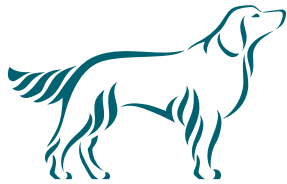


MAY 2020

**CELEBRATING 29 YEARS!
SAVING GOLDENS SINCE 1991**



GOLDEN RETRIEVER
RESCUE OF MID-FLORIDA TM

TALES OF GOLD



HONEY'S JOURNEY: FROM ABANDONED TO AWESOME

The future could not have been bleaker for 8-month-old Honey when she came to us from a shelter in February 2012. But after undergoing a bilateral femoral head ostectomy, which restored pain-free mobility to her hips, and being adopted in June by GRRMF volunteer Bert, that future turned BRIGHT! Highly intelligent and eminently trainable, Honey earned her Canine Good Citizen (CGC) in July and passed her Project PUP (Pets Uplifting People) therapy screening in September 2012. Shortly after being PUP certified, she began volunteering monthly at Largo Library as part of the PUP Pals Reading Program and even served as a therapy dog during Exam Cram in the teen room. As a regular volunteer at Largo Library, she has listened attentively and patiently to countless readings of "Clifford the Big Red Dog" book series and tried – and failed, along with her adoring mother – to learn about Pokemon. Age hasn't slowed her steps or stifled her indomitable spirit.

Never one to rest on her paws, Honey began competing in the sport of K9 Nose Work through the National Association of Canine Scent Work to hone her search and scent abilities. This led to her eventually being recruited as a participant

in a three-year study conducted by the U.S. Navy and Florida International University in 2017. Its objective was to determine how dogs both generalize and discriminate between related target odors, if training could influence this ability, and if so, how to improve the training of detector dogs for use at home and on battlefields abroad. Honey's participation ended abruptly in 2019 when she developed an unusual discharge from her right nostril (tests, including CT scans and biopsies, thankfully, were negative), but it impacted her "official" nose work career, which Bert hopes one day to resume for the enrichment it provides our companion dogs. Always up for a challenge, Honey focused her energy on achieving her AKC Therapy Dog title in August 2019. "I'm so proud of my girl," says Bert, a smile warming her voice. "Honey has loved every minute of every year with many more years still to live and to love. She's come such a long way from being an 8-month-old shelter puppy with bad hips to a 'sniffing machine' for the U.S. Navy and a superstar reading coach."



GRRMF CONTACT INFORMATION

**PO Box 1449
Goldenrod, FL 32733**

**www.grrmf.org
info@grrmf.org**

**Hotline: 407.332.2840
Fax: 888.408.5520**

GOLDENS ON BOARD

Our extraordinary transportation team generously donates their time and resources answering calls to safely transport a dog in need. Led by Coordinator Sue Angle, this team logs on average 800 miles per month and recently supported moving 21 rescues across the state in one of our busiest periods in 2019. In most cases, transportation is done tag team style and one dog could have two or three drivers. Each transporter equips their vehicle with a variety of pet care items like water, leash, towels, comfortable bedding and a special treat or two! GRRMF also partners with Loving Friends Transport whose mission is to bring dogs from overloaded shelters in Louisiana to Florida. As the need for rescue care and transportation continues during the period of the COVID19 pandemic, we are so thankful for our volunteers who continue to raise their paws to help. Why are we so proud of our transport team? Their special stories of joy and heartache say it all.

Deb Frederick - My favorite memory was Winnie who thought the windshield wipers were chase toys and was fascinated with these magical sticks swaying back and forth to keep her entertained! I never tire of looking in my rearview mirror and seeing one of our rescues snoozing, knowing that dog just hit the jackpot. Some transports are easy, but ones I remember most are the special dogs badly needing medical care, ones getting out of a dire situation, or the ones left after their human passes ... those dogs always get a special piece of my heart.

Judy and Jerry Sheehan - A special transport was a dog lovingly surrendered to us by a man getting up in age and afraid he would fall over the pup (from his other dog's final litter). We remember him kissing the pup on the top of the head, placing him in our back seat and this big, burly man wiping tears away from his eyes as he slowly walked back into the house while the momma dog barked in the backyard. We cried all the way to Melbourne (and still are as we write this).

