AUGUST 2022
CELEBRATING 31 YEARS!
SAVING GOLDENS SINCE 1991

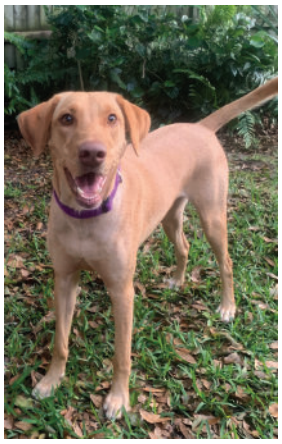
GOLDEN RETRIEVER
RESCUE OF MID-FLORIDA™

TALES OF GOLD

PATRIOTIC PUPPIES ONE YEAR LATER

by Nomi Berger

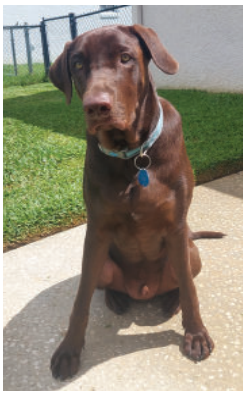
Starving, pregnant and heartworm positive, Amber, a stray 2-year-old yellow lab, entered our care and soon gave birth to six puppies. Born on June 27, 2021, mere days from the 4th of July, they were fittingly named Liberty, Patriot, Betsy, Stripes, Glory, and Maverick, and all were adopted into loving homes, including Amber. To celebrate their first anniversary, we offer you a brief glimpse of their lives today.



AMBER excels both at cuddling her mom and hogging the bed! Ever so impish, she especially enjoys participating in her mom's work Zoom meetings, jumping onto her lap and putting her front paws on the desk to be "on camera." The rest of her day is spent wrestling with her brother and going for walks, chasing squirrels and lizards in the backyard, and playing with squeaky toys. Rounding out her schedule is watching her mom cook – in the hopes that she'll drop something tasty.

LIBERTY, now Chika, wakes her family up at 6:30 AM for five minutes of licks, tail wags and cuddles. She then spends her day playing with toys and balls, going on walks, playing fetch at the park, romping around with the resident children, and relaxing in the sun. Fond of weaving herself in a figure eight through her parents' legs, she's also a fan of visiting the Saturday markets where she sniffs new people, meets other pups and smells the items for sale.

MAVERICK is the soul of empathy, and easily reads his parents' moods, often acting as their doggy shoulder. Since he loves them both equally, when he sleeps in their bed, he pushes them apart, then sleeps perpendicular to them, touching them both! He also loves fetch, making friends at the dog park and going on camping trips, he even has his own camping chair, while his wicked wit once saw him poop by way of introduction in a swanky crowd's swimming pool.



PATRIOT, now Bailey Patriot, wakes his family at 5:30 AM for the first of many walks. Marvelously mischievous, he enjoys plucking squeakers from toys and emptying the toy basket until he finds one – or more – that he fancies. Endearingly expressive, his warm eyes melt his parents' hearts and the way he rests his head on their lap demonstrates his deep devotion to them. Inherently intelligent, he's also quick to learn and obey, except when it involves NOT eating leaves!

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GRRMF CONTACT INFORMATION

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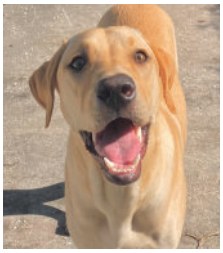
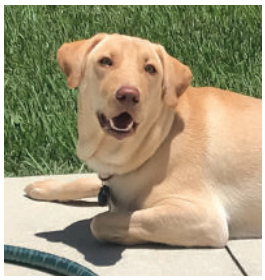
Message Line 407.332.2840



STRIPES, now Zeppelin, has a zest for life matched only by his impressive memory, Zeppelin knows all of his toys' names! As affectionate as he is active, he's been nicknamed "Grunts" for the long, cute sounds he makes when he's snuggling with his family or simply relaxing. And as much as he enjoys visiting various dog parks, he especially enjoys playing games of keep away in the yard, insisting his parents chase him, then try to get the toy out of his mouth.

