



TALES OF GOLD

Celebrating our 30th year in rescue has only been possible through the commitment of our volunteers, adopters and donors who share our passion for rescuing goldens. This issue honors some of these legacy pups through wonderful stories from our special families.

FOSTER MOM RUBY TOO



Ruby's family brought their seven year old golden to her vet to be euthanized as they were tired of dealing with her allergies. Thankfully the vet called GRRMF and Ruby's life was saved. Adopted in 2011 by Carol Forsberg, this sweetest golden girl went from thirty pounds overweight, itchy, with matted fur and hot spots to healthy, calm skin, soft coat and happy with soothing baths, proper food and more love than one can measure. "Ruby appointed herself as the official GRRMF Foster Mom to all those in our care over the years," reports Carol, "leaving me responsible for holding the leashes, preparing good food and driving the car." Ruby taught each foster good manners, that it was okay to share but not okay to bark unless for a good reason, and that GRRMF would find each and every one of the 30+ that she fostered a loving forever home. She enjoyed daily rides in the car, squeaky toys, salmon and especially her chocolate lab boy-

friend Behr who lived across the street (when they were not together). She would hold "Ruby's Day Care" pool parties for fellow GRRMF adopted goldens her mom would babysit and was a GRRMF ambassador at west coast events and assisted living visits. As she grew older, Ruby survived medical challenges of bloat and spindle cell cancer, saved again by treasured vets and given more time for the quality life she enjoyed. Ruby is just one example of our gentle goldens who have that special heart filled with love and gratitude for being rescued. Her life, almost ending too soon, had a purpose ... to bring joy to all she met. Her legacy continues through the humans and dogs she touched through the years.



Consider being a foster family like Ruby and her mom. Even if you do not have a dog, what a wonderful way to help us save so many. The love you give and receive in return is priceless. Submit your application at <https://grrmf.wufoo.com/forms/grrmf-foster-application/>

GRRMF CONTACT INFORMATION

PO Box 1449
Goldenrod, FL 32733

www.grrmf.org
info@grrmf.org

Hotline: 407.332.2840
Fax: 888.408.5520



Cody #225 - 1996

Kristin Anderson

After the loss of my golden, I was looking for company and found Cody. On our meet and greet day, he immediately ran to me, jumped into my lap, and gave me a look that said, "Here I am. Let's go home!" Cody had

a special affinity for puppies, allowing them to climb, chew and even fall asleep on him. A high energy pup with beautiful red hair, Cody earned many AKC titles and his Rally Excellence title at the age of thirteen! We never missed a GRRMF reunion until we moved to the Carolinas.



Jack #401 - 1998

Carol and Lou Glaros

We called Jack our Margarita-ville dog because he was so laid back ... always on island time. Sanibel beach trips were a favorite of Jack's where he loved a quick soaking in the receding waters followed by a nap under the umbrella. He even dragged home a

piece of driftwood from Bowman's beach that remained in our home for many years as his favorite toy. Jack enjoyed hiking in Asheville and always seemed to find a cool pool at the bottom of a waterfall. He showered our family with love and opened our hearts to all the goldens we adopted since.



Sam #155 - 1994

Kay and Brian Bell

I registered Sam with the AKC name "Second Chance Sam" because of my love to compete in obedience trials, but it became very clear that he did not enjoy the sport as much as me. Having a very calm and sweet nature, we tested with Therapy Dogs International and soon were visiting nursing homes as a therapy team. My sweetest memory was when an unresponsive man in a wheel-

chair started scratching Sam's head with one finger. I cry even now remembering how powerful a moment that was. All goldens by definition have a sweet loving nature, but of the seven goldens who shared our lives, Sam was the sweetest.

Spirit #600 - 1999

Gregg and Tom Eddie

If ever a golden was aptly named, it was glorious Spirit. Adopted as a three-month-old puppy mill rescue, his back paw had been chewed off by a rat. Aided by a prosthetic paw, Spirit lived life to the fullest. Smart and

silly, he hiked mountains, ran like the wind and stuffed his mouth with as many toys as it could hold! Spirit had a vast capacity for love - enjoying everyone he met and everything he encountered. We adopted Cody, Hadley and Cheyenne from GRRMF and they became known as the "Fab Four," but Spirit ruled the roost.



