



Golden Tales



March 2023

A Message From Our President



Hello Friends,

Something big is happening with Gold Ribbon Rescue this year: **we are celebrating our 25th anniversary.** WOW! This is an incredible milestone that needs to be honored.

My husband and I found Gold Ribbon Rescue 14 years ago and knew pretty quickly that this organization was one we wanted to be a part of. Because of Gold Ribbon Rescue, we have had the privilege of adopting the most amazing dogs into our family and I have made some of my closest friends.

Every single day I am reminded of why we do what we do to help dogs who need us. Some days there are a lot of tears of sadness and other days, fortunately more often, there are tears of joy. For Gold Ribbon Rescue to be 25 years old, and still going strong, is not for the weak at heart. Animal rescue is hard work, which can be grueling. But it is also highly rewarding work.

Not all rescue groups can survive through the years like GRR has done. We are strong because of you. Our community reaches across Central Texas and our community is what keeps us going. Many of us didn't know each other and wouldn't have had connection if it wasn't for Gold Ribbon Rescue.

The important thing we all have in common is our love for Golden Retrievers and our desire to help them live their best lives. I am grateful and excited to be a part of an organization that has rescued and rehomed nearly 3500 dogs over the past 25 years. And I'm excited to be part of the next 25 years.

To help celebrate this meaningful milestone, we have created a new "25th year icon. We have refreshed our logo, tagline and communication templates to move us forward to the next 25 years. We will have commemorative apparel in the GRR store soon and host a 25th anniversary celebration later this year. We will share more information in the months to come.

On another note, Amplify Austin Day starts March 1st at 6pm and closes March 2nd at 6pm. We are grateful for every dollar raised this year. Your Amplify donations help fund the needs of incoming dogs such as Hulk, Star, Brody and more. You may read about some of our [2023 dogs](#) and [make a donation](#) on the Amplify page.

Thank you for enabling Gold Ribbon Rescue to be a successful organization for 25 years and I'm excited about the next 25 years.

Wishing you and your fur-kids a great Spring.

Michelle



This year we celebrate the 25th anniversary of Gold Ribbon Rescue! We are so proud of what we have accomplished over the last 25 years. What started from taking 99 Golden Retrievers from a busted puppy mill in south Texas has led to our saving nearly 3500 Golden Retrievers. While our focus is on rescuing Golden Retrievers in the Austin/San Antonio areas, we have also conducted multiple international missions rescuing dogs from China, Turkey and Mexico.

Since our founding in 1997, our programs have evolved to be among the most impactful in breed-specific rescue. Our mission remains unchanged: to ensure every GRR dog is healthy, happy and thrives in a great forever home.

Looking forward over the next 25 years, we will continue to:

- Find safe, loving homes via a comprehensive adoption process
- Provide needed medical and behavioral care for each incoming dog
- Follow strong fiscal management
- Educate the community on responsible Golden Retriever ownership
- Resume international rescue missions when feasible
- Grow our dedicated team of passionate volunteers

Animal rescue takes heart and grit. And commitment. We hope you feel proud of what we've accomplished together so far and are ready to tackle the future as we are. On behalf of all of us at Gold Ribbon Rescue, thank you for your unwavering support for our dogs. We can't do this work without you.

Rescuing Golden Retrievers and changing their lives forever.

TODAY IS THE DAY!



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

Amplify Austin Day is the biggest giving event in Central Texas and it officially begins March 1st at 6 pm and runs to March 2nd at 6 pm. **Early giving is open so you can make an early donation now!**

This year our Amplify Austin Day goal is to raise **\$12,500** to help save incoming Golden Retrievers in need and we can't do it without you.

Want to Amplify GRR Even More?

The Good News: Gifts made on Amplify Austin Day are matched by generous sponsors to make your donation go even further. While not a dollar-for-dollar match, the matching funds, prizes and incentives help nonprofit organizations like Gold Ribbon Rescue who are participating in Amplify Austin Day.

Want to Amplify GRR Even More? Please share your posts about Gold Ribbon Rescue on Facebook, retweet on Twitter and post on Instagram to spread the word.

Thank You!

