

QUILT RAFFLE

Announcing the GRRMF Quilt Raffle - benefiting GRRMF! See Page 4.



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Tips for preparing for a disaster if you have pets ... just in case. Page 11.



2008 CALENDARS - ORDER NOW!

Time to order your 2008 GRRMF Commemorative Calendar, featuring your favorite rescues! All proceeds benefit GRRMF. See insert.



I'M ADOPTED!

Trevor, "Mr. 2,000" finds his new home! Read about him and other recent adoptions starting on Page 6.

FALL 2007

Hearts of



Gold

Published by Golden Retriever Rescue

of Mid-Florida, Inc.



I'm a FREE MAN!

He was dumped anonymously in the night box of a shelter. He was nameless and homeless - a complete unknown, who was completely down on his luck. His chances of being claimed were almost nil, his prospects for adoption even less.

He was an old guy, white-faced and stiff. He was very sad and wouldn't even lift his head when someone walked by. He had simply given up and was waiting the inevitable - death.

While at first glance he could have easily been mistaken for a Labrador retriever, he actually was a shaved golden retriever. A volunteer happened to be at the shelter one day to ID another golden, and there he was. His time was up. If no one adopted him by tomorrow, he was going to be euthanized. The volunteer made a quick phone call. "I found a senior golden down here; he's going to get the pink juice unless I get him out. I'm willing to foster him. Can we take him?" The answer? A resounding "YES" from the Intake Team.

And so we begin the journey of one of our newest rescues - our "Free Man," otherwise known as Freeman, or to his rescuer and foster mom Pam, "Mr. Smoochie Face."

Freeman is a big, blocky-headed senior boy, who loves everyone and everything. And yes, he has a very smoochable face! He is overweight and out of shape. He has trouble navigating stairs of any kind and is very stiff. But he is a happy guy nonetheless, and we have him on the green bean diet plus supplements to help him feel better and lose those unwanted extra pounds.

His foster mom is taking him for slow, gentle walks to help him build his stamina. She has him on a regular "diet" of at least a dozen hugs and kisses a day. He got a nice grooming after leaving the shelter, and he is feeling much better already. He is smiling now and wagging his tail - the only furry thing left on him at this point!

"I look down at this gentle giant snoring next to me and it absolutely gives me chills that he was less than 24 hours from being put down," she says. "But he's out and he's safe ... and that's what's important."

Freeman is an excellent example of our dedicated volunteer network. He was saved at the 11th hour, and already this boy has given us back so much in terms of love and companionship ... and gratitude. It may seem like a human emotion, but just ask his foster mom - she knows that he is quite thankful to be alive. His sparkling eyes and wagging tail speak volumes and are quite a contrast to her first vision of him. And isn't that what truly being a "rescue" operation is all about?

No longer homeless or nameless, GRRMF's "Free Man" is out there enjoying every second of his life. He is a wonderful golden dude, and we look forward to the day when someone says, "I'll take him!"



ARMED WITH LOVE

Another extraordinary rescue in the works!



As GRRMF Adoption Coordinator Sandy Sumner explains in her column this issue,

this is no ordinary year for GRRMF. The balance has shifted for our rescue organization, as the number of goldens with serious and unusual medical conditions continues to far outweigh the healthy goldens we've taken in.

It's a disturbing trend, to be sure. But that is what GRRMF is here for - to "rescue" all the goldens who need us so badly, not just the young, pretty and healthy ones. And Ginny, another recent rescue, is no exception.

At 9 years young, Ginny was going to be euthanized by her owner. The original owner - who gave Ginny away many years before - was notified, but couldn't take Ginny back. So GRRMF answered the call. The intake information said she had some "bumps on her side, possibly fatty tumors." No big deal, we thought, that's common enough in older goldens. What we weren't prepared for is that the "bump" is the size of a watermelon!

continued page 2

As you can see, this is no minor "bump" - and it is obvious that Ginny is uncomfortable. She can't even sit normally, and the lump impedes her mobility. Xrays revealed that the tumor is pushing on her internal organs.



Indications are that it is not cancerous, which is good. But it has to come out.

Now for our second blow: Routine bloodwork revealed that Ginny is a very strong heartworm positive. Our veterinarian is afraid that Ginny won't survive surgery with the pressure the heartworms are putting on the heart and circulatory system, so we must take her through the heartworm treatment before we can remove the tumor. How sad. Ginny has suffered so much already, she surely deserves a break! Which is just what we're going to give her. Armed with love, a staff of dedicated veterinary professionals and a team of hard-working volunteers are going to do everything they can to make her feel better.

Amazingly, through it all, Ginny still has that true golden temperament. She smiles, wags her tail and wants nothing more than to be loved. Ginny is a real trooper. A sweeter golden could not be found. We think she deserves a chance to live a healthy and happy life. And we hope you do, too.

Once again, GRRMF is faced with expensive medical and boarding expenses. But we have made a promise to Ginny - we promised her that we'll do everything we can to make her well. And when she's well, we promised her that there is a very special forever home waiting just for her. If you'd like to help Ginny, we're starting a new "Help Ginny" fund. Your donations will go toward her care, and we'll be providing updates on our web site as she progresses.

From 1 to 2,000: Charlie, GRRMF #001, would be proud ...

We received this note recently from Angie L., who adopted GRRMF's first rescue dog,

Charlie, back in 1991.

We think it speaks for itself:

Dear GRRMF:

What a pleasant, yet unbelievable

surprise to see that more than

2,000 goldens have been rescued

so far! As the former Mom of your

very first rescue, I'd like to applaud

GRRMF for carrying through the

valuable work you began

with my Charlie so many years ago.

The joy we shared with Charlie

continues with our second rescue

Gulliver, and my family wants

to thank each of you

for the tireless hours

you contribute

to make this happen!

The Year of the Non-Traditional Golden

By Sandy Sumner
GRRMF Adoption Coordinator

Each quarter, I percolate on what topic I would like to cover in my column. Last month it was about what makes a rescue. We get so many different types of dogs each month. We tend to go in waves - the wave of young ones, the wave of heartworm-positive ones, the wave of shelter dogs. Young, happy and healthy goldens are just not the norm for us.

This year, the "wave" is older dogs. GRRMF is one of the few rescues I know of that does not discriminate against age. There is no age limit for us. In fact, we just took in two seniors - we thought they were 10 and 12 years old. Like Jackson with the weight issue, we hoped the ages were wrong. They were. They are 13 ½ and 15 ½! Why should dogs who gave their love and devoted their entire lives to an owner be euthanized simply because that owner is no longer willing or able to care for them? So far this year, we have saved 26 dogs age 8 or older. Fifteen of those dogs are 10 or older.

Every volunteer has the type of dog that gets to them like no other. My personal crusade is that no older dog dies in a shelter - alone, afraid and without compassion. Some shelters try their best, but it is a hard way to end a dog's life. Dogs live so much in the moment that even if a dog gets a few days at someone's home, it is those memories that will carry him or her to the bridge when the time comes.

We all deal with a beloved pet's death in our own way. I always be sure that I am the last one that my dog sees and feels - telling him that I love him and that all will be okay. My time for grieving is after he is gone. While he is still here he needs me to be strong and to help him. I promise each older dog that spends its days in my home that I will do my best never to let him or her down.

This is why I am a hospice foster mom to dogs who may not have the opportunity to find an adoptive home due to advanced age or a health issue. As of this writing, I welcomed Allie and Alvin, the elders mentioned above. And I was happy to do it. Does it break my heart every time I lose one? You bet. It never gets easier. But what they bring to my life far outweighs the knowledge that I may not have them for long. And realistically, we do not

continued on facing page

GRRMF Donation Form

All memberships and donations are tax-deductible.

Name _____ Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

☐ Yes, I'd like to help Ginny!

Mail form and check to: GRRMF, PO Box 1449, Goldenrod, FL 32733
GRRMF Inc. 501(c)3 Charitable Organization - Donations are Tax-Deductible

Official registration and financial information can be obtained
from Division of Consumer Services: (800) 435-7352.

Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.

Dear Lulu, Grady, Adam, Jojo, Bunny and Dusty:

This is a letter to all of you we've lost recently. We are truly sorry that this world has failed you. Although our hearts were pure, GRRMF was unable to save you. We tried ... oh, how we tried.

