

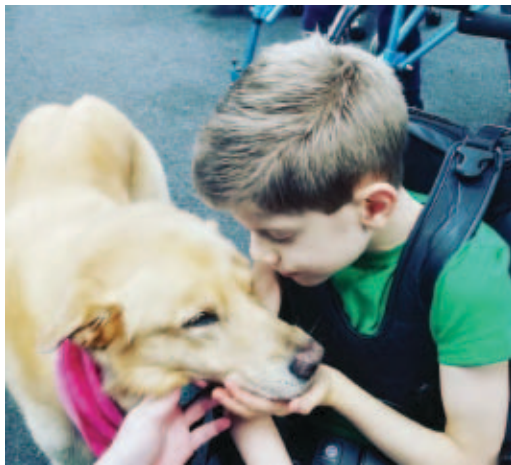
FEBRUARY 2019
CELEBRATING 28 YEARS!
SAVING GOLDENS SINCE 1991

TALES OF GOLD

“HEARTS OF GOLD” THERAPY TEAM

We are very excited to announce that our “Hearts of Gold” therapy team has finished the organizational process and is currently accepting members. GRRMF has partnered with Project PUP to establish a special team of handlers and their dogs to represent GRRMF at fundraising events and provide therapeutic visitation to those in need. Since our Hearts of Gold team will come under Project PUP’s insurance umbrella, all handler/dog teams must obtain Project PUP certification by attending a full screening evaluation. Please visit their website at projectpup.net for more information about their requirements and evaluation schedules. Upon certification, Project PUP will issue a doggie badge for the dog/handler teams and GRRMF will provide a bandana.

Congratulations to seven of our GRRMF gentle paws ambassadors who passed their January 12 screening evaluation and received their Project PUP certification as a therapy dog – Lexi (handler Bambi), Chance and Bella (handler Cathy), Bailey and Rocky (handler Ginger), Duke (handler Tom), and Tanner (handler Rodger). GRRMF alums or GRRMF volunteers already certified by Project PUP are encouraged to join our GRRMF Hearts of Gold therapy team and have your information added to our roster so we can contact you when a therapy visit is requested.



Animal therapy is becoming widely accepted and the benefits others receive from a visit are priceless. Our special pups have so much compassion to give to others and as a handler tagging along on the other end of the leash, you will experience the pure joy that happens when your pup enters a room. No Limits Academy, a school for physically disabled children, recently sent an Instagram message saying, “We are blessed to have a therapy dog who comes to our campus frequently for entire days. Her name is Bailey and she is one of the kindest creatures you will ever meet. So many of our students and team members light up when she is around.”

GRRMF is holding pre-screening events to help you and your dog prepare for the Project PUP final assessment. You will receive helpful

tips and one-on-one feedback so you can practice your skills and show up at your scheduled evaluation full of confidence. Our first pre-screen event was held on February 9 and our next is scheduled for Saturday, March 23, at the Largo Public Library from 10-12. Those interested in attending can contact Coordinators Bambi and Ginger at GRRMFTherapypups@grrmf.org for more information. Our dogs are such treasures – please consider sharing their innate love and compassion with others.