BETSY, now Becky, brightens her dad's world with her winsome ways and is his constant companion both at work and at play. While her first passion is people, her second is water, especially when it involves swimming and accompanying her dad on boat rides to the islands. Smart enough to have mastered sit, shake both paws, and double high five in sign language, she was once silly enough to fall off the dock while trying to bite at the stream of water from a garden hose!



GLORY, now Bailey, and her lab brother are equal partners in exuberance and energy, and her favorite toy is any one he has! Quirky enough to twist her sweet smile into something of a snicker, she loves every person and dog she meets as much as she loves chasing bugs and geckos in the backyard. But what she loves most is getting behind her mom's legs when she's seated on the couch or running between them when she's walking around the house.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: ELLEN STEIGER by Jamie Demsky

How did you hear about GRRMF? Sarah Davis, the first president, contacted me about teaching her and her dog how to do K9 nose work. She encouraged me to volunteer.

How many years have you been volunteering? *7* years. When I lived in Florida, I started in transport then switched to media when I moved out of state.

Not living in Florida, how can you still volunteer? Before I moved to Delaware, I was asked if I would be willing to join the media team and write stories for GRRMF. It was a small way to help goldens find new homes. The information I need to write is all available on-line through forms, media pictures and data entry fields. The wonderful communication and information from our media team coordinators, transport, medical team, foster coordinator, fosters, and adoption coordinators makes it an assignment that can be done in any state that has internet access. Raise your paws to be a virtual volunteer like I did.

Have any special dogs touched you? All the Healing Hearts and Sanctuary dogs have touched my heart and it is an honor to tell their stories.

What advice would you give to potential volunteers? Take time in your life to volunteer for organizations you are passionate about. Even a small amount of your time will help a person or animal that otherwise may not have a voice to help themselves.

What do you love most about GRRMF? It is a collaborative effort of dedicated people working together for the love of retrievers. This amazing group of people give much of their personal time so our rescues can find loving forever homes. Seeing a dog come in frail, scared and in need of medical and emotional care and then seeing them leave with confidence, in good health and a smile on their face is worth its weight in GOLD!

HEARTS OF GOLD

Each month seems to be busier than the last as word spreads throughout central Florida. We received many requests to have our tail wagging furballs visit with employees and staff for much needed stress relief. How could we say "NO" knowing the comfort our pups bring to others, especially during difficult times with many places working with skeleton crews.

- Teams greeted staff members during shift change at MCO1 Amazon Fulfillment Center (Orlando) MCO4 Amazon Center (Davenport) giving kisses and happy tail wags.
- Supporting the employees at Four Seasons Resort (Disney) created quite a stir. Staff scrambled to find coverage for 10 minutes so they could destress in the HR office with our pups, who worked very hard to meet the high demand and lifted many spirits that day.
- Six of our special pups were met with heartwarming gratitude from Whole Foods (Orlando) employees for a cuddle break. Staged outside on the receiving docks, each gave hardworking employees the compassion they sought and created smiles.

Our therapy teams kept cool, but busy, during the hot summer months at:

- We Rock the Spectrum (Largo) - a special sensory gym for autistic children on Fridays
- Safety Harbor Library Pawsome Readers summer program on Mondays and Saturdays
- Educating young campers at the Clearwater YMCA summer camp
- Supporting the Kid's Program at the 2022 National Juvenile Arthritis Conference (Orlando) sharing kisses with 100 special children, ages toddler to high school.

We invite you to visit our *GRRMF Hearts of Gold YouTube* channel to see all the videos of these events, plus monthly therapy visits at assisted living and memory care centers. Expansion into the Orlando area is in full swing and we are holding screening events for those interested in joining our Hearts of Gold therapy program. Our central area coordinator, Ann Prince, held a screening event at the Beardall Senior Center (Orlando) on July 30 and has two more scheduled on September 24 and November 19.