Lulu and Jojo, your so-called breeders failed you by irresponsibly creating you with such terrible defects. Lulu, the impact you have had on all those involved in your care will continue to shape our future endeavors. Some of us became physically ill as we faced the horrible decision to let you go. It wasn't fair for such a happy, young girl, so full of life. You were a victim, and you paid the ultimate price. And Jojo, for all your faulty wiring, please know that you were loved.

Grady, society failed you. When we learned that you were dying of distemper at less than a year old, we shook our heads at the unanswered question: Why? Why, in a day when every puppy is inoculated with this vaccine shortly after it is weaned, were you denied this opportunity and then dumped at a shelter? You died because of some human's stupidity and ignorance. And that is cruel. There is no excuse for the suffering you endured.

And Adam ... dear, sweet, handsome Adam, who succumbed to liver failure during heartworm treatment. Your young body failed you, and we'll never know exactly why. Although you fought so hard, all the way to the very end, your body just couldn't take it anymore. Please know that we all loved you very much.

Bunny, we named you after the wonderful shelter worker who saved you and brought you to us. So many have failed you in your tough life. We knew your body was tired and riddled with heartworms, among other ailments. We so hoped that we could help you heal, but it was not to be. Yes, society failed you, too, our sweet Bunny.

Dusty, who knew you'd have such a short time with your foster mom? Who knew that you had cancer taking over your body? This world failed you, but we are happy that you had some good days while under our care. We just wish it were more.

And to all those precious golden souls that GRRMF has and will fail in helping - please know that we are trying. We are putting our hearts and souls into saving each and every one of you. To us, you are special - and whether you are a newborn or 15 years old, we promise to do everything in our power to heal you, to love you and to ensure that people and society never fail you again. That is our promise to you. Now sleep well, gentle souls. You've earned your rest.

- Carol McKee, GRRMF Volunteer and Board Member

Editor's Note: It has been a tough couple of months at GRRMF. Our board and volunteers are reeling at losing so many wonderful goldens, some under 1 year old. It shakes us right to the core when we lose one or are faced with making these life-or-death decisions, especially for the young ones. We hurt, we cry, we get angry. We stomp our feet, we have late-night phone conversations. We cry some more. And then, we pull ourselves up by our collective bootstraps, and we go on. Because there are more out there who need us. And as long as the goldens need us, we will be there for them. For in the end, we know that while we may not be able to save them all, we can make a difference to those we can save. That's what keeps us going.

Rescue ... a beautiful thing to do!

Year of the Non-Traditional Golden continued from previous page

know how long we will have with any dog. Those that I think will stay with me for years may not, and then there are dogs like Miss Abbey, who came to me at 12 and stayed with me for more than three years. So I take each one as a surprise gift. I never know what they will bring, but it always is a fun time. And each one is unique.

I urge all of you to consider fostering or adopting an older dog. They have such character, and many times your home brings them new experiences that help keep them young. At my house, Ernie the dog, who came in at 14, had never met a cat before. So, who did he choose to fall in love with? Why, Ernie the CAT, of course! He also is a tennis ball chaser, maybe for the first time in his life since his former home did not have a fenced yard. Regardless of how long he has with me, his days are going to be filled with all the things he loves. This is truly the art of giving back to a dog that needs our help.

And every once in a while, some kind person reads the web page of one of these special seniors and says, "That is the dog for me." Just ask Rosie and Simba! Their stories are in the "Recent Adoptions" section.

Announcing the GRRMF Quilt Fundraiser!

Help us raise much-needed \$\$\$ for veterinary bills.

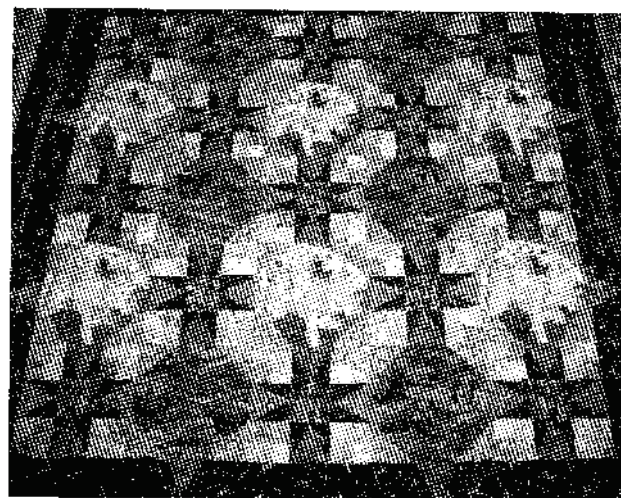
We are raffling a beautiful, handmade Golden Retriever Quilt made and donated to GRRMF by quilt artist and longtime GRRMF member Coralee Leon. This patchwork quilt is beautifully done with all the major pieces made of fabrics that have golden retrievers in them. The quilt design is called Tennessee Waltz because of the circular rhythm in the pattern. The reverse side of the quilt is a plaid fabric with golden retriever puppies. The quilt is 100 percent cotton and is machine washable and dryable. The colors in this quilt are beautiful. It measures 59 inches square.

To enter the raffle, please make photocopies of these tickets, fill them out and send them into us at:

GRRMF, P.O. Box 1449, Goldenrod, FL 32733.

Tickets are \$1 each, or 6 for \$5.

Please consider buying 1, 5, 10, 20, 50+ tickets today!



\$ Quilt Raffle \$

Drawing December 17, 2007 Oviedo, FL Library 7:00 p.m.

Handmade one-of-a-kind golden retriever patchwork quilt.
Goldens featured on the front and back - beautiful colors!
59 x 59 inch cotton quilt especially made for GRRMF.

Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 (Suggested Donation)

Name: _____ Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida,
PO Box 1449, Goldenrod, Florida 32733
407.332.2840 www.grrmf.org

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Books You Must Read!

Provided by Ellen Lindenfeld
GRRMF volunteer and Broward County Library manager



Dogs Don't Cry Tears
By Eleonara De Lennart (Big Apple Vision Publishers, 2005)

Eleonara De Lennart "reaches into the soul, heart and mind of a dog" (Publisher Review), and Dogs Don't Cry Tears advocates for people to understand the advanced mind of a dog. De Lennart's biography of her beloved German shepherd dog, this is also a story of the emotions and intelligence of dogs, who do not have the capacity to "cry tears." She describes in sometimes-tearful detail the horrific stories of dogs that live outside attached to chains, and her attempts to help them. Although there are some grammatical errors in this biographical story, it is a quick read, and will make anyone who is already "anti-chaining" even more so. Hopefully her story will convince more people to come forward and support ordinances that forbid the chaining up of canines.



The Loved Dog: The Playful. Nonaggressive Way to Teach your Dog Good Behavior
By Tamar Geller (Simon Spotlight Entertainment, 2007)

In looking for some new dog books to review, I bought this book and read most of it in one sitting, impressed with Geller's humane training methods. Coincidentally, I just received an e-mail from the Humane Society of the United States endorsing Geller's book. The HSUS president describes Geller's methods as "nothing short of a revolution." Geller stresses that when behavior problems are successfully addressed, people are less likely to give up their pooches, and she offers strategies for communicating with our canine companions that include mutual understanding and respect. I have already tried a number of her techniques on my dogs, who are 9, 10 and 13.



Petfinder.com Presents: Second Chances: Inspiring Stories of Dog Adoption
By Joan Banks (Adams Media, 2006)

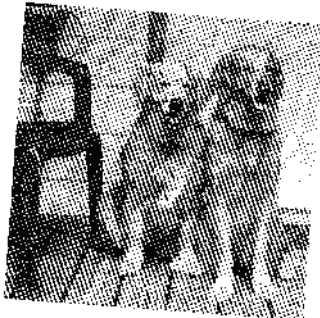
An easy-to-read collection of 50 vignettes taken from the "case files" of Petfinder.com, this book includes a brief history of the organization. Although the book lacks depth, there are some inspiring stories about people who have both found and placed their animals through this online organization. Dog lovers will enjoy this collection of adoption stories.