Jeanne Dowdle - Go with an open heart and mind, AND ALWAYS take a leash!

Phil Doherty - A special memory of supporting our Loving Friends Transport partner where dogs coming from a shelter in Louisiana were to be divided among Florida rescues for rehoming. I picked up four dogs in Sarasota, transported them to Ft. Myers, and handed them off to a woman taking them to a Ft. Lauderdale golden retriever rescue.

Jan Casey - There's nothing quite like transporting a teenage golden. Sammy, a two-year-old cream-colored boy, reminded me of the contagious joy of life these young dogs exude. I was available for one leg of his transport to a new foster home and when I arrived, we played a bit in the yard before the not-so-petite Sammy was loaded into my car for his excursion. He rode calmly as we discussed life, canned vs kibble, and what kind of new home he would have. He really didn't have much to say, but he was a great listener. I know whoever was lucky enough to add Sammy to their family has one fabulous boy!

Isabella Acampora - What impacts me most is these trusting dogs show their confusion and concern in the changes facing them. They woke up in their own home and bed that morning with their people and are now being given to total strangers and taken on a scary adventure that they cannot comprehend. As transporters, we recognize their fear and confusion and do our very best to help them, knowing they are going to be safe and secure for the rest of their lives. It is what comforts me and keeps me dedicated to this mission.

Carol Forsberg - Transport is my favorite "job" in rescue. Being able to give love and hugs, and receive kisses on the side of your face and ears as a reward while driving, make for special memories.

Sue Angle (Coordinator) - Besides the rewarding experience of "Driving Miss Daisy" - a sweet golden in the back seat of my vehicle - I've been blessed to be able to arrange the trips for our GRRMF goldens to and from veterinarians and fosters over the past 20+ years. I'm so thankful for the dedicated and caring transport volunteers who make sure our goldens arrive safely at their destinations. It's a joy to be in contact with such willing volunteers who love the reward they find through transporting our goldens on their way to their forever homes. When I thank them for being available, I often hear "It's my pleasure."

Huge Kudos and Thank You to our Transport Volunteers!



2020 SPRING GOLDENFEST

At our Spring GoldenFest, March came in like a lion – literally! But the cold and windy day didn't stop the brave-hearted who came out for all the fun in St. Cloud. Even Carol Avey and Luella McLaughlin, both 90 plus years young, said they wouldn't miss this for the world! As our tables of golden goods and raffle prizes were being set up, our volunteers quickly realized strong tape was their best friend to secure everything. When pets and their people signed in at the welcome table, they received a goodie bag and selected two bonus items. The beautifully staged Golden Rescue Beads table was overflowing with personalized jewelry created by our artistic volunteer Maria, and our talented photographer, Michael Eliassen of Pawsitive Change, raised his paw again to set up a special photo booth. His amazing photographs of our goldens and their families are sure to be made into special holiday cards. Trainer Jan Casey provided wonderful information and education to families who stopped by her table. During their one-on-one time with her, parents learned about dog care and left with essential handouts. Hearts of Gold pups Rocky and Madison were delighted to demonstrate their therapy training. Their handler, Ginger, provided everyone with information about our tremendously successful Hearts of Gold program and answered questions about therapy work. The raffle and silent auction concluded the day with happy winners taking home perfect prizes! Our GoldenFest would not have been successful without the hard-working American Pride Squadron cadets helping with the set-up,

dog care, volunteering throughout the day, assisting with the break-down and car loading. The cool and windy weather couldn't put a chill on all the fun; it was a wonderful day in a sea of gold!

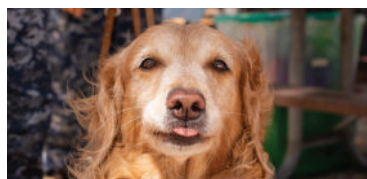
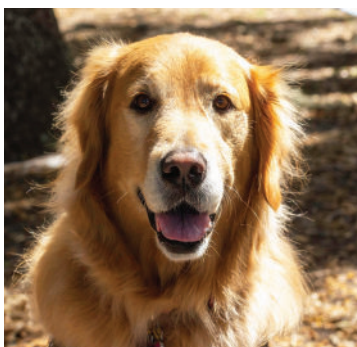
DOGOLYMPICS

In the doggie game area, laughter could be heard during the tennis ball retrieval when the dogs watched the ball being thrown and waited for a human to retrieve it. Sit and stay was comical as well when the dogs shadowed their owners each time they moved away, likely too cold to sit or stay, but not too cold to pick out a new toy from the toy corral. Congratulations to our medal winners Cooper Foerster, Riley Gerrity, Cody Kierstein, Gracie Lee, Finn Monin and Sam Rall.

