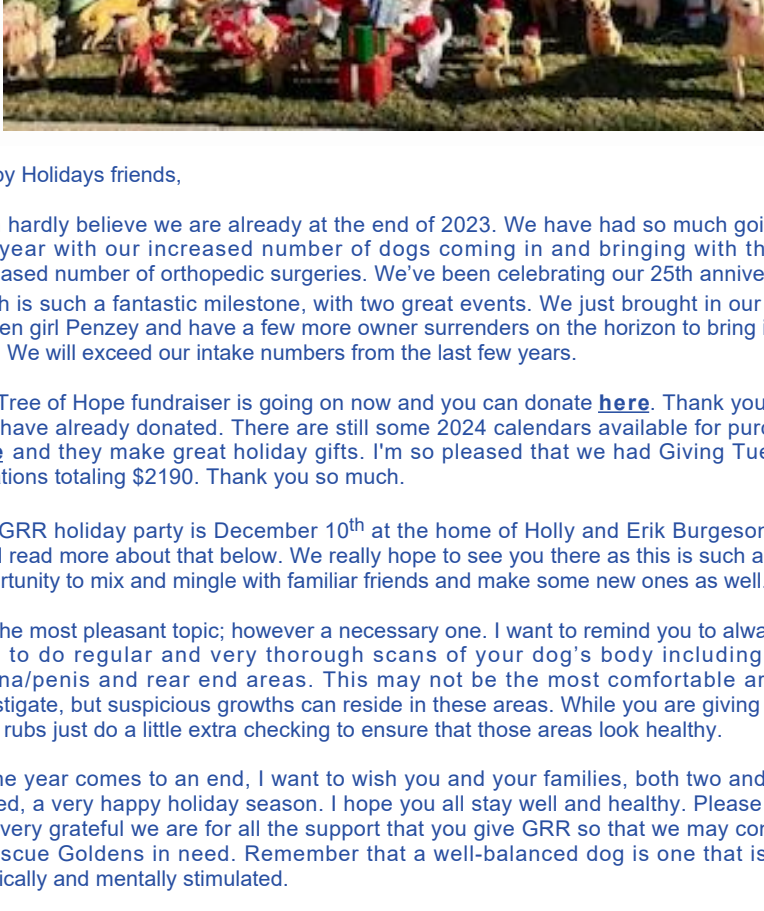


A Message From Our President



Happy Holidays friends,

I can hardly believe we are already at the end of 2023. We have had so much going on this year with our increased number of dogs coming in and bringing with that an increased number of orthopedic surgeries. We've been celebrating our 25th anniversary, which is such a fantastic milestone, with two great events. We just brought in our 104th Golden girl Penzey and have a few more owner surrenders on the horizon to bring in this year. We will exceed our intake numbers from the last few years.

Our Tree of Hope fundraiser is going on now and you can donate [here](#). Thank you to all who have already donated. There are still some 2024 calendars available for purchase [here](#) and they make great holiday gifts. I'm so pleased that we had Giving Tuesday donations totaling \$2190. Thank you so much.

The GRR holiday party is December 10th at the home of Holly and Erik Burgeson, and you'll read more about that below. We really hope to see you there as this is such a great opportunity to mix and mingle with familiar friends and make some new ones as well.

Not the most pleasant topic; however a necessary one. I want to remind you to always be sure to do regular and very thorough scans of your dog's body including their vagina/penis and rear end areas. This may not be the most comfortable area to investigate, but suspicious growths can reside in these areas. While you are giving those belly rubs just do a little extra checking to ensure that those areas look healthy.

As the year comes to an end, I want to wish you and your families, both two and four-legged, a very happy holiday season. I hope you all stay well and healthy. Please know how very grateful we are for all the support that you give GRR so that we may continue to rescue Golden Retrievers in need. Remember that a well-balanced dog is one that is both physically and mentally stimulated.

Warmest holiday wishes,
Michelle

GRR is ready, willing and able to help Golden Retrievers.

If you know of a Golden in need or one to be surrendered, please always remember to contact our [Intake team](#) or call our hotline at **512-659-4653** as our social media pages aren't monitored for posts of dogs in need.

Do you have questions or comments for the Board?
We value your input. Please send a note to the [GRR Board](#) and include **Questions For The Board** in the subject line. We hope to hear from you! The next board meeting is **January 20, 2024**.

Happening This Month!

Shai Tuckowski

It's Full of Golden!

GRR's 2024 Calendar now available!

Our calendar supplies are limited and we don't want you to miss out!

[Order now!](#)

YOU AND A GUEST ARE INVITED TO OUR

Holiday Party!

