



# Gold Ribbon Rescue

Dedicated to Helping Golden Retrievers and Their Owners in Central Texas

Dec. 2006 22nd Edition

## Letter from GRR's President — Maura Phelan

### Reflecting Back on 2006, Looking Forward to 2007

As we close another year, it is a time to reflect on what we have done well and what we wish we could have done better. So far in 2006, GRR has taken in more than 150 dogs, interviewed more than 240 families, completed 166 home visits, and placed 127 dogs in new homes. Jobs well done!

Now for the hard part, the things we have not done as well. We have not gotten our building fund off the ground, nor found anyone to head it up to get it going. We have not integrated many new volunteers—some of whom are still waiting to help or hear from us and were ready and able when they spoke up.

It seems to be a case of working as hard as we can to maintain the status quo, which leaves little time, energy or resources for recruiting, training, and contacting everyone who has said they want to help.

GRR has become more well-known and is now getting dogs from all over—especially

dogs with issues. This continually requires new and more foster homes and work for all involved, exacerbating the problem.

While we recognize the issue, we seem helpless to fix it while we labor to keep up. Our volunteer director and fledgling education committee have ideas, plans, and are conducting training—all of which is helping—but they also wear multiple hats which divide their focus.

What is the answer? I wish I knew. But if you want to help, BE PUSHY! We really need you—we just cannot show you how much. Maybe you could “shadow” someone doing the job you are interested in? Maybe you could “get your feet wet” and just do a few directed things. Maybe you want to help by playing secretary and putting documents together that have been waiting for “when I can get to it”. Or maybe you can just jump in and say you want to throw an event, a fundraiser, sell more calendars, sell shirts, recruit foster homes, or rev up the building fund. We

need not only your hands and heart, but your INCENTIVE!

Our volunteers, and a renewable pool of new volunteers, are the future of GRR. Thanks for all you have done, all your donations, and all that you will do in the future to help out these wonderful dogs and educate the public about them and being responsible caretakers.

Have a safe and wonderful Holiday! I hope to see you all at the Holiday Brunch!

—Maura

When you leave them in the morning, they stick their nose in the door crack and stand there like a portrait until you turn the key eight hours later.

—Erma Bombeck

*Please join us for*



## The Gold Ribbon Rescue 6th Annual Holiday Party

*A Champagne Brunch*

*Sunday, December 10th from 11am til 2pm*



## Gold Ribbon Rescue

PO Box 956  
Austin, TX 78767-0956

Non-Profit 501(c)(3)

24-Hour Hotline:  
**(512) 659-GOLD**

[www.GRR-TX.com](http://www.GRR-TX.com)

Board of Directors: **Maura Phelan, Tim Tierney, Susie Schaffer, Emily Tuczowski, Sheila Thomas, Margo Biba, Mike Chamberlain**  
Advisory Board: **Jean Steensma, Kathy Burton, Becky LaBrum, Cindy Moss, Linda Willard, Beth Freeman, Brenda Forsythe**  
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Webmasters: **Tim Tierney, Kurt Shultz**  
Newsletter: **Brenda Forsythe, Becky LaBrum**

[Volunteer@GRR-TX.com](mailto:Volunteer@GRR-TX.com)

### Golden Health

# Training Your Adopted Dog Makes Everyone Safer and Happier

by Kathy Burton

GRR Co-Director of Education

At the end of our GRR adoption contract, you'll find this paragraph: "*Gold Ribbon Rescue strongly suggests all dogs be taken to obedience classes to make them good canine citizens. Trainers may be found with the assistance of Gold Ribbon Rescue, Inc.*"

Obedience training is such an important part of adopting a dog! For starters, positive training helps accelerate the bonding process between new owner and new dog. And beyond that, training makes for a happier dog because:

- The dog has more freedom: if he's well-behaved, he can have free run of the home.
- He gets to spend more time with the family, both at home and out & about.
- Training gives a dog mental and physical exercise.
- A well-mannered, obedient dog is both appreciated and welcome, so he receives more attention and interaction from everyone—and Golden's love attention!
- Training may someday save his life. A dog who knows to come when called, to wait when asked, and to bypass forbidden objects on command is far less likely to suffer an accident or injury.