GRRMF CONTACT INFORMATION

PO Box 1449
Goldenrod, FL 32733

www.grrmf.org
info@grrmf.org

Hotline: 407.332.2840
Fax: 888.408.5520

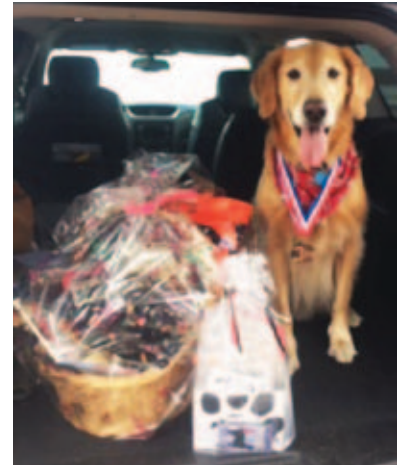
JOYOUS ENCOUNTERS



GRRMF is blessed to have so many alums and their forever families who are paying it forward within their communities by volunteering as therapy teams. When Cindy and Rick's alum Chopper started experiencing health issues that limited his therapy visits, they were elated to adopt Louie, who proved to be an excellent companion for Chopper in his last days. "Having over 75 rescues and fosters over the years, Louie has proven to be one of the best companions we have had – very intuitive, extremely loyal and very personable." Louie was trained and certified with Project PUP and is a member of Caring Paws program at BayCare Healthcare Systems, as well as doing therapy visits at Morton Plant, where he goes to work with Mom most days, and other campuses. "While visiting patients in a rehab therapy unit at Morton Plant one day,

Louie was very startled to see his own image in a large mirror. He jumped back and barked, then slowly approached the image to check it out. It was a hilarious moment and the patients were bent over with laughter. Louie apparently had never been in front of a mirror; however, it was a little embarrassing for me," reports Rick. "Following in Chopper's footsteps, we anticipate a long and bright future with him."

SAYING GOODBYE IS A FAMILY AFFAIR as Melanie and Neil quickly learned from their special boy, Cane Mulberry. "Cane has a special knack for making anyone he comes in contact with think they are his most favorite person in the world," says Melanie. "Cane has a weakness for crushed ice and will come running when he hears the ice dispenser or his dad shake his glass. His favorite game to play with Neil is ice spitting (think of watermelon seed spitting contest). Neil can spit ice with rapid fire and Cane catches every one. Chasing a tennis ball ranks high and Cane is the reigning gold medalist in the GRRMF Olympics tennis ball fetch! But his most notable accomplishment or certification is that of AWESOME Foster Brother! Cane plays a huge role as part of our foster family. The patience, attention, sharing and teaching that he freely gives every dog that comes into our home amazes me. Sure, there have been times when he looked at me as if to say "Really Mom?" but then goes about doing what Cane does best, making sure our foster feels welcome, knows our routine and sometimes reminding them who is boss! We soon learned that on "gotcha day" for our fosters, it was just as important for Cane to say goodbye and see them leave with their new family as it was for us. I am convinced he can understand much of what I say and definitely reads my mind, I just wish I could read his! Cane truly has a heart of gold and we feel like we won the jackpot!"



A SPECIAL DUO OF HAPPY TAILS



After losing their yellow lab Scout at age 13, Darby and Mark searched the internet for "Golden Retrievers for sale" and up popped GRRMF. As they scrolled down the list of available dogs, out jumped Atticus and Scout. "The more we read about this bonded pair," said Mark, "the more we wanted these two." After submitting their application, there were second thoughts about two dogs and an agonizing round table decision was made to cancel the adoption request. Two miserable days of aching hearts thinking about those two sweeties and the adoption meet and greet was rescheduled.

A new family structure means new expectations and challenges. "We've never had two dogs, but double your pleasure, double your fun! The pups have new nicknames - Attikisses (he gives lots of kisses and is a Momma's boy) and Scoutie Max (she looks and acts just like Max in "How the Grinch Stole Christmas"). Each has unique personalities and as their time in this new family ticks on, new habits and quirks emerge. Atticus loves to walk back and

forth between your legs to get rubs on his head or butt. He's very protective of his flock, and very loving of everyone who enters his territory with his permission. Our little Scoutie Max is a hoot! She may be half the size of Atticus, but holds her own in tugs of war and is a stingy little girl with toys. Her motto: What's mine is mine, and what's yours is mine. She goes on the prowl at night collecting gifts and delivering them to our bed every morning. Toys, socks, shoes, and undergarments to name a few, which can be embarrassing to our teenage daughter."

"Attikisses and Scoutie Max have been with us since August and the entire family has been blessed. If vacuum bags were a stock commodity on the Dow Jones exchange, we'd be millionaires. We fill a new bag at least twice a week with dog hair but wouldn't want it any other way. Thank you for believing in us GRRMF!"