DECEMBER 10 AT 5-7PM

THE BURGESON'S HOME
15210 HAWK STREET, AUSTIN

WINE, CHARCUTERIE AND HOLIDAY TREATS
HOLIDAY CASUAL DRESS
HUMAN-ONLY EVENT

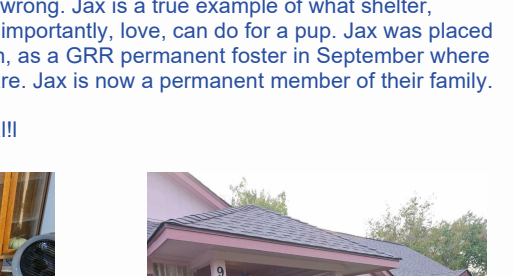
We'll be having a silent auction at the Holiday Party. If you can donate a silent auction item, please contact [Susan](#) or [Paula](#).

Note: Please park on Sledge Drive or on Hawk Street up to the dead end.

Please RSVP to [Susan](#) by December 7th. We hope you'll join in the fun!

Tree of Hope

We believe all dogs deserve love, care, safety and a forever home. That's why we've rescued and re-homed more than 3,500 dogs over the past 25 years and rescued 103 dogs in 2023. To us, no dog is too sick, too old or too useless - we'll do whatever it takes.



This year's fundraising goal is **\$12,500** with all donations supporting our Extraordinary Golden Fund (EGF), which provides care for dogs with **extraordinary medical, surgical or orthopedic needs**. As of Nov 30th, we have raised **\$4,985** of our goal of \$12,500.

Please help support our Extraordinary Golden Fund today!
[Start decorating our Tree of Hope now!](#)

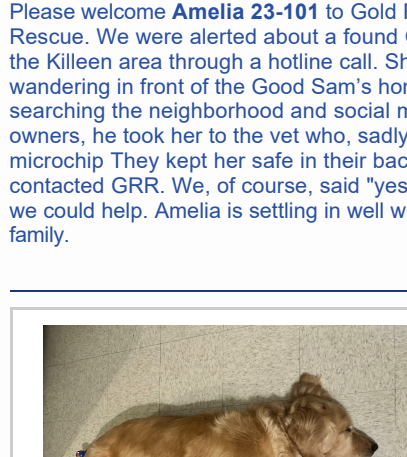
As always, thank you!

Jax Has a Forever Home

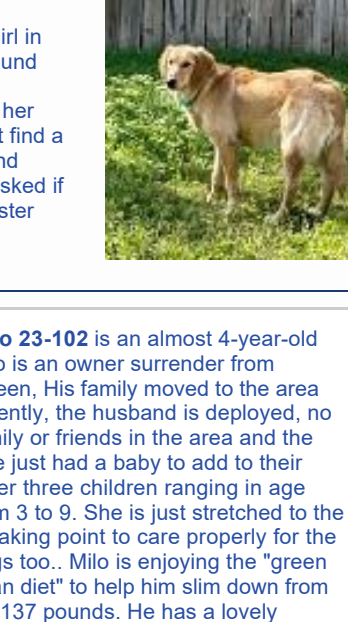


With much excitement we wish to announce the adoption of Jax 23-072 (AKA Big J) to Lexi and Logan. The two men about 10 years old, "voted" Jax as their forever dog. Jax has been with us as a GRR rescue pup. Upon intake in July we truly felt that he would be on hospice care to make his last days with us comfortable ones, but he proved us wrong. Jax is a true example of what shelter, nourishment, health care, and most importantly, love, can do for a pup. Jax was placed with Laurie and her daughter, Logan, as a GRR permanent foster in September where he continued to thrive under their care. Jax is now a permanent member of their family.

Jax's smile in the top photo says it all!



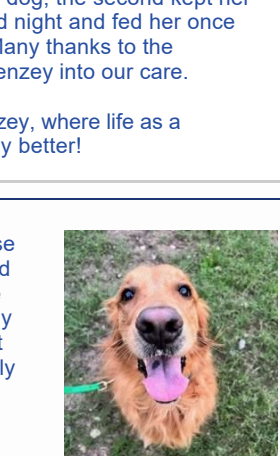
Jax, front, with his new sisters Allie and Riley.



We Hit 100 Golden Retrievers!

Hank 23-100 is a 3 1/2 year-old owner surrender from the Austin area who was brought to us for all-too-common reasons; they just had twins and also have a 3 year-old; the mom was called back into the office and there just isn't enough time in the day. Hank is with his foster mom and is getting plenty of attention and looking forward to his forever home. Welcome to GRR sweet boy!

