



TALES OF GOLD

A GOLDEN LEGACY by Susan Tucker

A class of 1996 Port St. Lucie eighth graders had an exceptional year and it all came about because of two five-year-old Golden Retrievers, Rusty and Woody. The duo had nearly come to the end of their lives, chained, starving and neglected in the backyard of a Port St. Lucie home. No one knows who called for help. Perhaps it was a neighbor hearing a whimper over the fence, or someone catching a glimpse of the tumor hanging from the neck of one of the dogs, but whoever it was, they saved two lives that day. It was one of the worst cases of abuse and neglect the animal control officers had ever seen.

Rusty, malnourished, with a tumor diagnosed a year earlier hanging from his neck, leaned when he walked from the weight. Woody, suffering from mange and heartworms as well as malnourished, needed treatment for his skin and ear infections. Despite Rusty's tumor, Woody was actually in worse condition, like a skeleton with raw skin and black patches of puffy "elephant" skin stretched over his bones. With hardly any hair, Woody weighed 30 pounds when he came to GRRMF. Claiming he didn't have funds to pay for needed medical treatment, the owner refused to turn the dogs over to animal control who might have been able to help before their condition had become so dire.

The owner was charged with two counts of animal abuse and was sentenced to time in jail, fines and community service. But our story isn't about the owner – it's about that eighth-grade class who raised community awareness about animal abuse and the legacy of two Golden Retrievers that continues twenty-five years later.



Read about our Woody Fund Legacy story in our next issues.

GRRMF CONTACT INFORMATION

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info@grrmf.org

Fax: 888.408.5520
Message Line 407.332.2840



LEGACY DOGS



Remy (adopted 2004)

Remy came as a very well behaved young dog and followed in the footsteps of his fur siblings by earning his Canine Good Citizen certification, as well as his therapy dog certification. Like his brother Wyatt, he also volunteered with Hospice and visited assisted living facilities with his other GRRMF pals. Remy loved swimming, going on walks and of course snuggling. He was

such a sweet boy. Remy and his fur siblings learned to tolerate being dressed up for different events, holidays and their Mom's photoshoots.



Shasta Bella (adopted 2002)

Shasta Bella was our first GRRMF adoption, our first girl and our second blonde. We received a call from GRRMF that this girl's family home had burned down and she had nowhere to go, so she was turned into the rescue. We picked her up from her fosters who lived dockside in Clearwater and adored her! She was daddy's girl from day 1 and crawled right

into his heart and stayed there ever since. She lived a wonderful life and made such a deep pawprint in our hearts, that we did not adopt another golden girl for 17 years since she was irreplaceable!

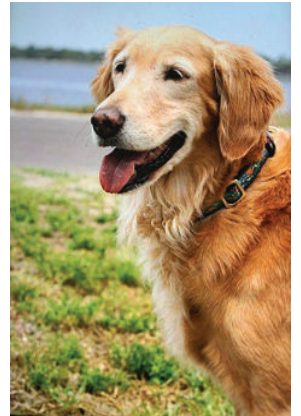
Tristan (adopted 2009)

This stunning boy was surrendered by a breeder because he was past his breeding prime! We received a call on Christmas Eve to accept him as a foster dog because the family who wanted to adopt him was not ready. When his transporter arrived, all we could see was polar bear fluff and beautiful black eyes. To say that Tristan was magnificent would be an understatement. We immediately lost our hearts to this guy and wondered how we would let him go - but that's what we fosters do! On New Year's Eve, we received a call from GRRMF advising that the family could no longer adopt him. Tristan never left - the best holiday present ever!



Jade (adopted 2007)

Jade came from a hoarding situation with 20+ Chihuahuas. The funny thing the family noticed was she had the highest pitched bark because of it. Also when playing with our other dogs this funny girl would get down on her belly and nip at their ankles. In time, Jade earned her Canine Good Citizen certification. She enjoyed doing rescue events and taking walks where she would try to find lizards to chase. She treated each day like a new adventure and enjoyed her car rides and getting pup cups from Dairy Queen.



Chase (adopted 2003)

Chase (our 2nd GRRMF dog) came to us due to a child's allergies from his heartbroken owner. He was a sad dog for months as he and his owner had been inseparable for a very long time. But with help from his GRRMF sister and lots of TLC, Chase finally smiled and realized life with the Holliday dogs might just be ok. He was fearful of thunder and would take "shelter" in our lap whenever he heard the first crack. He was filled with plenty of tender kisses, never barked once and was our only red golden for years to come.