YEAR IN REVIEW

2018 had many challenges and expenses to care for our Healing Hearts dogs...several requiring extensive medical and behavioral care. We are thankful to our volunteers, trainers and vets for their tireless efforts to heal these special rescues and to our adopters for opening their hearts and homes to all our rescues.

Without our wonderful supporters, we would not be able to accomplish what we do each year. One of our special 2018 supporters is a volunteer who located and worked with the Healthy Paws Rescue Race grant program. We were awarded a \$10,000 grant in November because of her leadership. Our goldens say thank you and send a special "paws up" recognition to Janet Sturman.



Completing our 27th year in rescue, we received 107 dogs needing our help and placed 114 into loving forever homes during 2018. We received 526 applications requesting to adopt our dogs and our volunteers worked tirelessly to process these important requests to expand our list of eligible adopters. Our transporters once again bravely navigated the highways of Florida, even on the weekends, completing 249 transport trips which required 409 volunteers to safely move their precious passengers to vets or foster homes. We were thrilled to receive 43 applications for new volunteers raising their paws to help us within various areas of our organization.

Through it all, we are blessed with wonderful donors who believe in our mission and are at the heart of our accomplishments. Without your financial commitment each year we could not meet the personal needs of each rescue who comes through our door. We are truly grateful for your support of GRRMF.

Wishing all many golden blessings in 2019!

*Our goldens were thinking
about all the people they love
on Valentine's Day ...
our fosters, volunteers,
adopters and donors!
Hope everyone had
a Special
Day!*



THANK YOU! DONATIONS OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2018

GENERAL

Ade, Marilyn
Adler, Jeffrey
Aid, James
Allen, Peggy
Ambler, Sandra
Anderson, Barbara & Robert
Anderson, Dean
Angle, Sue
Atwell, Caprice
Barton, David & Adrienne
Beck, Michelle
Billue, Pamela
Bland, Mary
Cerny, Carol K
Clark, Carol
Clark, Victoria
Collins, C.B.
Copparini, Edon
Covert, Chris
D'Alessandro, Melinda
Decker, Kathleen
DiBenedetto, Peter
Dishozy, Barbara
Doherty, Philip R.
Dukes, Jason
Dulaney, Joan
Dusenberry, Laurie
Eaton, Nancy
Eddie, Margaret
Ehly, Isaac
Elias, Rebecca
Ferris, Jean
Ferros, Vicki
Flannery, Ellen
Forsberg, Carol
Garner, Jacob
Glaros, Louis & Carol
Goetz, Matthew
Hamel, Susan
Hankins, Greg & Sarina
Hatcher, Kathryn
Haught, Philip
Herndon, Lucia
Hertz, Charlotte
Hudek, Jarrett
Jaffe, Steve
Johnson, Frederick
Jones, Elesha
Jones, Justin
Juliano, Marcus
Kana, Allyson
Kard, Carole & Charles
Kasperek, Shannon
Keilholtz, Joseph
Keller, Cliff & Karen
Keller, Karen
Knodel, Cheryl
Krieg, Nadine
Kubasta, Elaine
Kuhns, Elizabeth
Kwasiborski, Jeffery
LaPorte, Sandra
Lehnert, Wayne & Sharon
Leon, Coralee & Philpot,
Michael
Libbe, Michael