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who made our Spring GoldenFest so much fun!

American Pride Squadron Cadets

Kirsten and Russell Brown	Barbara Burgner
Barbara Durham	Jan Casey
Maria Colombo-Forsberg	MacKenzie Daniels
Dave Dillman	Michael Eliassen
Dianne Gerrity	Carolyn Kauffman
Karin Kirst	Brooke Morris
Aidan Parshad	Margy Santino
Cindy and Mike Snedeker	Becky Stone
Janet Thompson	Ginger and George Vincent



2019 GRRMF VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARDS

GRRMF extends our heartfelt gratitude to all of our wonderful volunteers who give so much of themselves and expect so little in return. The list of volunteers below are recognized for their passion and commitment made through their 2019 volunteering efforts to save our golden retrievers.

HEART OF GOLD

Janet Sturman - Intake/Adoption

ABOVE AND BEYOND

Russell Crowder - Transportation/Media/Home Visits

Stacy Klemetti - Foster/Supplies/Admin

Ginger Vincent - Hearts of Gold/Home Visits/Newsletter

TOP DOGS

Lynda Alfson - Admin/Bus Ops/Home Visits
Phone Screen/Hearts of Gold

Carol Avey - Donation administration

Melanie Bontrager - Foster/Adoption/Hot Line

Kathy Byrne - Hot Line/Applications/Admin

Bill Collier - Home Visits

Jamie Demsky - Media

Paul Eckstein - Phone Screen

Andrea Forster - Phone Screen

Gloria Hale - Phone Screen

Lynne Halleran - Hot Line/Transport

Sara and Adrian Jiminez - Transport/Foster

Jennifer McCellan - Foster

Mary Ann Poisson - Foster

Cathy Rebhun - Phone Screen

Emily Rowe - Hot Line

Troy Scheet - Home Visits

Sue Schneck - Hot Line

Cathy Schultz - Hot Line/Fundraising
Home Visits/Phone Screen

Judy Sheehan - Foster/Media

Cathy and Cobb Sheridan - Transport

Cindy and Mike Snedecker - Foster

Lindsay Tercilla - Media/Phone Screen

Kris Viles - Home Visits/Volunteer

Leslie Wisnowski - Adoption



Supporting others in stressful times is what our dogs do naturally. When therapy visits abruptly stopped on March 13 due to COVID19, our dog/handler teams got busy sending messages wishing everyone to be safe and stay healthy.



Adoption Stories

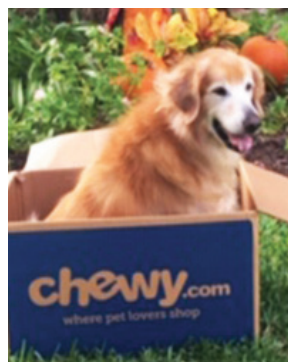
Buddy Fabian

As soon as Buddy's new family saw his picture on the website, they knew they were meant to be together. Surrendered due to illness, Buddy blended in as if he always belonged there. He is affectionate, loves to cuddle and enjoys belly rubs. Quite the agreeable golden, Buddy also has a mind of his own. He will politely refuse to go for a walk if it's rainy or too hot. Buddy's new family feels they were just waiting for him to join them.



Nugget Angel (now Lucy)

It takes a special person to be a GRRMF foster parent, and lucky Lucy (formerly Nugget) landed in the home of one of the best. Jennifer was the volunteer foster who welcomed this sweet pup into her home and said, "The first day I had her, I had a feeling she was staying." Lucy's favorite place is in Jennifer's lap, being loved on. The two have become best friends and enjoy walks together and playing hide and seek. During a recent outing, they discovered a lure course and Lucy loved it. Sounds like Jennifer and Lucy have a long life of love and discovery ahead of them.