Please welcome **Amelia 23-101** to Gold Ribbon Rescue. We were alerted about a found Golden girl in the Killeen area through a hotline call. She was found wandering in front of the Good Sam's home. After searching the neighborhood and social media for her owners, we took her to the vet who, sadly, couldn't find a microchip. They kept her safe in their back yard and contacted GRR. We, of course, said "yes" when asked if we could help. Amelia is settling in well with her foster family.



Milo 23-102 is an almost 4-year-old who is an owner surrender from Killeen. His family moved to the area recently, the husband is deployed, no family or friends in the area and the wife just had a baby to add to their other three children ranging in age from 3 to 9. She is just stretched to the breaking point to care properly for the dogs too. Milo is enjoying the "green bean diet" to help him slim down from his 137 pounds. He has a lovely temperament and we look forward to all of the details as he settles in.

Luke 23-103 is an almost 14-month-old owner surrender from Laredo, TX. Luke was originally only supposed to stay with the current owner for a while until the original owners found a house. It's been seven months and the prior owners do not want Luke back and told the friend they could take him to the shelter if they did not want him any longer.



Well, he's certainly wanted by GRR! Special thanks to Rhonda who made the long-distance travel to Laredo to bring Luke back to San Antonio.

Penzey 23-104 is a surrender from a neighbor of the owners. Penzey has had several families. The first gave her up because she wasn't suitable as a breeding dog; the second kept her on a tie-out all day and night and fed her once a day - no attention! Many thanks to the neighbor for getting Penzey into our care.

Welcome to GRR Penzey, where life as a Golden doesn't get any better!

Molly 21-070 is a GRR dog who is returned to GRR because her family feels, after two years, that they are just not a good match. She is settling in with her foster and we'll share more details as they become available. Initial reports are that Molly may soon be enjoying the green bean diet and working a bit on her manners. Welcome back little lady! Your perfect family is waiting for you!



Proclaim Your Love of Golden Retrievers!

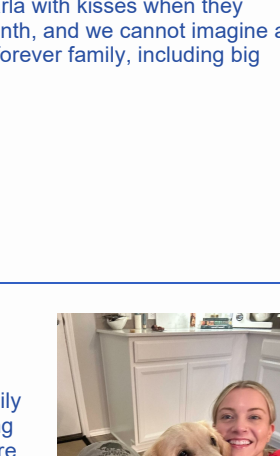
Preview the holiday selection at our GRR Store and order here.

My Dreams Really Did Come True! I Got Adopted!

We're thrilled to announce the long awaited adoption of Maui Jim 23-062, now Max, to Greg and Ron on October 28th. They took him through four long months of heartworm treatment to finally arrive at this happy day. Greg and Ron are ecstatic that Max is a part of their family.

Max came to us back in June through a breeder surrender (the same breeder that gave us 15 week old Copperstone and Panama Jack) after she decided not to breed him due to his hip results.

Violet 23-090 (now Tasha) was adopted on October 30th by Steve and Jimmy. They fell head over heels for this spirited baby, who joins canine siblings Tucker and Taylor.



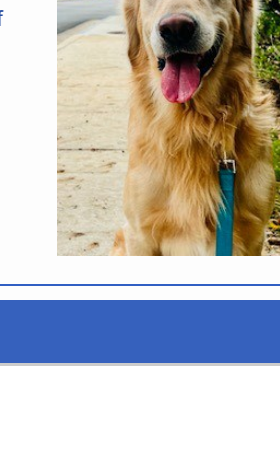
She is just gorgeous! That long tail with such long legs to match and best of all, pain free from her damaged leg.

Poppy 23-095 was adopted on November 2nd by Sara and Nick. They love her to bits; she's as sweet and intoxicating as the name sounds. They report she has impeccable house manners.



Poppy and her feline friend, Dennis, are peacefully coexisting and doing great. She is real sweetheart

Lilac 23-096 (now Layla) was adopted on November 6th by Nathan and Yvonne. Her new family includes two teenagers, one cat, and one Chiweenie. "We all kind of fell in love with her," writes Nathan, "and no wonder. Layla means 'night', but her smile lights up the room."

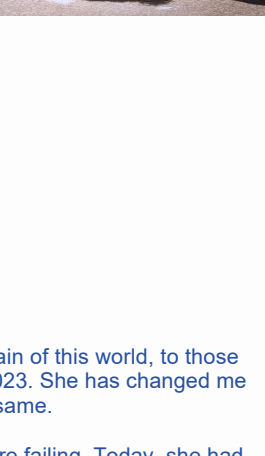


Groot 23-081 was adopted on November 6th by Steve and Janie and they are over-the-moon excited to introduce the newest member to their family. Their hearts are filled with joy as they welcome this beautiful boy into their home. With his fluffy fur and wagging tail, "Groot" has already stolen our hearts. Groot is more than just a pet; he's a part of our family now! His playful spirit and loving nature have already brought so much happiness into our lives."