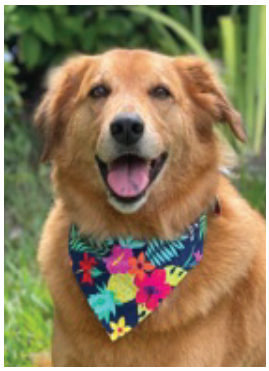
MIXING AGILITY & THERAPY

"When playful, he bucks like a small pony," laughs Janice, *"making Cowboy the ideal name for him!"* And yet, this coltish eight-year old with a 90-pound frame has the natural instincts of a true therapy dog, remaining calm in every environment and greeting new people eagerly. Already acting the part of emotional support dog for Janice and her family, Cowboy loves putting his paws up in their laps and lying his head down while his back end remains on the floor. "He'll calmly stay there as long as we want - it's a great stress relief for us." But as caring as he is, Cowboy also loves playing the clown. His entire large, goofy body wiggles when he greets the family with a toy in his mouth and they can't help grinning!

When Cowboy is not doing weekly therapy visits at Melrose Elementary or Evergreen Adult Day Care Center, he is competing in AKC Agility Trials alongside his fur siblings Winnie and Goose, winning ribbons and earning titles. An eager and able student, he quickly mastered all the elements but his favorite is the table. "It's his happy place," says Janice. Cowboy has earned his AKC ACT 1 and 2, Novice Jumpers with Weaves and his Novice Standard Agility titles.

Adoption Stories

KODA ALBERT



When Koda's family brought him home, they considered it the best day of 2020. Since then, he's enriched their lives by entertaining them with his antics, keeping them active through his walks, and softly licking away all sadness. But what makes him unique is his obsession with affection. If that means leaping onto a bed and lying on someone, he'll do it. If that means running across the yard to get a toy and some pets, he'll do it. Any time he's being loved on is a good time in Koda's books, and his family loves to oblige him.

TOBY NEVADA

Born to be Bolt, Toby shed his given name when he joined Kim's family. Happy people, with even more smiles and laughs because of him, he's the first to be loved on in the morning and the last for a snuggle and a, "Night, night Bolt bug!" Always wagging his tail and tapping his feet, he keeps everyone endlessly entertained, whether he's stealing socks or chasing squirrels. But best of all is his after-dinner ritual of cocooning himself inside his blankie, wrapping it around his head as if it's attacking him, then wrestling with it until he wins.

MOLLY NANA

Mali (formerly Molly) makes her home echo with merriment! Excited and nervous on adoption day, her parents couldn't wait to introduce their timid dog Kona to her new sister. Thanks to Mali's confidence, Kona is a changed dog, fearless and friendly, while Mali's energy has encouraged her family to take longer walks. Always affectionate, loving, and loyal, Mali loves snuggling with them and resting her head on their laps. She also enjoys sunbathing, playing with Kona and hunting lizards and squirrels. Being endlessly curious, she loves camping where she can observe the different animals that nature displays.

VIOLET DONNA

Violet's adoption was doubly fortuitous because her family soon lost Leo, their cherished golden and GRRMF alum. Offsetting their grief was their excitement and happiness as Violet proved to be a lifesaver for them and a much-needed companion for their remaining GRRMF pup, Harley.

The love of her family's lives, with the gift of seeing into their souls and the ability to make them smile, Violet loves wrestling with Harley, playing ball in the backyard, carrying around stuffy toys with squeakers inside, barking at her reflection in the mirror, and trying to catch birds as they fly by.

ARTHUR JIMBO

When Jameson (formerly Arthur) joined his forever family, he joyfully became part of a devoted doggy pack. Always eager to be petted first, he always has something to say, and isn't shy about using his voice to ask for more pets, paw-lease. Endlessly endearing, topping the list are his beautiful, velvet brown eyes that help his family see deep into his soul followed closely by his impressive obedience when it comes to commands, his obsession with his new puppy brother, his passion for watching ESPN with his dad, and his ability to snatch tissues out of unsuspecting people's pockets!

NALA JAMIE

When her family learned that 5-year-old Crystal (formerly Nala) was being given up because she hadn't gotten along with the child in her home and had run away, they picked her up from the vet and soon made her theirs. Thriving since losing a great deal of weight, she loves playing tug-o-war with her beagle brother and doggy-gecko tag with the lizards she spots and tracks in the backyard.As quirky as she is cute, Crystal's special claim to fame is speaking, making sounds reminiscent of Chewbacca in "Star Wars" throughout the day when she's happy!