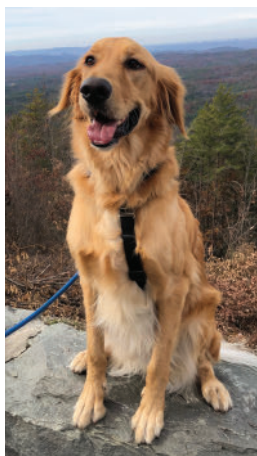
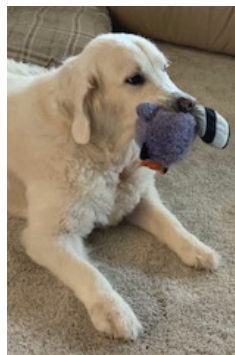
Penny Jelly

My owner and I both had tough health issues and I needed a new home. I was one hot mess weighing 150 pounds. My new family called me their heart's delight, but I am so overjoyed to belong to them; it is my heart that is brimming with love. It's true – love, exercise and the beanie diet have worked miracles! At 76 pounds, it's time now for me to pay it forward and do what I can to help

others feel special by becoming a Hearts of Gold therapy pup! My dream came true and I am the 'luckiest penny girl' in the world.

Otis Maxx

Otis came with impeccable inside manners and has slept on their son's pillow from day one. Surrendered because of his excessive digging, Otis and his family are working on his outside behavior. He enjoys hiking in the woods, early morning runs, lizard hunting and swimming. When he was introduced to the pool, he created his own unique way of swimming- he stands on his back legs and swims standing up! Full of energy, Otis fits right in with his active forever family.

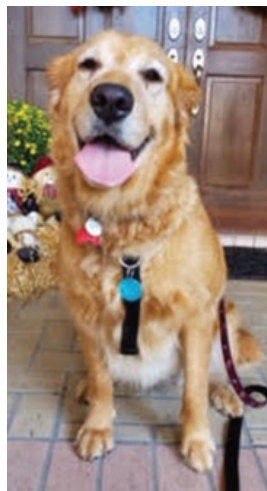


Sunny Maxx

"We were very excited and happy that Sunny and his fur sibling Ginger made fast friends," reports Jeannie and Leo. He loves daily walks with Ginger, and contributes to the family's daily chores in any way "paw"sible. Sunny is always up for love, hugs, and a tug of war game with his favorite toy – if he's not already cuddling with it. He loved chasing deer scents during a family trip to Smith Mountain Lake in Virginia. Sunny has been the perfect fit for his new home - it's all sunny days ahead of him!

Wesson Maxx

Wesson is a very happy pup these days and is soaking in all the attention he gets from his forever family! When he's not vying for attention, you can find him playing with his toys, lounging around, or going for a ride in his mom's car. He is full of energy and will gladly play all day! Wesson has been a good boy since his adoption, and even recently graduated from basic obedience school! His mom loves him with all of her heart and Edna says he is her "baby dog!"



Happy Mari

Happy's daily agenda consists of walks outdoors, belly rubs and play time with her favorite toys. She and Heather make the perfect pair as Happy loves all the attention she can get and Heather is glad to oblige. Happy has been busy conquering her fear of garages and road trips and successfully made a Thanksgiving visit to Destin. "Happy has brought great joy to us and has been a wonderful addition to the family," says Heather. GRRMF is always hard at work to pair each golden with their perfect home and create success stories such as this one!

Goldens Rule!