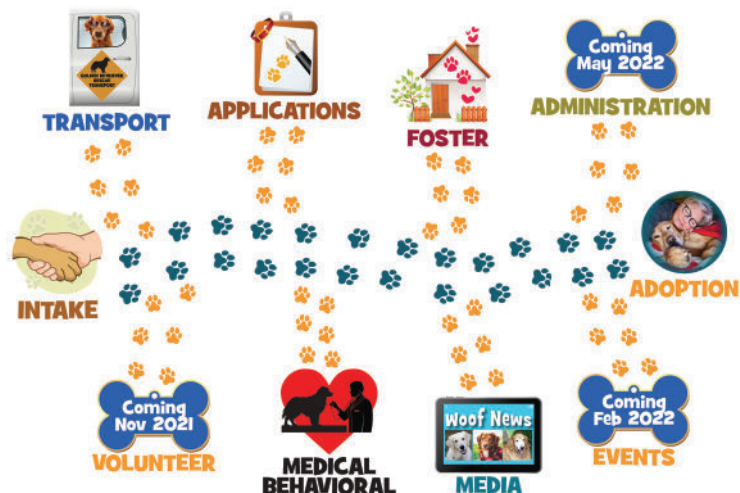


Hayden (adopted 2006)

Hayden was surrendered because his owner had medical issues and could no longer give him the exercise he needed. He rolled into our family as the ultimate curmudgeon with his own way of doing things - all in his own time. Superbly photogenic with his stoic expressions garnered him spots in the GRRMF calendars a few times and won him first place in a corporate photo contest wearing a tee shirt with the company logo. He was our third of seven GRRMF adopted boys and had the funniest personality of all. Another wonderful Cream-sicle Golden Gift.



THE VILLAGE - ADOPTION TEAM



The happiest days for an approved GRRMF adopter is when they receive the news that their match has arrived, they meet their special pup and they all head home together. Our amazing volunteers on our adoption team work tirelessly to find the matching applicant to meet the important needs of every dog in our rescue. Beyond adoption day, the team is a key contact point for the support of the dog and family to fulfill the life commitment we make to all our dogs.

MATCHMAKER, MATCHMAKER MAKE ME A MATCH!

by Sandy Krumpf



ADOPTION

How does GRRMF decide who gets one of our very special pups? Our adoption team follows a series of steps for connecting our rescues with their forever family, which sounds simple, but there's a lot involved before the perfect family is found. First up, our adoption/foster coordinator finds a family on the 'approved for adoption waiting list' whom they think will be a perfect fit for one of our furry friends, starting with those waiting the longest. Next, the dog's adoption coordinator gathers necessary information on the family. They then call the foster to discuss the potential adoption, since the foster family knows the dog best. When a foster and adoption team member both agree it's a good match, the coordinator calls the potential adopter to say, "We've found a perfect match for your family!" After confirming the family is interested, the foster calls them to talk and set up a meet and greet date. If the adopter or foster doesn't think it's a good match, then the search for the next forever family match continues.. The work of the team is still not finished as all correspondence has to be documented, medical records, training adden-

dums and adoption papers must be sent to the new family. Whew! As one volunteer stated, "To the team it doesn't matter what suit the dog wears, be it golden, a blend or a retriever, it is the soul of the dog that matters." Adoption is hard and rewarding work. When it all comes together and the newest adoptee is off to his or her loving forever home, the team celebrates another successful life changing story.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT - MELISSA LONGO by Lyn Holliday

What was it that made you step right into GRRMF to volunteer?

I was introduced to GRRMF by volunteer Cathy Christy when she adopted Chance. She invited us to a fundraiser event that she and Chance were participating in.

How many years have you been volunteering and in what role(s)?

Over 9 years - Adopter, Foster, Transporter, Microchips, Records, Intake, and Hearts of Gold

What is your most cherished GRRMF volunteer moment?

Being a volunteer with GRRMF has given me an opportunity to form many long-lasting friendships with other volunteers.

Is there something about being a GRRMF volunteer that changed you?

Working with GRRMF's force-free trainers has really helped me improve my dog training skills for both my foster and personal dogs.

What surprised you about volunteering for GRRMF?

It's amazing the amount of time, effort and money that GRRMF puts into helping each dog.

What would be your advice to a potential volunteer for GRRMF?

There is a great support system. If you are ever feeling overwhelmed or have questions, reach out to someone at GRRMF. That is what makes this rescue great - everyone works as a team!