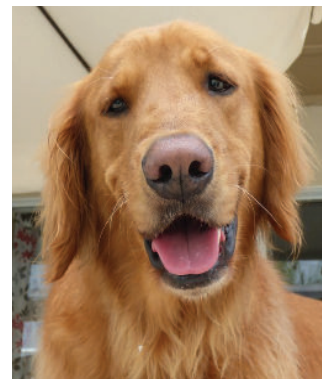
Maggie Mae #870 - 2001

Michele Lemole

Adopted at age two, Maggie was the typical golden lacking basic manners, but obedience and agility training turned Maggie into a model citizen and she won eight AKC performance titles.



Maggie LOVED the teeter in agility and would occasionally reinvent the course laid out by the judge; naturally her course included the teeter five times along with a few extra tunnels. She was wonderfully sweet and loved people and dogs alike. Maggie could sense when you needed her and if she felt something was wrong, she would follow you around keeping her eye on you. Maggie was always pure gold.



Judd #2243 - 2008

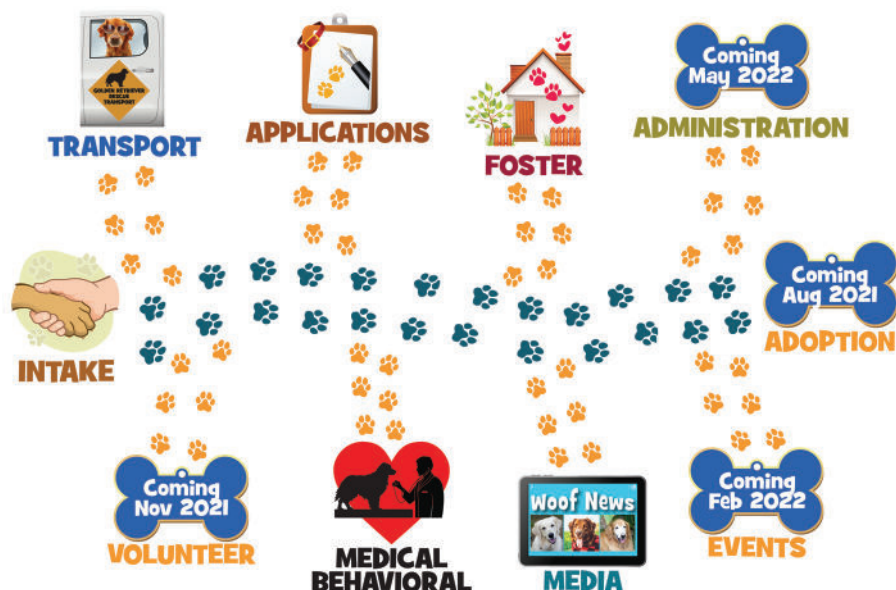
Janet and Jeff Rosenbeck

Our first GRRMF alum was a timid pup named Judd, but once he met our shepherd Einstein all was good. Jeff and I took him home and gave him love and he returned that love with trust and confidence. Judd became the "Prince of dogs," loyal to his siblings and people alike. He was a gentle red giant who

lived every moment to the fullest with his family and enjoyed basking in the sun, when he wasn't digging to the center of the earth. Judd was stoic in general, but his eyes were deep pools to his soul. His legacy lives on in our newest GRRMF family member.

THE VILLAGE - MEDIA TEAM

Our media team was created in 2013 to support the growing needs of public communication about our dogs. They work closely with other teams within the organization and are the voice for all our dogs. Paws up for these special volunteers who honor all our rescue pups with their passion and special talents!



THE VOICE OF RESCUE



MEDIA

"We get to do magic," Judy Sheehan, Coordinator for the media team proudly boasts. "Our talented team sprinkles their own blend of fairy dust on each dog to help find them a loving forever home." The talented team Judy refers to includes creative writers, sharp photographers, social media bloggers, and graphic designers; all working together to produce a quarterly newsletter, monthly e-blasts, Facebook and website updates as well as stories about each rescue. From puppies to seniors, healthy to injured or unwell, the media team captures each dog's personality helping them get a second chance at a happy home. Each dog is assigned a writer who crafts a story unique to that dog's tale. "Nothing our storytellers do is cookie-cutter, each dog is special, and we treat them that way," says Lyn Holliday, senior writer. Some of our rescues are too ill to be adopted right away and become Healing Hearts or Sanctuary dogs. Ellen Steiger is the wizard who focuses on these amazing dogs keeping you

updated on their journey to wellness. The media team also shares the happily ever after success stories of our precious adopted dogs. Our talented volunteers support the Hearts of Gold therapy program with our photography volunteers who shadow the teams in the field and produce the wonderful slide shows/videos of the pups in action. Striving to keep you informed on the latest news in dog training, health and wellness, they continually post informative articles on our website and in our quarterly newsletters. The media team is quite extensive, and together what they produce for all our retrievers and retriever blends is truly magical.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT - MIKE LYNCH