Dogs who receive some training have a better life and tend to stay in the same home much longer. (How many surrender calls do we get from families wanting to "get rid of" the dog because "he's out of control?" Consistent training, started early, can help avoid that problem.)

To help our families get off to a good start, beginning December 1, all active foster families and adopting families will receive, free of charge, the highly acclaimed "*Training Your Adopted Dog*"—a complete dog-training DVD by Pets Incredible,

including information on crate training, house training, chewing, jumping, mouthing, manners, and obedience.

This DVD is sponsored by the Humane Society of the United States and endorsed by experts such as author Pat Miller (*The Power of Positive Dog Training and Positive Perspectives*), Jean Donaldson, founder of the San Francisco SPCA Academy of Dog Trainers and author of several books on dog behavior, Michelle Peterson of Happy Dogs Rescue, and many others.\*

We are able to provide this valuable resource due to generous donations to the Gold Ribbon Education Fund. Thank you for your help!

\*For more information and reviews, see [www.petsincredible.com/Reviews.asp](http://www.petsincredible.com/Reviews.asp)  
All dog owners can purchase the DVD at [www.dogwise.com](http://www.dogwise.com) (item# DTB854)

## Resources for dog owners and future dog owners

### BOOKS/DVDs: Training and problem solving

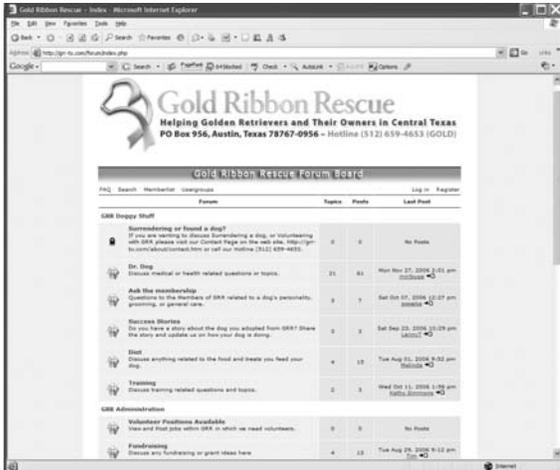
Brenda Aloff's *Fundamentals: Foundation Training for Every Dog* (DVD), by Brenda Aloff  
*How to Behave So Your Dog Behaves*, by Sophia Yin  
*Outwitting Dogs*, by Terry Ryan  
*Parenting Your Dog*, by Trish King  
*Pets Incredible Complete Training DVD*, by Pets Incredible

### BOOKS/DVDs: Behavior/Body Language

*Bones Would Rain from the Sky: Deepening Our Relationships with Dogs*, by Suzanne Clothier  
*On Talking Terms with Dogs: Calming Signals* (2nd Ed.), by Turid Rugaas

*Continued on Page 11*





## GRR Forum Online

If you have not yet had the chance to check out our GRR Message Forum on our website at [www.grr-tx.com/forum](http://www.grr-tx.com/forum), please take a moment to do so today.

You'll find many interesting topics—diets, training, behavior and medical issues—as well as learning more about volunteer opportunities. Our online forum provides an opportunity to have open discussions with the entire GRR community. Not only can you find answers to your questions, but you can also share your own thoughts on a variety of topics or add your own. Check it out!



# Volunteers—At The Heart of Gold Ribbon Rescue

*by Emily Tuczkowski*

Who answered that hotline call about a sweet Golden desperately needing a new home? A volunteer.  
Who provided transport from the animal shelter to the vet? A volunteer.  
Who provided a safe haven until a forever home could be found? A volunteer.  
Who coordinated the whole rescue, each step of the way? Many volunteers!

Volunteers make up the very heart of Gold Ribbon Rescue. Without them, our organization would not exist, and hundreds, if not thousands, of the wonderful Golden Retrievers that have passed through our doors would have had nowhere to go. What would have been their fate?

We are always looking for new volunteers to add to our family, and many wonderful volunteering opportunities exist. We'll soon be posting information about all of our various volunteering needs on our Message Forum (see above for details), including descriptions of what's involved with each. We always need people to help out not only with the dog side of things—meeting dogs, transporting dogs, and, of

course, fostering them!—but with the people and administrative sides as well: finding new foster homes (we desperately need people to help with this), placing dogs in care, maintaining our database lists, following up with our adoptive families, fundraising, and grant-writing, to name only a few.