Goldens Rock!

THE NOSE KNOWS: K9 NOSE WORK

Have you ever seen a chihuahua or bulldog search for hidden odors similar to a professional detection dog? Since 2011, Florida dog lovers have been having fun and competing in a companion dog sport called K9 Nose Work®. This entertaining search-and-scent activity is open to anyone looking for an innovative way of keeping their own dog happy, mentally stimulated, and physically satisfied. K9 Nose Work® was developed by three professional detection dog handlers from California. Their vision was twofold: to harness and showcase a dog's search and scent instincts and to provide detection-dog style training to dog lovers and their companions through educational programs and competitions. The National Association of Canine Scent Work (NACSW) was subsequently founded to ensure the highest standard of excellence and structure for these competitions.

K9 Nose Work® is open to and beneficial to dogs of all ages and breeds, the blind, deaf and "differently abled," the shy, fearful, and reactive, building not only their confidence but intensifying the bond between them and their owners. All dogs begin by seeking out and finding a favorite treat or toy hidden in one of several boxes. As their confidence grows, the game expands to include interior rooms, exterior areas, and vehicles. Next, they learn to identify special target odors, known as hides, that are placed inside small, vented tins. These tins are then placed in interior spaces from warehouses to offices and in exterior spaces from parking lots to parks, even vehicles from motorcycles to buses, and containers from cookie tins to luggage. Searches are done either on or off leash depending on the safety of the location.

Once a dog finds the source of the hidden odor, they are rewarded by their handler with a high value treat or toy – whichever they prize more! Depending on the ability of each dog, different levels of competition are available to them: NW1, NW2, NW3, Elite, Summit, and Specialty trials.

If you think you and your cherished canine companion would benefit from K9 Nose Work®, please visit ***nacsw.net***.

RAISE YOUR PAWS

Summer time and current gas prices make it very demanding on our treasured transport volunteers. We need more transport friends to help safely bring a dog into rescue or transport to foster homes and medical appointments. Most of the transport needs are weekday mornings and early afternoons around Orlando, Gainesville and Tampa/St. Petersburg areas. If you are available to help a few hours a month, and love wonderful pups leaving their special furry dust in your car, please let us know by emailing ***volunteer@grrmf.org***.

TRANSPORT

THANK YOU! DONATIONS APRIL - JUNE 2022

GENERAL

Ade, Marilynn
Allstate
Amazon Smile
Anonymous
Arter, Kym
AT&T
Atwell, Caprice
Barnes, Susan
Beach, Dan
Best Friends Animal Society
Boehm, Judith
Boeing Company
Bush, Joy
Collins, Charles and Demi
Covert, Chris
D'Alessandro, Melinda
Davis, Lance
Disney
Duke Energy
Elliott, Robert
Gay, Alan
Goretski, Elieen
Greenman, Jason
Haberkamp, Elizabeth
Hamel, Susan
Hawk, Suzanne
Heart of Florida United Way
Hopkins, Barry
Jackson, Joshua
JD Lab, Inc.
Kaplan, Susan
Kard, Charles & Carole
Keilholtz, Joseph
Keller, Karen & Cliff
McMillan, John
McNulty, Elizabeth
Microsoft Rewards
Millard, Paul and Roberta
Misiuk, Patricia
Mitchell, Robert
Mitzel, John
Network for Good
Noxon, Debbie
O'Leary, Marilyn
Pagano, Ron
Parker, Jeanie
PayPal Giving Fund
Perrone, Ellen
Phillips, Reenie
Politis, Katie
Purina, John Paul
Reid, Deby A.
Rosas, Monique
Simpkins Farrar, Maureen
Stastka, Michael
Steiger, Ellen
Turley, Sandra
UnitedHealth Group
Wood, Seth