Complete Care for your Aging Dog
By Amy D. Shojai (New American Library, 2003)

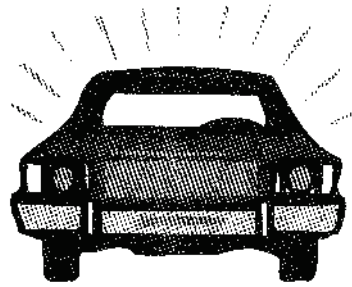
As the owner of three senior goldens, I have consulted this book a number of times in the past several months. "Filled with heartwarming stories, the latest developments in geriatric veterinary care, age-defying tips and comprehensive reference material, this is the definitive guide to running back the clock on aging and keeping senior dogs vital, happy and active throughout their golden years." (Publisher review)

Doggie Vacation Heaven: Four Paws Kingdom. Rutherfordton, NC



Dog travel extraordinaire Emily Rowe sent us a new dog-friendly vacation destination, which she visited recently. Here is what Emily had to say:

My mother and I, along with Lexi and Lola, recently spent a few days "camping" in a cabin in Rutherfordton, North Carolina - roughly 8-9 hours from Orlando. The campground, which also has spaces for campers and RVs, is designed for the dogs! It has a dog park, swimming pond and agility and rally obedience areas - all fenced and secure. Lexi and Lola enjoyed the pond the most. They also enjoyed going into town for ice cream. The local ice cream shop gives free ice cream to dogs accompanied by their ice cream eating people! There are lots of nature trails around the campground, and the location is not far from lots of parks and activities. The website is: www.4pawskingdom.com. Our girls gave it four paws up!



A NEW WAY TO DONATE TO GRRMF

Mucho thanks go out to David Rhinehart & David Popick of Winter Park and Asheville. They donated a 1993 Lincoln Town Car to GRRMF in May. It brought in \$3,285 for GRRMF, which will make a huge dent in the day-to-day operating expenses of our rescue operation. David & David are fathers of Bobby Fabio, GRRMF #1765. They adopted him in February 2006 to become the little brother of Abby. Bobby just turned 2 and Abby is 8. As GRRMF is an all-volunteer, 100 percent donation-supported organization, these kinds of efforts can't be understated. We are THRILLED to have received this help at a time when it is very much needed, as we take in more and more dogs needing expensive medical care than ever before in the history of our organization. If you know of someone who would like to donate a car for this worthy cause, please notify Chris Manley at 407-697-6770.

RECENT ADOPTIONS



We're happy to report that, **India**, one of the Fantastic Four, has found the happy ending everyone had hoped for. You may remember that Indy was malnourished, anemic, hypothyroid, and had a severe flea infestation when she was found. She was also very depressed and emotionally broken. Indy was treated for all of her medical conditions and along with extra-large doses of TLC, she blossomed into a happy little princess. Penny and Jerry T. fell in love with her when they viewed her web site and waited patiently for her to be ready for adoption. They took her home and continued her treatment, working with their vet to get to the bottom of her low platelet count. They report that Indy continues to improve and is quite a character. She now rules the house and has shown her new canine brother Gus that she is the alpha dog. Gus is content to go along with that, but still likes to steal her toys just the same. Brothers! As you can see, India is loved and cherished in her new home, just as she should be.

Seven-year-old **Ben** was one of the Fantastic Four who was turned in to rescue when his owner became ill. We are very happy for Ben because he and his three sibling were not receiving the proper care they deserved. Ben was emaciated, dehydrated, full of internal parasites and lacked any energy. That began to change quickly after a few good meals, a course of dewormer and short stay with his foster family Rick and Cindy O. He is now even luckier, as he now never has to worry about getting the basics necessities such as food and water as he is being very well cared for by Dennis and Linda W. and his new GRRMF brother Buddy.

Our 2,000th rescue is **Trevor**. He was turned in to the Humane Society at 4 years old and turned out he was heartworm positive. A kindhearted shelter coordinator named Bunny contacted GRRMF and told us about him. She even helped transport him to the Orlando area so he could get on the road to his new life. Trevor was fostered by Kellyann and family while he underwent heartworm treatment. They couldn't get over what an easygoing and good boy he is. Trevor had no issues with anyone or anything. He is your basic "wash-and-wear" type of golden, and we knew whomever adopted him would be very lucky, indeed.

As soon as he received his clean bill of health, Trevor was adopted by Vince M., who renamed him Bear because he resembles one. Vince and Bear have bonded quickly, and Vince plans to share Bear's great personality with everyone, as he is getting him ready to do pet therapy work for elders and children. Being the gentle giant that he is, Trevor is going to love his new "job"!



At just 1 year old, **Robin** had gone through three owners. When she came to GRRMF, she was unsprayed and full of fleas and worms. She just had not gotten a fair shake so far in her short life. Well, we decided to change all that. Robin was fostered by Bert & Charlie H.

and adopted by Ray & Pat H., who renamed her Leilani. Here is what they had to say recently about their new baby: "We can't thank you enough for matching us up with Leilani. It is amazing how well-adjusted she is considering what she has been through. She is everything you said and more. Lovable, mischevious, energetic and friendly for sure! A perfect match and we are very lucky to have her. Even though we had a golden before for a long time, we have learned so much from all of you over the last month. Food advice, supplements, crate training knowledge, safety tips and even little things like freezing yogurt for treats will make us better puppy parents. She is WONDERFUL! You should be very proud of her and the new start you have given her."

Katie, 2 years, was well cared for before she ended up at GRRMF. She was in great shape, and didn't stay long with fosters Tom & Kellyann G.

Along came Kim & John M., who had been waiting for a golden who would be a good fit for their two young daughters. They were thrilled when we called them about Katie and couldn't get to the foster home fast enough. Kim wrote recently: "I just wanted you to know how much we are enjoying our new family member! Katie is a sweetheart and we absolutely LOVE her! She is perfect for us. She has adapted well from the beginning. She's a little quiet at times but then surprises us by tearing around the backyard. Her love of squashing lizards is something I am still trying to get used to but the girls keep her very busy. Thanks for finding her for us!"



Mabel, 5 years, came in with her sister Lilly. The owner worked nights and said the dogs kept her awake during the day, so she wanted them gone. GRRMF was happy to oblige! We discovered that Mabel had been injured at

some point in her life. She had a fractured hip that wasn't set - but that did not slow her down one bit! She was fostered by Tommy & Chris M. and adopted by Samantha & Jeff H. Here is what Samantha had to say in a recent email: "We are so happy to have Mabel as a member of our family. She has settled in well and seems to be getting along very nicely with Cosmo and our two cats. Thank you so much for fostering and volunteering with GRRMF. It is a wonderful organization and we couldn't be happier with our new golden." They also sent a picture of Mabel with her favorite item to carry around ... the TV remote. "We're trying to break her of this habit, but she does look cute carrying it around!"

Mary & Carey G. read 5-year-old **Lilly's** biography and knew that she was what they needed. Lilly and her buddy Mabel came into rescue when the owner did not want to bother with them anymore. Fostered by Hank and Janice B., Lilly showed her sweet but spunky side and she was just what Mary & Carey wanted. They are now in the process of finding a buddy



for Miss Lilly. Golden Retrievers are like potato chips – you just can't stop with just one.

Belle, 7 years, was returned after her owner had a baby and didn't have time for her anymore. She was covered in fleas and ticks and was very nervous. We knew we needed to work very hard to find her the RIGHT home this time, where she would be loved and cherished for who she is. Pretty soon, we heard from Sandra C., who had adopted Rudy from us. Rudy had passed, and Sandra was looking for a new companion for her and her elderly mother. Belle finally has the home she deserves. She is well cared for and very much loved.



Maple was an owner turn-in due to divorce and a pending move to an apartment that wouldn't take dogs over 40 pounds. At 20 months, Maple is an absolute sweetheart with perfect house manners. She went to stay with fosters Tom & Gregg E., who admitted she was a hard one to let go. But they know that Maple is going to have a wonderfully pampered life with Debbie and Gary O.

In fact, we heard recently from Debbie: "We are crazy about Maple! She is the sweetest thing and is such a perfect angel. She rarely leaves my side and sleeps all night with me. She will crawl in my lap and go to sleep on a regular basis and loves to give kisses. She learned very quickly to swim in her new buddy's pool next door and she is so much fun to watch. I gave her a duck and she carries it everywhere and hasn't torn it up yet. We are making sure she is very spoiled."

Even though GRRMF tries to concentrate on the rescue of purebred golden retrievers, when a dedicated animal rescuer put the SOS call out, GRRMF responded.