Even if you only have one hour to spare each month, you can most certainly help!

Of course, as always, our most immediate need is finding new foster homes. This year has proved to be as daunting as last in the sheer number of dogs that have come into GRR. That, coupled with the usual holiday crunch, when many of our volunteers are traveling or otherwise engaged, has made it a real challenge to find places for incoming dogs these past few months. If you have ever considered fostering or think you could provide a week or even a few days of respite for current dogs in foster care, please, please, please do let us know by sending an e-mail to [volunteer@grr-tx.com](mailto:volunteer@grr-tx.com).

And as always, feel free to send an e-mail to [volunteer@grr-tx.com](mailto:volunteer@grr-tx.com) to ask any questions at all about volunteering for GRR... and keep an eye out on the website for our next volunteer training session, coming up early next year.



*If you think a dog can't count, try putting three dog biscuits in your pocket and then give him only two.*

*Anybody who doesn't know what soap tastes like never washed a dog.*



# One Hundred and Fifty Extraordinary Golden Retrievers

by Becky LaBrum

In each newsletter, we devote a few pages to what we call “extraordinary” Golden Retrievers—dogs who need more than the usual medical care. But this month, as I settled down to write with the still-expanding list of 2006 rescues in front of me, I got to thinking—they are all extraordinary, aren't they? ... or, as a veterinarian friend of mine likes to say, “Every dog is worthy of praise.” So here are some reflections on our year so far, with special mention for lots of dogs, including the extra-extraordinaries—Golden Retrievers who have overcome some pretty big health and emotional challenges to find their perfect homes.

As of the end of November, GRR has brought in 151 dogs for the year. Our very first 2006 dog was Jodie, jokingly called “Jodie Foster” after she moved into her foster home—a Hollywood-gorgeous big pony of a red dog and, at just 2 years old, already high heartworm positive. Little did we know that her condition was going to set the tone for our medical year! Besides a long list of HW dogs, we've had more than the usual number requiring surgeries, both major and minor.

## That heartworm heartache...

Whenever we take in a shelter dog, a stray, or an owner-surrendered Golden who hasn't had HW preventive recently (if ever), we always hold our breath waiting for the results of that blood test—and 24 times this year, it's been bad news. (There was one spell this summer where six dogs in a row came in with HW!) There's good news, too, though: they DO get treated and they get healthy and they find adoptive homes! Do you recognize your own dog in this list?

■ **Jodie**, age 2, handed off from an owner to Dallas to one in San Antonio, who couldn't care for her and gave her to his vet

■ **Pal**, age 6, taken to the Pflugerville pound when his owners could not afford his treatment; and **Rowdy**, age 4, brought there when his owners divorced

■ **Star II** and **Glory** and **Finn**, all 1- to 2-year-old strays from Killeen

■ **Teddy**, age 4, a stray from Spicewood—and he also needed foot surgery

■ **Kylie**, a stunning 18-month-old redhead from the Kyle shelter

■ **Bocephus** and **Chloe**, two seniors whose owners did not have time for them any more

■ **Sadie II**, a vivacious 2-year-old Houdinette who can pop open gates with a flick of her nose

■ **Blaze**, **Freckles**, **Alex**, **Cindy**, and **Marsha**, all 1- to 2-year-old strays from San Antonio

■ **Lizzy**, a wonderful 6-year-old caught in the middle when her family broke up—and despite the best efforts of her loving mom, her care fell through the cracks

■ **Bob**, a 4-year-old from the Waco shelter—adopted, then immediately returned to the pound when his new family learned he had heartworms.



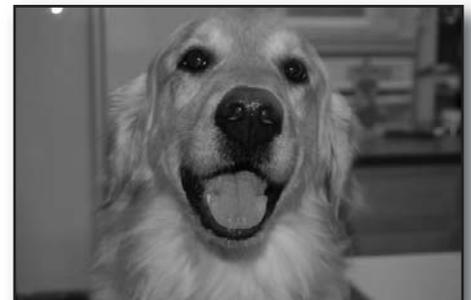
Bob

For some of our HW dogs, the road to good health has had a few more bumps. Four-year-old **Honey** was seized by Animal Control in a case of severe neglect... left alone outside for days on end in scorching weather, without food or water. The volunteer who collected him said, “I have traveled over 2,000 miles for GRR, transporting dogs, and he's by far the dirtiest one I have ever seen. Probable low thyroid, severe fleabite dermatitis, heavy heartworm load, he's just a mess.” In his foster home, though, this former yard dog is blossoming... in fact, he has decided he'd REALLY like to be a lap dog!