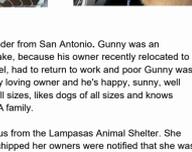
Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star - Star and the Astrological Litter



As so often happens in rescue, it began with a frantic phone call. There's a dog in Alton, TX who just had puppies and they are living in dirt and rocks. To make it worse, a major cold front was on the way and freezing temperatures were expected. The family had already spent one night outside so the callers, who live in an apartment nearby, posted for help online and rushed the new family into their apartment for the night to shield them from another night in the cold.



Star and her puppies in the puppies' birthplace near an apartment complex in Alton, Texas.



Star and her puppies in their GRR foster home.

Fast forward: New mama Star and her little family, now known as the Astrological Litter, were whisked away the next day by GRR volunteers and our long-time puppy foster once again had a full house of tiny, wiggle-little ones.



Taking care of a nursing mom and a litter of puppies requires a lot of hard work, supplies and of course mom and babies need to have some fun too. We put together an Amazon shopping list with things this family of nine needed and the foster was deluged with Amazon boxes.

Many, many thanks to all who contributed!

Meet the Astrological Litter



- 23-010 - Star (Mama)
- 23-011 - Aquarius / Pink
- 23-012 - Pisces / White
- 23-013 - Aries / Blue
- 23-014 - Taurus / Green
- 23-015 - Gemini / Purple
- 23-016 - Virgo / Yellow
- 23-017 - Libra / Orange
- 23-018 - Capricorn / Red

When you hear the term "rescue", your heart goes first to "how great!", "hope!" and "how lives will change". But sometimes not for very long. And sometimes that lifetime is very short. Because Star's puppies had a rough start to their lives, we expected there could be some challenges when the puppies came in. Some of the puppies were not gaining weight so the family was moved to another foster home with two adults who could support their supplemental bottle feeding.

They were so tiny and, even with supplemental bottle feedings every two hours, four of the puppies struggled. In spite of every attempt to give these puppies the care they needed, sadly, Aquarius, Libra and Gemini have crossed the bridge. Fortunately the fourth puppy is improving and gaining weight so we are hopeful.



~ The Joy and Heartbreak of Rescues ~

Many thanks to Jean Steensma, Rick Whittemore, and Ernest Barrera for their loving care of the Astrological Litter. The list of volunteers who helped this family come to GRR is long and we thank each and every one of them!

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



The More You Know

Volunteer Orientation Webinar
Grab a friend and register and learn about all the volunteer opportunities Gold Ribbon Rescue has to offer! There's something for everybody!

When: March 22, 2023
Time: 6:30 - 7:15 p.m.
RSVP Deadline: Please RSVP to dtravinobnz@grr-tx.com by March 20th.
Microsoft Teams meeting: Join on your computer, mobile app or room device.
[Click here to join the meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 274 608 063 48
Passcode: N4WJYC
[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

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**.

NEWS ABOUT OUR GRR GOLDENS

Look Who's Here!

Our February GRR Arrivals



23-008 Magnus is a big, handsome 2 year-old owner surrender who was surrendered because he has had several seizures and his owners don't know how to handle it. He is with his foster who reports that he is a partial velcro dog who is sweet, likes to snuggle and wants to be with his people. He needed a royal name so Magnus he became. In Latin it means "greatest", which we think he is.

23-009 Bailey is a 5 year-old owner surrender due to unforeseen circumstances that couldn't be resolved. Bailey was in danger for other dogs in the household. Bailey was clearly loved and is well-trained, has very pretty manners and loves to give kisses. She is with her foster and is doing well.

23-010 Star and her family of eight newborn puppies (**23-011 - 23-019**) came to us from a Good Samaritan who found them by an apartment complex in Alton where they were lying in rocks and dirt. The Good Sams were frantically trying to get them help because the cold front was coming and rocks and dirt were no place for a mama dog and her puppies.

Read more about Star and the Astrological litter in [Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star](#), above.

23-019 Gus is a 27 month-old owner surrender from Comfort. He came from a very busy family with two kids, a cat and three dogs and his youthful Golden energy was too much for his family. He is a young, rambunctious 100 pound Golden who needs training to curtail his adolescent energy. You're in good hands Gus!

23-020 Sam is an 8 year-old owner surrender who came to GRR due to changes in his owner's living situation. Handsome, sweet Sam is a lovely dog who is sweet, likes to snuggle and wants to be with his people. He is with his Foster-Pend A-adopt family and is ready to start his new life as a GRR Golden. Welcome Sam!