Gemma recovered from kennel cough, came through her heartworm treatment with flying colors and recovered nicely from a flea allergy that caused hair loss. Her great personality always lit the way. Everyone she met commented on what a spunky and sweet girl she is. Still, most folks don't come to GRRMF for a mixed-breed dog. But, Gemma is one lucky girl! When Audrey I. saw Gemma on the web site, she fell in love and thought she was the perfect dog to add to her household. Gemma and Audrey now happily share their days filled with plenty of love, walks and a kitty named Jubis.



Kona was turned in by his owner due to too much dog and not enough time. He was just a year old when he went to live with foster mom Renee D. Kona was very well-behaved from the get-go – he was potty trained, crate trained and got along great with everyone. It wasn't long before Dale & Susan L. saw his mug on our web site and decided he was the one for them. Kona has his own swimming pool, and Dale tells us that Kona "thinks he's a fish." He loves everyone and everything and is just a great golden boy, through and through.

At a respectable age of 9 years, poor **Comet** found himself homeless when his owners decided to move, and he wasn't invited. He went to stay with foster mom Sharon S., who couldn't say enough nice things about this wonderful senior golden. Along came Paul & Marlene N., who had put in an application for a female. We talked to them about Comet, and they decided to give it a try. Now named Dodge, they can't believe they've

never considered adopting a male before. They tell us that Dodge is perfect in every way. He gets along great with the senior golden in his home, Dusty, and loves everyone. Dodge is spending a lot of time moving these days – in a motor home with his humans, who love traveling and camping and wouldn't think of leaving him ever again! Dodge has found his very own heaven on earth. And GRRMF lucked out too – Marlene is a new member of our Phone Team!



Oakley, 3 years, lived in a backyard and learned how to scale the chain link fence. His owners were afraid he'd get hit by a car, so they called GRRMF. We took him in immediately. He wasn't neutered, so that was our first order of business. Next, Oakley went to stay with Tom & Kellyann G. while we searched for a suitable new family. Donna W. had been waiting a while for her new family member. As luck would have

it, she has a 6-foot board-on-board wood stockade fence – and it's new! She saw Oakley's picture and said "that's my boy." Donna and Oakley are best buddies now. He loves going for walks and hunting lizards in his backyard. Donna loves having her very own golden buddy to spend her time with. And GRRMF has a new recruit, as Donna is now one of our volunteers!

Copper is approximately 7 years young.

He was turned in by his previous owner, who stated the reason as "no time." Funny, because Copper really doesn't take up much of your time – he is happy as a clam and extremely well-behaved. He's just a laid-back guy who wants nothing more than to be with you. Copper came to us with some skin and coat issues due to neglect and being fed inferior food, which were corrected by his foster mom Kathy with a premium quality kibble and supplements. Cindy & Tom B. saw his story on our web site and soon, Copper was on his way to his new life! He is very pampered and loved, and Cindy says he is lots of fun. In fact, they are considering adopting a companion for Copper because they love him so much!



At just 5 years old, **Gina** was turned in by her owner, who said she was "tired of the shedding." Gina went to stay with Cheryl P. while she awaited her forever home – and soon, along came Georgia S. who was looking for a laidback companion that she could take to work in her art studio. Gina fit the bill, and off she went to her new life. We couldn't be happier for this special little girl.



Simba was an older dog who came into rescue due to a divorce and no one wanting him after 11 years of loyalty and love. David & Nancy L. fell in love with him from his webpage, and he fell in love with them the moment he met them. We didn't have to teach this older dog new tricks – he knew how to keep on loving people.

Rosie was one of our newsletter article dogs. A stray who looked to be about 12 years old, she was just a sweet and loving older gal who needed a place to spend out the rest of her days in peace. Ted and Maggie D. thought she was perfect and off she went to live in her new home. We still smile when we think of her – from being a stray at the shelter to being driven home in a Mercedes! Nothing could be finer.



Go Gold!

Kipper was left behind at a breeder one day. The people just dropped the little puppy off and never came back. GRRMF immediately took him in and under the kind fostering of Chris and Tommy M. he blossomed. Kari & Eric D. wanted a young boy who had some energy. Boy, does this boy fit the bill. Kari recently wrote to let us know how he was doing: "He has been a perfect gentleman! He is truly a Velcro boy and my girls are thrilled. He has started to swim so they are loving that also. It was a long wait but well worth it!"

Gideon, 9 years, was quite a hit with his web page and one of the all-time favorite fosters for his foster dad John. Volunteer Leah W. and her family were looking for an easygoing older boy and Gideon is perfect for that role. He now has loving and happy days ahead of him. And hopefully we can all get to see him again at the yearly reunion.

Molly and Zach came in together. Their owner was injured and could no longer care for two young, energetic dogs. Luckily, they were fostered together. And they were also adopted together. Jeff and Jennifer S. had lost two goldens very unexpectedly in a short timeframe. They were looking for two older ones that were mellow. What they fostered were two 13-month-olds who keep them running and laughing at the same time. Jennifer said recently that they brought laughter back to their house with their antics.

Benny, just 1 year old, came to rescue when someone saved him from the pound but found that they could not keep him long-term. GRRMF stepped in and found a great home for him with Tim S. who wanted a young, active dog to have fun and hang out with. Benny is a big boy but filled with the loving golden personality and now it is guys' times at his new home.



What can we say about **Becker**? Another perfectly behaved, sweet-as-sugar golden who found himself in a shelter, Becker was sprung by one of our volunteers and spent his recuperation time at Tom & Kellyann G's. When they brought him home, they thought he'd probably be staying with them a while, as he was overweight and missing lots of hair

on his back and legs. We like to call that a diamond in the rough – but not everyone can look through that rough exterior to the shining golden that lies beneath. Well, as it turns out, going to the Gorings' was Becker's lucky day. When Tom's parents met him during a family visit, they instantly bonded. They put in an application that night ... and the rest is history! Golden retrievers are now all in the family for these folks, and we're happy to report that Becker is growing a beautiful new fur coat! He loves his new family and his walks in the neighborhood, where he greets everyone with a smile and a wag. Yep, another rescue golden goes "home"!

Hudson, 7 years, came from a shelter. He is a beautiful boy, with a big black head. Former adopters Fran & Brian B., who adopted Sidney (now Shelby) from GRRMF, fell in love with Hudson and decided to adopt him. Hudson, now Theodore, and Shelby are getting along fine, although Shelby isn't 100% sold on the idea of a new brother. But Fran says she'll come around, and Theo is such a sweet boy that they know he'll win her over sooner or later!



Freddie, 3 years, was abandoned. A good Samaritan rescued him but wasn't able to keep him, so she called GRRMF to help. He went to stay with Janice & Hank B., who showed him the ropes and loved him until his forever home came along. He was adopted by Olga & Michael P., who adopted Jack from GRRMF a year ago. Freddie



wasn't welcomed by the resident cats when he first arrived, and he didn't like them much either! But with some time, patience and pointers from their humans, the furkids soon were tolerating each other. Then they were touching noses, and then they decided to all be friends. Good boy, Freddie!!

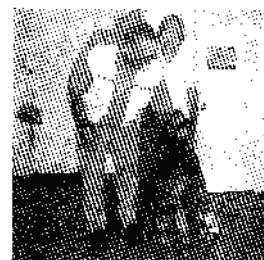
Layla came to us as a 5-month-old puppy. And she is all puppy! She was found as a stray, but the person who found her couldn't keep her. So off to GRRMF she went. Layla was lovingly fostered by Chris & Tommy M., who began teaching her how to be a good canine citizen. They were amazed at how great she is – she is quite the crowd pleaser and is very calm and well-mannered in public places. At home, she made friends with permanent foster Timmy, who has cancer, and the two played constantly. Susan & Mark S. were looking to add a golden to their family that included a German shepherd dog and two chihuahuas. They really wanted a youngster who could keep up with their young GSD – and they found her! She is now called Taffy, and Susan called recently to tell us that she is "perfect in every way." They adore her, and she them. Taffy has lots of toys, a swimming pool, a big backyard and a German shepherd protector named Sorcha. All's well that end's well is what we say!



When **Chloe**'s military family was faced with the prospect of the arrival of a new baby and moving to Korea, she was given to GRRMF so we could find a family that would have time for her. Along came Amy P. and Doug T. who decided that Chloe was just the girl to add to their family. Now her name is changed to Mango and she is very much loved and cherished. Amy reports that Mango has adjusted very quickly to her new home and name change and especially loves to watch the fish

in the aquarium. Amy says, "She is great company, a great walker, extremely smart, she loves playing fetch in the back yard and we love her!" They've already signed her up for obedience classes, and we're sure she'll be a star pupil.