When **Baby Bell**, aged ten or so, arrived at the Bell County Shelter, heartworms were just one of her problems. She was far overweight, had low thyroid, and was so matted with urine and feces that her foster mom had to work on her for most of a day (literally!) to shave off the stiff, hardened fur and gently clean Baby's inflamed skin. Baby was an angel through it all—and now, several months later, her fur is growing in soft & fluffy, her weight is slowly dropping, and her energy is picking up... and her heartworms are gone! She's still working on some skin problems, though.

For **Heath**, too, HW treatment was only one hurdle—and that was tough enough, since he suffered a blood clot in his lungs during the process and had to spend a few days getting emergency care. And then? Turns out he had a pinched nerve in his back and needed major surgery, just like Rali (more on him, below). Now happily adopted, he'll be helping to host this year's Holiday Party!

**Sheriff** came to us all the way from East Texas. Along with nine other dogs, he was dumped in the yard of a local rescue volunteer (in fact, the dumper even opened a back door and put a couple of the dogs IN the house), who then called GRR for help. At under age two, Sheriff had shotgun pellets in his side, tick disease, and a load of heartworms so heavy that his kidney function was even compromised. That was in July. As of today: tick disease gone, heartworm treatment at the halfway point, kidneys getting better, attitude (of course) A-plus!



Sheriff



Young **Ruby** was found stray near a San Antonio school yard this summer. Before she even started her HW treatment, her foster mom noticed that something was amiss with her hips. One thing at a time—the heartworms have been vanquished, so now it's a trip to the orthopedist to see if this dainty one-year-old needs surgery.



*Darla*

Two-year-old **Darla**, another San Antonio girl, was apparently dumped at the shelter one morning in August. Arriving staff members found her waiting outside the doors, with an engaging smile, a hopeful tail wag... and a fish hook embedded in her neck. The wound was already infected, foul-smelling, and abscessed to the size of a tennis ball. Darla had one operation to drain and clean the wound, but three weeks on, it still wasn't healing. The vet put her under again for exploratory surgery—and found a large gauze sponge, packed deep into the wound at the pound and never removed (or noted on her paperwork). Once that was gone, she healed up fast! Darla has that almost heartbreaking Golden ability to keep on trusting in the kindness of strangers; the second you catch her eye, she starts wagging her whole back end (I'm completely convinced that she'd decimate the competition in the rhumba on "Dancing with the Stars"). After she'd fostered with us for a few days, I was ready to sign on the dotted line, but my hubby was still on the fence, but then... a few weeks ago, I got home from class and headed into his office to say hello, with Darla hard on my heels. He opened his arms for a hug, but she figured the invitation HAD to be meant for her, barged past me, and leaped into his lap. OK, OK—sold! On Thanksgiving Day, she officially became the newest member of our family.

### **And all the rest...**

I don't think anyone in GRR will ever forget **Diana**. When a puppy mill in Oklahoma shut its doors and auctioned off its "inventory"—nine dogs—a local Good Samaritan bought all nine and placed them with five rescue groups. Diana came to GRR. At age three, she was almost completely "shut down"—not interactive at all. Her whole life had been spent in a cage, and she had no idea how to be a carefree puppy. She approached humans with great trepidation, preferring to spend her time hiding out in corners. It took months of loving, patient care, but Diana came around. Renamed "Abbie" by her new family, she sends this update: *"I've learned lots of things since I've moved here: wagging your tail is okay; being outside is fun; I don't need to hide in my safe corners anymore, but it's nice that they're still there; it's fun to jump and pounce when I'm excited. I've come out of my shell so much that my momma and papa are sure I'm really only 6 months old and not 3 years old. I'm also getting used to going on walks at the park. Oh, and there's nothing like ripping the stuffing out of toys! Thank you, GRR, for giving me a chance at a new life."*



*Abbie*

**Eddu** was an unusual one for us—a Golden born in Peru! In Texas, the peppy 4-year-old raced around all day on a farm and enjoyed a refreshing fruit salad for breakfast each morning. When life changes kept his owner from being able to give him the time he needed, he came to GRR.