Limon, Craig
Lore, Ryan
Lovallo, Cyndy
Machado, Emilio
Madigan, Robert
Matisz, Christine
McConnell, David
McGuiness, Frances
McMillan, John
Meinert, Jacquelyn
Meyer, Lisa Burris
Milligan, Clare
Mitchell, Robert
Mitzel, John
Nation, Stanley
Nesbitt, Marlene
Pagano, Ronald
Parker, Jeanie
Perino, Maria
Pittle, Eileen
Rarick, Susan
Reid, Deby
Reid, Leanne
Risley, Gayle
Robbins, Jackie
Roberts, Ashley
Russakov, Tania
Sanczyk, Edna
Schrader, Julie
Scott, Beth
Servais, Susan
Sheehy, Tom & Brenda
Smith, Justin
Sprague, Robert
Steiger, Ellen
Steiger, Patricia
Stillings, Gary
Stringer, Mary Jennifer
Taylor, Carolyn
Thompson, Ilona
Tradelius, Mary Anne
Treber, Leslie
Trout, James
Tucker, Susan
Tutewiler, Gail
Ullestad, Karen
Velden, Margaret
Village Presbyterian Church
Villari, David & Jeanne
Watson, Matthew
Wells, Mary & Bob
Zasada, Robert

GIVING TUESDAY

Aitken, Barbara
Alfson, Lynda & John
Allen, Peggy
Anson, Barbara
Becker, Mark
Berman, Joel
Bogle, Ralph
Bozin, Cheryl
Brown, Kirsten
Bynum, Michael
Crofts, Teresa
Doherty, Phil
Dowdle, Jeffrey & Jeanne
Duncan, Ted & Maggie

Eddie, Gregg
Faulkenberry, Tori
Filippi, Heidi for Leo
Fitzgerald, Peter & Susan
Forsberg, Carol
Gamelin, Dennis
Heiges, Nancy
Holliday, Linda Marie
& Bacardi
Lee, Catherine
Lubben, Elizabeth
McNair, Lucille
Network for Good -
Facebook
Rodriguez, Giselle
Saini, Sonali
Shepard, Bill & Pat
Smith, Michael J.
& Janice Mae
Whyte, Ron
Williams, Sharon

IN HONOR OF

Auger, Michael & Donna
for Mattie, Max, Mason,
Luca, Rocky & Ranger
Barnett, Christine for
Grandma & Grandpa Allen
Bobroff, Michael
for Judy Ladney
Buck, Bob for Junie,
Dolly & Tremi
Criswell, Nancy for Bill
Carey & In Memory
of Cosmo
Curtis, Paul for Seymour
Davis, Brian & Sarah
for Hunter
Feuer, David & Susan
for Pirate, Henry,
Turbo & Morgan
Garris, Lionel for Teresa
& Mike Crofts
Haker, Mary for
Charlie Haker
Kingman, Diane
for Clementine
Knight, Gail
for Sandy Bennett
Lake, Kendall
for Nicole Cole
Law, Melanie for Bambi
Anderson-Ivers & Tim Ivers
Long, Sherre for Marley
Marshall, Pamela
for Debby Batz

IN MEMORY OF

Bennett, Jill
Cacciola, Angela for Nicki
Candler, Thomas for Barkley
Cash, Deborah for Josey
& Emma
Cowles, Elizabeth
Davies, John & Mary Ellen
for Baxter
DeLapa, Frank & Janette
for Kallie

Doyle, Kurt for Cali Flynn
Durham, Barbara
for Don Ferguson
Engel, Geraldine for Polly
& Shakespeare
Farrow, Kelly for Kacie Girl
Faulkenberry, Tori & Bob
for Hope Dara
Forsberg, Carol
for Don Ferguson
Glock, Janet for Junior
Gogerty, Sharon for Bailey
Govoni, Nancy for Max
Hall, George & Jo Nell
for Robin & Charlie
Hart, Karen for her
beloved golden
McCoy, James
for Debra McCoy
Morris, Karen for Paris
Nigrelli, Terry
Pedroso, Marilyn
for Andrew Arabia
Pesci, Alexander for Carolyn
Houk, Roscoe & Ralph
Quercia, Charlette & John
for Sydney & Annie
Runk, Roberta for Ben
& Rudy
Schillerstorm, Maribeth
for Don Ferguson
Schillerstorm, Sarah
for Don Ferguson
Shepherd, Nancy for Paris
Stewart, Darla for Lola
Van Nest, Ken & Janet
for Don Ferguson
White, Marianne for Rosie
Zimmerman, Renee
for Samantha