THANK YOU! DONATIONS JANUARY - MARCH 2020

GENERAL

Ade, Marilyn
 Allen, Peggy
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 Angel, Dennis and Linda
 Atwell, Caprice
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 Elias, Rebecca
 Ferros, Vicki
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 Mitzel, John
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 Morse, Gregory
 Network for Good
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 Parker, Jeanie
 Pecorelli, Donna
 Perrone, Ellen
 Philpot, Michael, and Leon,
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 Sheely, Susan
 Sprague, Robert
 Steiger, Ellen
 Storms, Jane
 Stringer, Mary Jennifer
 Sykes, Olinda
 Taff, Elizabeth and Derek
 The Lee Foundation
 Wilkerson, Gregory
 Wyatt, Betty
 Young, Brenda

IN HONOR OF

Cameron, Christine,
 for Gracie Jessey
 Curry, John L, for Cassie
 Hanley, Patrick
 Juron, Jaclyn, for Lynne Mitzel
 Keller, Terri L, for Lacie Jo
 Krasinski, Mary
 Levinson, Cynthia,
 for Lynne Mitzel
 Morgan, W Sue, for Max,
 Shelby, Griffin, Maggie
 and Sophie
 Perry, Kristen
 Steiger, Ellen, for Lottie
 Sykes, Olinda, for Wilson
 Waggoner, Christina and
 Don, for Lynne Mitzel
 Wilma Miller Insurance, LLC,
 for Lynne Mitzel
 Wyatt, Betty, for Allolah
 McGraw
 Wyatt, Betty, for Ann
 and John Fitzpatrick
 Wyatt, Betty, for Bob
 and Sharon O'Keefe
 Wyatt, Betty, for Cynthia
 Coulombe

Wyatt, Betty,
 for Deborah Drapo
 Wyatt, Betty,
 for Donna Graves
 Wyatt, Betty, for Gregg Eddie
 Wyatt, Betty, for Jan Jennings
 Wyatt, Betty, for Pat
 and Jim Herrington

IN MEMORY OF

Alfson, John and Lynda,
 for Terry T, Sugar,
 Sunnie and Rosa
 Arnold, Paulette
 Barnard, Jeffrey,
 for Linda Porter
 Barr, Virginia and Thomas,
 for Linda Porter
 Boehm, Judy and Ron,
 for Noah
 Burgess, Wayne,
 for Murphy and Kelsey
 Byrne, Kathy and Bill,
 for Riley Davis
 Carpenter, Barbara
 Corrody, Kathleen
 Curry, John L, for Carver,
 Jessie, Josie and Mulligan
 Dishozy, Barbara, for Jake 1,
 Hunter 1, Jake II and
 Hunter II
 Dunn, Charlene and Bob,
 for Linda Porter
 Frierson, Beth,
 for Sandy McGrath
 Gauthier, Gladys,
 for Linda Porter
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 for Candy Halan
 Gorman, Lynn,
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 for Wahee Kunitzer
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 Ibach, Sue Ellen, for Buck
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 Krausnick, Linda M,
 for Linda Porter

Kuhn, Betty and Kuhn Vicki,
 for Linda Porter
 Leimbach, Connie and
 Raymond, for Linda Porter
 Long, Sherre, for Marky
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 Race, Tara
 Sanczyk, Edna, for Tiffany
 Sheehy, Brenda, for Rocky
 Siling, Jane, for Annie
 and Brody
 Slade, Kathryn, for Murphy
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 Sublet, Ginny and Bob,
 for Amber and Ginger
 Sykes, Olinda, for Jefferson
 Vandeventer, Atsuko, for Sara
 Wyatt, Betty, for Finnian
 Dattilo

WOODY FUND

Adler, Jeffrey
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 for Clooney
 Alfson, John and Lynda
 for Lawrence
 Berke, Jill, for Cody
 Clark, Carol
 Flader, Amanda, for Lawrence
 Forsberg, Carol, for Lawrence
 Grasso, Susan, for Clooney
 and Comet
 Gruhler, Alfred
 Hamel, Susan
 Jones, Pamela, for Clooney
 Keller, Terri L.
 King, Melissa, for Lawrence
 Lancaster, Christy, for Lawrence
 McCann, Barbara
 Morgans, Diane, for Misty
 Novak, Kelly, for Marley
 Ryan, Patricia, for Lawrence
 Steiger, Ellen, for Lawrence
 Stitt, Beth, for Lawrence
 Sublet, Ginny and Bob
 Wyatt, Betty, for Clooney

RAINBOW BRIDGE

- Judy and Ron Boehm - Noah
- Sarah and Brian Davis - Riley
- Susan and Pete Fitzgerald - Dora
- Herman and Jo Ann Green - Nala
- GRRMF Family and Donna Auger - Sunny
- GRRMF Family and Cherie Connelly - Comet
- Warren and Ruth Houser - Brady