Ten-year-old **Rudy's** owners left him at their vet's office to be euthanized. He was having a few accidents and they were overwhelmed with other family problems.



*Rudy*

The vet said "Please give him to me"—and then called GRR. No accidents at all in foster care, and darling Rudy has now been adopted. **Tex and Maggie**, ages 8 and 9, came to us from a wonderful owner who could no longer care for them. Each dog came with several pages of instructions, a little biography, and a formal portrait. This was one of those truly heartwrenching surrenders, and the owner pleaded with us to let the dogs stay together. They did—their foster dad first said, "I'll take two"... and then, a few months later, "I can't see letting either one of them go!" **Meg**, age 11, was a return to GRR. Her mom, too, had health issues that forced her to give up her beloved GRR Golden. Meg had already pretty much turned herself into a therapy dog, going everywhere with Mom—so her new home decided to make it official and enrolled Meg in Paws for Service in San Antonio. Needless to say, she graduated with honors! It's off to visit nursing homes for Miss Meg (and her first mom is thrilled, too). Her one health problem? Recurring dental troubles. A thorough tooth-cleaning and attentive home care are helping.



*Meg and her new mom.*



## One Hundred and Fifty Extraordinary GoldenContinued from Page 5

**Rali**, age 7, was a GRR fund-drive dog this year. Surrendered to GRR by an owner whose own health problems had become too much for her, he had just about the worst skin condition we had ever seen, short of mange... and as he began to conquer that, we learned he needed back surgery to relieve constantly-painful pressure on his spinal nerves. The donations poured in from generous GRR members, and thanks to you, Rali is a new dog now! He jumps off the porch, runs around the yard, and even tries to get his doggie sister to play. His fur has grown in, too, and not long ago he even visited his vet for the “after” installment of a before-and-after photo shoot.

In one of those “how could anyone do that?” cases, five-year-old **Georgia** was brought to the Kyle shelter after her owners’ house burned down. They simply moved away, abandoning Georgia (with burns from flying cinders) and two other dogs in the backyard. Volunteer Kathy Burton named the pretty blonde girl: “She’s a peach, so I’ve given her the name of Georgia, makes me think of a refined Southern belle.” She is making her new family very happy! **Lacie**, just 7 or 8 months old, motored into town all the way from Abilene, where a kindly lady who is a “waterworks walker,” reading the meters in rural areas, found her tied to an electrical post out in a cow field in the middle of nowhere. She promptly took the little girl home and got her into rescue.

Some dogs have crossed our radar more than once. **Charlie**, age 3, was rescued from the streets of Taiwan and brought all the way to Texas a few years ago. His owners, on the brink of moving abroad again, contacted us in 2004—but then called right back to say they’d placed him with a friend. When we got a surrender call for a “Charlie” this spring and started to hear his history from his new owners, we

knew just who he was! Big, fluffy **Polar**, age 6, is another such case. The surrendering owner happened to mention that

Polar likes to go roaming, and at one point had even been missing for 6 long months before returning home. The volunteer who met him put two and two together. Two years ago, someone in the very same area wanted to surrender a blond Golden he’d named “Banbi,” who had shown up stray some months earlier; but before we could meet the mysterious Banbi, he disappeared again. Going back to home #1, as it turns out! He’s in his new home now (with a family who knows to be on the alert for those escape-artist tendencies).

Two-year-old **Rockefeller**, originally from a shelter in Houston, moved to San Antonio with one family, was given to a second family, and then surrendered to GRR... and then we found out that he has a serious heart condition. He’s one of our special-needs dogs, still looking for the right family.



*Rockefeller*

Eight-month-old **Dolce** and four-year-old **Keller**—one from the Town Lake shelter in Austin, the other from the San Antonio pound—both suffered from entropion, a condition where the eyelids turn in so that the lashes scrape and rub painfully against the eyeball. Poor Keller was in such discomfort he’d barely open his eyes, just nuzzling our volunteer’s hand through his cage; and his eyes were infected, too. Surgery put both boys to rights. For 1½-year-old **Sonny**, two eye problems needed fixing. He had ectropion, where the lids droop down (instead of turning in, as they do in entropion), making “pockets” that can collect dust and result in constant irritation and even infection; and on top of

that, he had extra lashes growing from the inside of the lids, turning inward and scraping his corneas. Ouch! A visit to a veterinary ophthalmologic surgeon took care of both conditions.