WOODY FUND

Adler, Jeffrey
Aedo, Sara for Ace
Alfson, Lynda & John for
Cooper In Memory of Terry T.
Alfson, Lynda & John for
Goldie In Memory of Terry T
Alfson, Lynda & John for
Sonny In Memory of Terry T
Burke, Bruce
Deptulski, Theresa
Dowar, Rita for Fab 5
In Memory of Dutch
Fischer, Lore
Friedlander, Leslie
Gailey, Philip & Joyce
Gogerty, Sharon
Gruher, Alfred
Perkins, Frances & John
Rhinehart, David
Savasito, Michael & Sharon
Shively, Patricia
Taylor, Carolyn
Treber, Leslie
Van Allen, Christina for Wolfe
Wood, Rosemarie & William
for Hero

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT by Lyn Holiday

Volunteer: Carol Forsberg

Found out about GRRMF: While stopped at a traffic light one day, I started talking to a golden who had their nose out the window. Under that beautiful face was a GRRMF door magnet. I quickly wrote down the phone number and website and the rest is history!

Length of Time Volunteering so Far: 14 years

GRRMF Volunteer Career: Transportation, Foster, Adopter, Media Team, Business Operations, Board Member, and anything else needed to help these precious pups.

Continued Commitment: I'm known for saying "it takes a village" and I'm so proud to be part of a wonderful family of passionate volunteers dedicated to do what is best for our dogs. All GRRMF volunteers focus on saving these precious pups as too many arrive broken and in desperate need of medical care, nurturing to gain confidence and especially love. Watching them blossom and become all they can be is the best tribute.

Most Memorable Moment: There are so many wonderful memories and moments with each dog who arrives in rescue. The day I adopted my GRRMF rescue Ruby Too at age seven was the best moment for me. She was my heartbeat and such a special foster mom to over 30 GRRMF rescues through the years. Most memorable were two pups who she mothered as if they were her own. I believe she enjoyed them most of all and gave me insight into how fabulous adopting senior goldens are in so many ways.

Advise to Potential Volunteer: Follow your passion. Follow your heart. There are so many opportunities in GRRMF where your special skills could help a golden in need and save a life every day.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Check out our volunteer page at www.grrmf.org/volunteer/become-a-volunteer for exciting opportunities to help our goldens!

We are highlighting several special areas needing help in 2019:

-  Event planning – Fundraising lead and regional coordinators for events on the west coast and central Florida. Most events held outdoors on Saturdays in the fall, winter and early spring months. We would also love recommendations of events and areas in the mid-Florida area which you would like to see our education participation. Send your suggestions to info@grrmf.org
-  Transportation – weekday mornings for Bradenton, St. Petersburg, Tampa, Plant City, Lakeland and Orlando (I-4 corridor especially needed!), Cocoa Beach, Daytona Beach
-  Home visit – days, nights or weekend schedules available based on mutual agreement with applicant and home visit volunteer. Areas needed include Tampa, Lakeland, greater Kissimmee area, New Smyrna Beach, Daytona Beach, Ormond Beach, Titusville
-  GRRMF Hearts of Gold therapy team – researching pre-certification space, administrative duties, facility management, and role-playing at the different mock testing areas



5 STAR FOSTERS

by Kirsten Brown and
Bambi Anderson-Ivers

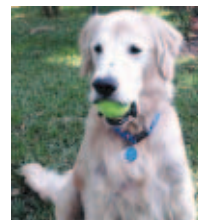
Team Geanacopoulos

Cheryl has fostered three dogs, accepting those that need extra work to build their confidence and learn how fun it can be to be a loved golden! She truly is a miracle worker who helps build their social skills and confidence so they can find the perfect forever home!