Bundy, age 8, came in with his dad Bolo due to a child's allergies. As a last-ditch effort, the family had tried keeping the dogs outside, which made everyone very unhappy and caused skin and coat problems in the dogs. The family made the right decision in turning the dogs over to GRRMF so we could find them loving and happy homes where they could be true members of the family. Bundy went to stay with fosters Rob & Amie until his forever home was found. Meanwhile, Frank & Fran D. sent us a note that they had just lost their GRRMF alumnus Murphy (known in rescue as Jasper) very unexpectedly. They were devastated and felt that they needed a new golden right away to help them work through their loneliness and grief. Bundy was happy to oblige. Fran says he is Mr. Personality and keeps them in stitches. His new name is Brinkley, after Tom Hanks' dog in the movie "You've Got Mail." He loves playing with toys, and is often found lying on his back with his four paws in the air, enjoying as many toys as he can fit in his mouth. It seems that they are doing a great job of healing each other, and what could be better than that?



Billy, 1 year old, was an owner turn-in for the usual reasons – too much dog and not enough time. He was fostered by Rick & Cindy O., who taught him the ropes and how to be a good boy inside. It wasn't long before handsome Billy was snapped up by Kevin & Stacy B. Here is what they say about their new boy: "We adopted Billy on the 2nd of this month and it has been a blast since. We are so happy with him and can't believe how good he is. We also renamed him Cooper. With a positive reinforcement training program, he is responding very well and learning a lot. Thanks again for accepting us for the adoption of Cooper."



Nine-year-old **Katie** was turned over to rescue because of a divorce. The prior owners no longer had the time or the money to care for her. GRRMF was glad that they turned her in because this poor girl apparently was not being fed and so thin she resembled a greyhound. Due to her improper nutrition it affected her skin, her coat and her chewing habits as well.

Katie was fostered by Guillermo P. who began to see the effects of good quality food. She was adopted by Kyla and Matthew G. who fell in love with her at first sight. Katie is continuing to flourish. It is unbelievable the difference good food, some attention and good love had on Katie.

Two-year-old **Dakota** found herself looking for a new home when her original family could no longer afford her or spend time with her due to the addition of child to the household. She was fostered by Rob and Aimee and adopted by Mary and Ted G., who fell in love with her instantly and realized when they got her home what an awesome dog she was. She apparently didn't waste any time getting her feet wet in the pool as she was instantly swimming the moment she saw her new pool in the backyard. She is one lucky gal to have been chosen by Mary and Ted.



Sadie was a stray at a shelter. She was undernourished and very scared, but a sweeter girl couldn't be found. Sadie was fostered by Sharon S., who worked with her to build Sadie's self-confidence and also to learn some basic manners. Sadie was adopted by Tom & Dee W., who are experienced dog raisers and trainers and were looking for a girl they could really make shine. Sadie fit the bill, and off she went to her new home.

Baxter should play Lotto as he has hit the Jackpot. At 9 months old, he was turned over to GRRMF due to his family losing their home. Nadine, Ben and Armani K are very thankful for Baxter to join their family. He is a total hoot and spends his days playing with his new sister Armani and amusing whomever is watching them. Of course, they both settle in for a nap, only to wake up again and start all over. A bonus for Baxter is that his mom is home all day and schedules daily swim time and afternoon canine massages. Every dog would love to be in Baxter's fur!

Two-year-old **Rocky** was turned over to GRRMF when his owner was moving out of the country. He was fostered by Larry and Angie W and family and adopted by Brenda and Tom S. Things were a bit "rocky" at first when he transitioned into his new family but with dedication, patience, routine, obedience class and consistency Rocky was able to settle in nicely. He enjoys lying on the raft in the pool and bugging his sister Gracie.

Drake is one cool dawg! At 7 years old, he was turned in because his owners had small kids and no time. Foster mom Char B thought he was absolutely one of the coolest dawgs ever and he apparently knew it, too, as he "whoo-whoo"ed his way into everyone's hearts - including his new family. Drake picked up his leash and was ready to go home with his new folks Lisa & Mac, kids Casey & Caroline and another golden named Mango.

Blonde bombshell **Keaton** was too much for his prior owner to handle. For a 2-year-old, Keaton was very well-behaved and had great house manners. He was fostered by Renee D., who said, "He is one of those dogs we wish we could clone." Renee had a hard time letting Keaton go, but knew it was the



right thing to do, so she could continue to help more dogs who needed her. Laurie F. and family happen to agree and were delighted when they were selected to be his new family.

Roxie came to us when her former owner passed away. She was from a rescue group out of state, which agreed that GRRMF was in the best position to help her find a new home. Roxie is just 4 years old and a real gem of a dog. Bonnie G. was looking for an easygoing girl to keep her company, and Roxie was a perfect match. Bonnie says her new golden girl is everything she dreamed of and that the two are enjoying each other's company very much.

Sweet and petite **Bonnie** came from a shelter. She was 2 years old and had been used for breeding purposes. She was unspayed, heartworm positive and full of parasites. GRRMF took her through her treatments and Bonnie learned the ropes of living indoors with Mike & Carol M. and their canine and feline crew. Bonnie was an easy foster - she had no bad habits, and was extremely eager to please. Madonna S. and Dee L. were looking for a new golden after their senior boy went to the Rainbow Bridge. They adored Bonnie's pictures and when everyone agreed it seemed like a good match, they took a day off work to visit her. There was no hesitation - from the moment she laid eyes on Bonnie, Madonna's mind was made up. Bonnie trotted off to her new home and has been having a great time making friends with everyone she meets. Another happy ending and another smiling golden!

Nikki was adopted out once but returned after 8 months due to the fact that she sheds. Apparently, her first owners didn't pay much attention when we tried to educate them on the characteristics of the golden retriever breed. No matter, Nikki was happy to go back to her foster home with Kellyann & Tom G., where she settled right in like she'd never left. She had some skin allergies, which we treated, as well. Dawn B. had recently lost her GRRMF golden and was looking for a new companion. She thought Nikki would be perfect and was very willing to continue Nikki on the holistic regimen that had helped her skin and coat. Nikki has her own pool and two canine companions, along with a huge house and yard, to spend her days. She is a very happy girl.

Chuck, 9 years, was a stray. He was taken in by someone but they couldn't keep him. Chuck went to stay with Char B., who fell in love with this quiet and good-natured soul. Pat & Jim H. were looking for a companion for their GRRMF girl Lovey, and were especially interested in a golden with a suitable temperament for pet therapy. Chuck was a perfect fit, and Pat is very much looking forward to starting Chuck in his certification program to become a pet therapy dog.



Don't see your adoption in this newsletter?

GRRMF has had a record number of adoptions over the past couple of months, many of which occurred as this newsletter was going into production. Watch for your smiling face in the next issue.

Everyone should have a Golden!

We received the following from Baxter, a former rescue who lived the first 2 years of his life chained up in a backyard, which was littered with junk and rarely mowed. He was unneutered, heartworm positive and also had been physically abused. He is still a little afraid of men and children (a volunteer witnessed the kids throwing rocks and cans at him), but he has come lightyears since that wonderful day

that he came to GRRMF.



Dear GRRMF,
I just wanted to
give you an update
on how I am doing.
I am very grateful

that you saved me from that nasty house I used to live at. Now I am VERY spoiled. My Mom (Kristen L.) buys me Coach collars and leashes, I get presents from my "Nana" monthly, and my aunts and uncles send me toys and chewies at Christmas. I am much happier to be around people. Kids and men don't scare me as much anymore. I still bark in the front window to protect the house, but Mom says that's ok. I have two dog beds to sleep on, but I prefer any of the couches in the house. What I REALLY like is Mom's bed. (I usually sleep there when she is at work!) I am very healthy and have no more heartworm problems. Here's a picture so you can see what a happy boy I have become!