Media Photographer, Transporter, Hearts of Gold

After retiring, I began volunteering with GRRMF. It started with a few special media technology assignments, transports, and soon developed into photographing Hearts of Gold therapy sessions. During these facility visits, I quickly saw how much these dogs meant to the people they visited. When the pandemic struck and all therapy visits were canceled, GRRMF wanted to explore media avenues to reach our seniors and ease into the new "virtual" world. The GRRMF Hearts of Gold YouTube channel was created and allowed the teams to continue with virtual visits over the last year. Since launching the channel, we have had over 2,000 views which has created more than 2,000 smiles. Golden Retrievers have a special way of connecting with people and making them happy. My wife, Leigh, and I have always been dog people and rescued two-year old golden mix Bella, who has adapted well to her new family and home. We started training together with Bella, who passed her advanced Canine Good Citizen classes and joined the Hearts of Gold therapy team. She enjoys meeting new people and having her picture taken. Volunteering with this team allows me to see both ends of the leash - how happy the dogs are and the joy they bring to those they are visiting. It's impossible to look at one without breaking into a smile. If you would like to volunteer but haven't raised your paw yet, I encourage you to give it a try. There are so many volunteer opportunities with GRRMF, one is bound to be an activity that matches your skills. You can volunteer a little or a lot - depending on your availability; and you'll get to visit with a lot of great Golden Retrievers while volunteering.



IN THE LOOP by Jamie Demsky

Are you using the safest collar for your golden? There's no one size fits all. Many factors go into choosing the right collar or harness. GRRMF's adoption policy prohibits the use of any collar that causes pain such as choke chains, prong, shock or citronella anti-barking spray collars. We support using properly fitting harnesses and soft collars. Deciding on which one depends on your dog. Do they tend to pull you on a walk or slip their heads out of a collar? Then a harness might be the ticket. A harness is best for a dog because the soft tissue in their neck is spared from trauma. A soft collar around the neck is for their tags. Do they like to rough-house and play outside with you in your secure yard? Then a soft collar or even a break away collar would work

well. Our rescues and experts recommend considering all the options and possibly using two. No matter what type you choose, make sure their ID tags are up to date – yes, tags. Having more than one tag is recommended. Consider ordering a soft collar with your contact information embroidered on the collar.

For more information visit www.grrmf.org/harness/, www.grrmf.org/learn/collars-tags-microchips/, or www.whole-dog-journal.com/care/collars-harnesses-leashes-muzzles/the-safest-types-of-dog-collars-and-the-most-dangerous/.

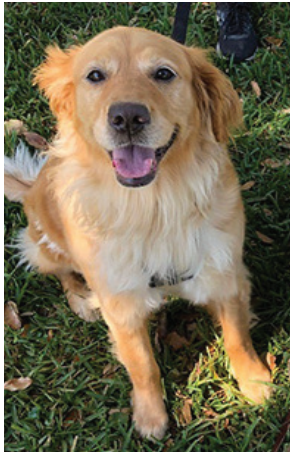
RAINBOW BRIDGE

Donna and Michael Auger and
GRRMF Family - Leo
Sherry and Ed Ayres - Angel
Stacy Klemetti - Barnabas
Doris LePrell - Sammi
Melissa and David Longo - Bella
Joe and Sue Martel - Gigi
Jim McCoy - Daphne
Ferris and Tim Mueller - Goldie
Robin Noren - Trent

Debbie and Gary Openshaw - Maddie
Jennifer and Andrew Pennington - Java
Howard and Janice Potter - Buddy
Jeff Ritchie - Jameson
Cobb and Cathy Sheridan - Champ
Julie Smith - Ginger
Rick and Carol Swiss - June
Linda Van Pelt - Ginger
Deneen White - Deano



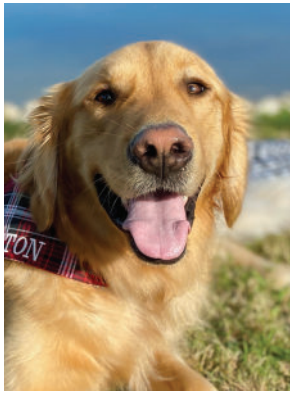
Adoption Stories



Bella Dale

Happily, at home with her new family, Bella's broad smile spreads sunshine wherever she puts her paws. "Not only has she been an awesome addition to our family, she revels in our constant companionship and relishes going for long walks and meeting new people," says Martin. While wary at first of the family's other dog, the two became fast fur-ever friends and now even their laughing mouths match. "We're thankful for the opportunity to have given Bella the

happily-ever-after ending she so deserved."