Team Grasso

Susan and Frank have fostered seven dogs for us, loving each one like their own. These special fosters have accepted challenges with open arms and have raised their paws to help on a moment's notice ensuring each foster dog has a safe place to land and heal before going to their forever home.



2019 GRRMF SPRING GOLDENFEST REUNION JOIN US ON MARCH 2, 2019 IN ST. CLOUD COME JOIN US!

- 🐾 Register at the Welcome Desk and select goodies for your goody bag
- 🐾 Stop at our Springtime Photo booth for a family photo
- 🐾 Join in our DogOlympic Games of popcorn toss and sit & stay
- 🐾 See a tricks demonstration you can do with your golden
- 🐾 Trainers available for Q&A and demonstrations with your dog
- 🐾 See CPR and first aid techniques and sign up for certification program in the Orlando area in the spring
- 🐾 Learn about our GRRMF Village from board members / coordinators
- 🐾 Meet our new Hearts of Gold therapy team coordinators Ginger and Bambi and hear about our new program rolling out across mid-Florida
- 🐾 Support our raffle through collecting / donating gift certificates, gift cards and entertainment admission tickets. Find out more information about this new raffle approach that focuses on our communities at our website
www.grrmf.org/news/goldenfest-business-sponsors-wanted/



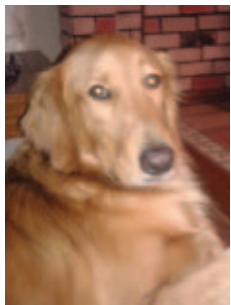
RAINBOW BRIDGE

■ Sue Angle - Simon
■ Deanna and Chris Bovis – Paris
■ Don and Penny Dalton - Molly
■ Lisa Dillon – Lander
■ Janice and William Gibson – Samantha
■ Bill McComb - Duncan

■ Lucille and James McNair - Bella
■ Marsha and Davis Reardon - Maxx
■ Kara Ribeiro – Fury
■ Al and Pam Sumner - Bear
■ Tom and Dee Webber – Sadie
■ Kimberly Wertz - Biscuit

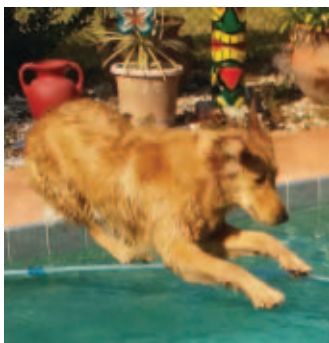


Adoption Stories



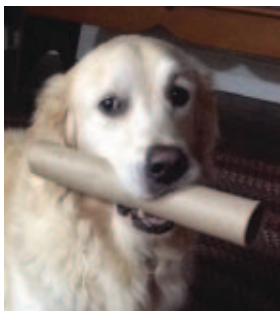
Tesla Jaspar

When Jan brought Tesla home in August 2017, she immediately fell in love. Jan's adopted lab-mix, Cocoa, is very active, but Tesla seems to calm Cocoa down a bit when they play together. Long walks with Dad and Cocoa are Tesla's favorite activity; in fact, regular patrons of a nearby park know Tesla by name. He also enjoys going to doggie daycare and has completed two training classes. Tesla did try to climb into Jan's outdoor fountain one day, but silly boy - he was way too big!



Zeus Jenson, now Sonny

Zeus, now known as Sonny, came to GRRMF as a bouncing baby boy that was just too much for his family. Now adopted, he has added more energy, cuteness, and love to his new family. After 17 months, Sonny has passed obedience classes but still resorts to puppy shenanigans, such as stealing the dish towel off the counter, but learned to play gently with his 14-year old golden brother. "Sonny" says mom, "is special in so many ways, and he has adapted perfectly to his forever home".



Remy August

Surrendered when his owner passed away, Remy was nervous in the beginning, but his new family was very patient to help him let his true golden colors shine. His tail is constantly wagging and he bugs everyone for TLC. Remy loves to have his chest and chin rubbed. To make sure no spot is missed, he will sit up nice and tall with both paws on you, enjoying every moment. This Gentle Giant enjoys being in the yard helping mom and dad with their chores.