Love,
Baxter

Toby (adopted in 2006) is a wonderful friend. He was a perfect match for our family and is enjoying his new friends Merv and Harley, the shih



tzus. He is still a Velcro dog and never leaves my side. He is so sweet and loveable. Toby was the answer to my son's prayers - he wanted a loyal best friend that would sleep with him in his bed every night. Toby has a great home with a big yard. He loves long walks and, of course, tennis balls - we must have 100 of them in the yard and inside the house. Someone's loss was our gain. I can't imagine why someone would have given him up. Toby stayed with my parents when we went on vacation. My son missed him so much, he called him from the cruise ship and left a message on the answering machine so Toby could hear his voice everyday. I just can't tell you enough how much we love him.

Robin N.

Lance was one of a "four-pack" of goldens we took in from a bad situation. He was overweight and full of mats, among other issues. We fixed him and his brother and sisters up and Lance found a wonderful home with Neal & Carol T., who had adopted from us previously. Here is what they had to say about Lance recently: *Lance now runs the house and is an angel. No problems other than he can't stand not to be the same room with someone. He loves his stuffed animals, with the squirrel being his favorite. As you can see, all is well here, and we wish you the best as well.*



Alumni News

Sarasota 23 5-Year Anniversary Party

Can you believe it? It has been 5 years since GRRMF took in the infamous "Sarasota 23" - 17 puppies and 6 adults in deplorable condition from an in-home breeding operation. Some of the Sarasota 23 gang got together to celebrate 5 years of freedom. As you can see, they are all living wonderful lives these days, their days of neglect far behind them. Among party-goers were: Deuce (Lisa Marley), Saxon (Sue Keiser), Ace (Barb & Charlie White), Haley (one of the adult moms, now loved by Donna and Chuck Graves) and Logan & Kira (Rick Anderson).



I just thought I'd drop you a line about how **Sadie (formerly Mercedes)** is doing. She is truly enjoying her summer. My husband and I just got back from a belated honeymoon and Sadie stayed at my sister's

house while we were away. They have a rescued golden who is 5 years old. Sadie and Lance had so much fun together and we had a blast watching them play. They are very entertaining. The only problem is that Lance hates to go outside and Sadie is always begging at the door to go outside. She is a real tomboy - always chasing lizards and digging holes. She doesn't always want to come when we call her, and we're hoping the obedience class we've signed up for will help us with that. I know we've said this before but we just love her. She brings us so much happiness.

Sincerely Yours, Geoff & Donna

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Editor: Carol McKee Designer: Judy Ladney
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Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida
An All-Volunteer, Nonprofit 501(c)(3) Corporation
Education - Intervention - Spay/Neuter - Adoption
P.O. Box 1449, Goldenrod, FL 32733-1449
For info call 407-332-2840 Email info@grrmf.org

Membership dues: \$25. All Donations are Tax-Deductible.
Visit GRRMF on the Web www.grrmf.org
GRRMF History: 2,057 total Goldens rescued to date! 2007 rescues: 135!

While we hope none of us in Florida have to deal with hurricanes this year, it makes sense to do a little planning ... just in case. And

this goes for other emergencies, as well. You never know when a fire, tornado, flood or other disaster may strike. The best thing you can do for yourself and your pets is to be prepared. Following are some tips:

1.) Get a rescue alert sticker.

Placing a sticker on your front door or window will let people know that pets are inside. Make sure it is visible to rescue workers, and that it includes the types and number of pets in your household and the name and phone number of your veterinarian. If you must evacuate with your pets, and if time allows, write "EVACUATED" across the stickers. You can get emergency stickers from the ASPCA free of charge (see the "Disaster Preparedness" section on ASPCA.org), or you can also purchase from any pet supply store.

2.) Arrange a safe haven.

Arrange a safe haven for your pets in the event of evacuation. **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PETS BEHIND.** Remember, if it isn't safe for you, it isn't safe for your pets. They may become trapped or escape and be exposed to numerous life-threatening hazards. Remember the lessons of Katrina when considering your pets. Many disaster shelters will not accept pets because of health and safety regulations, so it is imperative that you have determined where you will take your pets ahead of time. Some options:

Contact your veterinarian for a list of preferred boarding kennels and facilities.

Identify hotels outside of your immediate area that accept pets. (It will be helpful if you have a predetermined evacuation route.)

Ask friends and relatives outside your immediate area if they would be willing to take in your pet.

3.) Emergency supplies and traveling kits.

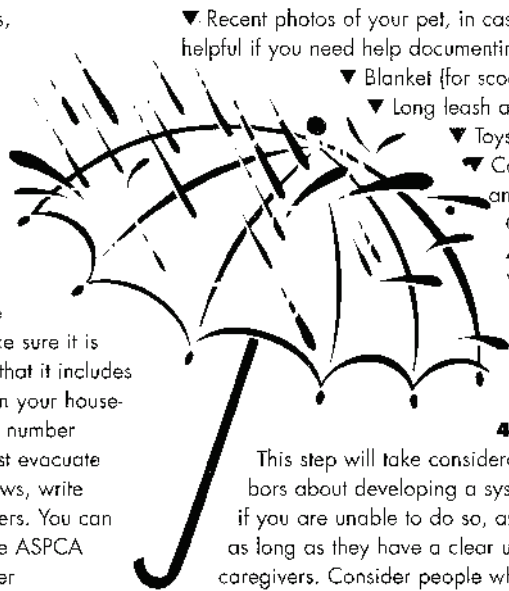
Keep an emergency supply kit handy for your pets. Make sure that everyone in the family knows where it is. This kit should be clearly labeled and easy to carry. Items to consider keeping in or near your pack include:

- ▼ Pet first-aid kit and guide book (ask your veterinarian or consult pet care guides for common first-aid kit items).

- ▼ 3-7 days worth of canned (pop-top) or dry food, plus bowls.

- ▼ Paper towels, dish soap and disinfectant for cleanups. Note: Bleach can be used as both a disinfectant and to purify drinking water. Do not use scented or color-safe bleaches.

Be Prepared: Disaster Planning Tips For Pet Owners



- ▼ Recent photos of your pet, in case he or she becomes lost. A photo of you and your pet together would be helpful if you need help documenting ownership.

- ▼ Blanket (for scooping up a fearful pet).

- ▼ Long leash and yard stake.

- ▼ Toys, chew bones and bedding. Familiar items will help reduce your dog's stress.

- ▼ Contact information. Make a list of emergency contacts including your veterinarian, emergency vet clinics, local shelters, family members, etc. And don't forget GRRMF's Hotline should you become separated from your pet: 407.332.2840.

You should also have an emergency kit for the human members of the family.

Items to include: Batteries, duct tape, flashlight, radio, multi-tool, tarp, rope, permanent marker, spray paint, baby wipes, protective clothing and footwear, extra cash, rescue whistle, important phone numbers, extra medication and copies of medical and insurance information.

4.) Choose "designated caregivers" or develop a "buddy system."

This step will take considerable time and thought. Consider talking with your family, friends and neighbors about developing a system where someone is available to temporarily care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so, and vice versa. This may work well with neighbors who have pets of their own, as long as they have a clear understanding of your expectations and would be dependable and responsible caregivers. Consider people who have met your pet and have successfully cared for animals in the past.

5.) Evacuation preparation.

If you must evacuate your home in a crisis, plan for the worst-case scenario. If you think you may be gone for only a day, assume that you may not be allowed to return for several weeks. When recommendations for evacuation have been announced, follow the instructions of local and state officials. To minimize evacuation time, take these simple steps:

- ▼ Store your emergency kit and leashes as close to an exit as possible.

- ▼ Designate which family members are responsible for preparing the pets for evacuation, should it be needed.

- ▼ Make sure all pets wear collars and tags with up-to-date identification. Your pet's ID tag should contain his name, telephone number and any urgent medical needs. Be sure to write your pet's name, your name and contact information on your pet's carrier.

- ▼ Consider your evacuation route and call ahead to make arrangements for lodging, if possible, well in advance of a hurricane or other natural disaster. You also should check into veterinarians or boarding facilities along your route.

6.) Stay or go?

At some point, you may need to decide if you're staying put or evacuating. In the event you decide to stay in your home:

- ▼ Determine well in advance which rooms offer safe havens. These rooms should be clear of hazards such as windows, flying debris, etc.

- ▼ Choose easy-to-clean areas such as utility rooms or bathrooms as safe zones.

- ▼ Access to a supply of fresh water is particularly important. In areas that may lose electricity, fill up bathtubs and sinks ahead of time to ensure that you have access to water during a power outage or other crisis.