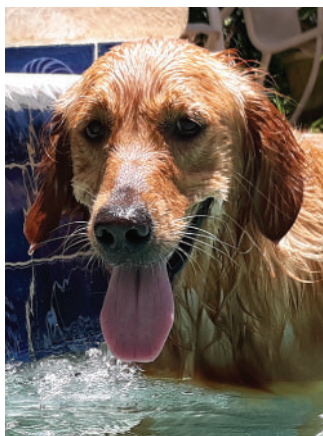
Einstein Owen

Easton, formerly Einstein, may boast several nicknames, but to his adoring adopters, they all mean LOVE. Taylor and her husband were married on December 1, 2018 (E Boy's birthday!) and since "we adopted him three days before his first birthday and our first anniversary, we celebrated all three milestones on December 1, 2019 with a boat day and brunch." The largest lap dog around, E's not only

added more snuggles to their lives, he's added sweetness and silliness and a tail that thumps "thank you" non-stop.

Kara Nellie

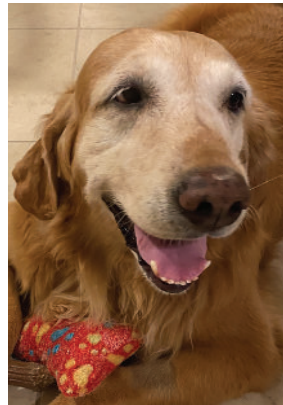
Young pup Kara Nellie picked the perfect parents and forever home with Linda and Richard. Although she didn't know they had decades of love and experience from adopting five goldens over the years, Kara found them up to the challenge of an energetic puppy with allergy issues. Kara and her fur brother Dakota became fast friends and they play together all of the time. Richard and Linda totally love Kara and will not stop until she is the happiest dog ever!!



Leo David

When Suzanne and Thomas adopted Leo, their extended families became more frequent visitors! An appealing blend of affectionate and active, he's a loyal and loving companion and loves going for walks, chasing tennis balls and basketballs and playing with a ragged stuffed animal named Pooh. Leo is incredibly protective of Suzanne too. If Thomas tries to sit next to her on the couch, Leo wiggles

right in between them! "To say Leo's doing well is an understatement," Thomas says. "Simply put, he's thriving – and so are we."



Zak Jonnie

Sociable Zak not only lights up Cassie and Ryan's home, he's the hit of the neighborhood when the family takes their nightly walks, always wagging his tail and offering his head for pets to every person he passes. Well-mannered most of the time, he does have his silly side: a passion for finding the muddiest puddles to roll around in, turning his glorious golden coat brown! Zak also loves to fetch toys out of the

ocean waves then sunbathes on the sand. It's very cute!



Bailey Jonnie

When Bailey bounced into Catherine and David's lives, he brightened their world with his sweetness and spunk. A natural cuddle bug who loves sitting on Catherine's lap like a small dog would, he also loves playing with his sister, Gracie, a GRRMF alum, swimming, going for walks, romping round the backyard and lying in the sun. "His one obsession", adds David, "is squirrels!"

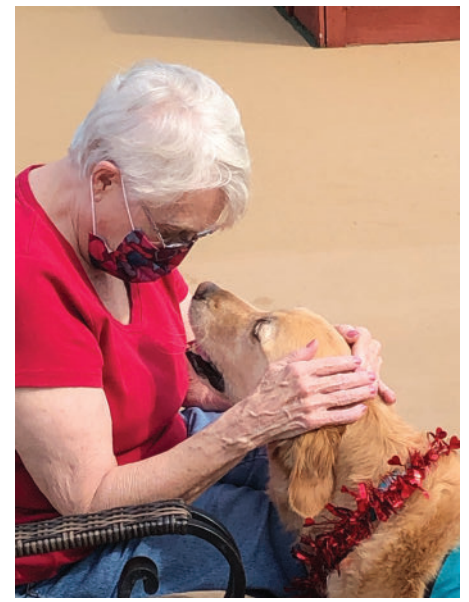
GRRMF thanks all the men, women and families for their service to our country, especially recognizing those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. You are remembered on Memorial Day and every day as our country's heroes for many generations.