IN HONOR OF

Anderson, Barbara and Robert, for Chloe
Faulkenberry, Tori, for Murphy and Haley
Forsberg, Carol, for Ruthie and all Sanctuary pups
Geary, Kathy, for Fonzie and Fancy
Gonzalez, Carmen, for Harlow
Gonzalez, Carmen, for Sandy
Hitchcock, Susan, for Ruthie and all Sanctuary pups
Holecek, John and Tammy, for Buckley
Holton, Leonard, for Nova Dover
Rife, David, for Daisy
Thomas, Michael, for Molly, Maverick and Mojo

IN MEMORY OF

Bauer, Rene, for Charlette Bauer
Bauer, Robert, for Charlette Bauer
Bauer, Ryan, for Charlette Bauer
Berke, Jill, for Noel Moseler
Bressen, Gary, for Pam London
Carlin, Nancy, for Makushia Misiuk
Chagnon, Dennis, for Hailey
Counen, Marilyn, for Amber and Tigger
Deubler, Mary, for Bay Igoe
Drapo, Deborah, for Char Bauer
Durham, Barbara and Hollister, Keith and Oakley, for Toby Pezzoli
Emery, Morgan, for Char Bauer
Ferbrache, Marilyn, for Samson
Fitzgerald, Peter and Susan, for Char Bauer
Forsberg, Carol, for Char Bauer
Francis, Nancy and Bert, for Sadie Francis
Heheman, William, for Charlette Bauer
Holecek, John and Tammy, for Dakota
Holmes, Theresa, for Charlette Bauer
Kaplan, Susan, for Colbie
Kessler, David and Serling, Susan, for Autumn Capodice
Mckenzie, Graham, for London
Menikheim, Gretchen, for Jack Berbernes
Prince, Cherri, for Isabella Driver
Rife, David, for Jemma and Sara
Sabol, Andrea, for Huckleberry
Sanczyk, Edna, for Ukraine dogs
Sandiford, Hayley, for Roscoe Yoho
Slaughter, Marilyn, for Shaun, Piper and Champ
Steele, Tom and Chris, for Bentley Greiman
Taylor, Karolyn, for Songee and Gabbee
Tutewiler, Ron and Gail, for Murphy
Weber, Karen, for Hunter
Wilson, Sherri, for Char Bauer

WOODY FUND

Alfson, John and Linda, for Belle Marsha
Alfson, John and Linda, for Mitzie Sallie
Alfson, Lynda and John, for Brownie Nevada
Graves, Betsy
Gruhler, Alfred
Hawk, Suzanne
Mayer, Patricia
Norvig, Linda, for Summer
Pennington, Jennifer, for Summer
Pucci, Robert, for Summer
Richardson, Adam, for Summer
Silvers, Larry
Snedeker, Cindy, for Summer
Tradelius, Mary Anne, for Sanctuary dogs
Vogel, Kimberly, for Summer

FUNDRAISERS

Arter, Kym - Pampered Chef
Coad, Megan - Facebook Birthday
Davis, Sarah - Facebook Birthday
Haker, Charlie - Facebook Birthday

We were heartbroken to hear of the passing of our long time GRRMF volunteer, Char Bauer, on April 6. Her many years volunteering as a special needs foster home revealed her passion, grace and love for her fellow volunteers and especially the tender place she always had in her heart for all goldens. Her legacy lives on with every dog she saved and for every family who received a special dog made whole again while in her care. We honor a life well lived by our cherished GRRMF family member and extend our wish for peace and comfort to all she touched. Rainbow Bridge overflowed with a reunion of thankful dogs welcoming her home.

EMPLOYER MATCHING GIFT DONATIONS

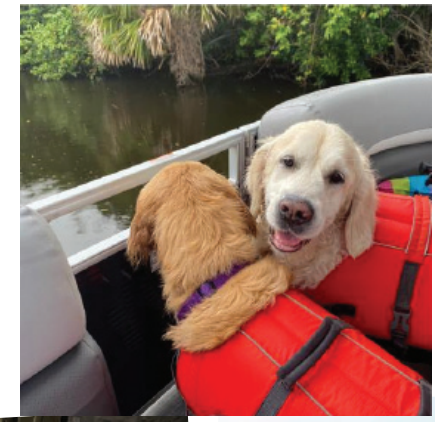
Here's an easy way you can help GRRMF continue to rescue dogs, provide life-saving medical care, and support our growing therapy dog visits. Many companies offer matching programs for charities such as GRRMF. Some, like Disney, will turn employee volunteer hours into donations. Check with your human resources department or website to see if your employer is philanthropic. GRRMF has rescued more than 4,000 dogs in the past 31 years. With you and your employer's help we will continue to save lives and create happy, loving homes for many decades to come.