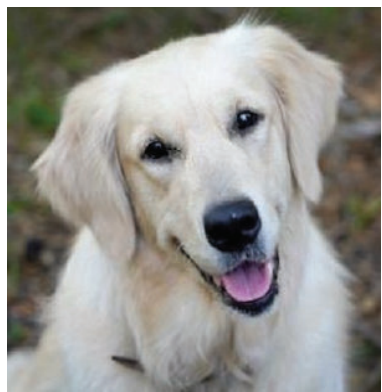
What is it that touches your heart most often about GRRMF?

The dogs of course!



Adoption Stories

Sasha Jessy



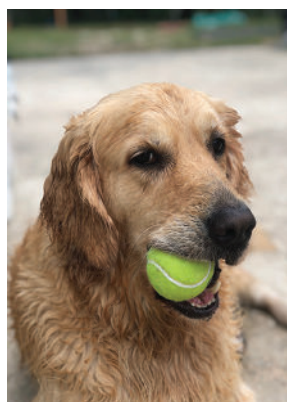
Hello! I am Sasha and I am three years old. One year ago, I was surrendered to GMRRF and that's when my new wonderful life began! GRRMF got me the extensive medical help that I needed. My foster mom really knew how to make a girl feel loved and safe. I had three foster siblings, which was reassuring because I really, really, really, love other dogs. It was a little difficult to be quiet and low key during my heartworm treatments, but I seemed to understand it was important, so I was a good girl.

Bear Andie

A Golden by the name of Bear wrapped Tina and Richard in a bear hug of love and laughter when he entered their lives in May 2020. The paw-fect companion in the age of COVID, this spirited senior makes them smile every day, gifting them with his lust for life, his perpetual playfulness and his admirable ability to best Tina every time they play tug with his favorite rope toy while chasing each other around the house.



Poro Jonnie



Even before entering Sylvia and Pete's loving adoptive home, Poro boasted the new name of Toro. Famously fond of both water and people, he LOVES swimming in the family pool and going on walks, smiling and welcoming pets from every person he passes. "But what makes us smile," says Sylvia, "is Toro's adorable, pre-walk routine. Once we get his harness on, he takes a few happy laps around the house."

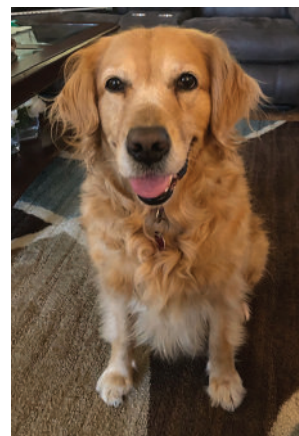
Tom Jonnie



With a wink to Peanuts' Lucy: "You're a good Golden, Charlie Brown," this pup left behind his original name when Edna and Ron welcomed him into their home. Charming Charlie Brown swiftly stole their hearts with his sweet and sensitive nature, and to say the family is besotted with him would be an understatement. An enviable combination of affectionate and active, he's as much into hugging as hiking and has made their lives picture paw-fect.

Riley Mandi

Regal Riley lovingly rules her adoptive home with her lion-like mane, taffy coat, and plumed tail. Bright as a button, famously funny, sweeter than sweet and ever so silly, she can easily fit two or three toys in her mouth at the same time. Not only is she exceptionally affectionate, she's extremely energetic, a trait her doting dad David and his wife greatly appreciate because they're getting more exercise now!



Buddy Jonnie



With his passion for toys, playful and precocious Buddy keeps Ellen and her husband on their toes while continuously – and generously – buying him more! Part serious, part silly, but always affectionate, when he's not snuggling with them or vacationing with them, walking with them or hiking with them, Buddy, who's famously fond of bananas, is enthusiastically eating them out of house and home.

GOOD DOGS!

HEARTS OF GOLD



After a brief hiatus due to COVID, our Hearts of Gold teams are excited to be doing therapy visits and supporting events once again. Our special pups are gaining recognition for the joy they bring to others and our mailbox is receiving requests weekly. Hearts of Gold teams are scheduled to support the AORN Global conference for registered perioperative nurses in August and the CPSI health care conference in October, both being held in Orlando with over 1,000 attendees each. We have officially expanded into The Villages with three new dog handler teams who passed their screening and completed their required supervised therapy visits at Village Veranda during June and July. Congratulations to Hoss (handler Helen), Angel (handlers Teri and Tom), and Bella (handler Barbara) and all the new north central area support volunteers. Future screening events can be found on our website. Our GRRMF Hearts of Gold YouTube channel ratings are climbing daily and we invite you to watch the antics and adventures of our north central, west and east coast teams who have created more than thirty-five videos for your enjoyment. One special video is the Heritage Village SPACEcraft Read program that captured children reading to our therapy dogs from our very own Hearts of Gold "Fun Facts" book, produced by one of our handlers.