Young **Toby** hadn’t been in care for long before he tore an ACL—and after recovering from surgery to repair that, he developed a mysteriously swollen eye, of all things! Turns out he’d gnawed on a sharp stick, got an infection far back in his mouth, and his face puffed out as a result. Antibiotic therapy got him feeling fine again... and then the lucky one-year-old was adopted by a college track & field coach who’ll make extra sure he doesn’t do any more damage to those joints!

Of course, there are always a few shelter dogs each year who make us say, “Why isn’t anyone looking for you?” **Hunter**, age four, is one of those—neutered, trimmed pantaloons, trimmed paws, wearing a jaunty bandanna, housebroken, knows commands—yet nobody came looking. Or what about beautiful blonde **Fiona**, maybe about 5 years old, found stray in a nice part of town with a pretty pink collar? We fully expected an owner to reclaim her, but nobody did. These are mysteries.

... and there are a hundred-plus more stories to tell.

Special-needs or not, each incoming GRR Golden gets a check-up and, if needed, updated vaccinations, HW test, and spay or neuter. Many dogs have skin and ear infections needing medications and follow-up vet visits. Older dogs often have a few lumps and bumps that need to come off. And then there are the more serious, more costly problems—heartworm treatment (at an average of \$650 per dog for immiticide injections and supportive care), hip surgeries, knee surgeries, back surgeries.

Through the end of October, GRR has spent \$44,595.71 on 2006 vet care... and an additional \$6,373.98 on medications: the Heartgard we send to all foster dogs



each month; the Frontline sent out every three months; and widely prescribed antibiotics, anti-inflammatories, shampoos, and ear medications. With expenses like these, you can see why we are always so very grateful to get any donation you can spare, large or small—including medications you no longer need. It all adds up, and lets us help one more dog find a happy, healthy life in a brand new home. (And please—if you have a minute, we would love to hear how your GRR dog is doing. Keep those stories and photos coming!)

To all of you who have helped GRR this year, and who have opened your homes to a dog in need for a few weeks, a few months, or forever—we wish you an extraordinarily wonderful holiday season and all the best the New Year can bring.



## Adoptables

Check out our Adoptables online at **GRR-TX.com**



## Extraordinary Golden Fund Donors

*Faced with the prospect of turning away or euthanizing Golden Retrievers with high medical costs, we created the Extraordinary Golden Fund. Donations made to the EGF are strictly used for beyond-the-ordinary medical treatments of Golden Retrievers in need. Visit <http://www.grr-tx.com/about/egf.htm> for information on the Golden Retrievers who are being helped today thanks to your generosity.*

**Suzette & Brent Coen**

**Thomas Doughty**

**Jordan Folloder**

**Holly Green**

**Jessica Kalimon**

**Dan & Sondra Karlebach**

**Elisabeth Koren**

**Joan & Jeff Lava**

**Jacquelyn Lechwar**

**Donald & Marilyn Mehaffey**

**Jim Minton**

**Laura Mitchell**

**Frank Nichols**

**Nick & Ann Nichols**

**Sandra Nordstrom**

**Michael Page**

**Pam Phillips**

**Susan & Jeanette Resendez and Honermann**

**Susan Roehm**

**Stacy Russell**

**Lisa Savage**

**Melinda Seiffert**

**Kurt Shultz**

**Mark Stevens**

**Kelly Topfer**

**Kelly Webb**

### For Rali

*The donations poured in for our sweet boy, Rali. Thanks to your overwhelming generosity, Rali is a healthy, happy, playful Golden—just as he was intended to be.*

**James E. Baratta**

**Shawn Barbee**

**Yvonne Castillo**

**Joe Danz**

**Dana Dean**—Good luck to Rali and all the GRR dogs

**David & Jana Deming**

**Sarah Gilbreath**

**Justin Greenhalgh**

**Margaret Henry**

**Catherine Hofstad**

**Mike Keliher**

**Nancy McGowan**

**Debbie McKinney**

**Janet & Neil Martin**—For Rali and other Golden Retrievers who really need medical help

**Denise Mendez**

**Kimberly Lee Minden**

**Eric Moxham**—Thank you for your amazing work. Speedy recovery Rali. Eric, Dabney and our beloved Golden, Alex von Moxham

**Deena Nelms**

**Greg & Lori Quist**—Best wishes and a big hug for Rali

**Mary Salsman**—Good luck Rali...hope you feel better soon. Mary, Rambo, Tilly & Sadie

**Gwen Stovall**

**Leslie Sullivan**

**Julie Talkington**

**Mary Trautman**—my 8 and 10 year old sons donated their own money when they read about Rali. Please give him a hug from us.