They can't wait for all the adventures, walks in the park, and cozy nights by the fire that they will share together. #NewBeginnings #GoldenRetrieverLove #GrootsHome

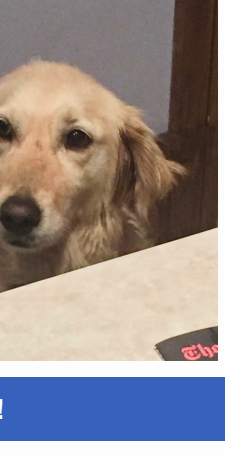
Beth Bella Marie 23-078 was adopted on November 6th. She found her perfect home with Loni and Steve who did respite care for her and just didn't want to turn her loose! She has lots of attention and with love and care, we know she will soon have a new svelte shape. Welcome to the good life Bella Marie!

Sweet boy **Rocky 23-051**, formerly Balboa, was adopted on November 9th by Bob and Lisa and this is the best news ever. He's had a tough time getting adopted, but the second time seems to be perfect! Congratulations to the new family. He has been and will be well loved!



Mongo 23-092 was adopted on November 10th by Maria and Ed. They saw his staring role on Pet of the Week, and Mongo sealed the deal by showering Maria with kisses when they met. Mongo turns seven next month, and we cannot imagine a better birthday gift than his new forever family, including big brother Finn (GRR 15-019)!

Macey 23-088 was adopted on November 12th by her FPA family, Annika and Shankar. In the photo, you can see how ecstatic she is to be part of a family where she is allowed to be inside the house and is able to participate in all of the daily activities; anything from hanging out, going on walks, or enjoying coffee on the patio of a coffee shop! Annika and Shankar are totally in love with her and will provide a wonderful environment for this sweet girl to thrive in.



We are so very happy for Annika and Shankar, but most especially, Ms. Macey.

Chief 23-093 was adopted on November 13th by Edward and Ashley. His new mom reports that he is warming up nicely and enjoying his very own new bed. It was a love at first sight! Pictured above is a photo of Chief with his two new sisters! This boy really hit the jackpot!



Brodie 23-099 will be adopted today, December 1st, by Karen and Brodie! We couldn't wait to give you the wonderful news. Brodie will be home for Christmas! We're so thrilled that this sweet boy will have a wonderful home. His wandering days are over. Family pictures will be in the January issue of the newsletter.



Thoughts, Prayers and Remembrance...

Mary 15-147
Suzy 2011
Foxy (Katmai) 20-086T

Mary 15-147

In Memoriam

Mary 15-147

Candice Gourley

My darling, beautiful Mary traveled through the grey rain curtain of this world, to those white shores in a far green country, midday, November 20, 2023. She has changed me forever, and in her departure, once again, I will never be the same.

Because someone will ask, splenic mass, and her kidneys were failing. Today, she had lost 6 pounds in the three weeks since our last visit. We've been doing diagnostics and labs for months, which have all been normal and unremarkable until as recent as three weeks ago... and today, her body finally revealed the issue. Palliative here, with us, for a few more days, would have been about me, and she was suffering... I promise my babies that I will do my best to not make decisions that are easiest on me, but that are best for them.

Mary, your heart, your life, your gentleness are unparalleled. You and your babies, that night 8 years ago, uncovered a part of my own heart long left untouched. Simply thank you, my darling, the Original Wayward Dog, and my love. Thank you for the gift that was you.

Foxy (Katmai) 20-086T

Joan and Jeff Lava

Foxy (Katmai) 20-086T left us too soon on Tuesday, November 28th, almost exactly two years after she came into our lives from Turkey. We were privileged to have shared her life and hope she benefited as much as we did. Echo, her GRR older sister, will miss her.

Foxy was one of the Golden Retrievers from Turkey. She was dignified and smart. She seemed to understand the world and how to manage her way. With her head on your lap, watching you, she conveyed an uncommon serenity, unusual in Golden Retrievers.

You Really Need to Know This!

Mysterious Respiratory Illness is Spreading Among Dogs and Baffling Veterinarians

We don't know much about this illness yet, but we want you to be aware. Read more about what is known [here](#).

THE MOST COMMON HOLIDAY HAZARDS FOR YOUR PET

CANDY & BAKED GOODS

FATTY FOODS

TREATED TREE WATER

POTPOURRI

CANDLES

MEDICINE

PLANT DECORATIONS

ALCOHOL

ORNAMENTS

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