HEARTS OF GOLD

Spring has sprung and our therapy teams have, too. We are out and about within our communities! Our therapy teams are supporting the SPACEcraft Read program being held at Heritage Village (Largo) during May and June and Homeless Empowerment Program Clearwater with outside therapy visits to their veterans. We are also excited to announce that Hearts of Gold has expanded into The Villages and our first Central Florida screening event was held on May 15 for potential dog/handler teams. Visit our website to find events, screening opportunities, and the latest news at www.grrmf.org/grrmf-hearts-of-gold-therapy-team/



SAY CHEESE! HOW TO TAKE THE PERFECT PET PHOTO



Getting that perfect shot of your pet isn't always easy, but with a little planning and these tips, you'll be taking frame-worthy shots in no time! Professional photographer Rick Anson believes the best photos show a dog's personality. "I like to focus on their eyes, the window to their soul." To capture those shots, Rick uses a happy voice or a squeaky toy to get a dog's attention. He also recommends taking photos in a shady spot outside, on an overcast day, or near sunset to avoid harsh shadows. Two common mistakes owners make are pointing the camera or phone down at the dog and having a distracting background. Rick can't emphasize enough how important it is to shoot at the dog's level or even below and make sure the background is simple and clutter free. Keith Hollister agrees with Rick's advice and adds, "When you look through the viewfinder, force yourself to study the surrounding area, make sure the background shows off your dog and doesn't distract from their

beautiful face." Taking charge of your photo session will dramatically improve your pictures. Keith advises owners to choose a location wisely and be patient. Now it's your turn. Try out this expert advice and take your own pictures. Send them to us and you may see your golden featured on our Facebook page! And don't forget about our GRRMF 2022 calendar. Over 1MB horizontal aspect photos should be submitted full size (no cropping or resizing) to calendar@grrmf.org before June 15th. One last tip from Rick, "Take lots of shots, close-ups as well as full body and vary the angles. The more shots, better the odds of getting flattering photos!"

To be featured on our Facebook page and/or our website, email photos to goldenmediateam@gmail.com with you and your dog's name.

GRRMF STORE

We have our fabulous GRRMF Store with great golden gear for you and your family. Our custom "Be a Lifesaver" design gifted to GRRMF by Jenny McMurtrie arrived just in time for the summer. Watch for special holiday additions throughout the year.



AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support us every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida (GRRMF). Mobile app purchases on Amazon Smile can now be included using these simple instructions so sign up today and help save a golden with every purchase you make!

- How it works:
1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
 2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
 3. Select "Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida, Inc." as your charity
 4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app

THANK YOU! DONATIONS JANUARY - MARCH 2021

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IN HONOR OF

Anderson, Barbara
 and Robert,
 for Emma and Morgan
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 and Violet
 Bocker, Marianne, for
 GRRMF Hearts of Gold
 Boteler, Norma,
 for Jinny Adolf
 Coffman, Bob,
 for Annie Rose
 Daelo, Christina, for Marcia
 Derrick, Lori, for Lois Hess
 Duty, Paul, for Stacy Klemetti
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 Fitzgibbons, Nadya,
 for Lennox
 Gonzalez, Carmen,
 for Sandy
 Rankin, Janet, for GRRMF
 Hearts of Gold
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 Marianne Bocker
 Sykes, Olinda, for Wilson
 Thomas, Mary, Megan,
 Matthew and Maryn,
 for Michael Thomas

IN MEMORY OF

Alfson, Lynda and John,
 for Terry T.
 Anderson, Barbara and
 Robert, for Cindy and
 Chloe
 Auger, Donna, for Leo

Auger, Donna, for Mason
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 Fred, Ranger Marino,
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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 keeps you on our mailing list for our quarterly newsletter. 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.

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

Return Service Requested



WHAT'S NEW ON THE WEB?

2022 GRRMF Calendar

www.grrmf.org/2022-grrmf-calendar-submissions/

Latest GRRMF rescue news

www.grrmf.org/about/news/

GRRMF Store Summer Specials

<https://partners.animalpride.com/collections/grrmf/Be-A-Lifesaver>

Hearts of Gold therapy teams in action

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

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 : _____

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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 - 3,928 SAVED SINCE 1991
Golden Retriever Rescue Of Mid-Florida