**Luke Wendling**—for gentle Rali from GRR alum Acie. Get better soon, Rali.

**Anne Williams**



## GREAT VETS!

*GRR wishes to thank these animal clinics for their continued support of our dogs and rescue efforts. Please show them your support and tell them "Thanks for helping GRR!" next time you're in one of their offices.*

**Animal Trustees of Austin**

**Castlerock Pet Hospital**

**Central Texas Specialty  
Veterinary Hospital**

**Century Animal Hospital**

**Country Hills Vet Clinic**

**Emergency Animal Hospital of  
Northwest Austin**

**Griffith Small Animal Hospital**

**Highway 620 Animal Hospital**

**Lakeline Animal Care**

**Lincoln Heights Pet Hospital—  
San Antonio**

**Pet Medical Center  
of San Antonio**

**Pets First — San Antonio**

**San Marcos Vet Clinic**

**White Rock Veterinary Hospital**

If you're holding on to canine medications that you no longer need, please consider donating them to Gold Ribbon Rescue. Email [emilyt@grr-tx.com](mailto:emilyt@grr-tx.com)

# Oom-Pup-Paws Was A Splash!

*by Susie Schaffer*

If these photos don't look familiar to you, then you missed out on one of the most fun events of the year—GRR's Annual Oom Pup Paws held back in October. Every year, Golden Retrievers and their humans meet up at Maura's Happy Hour Farms for a splashing



good time! It was a day filled with sunshine and camaraderie that brought about 80 people together to share Rudy's BBQ sandwiches and wonderful potluck dishes, and to watch their Golden Retrievers



having a wonderful time in the 3-acre pond. Thanks to all who made it out to support Gold Ribbon Rescue, and to Rudy's Country Store for donating the great sandwiches! We were able to raise over \$800 for rescue.

Be sure to mark your calendars for our "Golden Afternoon in the Park" Annual Picnic March 24, 2007 at Zilker Park.



*Special thanks to Nick Nichols and Lonni Swanson for taking great pictures at the Oom-Pup-Paws. You can view all the photos of the event on our website under "Our Community".*





# Golden Memorials

In Memory of  
**Sadie Branson-Baker**

*It was way too much fun and way too short*  
Jody Branson

In Memory of  
**Angus**

*who we loved dearly*  
Lon & Maria Badgett

In Memory of  
**Carolyn R. Solberg**

Laura Eskeland  
John & Jane Ohashi  
Ann & Joseph Weybright  
Marian & John Donnelly  
The Honey Bee Quilt Store  
(Dianne Ferguson)  
Jennifer Bradley  
Denise Oken  
Celia Sheneman  
Mary Ann Poirier  
Cheryl & Richard Hazeltine  
Cheryl Brown

In Memory of  
**Otto**

*my Golden boy (to EGF Fund)*  
Winn Biesele

In Memory of my dear beloved sister  
**Judy Ann Curran** and her dear **Abby**

Connie Horn

In Loving Memory of our wonderful  
**Splash**

Sam, Eileen & Rusty Joyce

In Memory of our friend

**Carolyn Solberg**

*She was a friend to all living things,  
especially Golden. We'll miss you.*  
Sam, Eileen & Rusty

In Loving Memory of  
**Splash Joyce-Hankins**

*who for one wonderful year graced all of  
our lives with her presence*  
Becky

## Golden Honors

In Honor of  
**Splash**

Eileen Joyce & Sam Hankins

In Honor of the wedding of  
**Cheryl Solt & Mark Fugina**

Teresa & Paul Szostak

In Loving Memory of  
**Ranger**

Mary & Mark Martinez

In Loving Memory of  
**Olivia Schreve**

*– you were one in a million!*  
*You are dearly loved and sorely missed.*  
Becky

