden and are available at two levels. An annual full sponsorship is \$500 and an annual co-sponsorship is \$250. Sponsorships expire at one year intervals and may be renewed by the current sponsor or offered as available.

To learn more about the Permanent Foster program, please go to [Permanent Fosters](#) on our website. Please contact [Dori](#) if you would like to sponsor Tripper or would like more information about permanent foster sponsorship or [Paula](#) if you would like more information about sweet Tripper.

Thank you for helping GRR care for dogs that aren't adoptable due to medical or behavior issues. Every Golden deserves a home and we couldn't do it without you!

Charlie Thanks You and So Do We!



Wow! We don't know what to say, except that you are awesome and we can't thank you enough! We issued a plea to help Charlie 22-063 and in less than **5 DAYS** his GoFundMe reached \$5370, more than our \$3000 goal. Incredible!

Charlie is our 9 month young, 54 pound bundle of love and disorder who came to us through an owner surrender in September, 2022. He was born with a filarid that has with progressive golden worms and on New Year's Eve Charlie became very ugly on his legs. He needs to be kept quiet and spends most of his time lying down, not much of a life for a peppy puppy.

The good news? Charlie will undergo THR (Total Hip Replacement) this month. His recovery will take three months and he is with his FPA family who is dedicated to his recovery so he is in great hands.

Thanks to your generosity Charlie will be able to run, play fetch, and just be the silly pup he was meant to be. A puppy needs to be a puppy and we want Charlie to have a chance to enjoy a long and full life. Thank you for giving him that chance!

Look Who's Here!

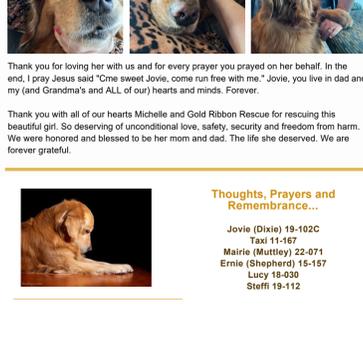
Our January GRR Arrivals



23-001 River is a one year-old adorable blonde who is an owner surrender from China Spring. She was adopted outside the home of a Good Samaritan who took her in. She is a great little dog: pretty, friendly, peppy, smart, gets on well with other dogs, BUT she was chasing the chickens and turkeys (after scaling a fence) because she was trying to play. The Good Sam contacted us because of concern of the consequences for her if she got into a neighboring farmer's yard and went after a piglet or lamb or goat. Welcome to GRR River!

23-002 Chryenne is settling in so nicely! This sweet 3 1/2 year-old came to GRR after a two week stint in the shelter so anything before that is a mystery. Chrye is the absolute sweetest angel, a big fluffy ball of love and joy. Her foster says that she loves walks and she has no concept of personal space (in the best way) and is an expert cuddler. Quoting her foster "I'm in for a real treat getting to care for her until she finds her forever home!" What a sweetheart!

23-003 Rosie is a beautiful strawberry blonde who is around 19 months old. She is an owner surrender from the Boerne area due to financial issues. She is the ultimate velcro Golden and it is extremely evident that she loves to be close to humans. We're betting she will be a great snuggle buddy!



23-004 Parker came to GRR by way of our friends at the Austin Animal Center. This one year-old was adopted out of the shelter and then returned two days later by the new owners who said their themselves were having trouble with Luca when he emerged from his kennel after the plane ride up from Laredo with his buddy, Russell. We can't be happier for this beautiful red Golden boy! Congratulations to all!

23-005 Goose is a gorgeous red boy who loves to play with other dogs. He gets super excited if you have a ball, but he doesn't want to give it up after retrieving unless you ignore him. He loves feeding time and will pick up his bowl and toss it in the air when he's done - so cute! Goose is enjoying settling in with his foster-pend-adopt family. Such a good boy!

23-006 Mia is a 7 month-old gal that is an owner surrender because her college-age owners couldn't afford her medical care. She is a typical 7 month-old with all of her puppy antics and boy, she is a cutie. Mia has recently been handed around, her surrendering owner was her third home. She's now with her foster-pend-adopt family and her traveling days are over. Welcome to GRR little one!