23-021 Kimber is an 11 year-old owner surrender from Belton. She was surrendered because she was being attacked by another dog in her home. She is a lovely lady with a soft, sweet personality who loves everyone and she never fought back; just screamed and cried. You're safe now Kimber and your future is bright!

23-022 Gunny is a 6 month-old owner surrender from San Antonio. Gunny was an emergency intake, one day from notice to intake, because his owner recently relocated to San Antonio, is living in an extended stay hotel, had to return to work and poor Gunny was alone in the hotel room. He comes from a very loving owner and he's happy, sunny, well socialized, smart, friendly, likes all people of all sizes, likes dogs of all sizes and knows his commands. Sweet Gunny is with his FPA family.

23-023 Amber is an 8 year-old who came to us from the Lampasas Animal Shelter. She was picked up as a stray and since she was after her owners were notified that she was at the shelter. Sadly, they never reclaimed her after ten days so she is now a GRR girl. Amber had surgery to remove a baseball-sized mass from her ear and she is settling in with her foster family.

23-024 Lyric is between 6 to 8 months old and was originally a stray from Early, TX. A Good Sam took her in, but she is overly fond of chickens so she went to another Good Sam who had a Schnauzer in heat who disliked Lyric so she returned to the original Good Sam who contacted GRR. Whew! This little one has really been bounced around, but she's now with her GRR foster family, so her traveling days are over for a while.

Adopted!

Roslie 23-003

We are super excited to announce that Roslie was adopted on February 5th by Shannon, Laura and their daughter, Iris. They waited nine long months before she was finally matched to her, but they say it was well worth the wait. They think that Roslie is the perfect dog for them and they "feel like we won the lottery with Roslie."

Roslie is living her best life with her new family and is so loved by all of them, especially her human sister; they bonded immediately. Congratulations to the new family!

River 23-001

River was adopted by John and Rose on February 6th and we are so happy that they have this sweet girl to love on! They are so very excited to make her a part of their family. Huge congratulations to them all!

Mia 23-006

Sweet little Mia was adopted on February 19th by Carolyn and Brian. They are in love with her and have been anxiously waiting to make it official. Mia is as sweet as she is gorgeous and her new family is totally in love with this cutie. Happy days ahead for this sweet girl.

Bailey 23-009

We're happy to announce that Bailey was adopted on February 25th and is now officially a member of her forever family. Bailey came to GRR as an owner surrender from a situation where she was being attacked by a resident dog. Bailey's cuts are all healed now and she is thriving with her new family. She is in a wonderful home and enjoying life with their three new human siblings and her furry sibling. How very loved she is! Congratulations to them all!!!

Henry (Tac) 15-092
Annabelle 10-080
Charlie 11-078
Permanent Foster

Herald 13-135
Hunter (Sweet Potato) 11-158
Cedar 19-103C

Aquarius 23-011
Gemini 23-015
Libra 23-017

Daisy (Sloley) 22-009
Merlot 12-143

We Wish Everyone Sláinte (Good Health) and a Happy St. Patrick's Day

"May the luck of the Irish
Lead to happiest heights
And the highway you travel
Be lined with green lights"
~ Irish Blessing ~

In Memoriam - Henry (Tac) 15-092

Kathy Hennig

We lost our handsome red boy, Henry, on February 7th. We adopted Henry (aka Tac #15-092) in October, 2016. We were warned that he had "severe storm phobia" and had been previously adopted several times, but it "hadn't worked out." We felt like we were up to the challenge and welcomed him with open arms.

Henry was a challenge, but he taught us so much. He taught us that love, safety, and comfort can win over fear. He taught us that the good days far outnumber the bad. And he taught us that when you lose a whole night's sleep sitting through a thunderstorm with a scared dog, the grateful look in his eyes makes it all worthwhile.

Our son-in-law was stationed in South Korea when our granddaughter, Hadley, was born so she and our daughter moved in with us. Henry thought that Hadley was his to protect. From his day-day home from school to hospital, Henry would sleep by her crib. Whenever Hadley cried, he made sure somebody was on their way to make things right. The incredible bond that they developed remained until the end.

We thought that we rescued him, but he showed us to be the power of love and the importance of taking care of each other. We love you, sweet boy.

Thoughts, Prayers and Remembrance...

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- Annabelle 10-080
- Charlie 11-078
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