- ▼ In the event of flooding, go to the highest location in your home, or a room that has access to counters or high shelves where you and your animals can take shelter.

- ▼ Put a leash on your dog, and hold onto it. Pets can easily bolt if they are panicked, so it's important to keep them with you at all times during an emergency.

- ▼ Keep your emergency kit and supplies close at hand. Your pets may become stressed during the in-house confinement, so you may want to crate them for safety and comfort.

A quick note from GRRMF: Should you ever become separated from your GRRMF dog, whether it is a natural disaster such as a hurricane, car crash, burglary or other catastrophe, it will give you peace of mind knowing that your dog has a microchip. ALL GRRMF dogs are implanted with microchips, with GRRMF's Hotline listed as the emergency contact. This protects your pet, should something happen to you. The GRRMF Hotline is monitored 24/7, and through our records we can trace the dog back to you. (This also explains why it is important to update GRRMF when your contact information changes.) We've proven the value of this service time and time again, as numerous relieved owners who are reunited with their beloved golden retrievers will attest!

Source: Information for this article was provided by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, found at www.ASPCA.org. Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved.

RAINBOW BRIDGE

I'm sorry to have to let you know that we've lost our beloved **Cody**, aka the Codester. This big red boy was already 10 years old when he arrived in our home after spending a year with Darcy and Kinsie Wright. They gave Cody lots of TLC and he overcame heartworm disease and lost almost 60 pounds. (He was a hefty 130 pound boy when he came to GRRMF.) He survived the removal of a cancerous adrenal gland and mended quickly so he could resume receiving his favorite pastime: belly rubs. He never met a stranger - everyone who met him loved him, and my sister-in-law called him "a big lump of love." His back and hips slowly started failing him and his body finally gave up. But his tail was wagging right to the very end. What a joyous two years we had with him. There truly is nothing like "old gold"! Cody, we miss you.

- Vickie Krivacs

Dear Golden Retriever Rescue:

About a month ago, **Reagan** (#348) began to lose his appetite until last week he gave up eating entirely. A trip to his vet revealed he had lost eight pounds in about one month. Further examination determined a substantial tumor on his liver which was deemed inoperable. Reagan went to sleep peacefully and I lost my best friend. To say he was perfect is an understatement. Intelligent, beautiful, calm and the most even-tempered dog I have ever seen, and he was our third Golden. As Betty Wyatt said, "He was a golden everybody wants but very rarely get." Doris and I fully intend to maintain our contacts with GRRMF and will send a donation under separate cover. Thank you for all you have done and are doing for these marvelous guys.

- George & Doris Scheufele



I wanted to send you a special picture of our **Millie** who went to the Rainbow Bridge on July 2 with a nerve cancer tumor that was intertwined in the vertebrae in her neck.

We would have done anything to save our little girl, but apparently we had no options with this kind of cancer. She would have been 7 years old on Sept 16. She was taken away from us

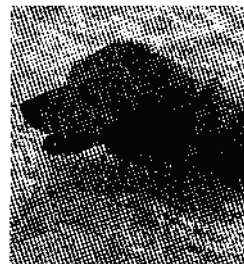
much too soon. She enjoyed her life so much. She never wanted for anything. She was a such a beautiful, red, petite girl with an amazing personality. She brought so much joy into our life every day. She loved to celebrate our arrival home, after our day at work, by grabbing one of her many stuffed dogs and running through the house and shaking it. She was crazy about her backyard and particularly enjoyed the many lizards to chase. In the evening, she loved to sit out and enjoy the view. She occasionally got a lizard and would be so proud. She was a true Velcro golden. She followed me everywhere and really got excited when we went for a ride in the car. She would start talking to us after dinner to tell us she was ready to go for a walk. We will always treasure the time we had with our precious Millie. She will be in our hearts, our precious Millie.

- Debbie and Gary Openshaw

Hannah, our beloved 9-year-old girl, passed away on July 7.

At 5:30 she was swimming in the pool, which was her favorite activity, and by 7:45 she was gone from our lives forever, due to cardiac arrest. Hannah came to us from GRRMF 8½ years ago at the age of 13 months, and although she dabbled in agility and obedience, her true calling was serving as a therapy dog at a local nursing home, which she has done for the past 8 years. I recently read that perhaps it is possible to have a "once in a lifetime dog," and Hannah was truly ours. She is missed by her human family, her two canine companions, and all of those at the nursing home who loved her. Thank you, GRRMF, for allowing us to have this wonderful girl for the time we had her, although it was too short. Godspeed, little Hannah; I truly hope that we will meet again.

- Ellen Lindenfeld



In May, we lost our beloved **Louie**, due to seizures. Lou was the perfect golden - very intelligent, sweet and oh-so-special. We know because we've had goldens for 40 years. Our extreme sadness is eased by knowing that he is with his brother Rusty who passed last year. Both were GRRMF rescues. Two better goldens you could not ask for.

- Christina & Roger Leggatt

On April 28, 2007, **Monroe** joined the other golden angels in heaven. There aren't words enough to describe how much we miss him. Monroe was the cover dog for the 2007 GRRMF calendar.

- Barbara Durham & Keith Hollister

Our beloved **Ripley** passed on to Rainbow Bridge at the end of July. Ripley was a big golden with an even bigger heart and smile. Always at my side or waiting at the door for me to come home, his devotion knew no bounds. He wanted only to be with people - from those he met at the 2007 reunion to our grandchildren to the vet - and all who knew him will miss him. Our love for him is indescribable, and our hearts are heavy with his loss. GRRMF has lost an exemplary dog who epitomized the value of your efforts.

- Margy Santino

My husband Donald DeJohn passed away this year. He truly loved our goldens over the years. I received a check for a charity of my choice, and I know my husband would be happy to have it go to help goldens who are less fortunate. You do such good work, and I hope this donation from Christopher & Suzanne DeJohn helps a bit.

- Isabella DeJohn

We need your help! Postage rates have risen dramatically over the past few months. GRRMF uses bulk mailing rates to send our quarterly newsletter, which saves us money. One area that is impacting us, however, is the return service. If you move and don't advise GRRMF, the USPS returns your newsletter and advises us of the forwarding address. Prior to the recent postage increase, the fee for a returned newsletter was about \$.65. It has risen to \$1.14!

**It's time for Housekeeping Matters:
Please read!**

From GRRMF President Barbara Durham

Once we receive the newsletter back, we update our database. Then we assess if your dues are current or you have made a donation in the last year or so. If you have, we resend your newsletter first class to you. That used to cost us \$.83. Now that costs an additional \$1.14. So, in short, returned newsletters cost us a lot of money. I'm sure we can ALL agree that this money would be better spent helping our rescue dogs.

How can you help? If you are moving, please email us at info@grrmf.org with your new address, phone number(s) and email address. In addition to the newsletter, it's critical for us to have your current contact information - including cell phone - in case we are called by the microchip registry in the event that your dog is lost. We need to be able to contact you immediately.

Rest assured, your contact information is confidential. We never sell or give out your information to any third party. Any GRRMF volunteer that works with mailing list information must sign a confidentiality agreement agreeing to our procedures. Another area of managing the mailing list is all our summer travelers. Some of you are extremely lucky and are able to spend the hot summer months in a cooler location. When you are "temporarily away," as the post office terms it, they send your newsletter back to us and charge us \$1.14 each. If you let us know by emailing info@grrmf.org that you are going to be away for a certain period of time, we can send the newsletter to your temporary address.

We will be looking at our mailing list over the next few months and removing names of people who seem to have lost interest ... so, if you want to keep your newsletter coming, please send in a donation and keep your membership current. We try to keep prior adopters on our mailing list, and many are generous in continuing to support GRRMF in honor of their rescued golden. We are extremely grateful for your generosity. Many adopters never join GRRMF after adoption, which places a burden on our mailing costs.

We appreciate your support. We'll continue doing our best to manage our postage costs and keep quality newsletters coming your way.

- Barbara

GRRMF Membership/Donation Form

All memberships and donations are tax-deductible.

Name _____ Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please check one:

☐ General Membership \$25 ☐ Golden Friend \$50 ☐ Sponsorship to help special-needs golden \$100

☐ General Donation \$ _____ ☐ Woody's Fund \$ _____

☐ Boarding Fund \$ _____

☐ In Memory Of _____ \$ _____ ☐ In Honor Of: _____ \$ _____

Send acknowledgment to: _____

Mail form and check to: GRRMF, PO Box 1449, Goldenrod, FL 32733
GRRMF Inc. 501(c)3 Charitable Organization - Donations are Tax-Deductible

Official registration and financial information can be obtained from Division of Consumer Services: (800) 435-7352.

Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.

DONATIONS

IN MEMORY OF

Judith Anderson -
Jeffrey Kent Fowler
David & Agnes Balas
- DAKOTA
Ralph & Janice Bogle
- DILLON Duke
Kimberly Bruce -
CODY BEAR
Bradley Condiff -
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Nancy Spears

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"Mr. 2000"
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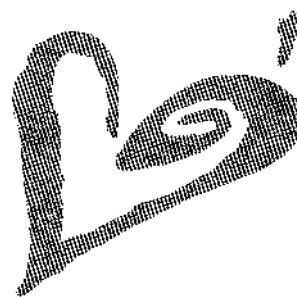
GUARDIAN ANGEL

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GOLDEN FRIEND

Ana Alvarez
Tina Cannavino

Golden Friends



In Memory of
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Golden Angel Brandy"
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Suzanne Fritz
Ron & Linda Helm
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Lisa Ralston
Nina Stanley
Kerri Vorhies
Fred Williams
Susan McKellar

BOARDING FUND

Frank & Duke Hunt

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THANKS!!

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& Sharon Bressen,
Penny Dalton, Renee
Duke, Tom & Gregg
Eddie, Kimberly
Elman, Ann & John
Fitzpatrick, John Foss,
Tom & Kellyann
Goring, Chuck &
Donna Graves, Chris
Haddad, Bert &
Charlie Haker, Lynne
Halleran, Kim Hood,
Jeff Lipkes, Steve
Loebeck, Connie &

Note: The GRRMF Board sends very special thanks to all volunteers and supporters, including those we may have inadvertently left off this list. Although we try to list everyone, our organization is growing, and we sometimes might miss a name or two.

Robert Madigan, Tommy & Chris Manley, Kirk & Michelle Martin, Diane Makinney, Marcia McGovern & John Macri, Mike & Carol McKee, Kelly Mehigan, Julie & Jeffrey Metzgar, Mark & Kristie Molina, Kathy Murphy, Lisa Norvig, Rick & Cindy Owens, Cheryl Pacheco, Guillermo Porro, Cindy Raible, Lisa Rice, Kathy Rozzo, Colleen & Rick Sosteri, Sharon Stockman, Sandy Sumner, Amie Tishkoff & Robert Kennon, Bill & Celeste Watkins, Angie & Larry Weldon.

INTAKE TEAM: Kelly Mehigan (coordinator), Bert Haker, Lynne Halleran, Dianne McLean, Jeff Lipkes, Kimberly Elman, Emily Rowe.

CALL TEAM: Ana Alvarez, Sandy Bicknel, Linda Helm, Tracy Hoffman, Sue Keiser, Carol McKee, Linda & Harold Rhea, Kerri Vorhies, Donna Weitzel ... "Welcome Marlene Nesbitt to the team!"

APPLICATIONS TEAM: Sandy Sumner, Peggy Litt, Pam Harrell, Carol McKee.

MAIL VOLUNTEERS: Carol & Hal Avey.

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NEWSLETTER TEAM: Carol McKee, Judy Ladney

WEB SITE: Renee Duke and Carol McKee.

RECORDKEEPER: Jennifer Longman.

INFO@GRRMF.ORG
E-MAILS: Suzanne Rider

GRRMF INFO LINE
(PHONE MESSAGES) and
CORRESPONDENCE:
Betty Wyatt, Kathy Byrne.

VETERINARIANS WHO DONATED OR DISCOUNTED GOODS AND SERVICES:
Dr. Steve Wiseman, Oviedo Animal Hospital;
Drs. Ehlers & Feneco, 434 Animal Hospital, Longwood; Drs. Rosen & Steiner, Wickham Road Animal Hospital, Melbourne; Advanced Veterinary Hospital,

Holiday; All Creatures Animal Hospital, Lutz; Animal Hospital of Treasure Island; Dr. Robert Difonzo, Movement Improvement, Oviedo; Dr. Constance DiNatale, Veterinary Acupuncture, Winter Park; Drs. John Kirsch & Matt Oakes, Tampa Bay Veterinary Surgery, Largo; Dr. Leland Simmons, Sand Lake Animal Clinic, Orlando; Skyway Animal Hospital, St. Petersburg; Dr. Spencer, Gateway Animal Hospital, St. Petersburg; Florida Veterinary Specialists, Tampa; Dr. Severidt, The Total Pet Complex, Jacksonville; Dr. Douglas McKee, Green Cove Animal Hospital, Green Cove Springs; Animal Hospital of Seminole; Drs. Randy Jacobson & Steve Beecham, North Orange Veterinary Hospital, Apopka.

EDUCATION DAYS/EVENTS:

Many thanks to all who participate in educational events around the state - our dedicated volunteers and their goldens are out there almost every weekend spreading the word about rescue, which is invaluable in finding homes for our goldens! For schedule and locations, see back cover or log onto our Web site: GRRMF.org.

STAFFS OF: Petsmart, Pet Supermarket, Petco, Border's Bookstore and other businesses across the state, for letting GRRMF set up educational booths. We are grateful for all their support of our organization.

TRAINING: Best Paw Forward, Sanford; Oviedo Dog Training Club; 3J Dog Training, West Orlando; Babette Haggerty's School for Dogs, Jupiter; John Pfohler, Sarasota; JaVic Dog Training, Melbourne; Jeff & Cathy Drier, BarkBusters Tampa; Susan Kendrick, Bowser College, Bowsercollege.com; Cynthia McCollum, TrainWithCynthia.com, Pinellas-Pasco-Hillsborough Counties.

HIP DOG THERAPY: For providing hydrotherapy and massage for our rescues with hip problems, Winter Park.

HEALTHYPETNET/LIFE'S ABUNDANCE: To Dennis Grace, who arranged and coordinates the "Feed Your Dog, Save a Dog's Life" program for which GRRMF gets a percentage of proceeds from the sale of Life's Abundance holistic food and treat products for dogs and cats - www.grrmf.org/grrmf-canine-food.html.

MR. & MRS MILLER for their generous donation of holistic food from Pookie's Bakery for our special-needs dog, Miles.

PET'S NATURAL CHOICE IN OVIEDO, which donated Wellness food for Miles and also set up a jar for donations for him.

**Goldens
Cool!
Goldens
Rule!**



If we failed to mention you, please let us know - (407) 322-2840 or e-mail our newsletter editor at newsletter@grrmf.org - and we'll try our best to list it next time.
We couldn't operate without your help - you make a difference in the lives of hundreds of goldens!!

Help Us Spread The Word About Rescue!

GRRMF is in need of volunteers to spend a few hours a month "preaching the golden gospel" at our educational days across the state. It's a great opportunity to make new friends, spread the word about rescue, and you can even bring your dog, if he or she is people and dog friendly!

EAST COAST

Jacksonville - PetsMart - every 2nd Saturday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

PetsMart, Melbourne - every Saturday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

TAMPA/ST. PETERSBURG/CLEARWATER

PetsMart, Citrus Park/Tampa - Every first and third Saturday, 10 a.m.- noon

PetsMart, Countryside/Clearwater - Every second Saturday, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

PetsMart, Tyrone/St. Petersburg - Every first Saturday, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

PetsMart, Trinity - Every third Saturday, 10 a.m.- noon

SARASOTA

PetsMart, The Landings/Sarasota - Every first Saturday

PetsMart, Bradenton - Every third Saturday - noon - 3:00 p.m. for both

ORLANDO

PetsMart, Waterford Lakes/East Orlando - Every second Saturday, 10 a.m.-noon.

Borders Bookstore, Oviedo - Every third Saturday, 7- 9:30 p.m.

SOUTH FLORIDA:

Pet Supplies Plus, Lake Park/Palm Beach - Every fourth Sunday - noon to 4:00 p.m.

If you are interested in helping, stop by at one of the above times/locations!

Or call 407-332-2840, or e-mail info@grrmf.org

and we'll hook you up with the Team Leader for that location.

Check our Web site (grrmf.org) under "events" for the latest schedule in case of last-minute schedule changes.

Hearts Of Gold

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