23-007 Brody joined us on January 31st so we don't know much about him yet! He's a 21 month-old owner surrender and he'll be spending a couple of weeks in board and train while we assess his personality and determine the ideal home for him. Welcome Brody!

Adopted!

August 22-080

August, now known as Auggie, was adopted on January 4th and we cannot be happier for him, as well as all of the members of the White clan! He had a bit of a rough go recovering from his leg wound, but he has now become a part of his loving, forever family.

Buddy 22-078

Senior pal Buddy found his forever home with Charles and Christie on January 15th. They are looking forward to many good times, as is their daughter and their other Golden, Daisy! Congratulations to the new family!

Russell 22-083

Please join us in celebrating Russell's adoption on January 16th! Russell a good with other dogs and with kids and he loves to "go" so he has found his perfect family. He is now officially Russell Esposito and all two-legged and four-legged family members are thrilled!!

Roko 22-084

We are so happy to announce the adoption of Roko, now known as Luca, by Chelise and Lloyd on January 20th. They immediately fell in love with Luca when he emerged from his kennel after the plane ride up from Laredo with his buddy, Russell. We can't be happier for this beautiful red Golden boy! Congratulations to all!

Solstice 22-085

Sweet Solstice was adopted by Melissa and Joey and their children on January 29th. You may recall that Solstice arrived in style from Laredo with her right mate, Russell and Roko, via private aircraft piloted by our volunteer Glenn. Beautiful Solstice was a shelter dog that, astoundingly, no one came looking for. Their loss is her new family's gain. They are very excited that she has joined their family and we see nothing but good things in this sweet girl's future with her forever family.

ABOUT DOGS

She's So Dang Cute! Solstice 22-085

Photo by Rick Whittemore

In Memoriam - Jovie 19-102C
Julie Birkeneder

In loving memory of our beautiful girl, Jovie - GRR China Girl Dixie 19-102C.
20 years in love - 1-9-19. Crossed the bridge to run forever first 1-7-23.

The moment I've dreamed. Telling you we lost our battle.

God is good. Always. He's in control. He alone knew her days and times. And we are just blessed that He gave us the gift of this beautiful girl. We are changed because of her. 3 years. 3 short years. That's it. Her life on earth only 6-12 years. Heartbroken doesn't begin to capture it.

But on Friday, January 7th, Jovie's health declined rapidly. Swelling in her lymph nodes. Cysts on her body multiplying 3-4 times their size from a few days ago. Bleeding cysts in her gums. Cancer was destroying her faster than the oncologist could even see us. Our beloved and loving Dr. Ferriss said, "Guys, I hate this, it's time. We can't get ahead of this. It's just too aggressive."

In tears, she told Jovie "you deserved better sweet girl. We are so sorry, baby." Bob and I lay with her, held her, sang over her, prayed over her. We sobbed, we could barely breathe. And then. Her suffering was over. But we were shattered. This death has hit me so much harder than even all the rest. Each one painful beyond belief, but somehow this one is different.

As most of you know, this sweet girl spent half her life in a slaughterhouse. Two severe injuries to her eyes and now we know 13 broken ribs. What kind of human being does this? And then spent her last few days completely blind. Except to love.

She defied the odds and overcame in six brief years more than probably many of us experience in an lifetime. I learned more from her goodness and overcoming spirit than I see in most humans. We loved her so deeply. We would have given anything to save her.

Thank you for loving her with us and for every prayer you prayed on her behalf. In the end, I pray Jesus said "One sweet Jovie, come run free with me." Jovie, you're in God and my (and Grandma's and ALL of our) hearts and minds. Forever.

Thank you with all of our hearts Michelle and Gold Ribbon Rescue for rescuing this beautiful girl. So deserving of unconditional love, safety, security and freedom from harm. We were honored and blessed to be her mom and dad. The life she deserved. We are forever grateful.

Thoughts, Prayers and Remembrance...

Jovie (Dixie) 19-102C

Mairie (Muttley) 22-071

Ernie (Shepherd) 15-157

Lucy 18-030

Steffi 19-112

Jovie (Dixie) 19-102C

Lucy 18-030

Mairie (Muttley) 22-071

Ernie (Puppy Shepherd litter) 18-157

Ernie (Shepherd) 15-157

Steffi 19-112

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Send us photos or suggestions to: [newsletter@grr-tx.com](#)

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