- Kathy and Allen Krasinski - Buttercup
- Bruce and Craig Lloyd-Smith - Kirby
- Michael, Candace and Hannah Martin - Bailey
- Patricia Mitchell - Katie
- Craig and Helen Mowrer - Max
- Gil Peterson - Duke
- Janet and David Sheldon - Marley
- Cindy and Mike Snedeker - Cinnamon



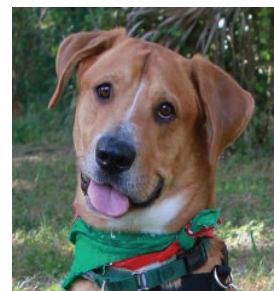
5 STAR FOSTERS

by Kirsten Brown and
Bambi Anderson-Ivers



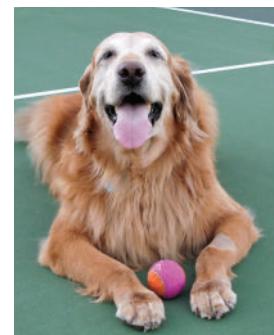
TEAM HAKER

Charlie, along with GRRMF rescue dogs Pumpkin and Dora, has supported many pups through the years arriving in rescue. When a difficult pup arrived from a shelter, Charlie and his team went to work to build his confidence, not be fearful of people and scary things and start to enjoy the fun life every pup should have. Through many months of dedicated training and guidance, his pup has turned the corner and is now ready to be adopted by a special family who can provide love and guidance to continue his training. Thank you, Charlie and your pup foster team, for your commitment to GRRMF to every rescue who you open your heart and home to foster.



TEAM MORGAN

Tina and Richard are new GRRMF fosters who jumped right in to support two needy dogs so far. Their first foster was a boy who needed special baths for his allergies and was placed on a special diet with lots of exercise for being overweight. Succeeding in their foster mission, he was ready for GRRMF to find his forever family and was joyously adopted. When a seriously ill dog arrived and needed special care, Tina and Richard raised their paws again for the challenge. Embraced by their love, their new arrival was cared for like a princess until she was safely moved to her GRRMF sanctuary home. Welcome to the GRRMF family, Tina and Richard. You are pawesome!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

by Lyn Holiday

Volunteer: Chris Manley (with support from Tommy)

Found out about GRRMF: We owned a Golden Retriever named Cody and I wanted him to have a furry buddy. Tommy did some searching and found out about GRRMF. We thought about adopting, but Tommy suggested that we apply to foster a GRRMF dog first. So, we started by fostering two bonded brothers. Within a ten-year period, we went on to foster 70 dogs (we will be doing more), adopting some of them along the way, including Preston and Marco.

Length of Time Volunteering So Far: 16 Years

GRRMF Volunteer Career: Foster, Adopter, Transporter

Continued Commitment: I truly believe that one person can make a difference in the world no matter how small an effort they put in. My happiness with the dogs is knowing that GRRMF will find them an amazing home and they will have a great life.

Most Memorable Moment: We fostered a blind puppy named Stevie that would have been put down if we didn't get him. He was a remarkable dog and found his forever home in the Tampa area!

Advice to Potential Volunteer: DO IT! It is the most rewarding part of my life!



Staying safe at home and looking for something to do?

Pull out that camera and take photos of your GRRMF adopted pup for our 2021 Calendar! Horizontal aspect over 1MB in size is the best. Enjoy the outdoors and capture pics of your pup in the pool, on a walk, happy face at a dog park, etc. Send your photo's to calendar@grrmf.org.

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

Return Service Requested



WHAT'S NEW ON THE WEB?

Hearts of Gold – Dog/handler therapy team bios

www.grrmf.org/grrmf-hearts-of-gold-therapy-team/

Sneak Peek – New pups arriving posted on the Available Golden Page

Healing Hearts – Sir Lawrence medical journey and updates

www.grrmf.org/retriever/lawrence-jonnie-3806/

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.

29 YEARS OF SAVING GOLDENS – 3,824 SAVED SINCE 1991
Golden Retriever Rescue Of Mid-Florida