In Honor of  
**Susie Schaffer's birthday!**

Neelie Slade  
Denise Cox

In Memory of our  
**Jessie**

Frank L. Nichols III  
Nick & Ann Nichols

In Memory of  
**Splash**  
Susan Culp

In Memory of  
**Tasha & Kelsey**

Kathy Heck

In Honor of  
**Jody Branson's special birthday**  
Sandy Nordstrom & Bob Ashenbrenner

In Loving Memory of  
**Ali**  
*who will be missed so much by all who  
loved her*  
John G. Shinski

In Memory of our GRR adoptee  
**Fasby**

Pat & Joe Nahas

In Memory of  
**Sadie**  
*loved by Jody Branson and Dave Baker*  
Sandra Nordstrom

In Honor of  
**Jody Branson**  
*Thanks for your friendship and all your help with  
GRR. Have the merriest 50th birthday ever!*  
Love, Gary & Susie Schaffer, Scout &  
Bucky, too

In Memory of  
**Fasby Nahas**  
Joan & Bernard Lechner

In Memory of  
**Fasby**  
*a rescued Golden who died 8-7-2006.*  
Owners – Joe & Pat Nahas  
Peggy Fitzgerald

In Honor of  
**Avelyn Ross & Gary Pfeffer**  
Joseph Kallmann



# Thank You for Giving...

It's been a while since our last GRR newsletter, but the memberships and donations have continued to pour in. If we've missed your donation or misspelled your name, please email [brendaf@grr-tx.com](mailto:brendaf@grr-tx.com) so that we can correct it.

Does your company offer a "matching gift" program? If so, be sure to let them know that you support Gold Ribbon Rescue! Be sure to check your mailing label on this issue to find out if your membership is due. You can renew at [www.GRR-tx.com](http://www.GRR-tx.com). Thank you!!



## Golden Circle Membership Level \$500-\$1000

Jody Branson



## Gold Medalist Membership Level \$250-\$499

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Terre & Cindy Michaels  
Roy Shrove & Corina Enriquez



## Golden Nugget Membership Level \$100-\$249

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Cynthia Shelmerdine  
Cathy Smith  
Dolores Stoner  
Kelly Webb  
Carolyn & Fred Whitten



## Golden Friend Membership Level \$40-\$99

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## Golden Gifts

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 Dog Wise (education fund)

### DELL EMPLOYEE MONTHLY DONORS

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Check the website to see how you too can become a monthly donor, or simply mail us a check in the amount you wish to have drafted each month and put "Donor Club" in the memo field of your check. We can also draft your Visa or Mastercard. It's easy, secure and absolutely painless!

**Thank you for your support!**

### Special Thanks to Flint River Ranch

for their continued support of GRR:  
 Carol Fowler, Carol Sammons  
 and Frank Nichols

*All donations, large and small, make a huge difference in the lives of homeless and unwanted GR's in Central Texas. Your donation is fully deductible as a non-profit donation—we are a 501(c)(3) organization as designated by the IRS.*

Thank you for your support. You can make your donation online at: [www.GRR-TX.com](http://www.GRR-TX.com) Or, via check or credit card—mail to:

**Gold Ribbon Rescue, PO Box 956,  
 Austin, TX 78767**

## Golden Health Training Your Adopted Dog

—Continued from Page 2

### BOOKS/DVDs: Behavior/Body Language

Calming Signals: What Your Dog Tells You (DVD), by Turid Rugaas

For the Love of a Dog: Understanding Emotion in You and Your Best Friend, by Patricia McConnell

The Other End of the Leash, by Patricia McConnell

**Free e-book download:** BEFORE You Get You Puppy by Dr. Ian Dunbar, a veterinarian, animal behaviorist, writer and founding member of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers - [www.siriuspup.com](http://www.siriuspup.com)

### Help Finding a Positive Trainer:

Check the Association of Pet Dog Trainers website at [www.apdt.com](http://www.apdt.com)



*For the love of a Golden we give our time, our money and our hearts. GRR wishes to thank our generous community for helping save and rehome over 150 dogs so far this year. With your continued support the rescue work continues...*



# ON SALE NOW

The Gold Ribbon Rescue  
2007 Spirit of the Golden Calendar



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