Another educational tool being used by our handlers are the Hearts of Gold trading cards. Each therapy dog created their own trading card and has received their personal supply to hand out during a therapy visit. Interested in joining with your furball or supporting our Hearts of Gold therapy program behind the scene? Contact us at GRRMFtherapypups@grrmf.org for more information.

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER:

Learn to spot and prevent heat exhaustion in your pet

by Jamie Demsky

You don't need to be a meteorologist to predict Florida summers are hot and humid. If the temperature is too hot for you, it's also too hot for your dog. Heat exhaustion can occur quickly; if you don't know the symptoms and what to do, your pet could perish. The best way to prevent a tragedy is to avoid dangerous situations like leaving your dog in a car, excessive exercise in the heat, or restricting access to fresh water - not pool or ocean water. But you should also know the warning signs. The American Kennel Club lists these:



- Panting, extreme drooling, vomiting, being warm to the touch
- Red mucous membranes in mouth, blood from their mouth or stool, rapid heart rate
- Lack of response or inability to get up, seizures, muscle tremors, staggering, dry nose

If you notice any of these, STOP what you and your dog are doing immediately.

Get into an air-conditioned location or find a shady spot outside and bathe them with a cool sponge, especially on their belly. Try placing a fan to blow directly on them as well. If their symptoms do not improve, go directly to your veterinarian. Enjoy a walk in the morning

or early evening when it's cooler. Have plenty of drinking water handy when playing outside and take frequent breaks in the shade. Never leave your pet in a closed car, even for a short amount of time. By making smart choices, there's no reason why you and your best friend can't have fun in our famous Florida sunshine!

THANK YOU! DONATIONS APRIL - JUNE 2021

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for "Elvis" Dolan
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for Jeanne Dowdle
Evdnen, John A,
for Brownie's foster parents
Faulkenberry, Tori,
for Murphy & Haley
Forsberg, Carol, for GRRMF
Hearts of Gold Therapy Team
Forsberg, Carol,
for GRRMF Volunteers
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for GRRMF 30th Anniversary
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Mckenzie, Graham,
for Lorraine Hansen
Noren, Robyn
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Rife, David, for Ron Wright
& Daisy
Rife, David, for Daisy,
Jemma & Sara
Vincent, George & Ginger,
for Madison
Vincent, George & Ginger,
for Rocky

IN MEMORY OF

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Alfson, John & Lynda, for Trudi
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Austin, Cari, for Lorraine Hansen
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Melot, Thomas
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for Sheabya
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Dale and Connie Patton - Sienna
Kathryn Sheehan - Jackson
Allen Gast and Susan Smith - Bella
Nancy Swift - Laddy
Amy, Doug and Louis Tight - Mango



HURRICANE SEASON REMINDER

Contact us to update
your GRRMF dog's
microchip information
and be prepared
with meds and
food supplies.



GRRMF STORE

Don't forget about our wonderful GRRMF Store
which now has special summer apparel
for the entire family.

Watch for our seasonal specials too!
Our store can be accessed from our website
using the Shop menu or on our Facebook page
using the Shop Now button.



WHAT'S NEW ON THE WEB?

2022 GRRMF Calendar Order yours today!

www.grrmf.org/grrmf-calendar/

GRRMF Store - Summer Specials

<https://partners.animalpride.com/collections/grrmf/Theme:-Summer>

Hearts of Gold - Therapy teams in action

www.grrmf.org/therapy-latest-news/

Jupiter Golden Jubilee - November 6, 2021

www.grrmf.org/event/jupiter-golden-jubilee-2/

Goldenfest Reunion - November 13, 2021

www.grrmf.org/event/2021-fall-goldenfest-reunion/

Puppies in Rescue

www.grrmf.org/and-then-there-were-6/

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

Return Service Requested



Your GRRMF membership is essential to our mission to save, protect and rehome retrievers in need. We want to remind all our readers, who are not active volunteers, that your annual donation of \$25 or more continues the mailing of our quarterly newsletter to you.

As an all-volunteer organization, 100% of your membership supports the dogs in our program. Thank you for bringing your membership current as soon as you can. Any inquiries or assistance needed can be directed to our rescue email address of info@grrmf.org

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: _____

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

I'd like to donate as follows:

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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.fl (432.7352) within the state or by visiting 800helpfla.com.
Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.

30 YEARS OF SAVING GOLDENS - 3,977 SAVED SINCE 1991
Golden Retriever Rescue Of Mid-Florida