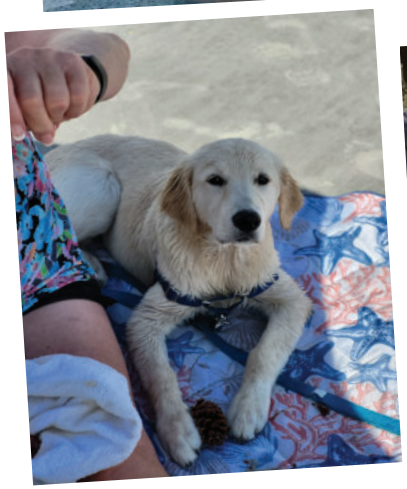
RAINBOW BRIDGE

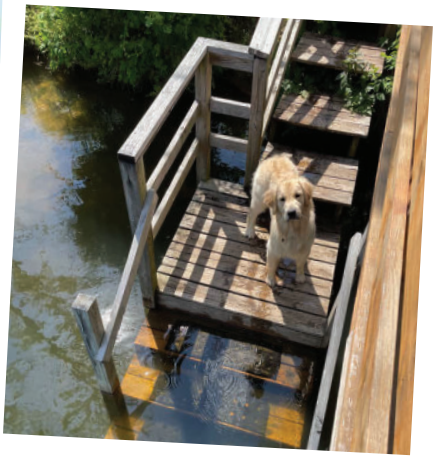
Nanci and Kevin Allen - Daisy
Jennifer and Ryan Caillouet - Lily
Bert and Nancy Francis - Sadie
GRRMF Family - Avocado
GRRMF Family and Cherie Connelly - Klaus
GRRMF Family and Rita Dower - Ruthie
Bert Haker - Honey
Nancy Hensel - Maggie
Lyn and Barry Holliday - Jameson
Susan Jenkins and Joel Kresner - Chloe
Jan Jennings - Bailey
Susan and Sheldon Kaplan - Colbie
Bill and Rita Lemieux - Bailey
Andrea Sabol - Huckleberry
George Schaefer - Shadow
Bonnie and Reid Wettersten - Jake

RESCUES ON RETREAT

It's summertime! An opportunity to travel, relax and explore. Here's a look at where some of our GRRMF families have vacationed. Maverick camped in New York. Sonny hit the beach in Ft. Pierce. Captain Fin enjoyed Asheville. Daisy went to Fayetteville. Some traveled by car, others took to the friendly skies. Check out our Facebook and Instagram pages to see more travel pics and to send us your family vacation shots.







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 - *Angels with Paws*
www.grrmf.org/hearts-of-gold-angel-paws/

2023 GRRMF CALENDAR - *Available to order*
www.grrmf.org/2023-grrmf-calendar-order/

FALL GOLDENFEST REUNION - *October 2022*
www.grrmf.org/event/2022-grrmf-fall-goldenfest-reunion/

SPECIAL JUPITER EVENT - *November 2022*
www.grrmf.org/event/2022-jupiter-golden-jubilee/

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
www.grrmf.org/we-need-you/

Please consider becoming a financial caregiver to save our retrievers through your donation. You may donate online at *www.grrmf.org/donate*, use the QR code here, or fill out this form and mail it to: GRRMF - P.O. Box 1449 - Goldenrod, FL 32733. For a monthly recurring donation, matching gift from your employer or considering us for a bequest, please contact *info@grrmf.org*. 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 :_____

DONATE!

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.

31 YEARS OF SAVING GOLDENS – 4,073 SAVED SINCE 1991
Golden Retriever Rescue Of Mid-Florida