June Jessy, now Chessie

It didn't take long for Chessie and her new family to fall in love with each other. She's a big fur ball of fun and goes everywhere with them. Whether it's taking the kids to school or weekends at the beach, Chessie is there with her tail wagging. Two of her favorite family activities are cruising on the family boat and catching the surf on a sandbar. Her mom Ann says, "She is an amazing dog, and we all love her to the moon and back!"



Max Jensen, now Maxy

Kimberly and Stephen adopted Max when his previous family was not able to spend time with him. Now affectionately called Maxy, Kimberly says he is the "gentlest giant golden" she has ever met. Maxy loves to greet people with a hearty "hello" bark and play with his 140-pound Greater Swiss Mountain canine neighbor. Maxy is a good sport; last Halloween, he donned a scuba diver outfit just long enough for a picture. Kimberly lovingly describes Maxy as "a wonderful dog and great friend."

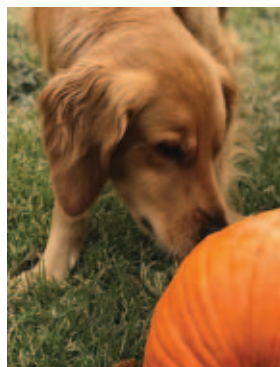


Bella Janelle

Bella's second chance at happiness is a real-life fairy tale. She's happy, healthy and has a life full of love. Her new parents and brother, Chance, also a GRMMF rescue, enjoy being together. Her mom knew at once that Bella was the perfect fit when both dogs jumped into the pool and started playing together. Whether it's swimming, playing at the beach or just snuggling, this family is now whole. You know it's a happily ever after when her human family thinks Bella's snoring is cute!



Joe Sonny, now Sonny



"Always smiling, always playful and always wanting to snuggle describes our boy", says Katie. While his favorite activity is wrestling with his fur brother, Oakley, he also enjoys playing with his stuffed "puffer" fish which needs weekly medical attention by Dad to sew up the holes. A great traveler, Sonny learned to swim at Grandma and Grandpa's lake house in Tennessee. "We have less room on our bed, but love having Sonny in our family. Our special boy has earned an AKC Trick Title and AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC) certification."

Goldens Rule!

Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida
Post Office Box 1449
Goldenrod, Florida 32733

Return Service Requested



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **2019 Spring GoldenFest Reunion** – St. Cloud, FL – **March 2, 2019**
www.grrmf.org/event/2019-spring-goldenfest-reunion-central-east-coast-location
- **GRRMF Hearts of Gold / Project Pup Assessment** – Largo, FL – **March 9, 2019**
- **3rd Friday Safety Harbor** - Safety Harbor, FL – **March 15, 2019**
- **GRRMF Hearts of Gold Pre-screening** - Largo, FL – **March 23, 2019**
www.grrmf.org/volunteer/canine-volunteers/grrmf-hearts-of-gold/

Please consider making a much needed donation to help save our goldens!

You may donate online at www.grrmf.org or fill out this form and mail it to:
GRRMF - P.O. Box 1449 - Goldenrod, FL 32733. Donations are tax deductible.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Would you prefer to receive your receipt letter by (circle one) EMAIL US MAIL

I'd like to donate as follows:

\$ _____ General donation \$ _____ Woody Fund for special needs dogs

\$ _____ In honor of : _____

\$ _____ In memory of : _____



Membership options (circle one): \$25 Regular \$50 Golden Friend \$100 Sponsorship

A copy of the official registration and financial information for Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida Inc., a Florida-based nonprofit corporation, (Registration no. #CH11185), may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free 1-800-help-fla (432-7352) within the state or by visiting 800helpfla.com.
Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.

28 YEARS OF SAVING GOLDENS -- 3,705 SAVED SINCE 1991
Golden Retriever Rescue Of Mid-Florida