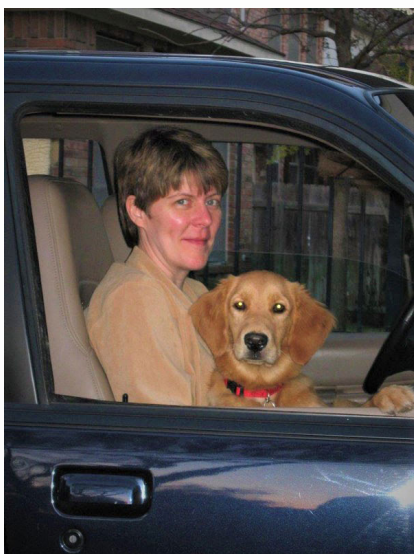


Rescuing, Rehabilitating and Rehoming
Golden Retrievers in Central Texas

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June 2019

A Message From Our President



Dear Friends,

Nothing brings me more love, camaraderie, (frustration), joy, (heartache), or sense of accomplishment than helping Golden Retrievers toward new and successful lives. Many GRR teammates express the same passion. We are lucky to have found a way to work together toward such positive change.

To keep GRR robust, it is imperative to plan toward the future. Now is the time to groom leadership volunteers, so when we long-time team leaders slow down a bit, the transition will proceed seamlessly.

Are you comfortable taking responsibility and managing a team? Do you have follow through and commitment? Are you ready to train to become a GRR leader? If so, contact me margo@grr-tx.com and I'll direct you to the appropriate mentor.

As Ever,
Margo

GRR Board Meeting: The Gold Ribbon Rescue board of directors meeting will be held Saturday, June 8th. If you have questions, comments or suggestions for the board, please send a note to grrboard@grr-tx.com with the subject line "Questions For The Board" prior to the 8th. We welcome your input!

Radio Victorious!
Margo and Gary Biba

Gary and I have sad news about our delightful

permanent foster, #18-036 Radio. Radio's health and mobility went downhill over the past month, and then quickly spiraled downward last weekend. He was euthanized at home by Dr. Ron, Sunday evening, 05/19/19.



Radio was a stray from the Lockhart shelter, back in March of 2018. We couldn't tell how old he was -- 8? Ancient? Dr. Ontiveros at Manchaca Village Veterinary Care phoned, after examining Radio. "Per x-ray, his spine is totally fused. Radio can't stand up at all. I don't know what to do. I hate to euthanize Radio, because he is so sweet. He is a cool dog. Come to the clinic and see what you think."

I first laid eyes on Radio in the back room at the vet clinic. There he was, lying in the middle of the action, happy as a clam as Dr. Ontiveros and many techs discussed him. Even though Radio's prognosis was grim, I brought him home for the weekend; hoping to give him a few days of comfort and attention, before his life ended.

Back at our house, Radio surprised us. He had fun! He could stand! He could walk a few steps! He was great with the other dogs! He never stopped smiling! He was magnificent! We were smitten!

Eventually, we learned that not only was Radio's spine fused from nose to tail; but he also had severe, incurable ear infections which caused ongoing vertigo. The reason that Radio walked like a drunken sailor was because his world was constantly spinning like a never ending Merry-Go- Round.

Gold Ribbon Rescue saved the day for Our Boy. Ann and John Woody sponsored Radio. Amy Sebesta secured a grant from the Golden Rescue of Naples, which paid for half of Radio's ear ablation surgery. Joint donations from many GRR supporters paid the rest. Radio's worst ear canal was surgically removed by surgeon Steve Kerpsack at CTVSH, and a miracle happened -- the vertigo resolved. Radio was pain-free and he could walk almost normally.

Remembering Radio, he was pretty darned perfect -- the total package. He had looks and charm, eternal optimism, and a cheerful attitude even when life gave him lemons. We want to be just like him.

Radio Victorious!

Golden Grooming Tips

Don't Shave Your Golden!

Many people mistakenly believe that shaving or severely clipping their Golden is a wonderful way to keep the dog cool and comfortable in warm weather. What they don't realize is that they're actually putting the dog at greater risk of health problems like skin cancer. Here's why:

A Golden's coat is made up of two parts -- the

long and smooth outercoat and the soft and fuzzy undercoat -- which work together throughout the seasons to protect the skin from sun, heat, cold and moisture. To understand how the two coats work together, consider what naturally occurs in a Golden's coat as the seasons progress ...

The undercoat thickens in cold weather to keep the Golden warmer and dryer. It also begins to come out in big clumps in warm weather, when the Golden no longer needs as much of it.



But the outercoat remains the same year round ... offering not only the beauty we've come to love in this breed, but more importantly, protection from the harmful effects of UV rays on the Golden's skin.

That's why the keys to keeping your Golden not only cool but safe in warm weather are to keep the protective outercoat intact -- something shaving or severe clipping DOES NOT allow you to do -- and to remove the undercoat on a regular, weekly basis.

To do this easily and effectively ... Invest in an Undercoat Rake

Once you use one of these very handy grooming tools (cost: approximately \$10) you'll wonder how you've ever done without one! It makes very quick work of brushing, particularly when the goal is to remove lots of undercoat.

They're available at most pet supply stores, and through pet supply catalogs and web sites. Buy or order one today! Your Golden will thank you!!

In Loving Memory...Maya

Amy Sebesta

On April 30th, Maya (14-117), kicked cancer in the tail once and for all. We fought lymphoma for two *long* years and hope - beyond most every hope - to be able to spend time with her again somewhere on the other side of the rainbow.





Remembering Tamara Gunter

Margo Biba

On Sunday, May 19th, GRR lost good friend and long-time volunteer Tamara Gunter, after a long battle with neuroendocrine cancer (netrf.org). A graphic designer by training, Tamara worked in global marketing for technology companies, including Tivoli and IBM, for most of her professional career. Tamara was also a world traveler who published marvelous photos of the countries she explored. She began fostering and adopting from GRR 18 years ago, when we were a fledgling organization. Tamara took in one dog after the other – special needs, medical needs, young and active, shelter dogs -- she opened her heart and home to them all. Calm, intelligent, thoughtful, fun; Tamara touched the hearts of everyone – human and canine – that she met.

Happy Journey, Dear Friend



Thoughts, Prayers and Remembrance...

Maya (17-117)

Mabel

Bella

Danny (19-043)

Radio (18-036)

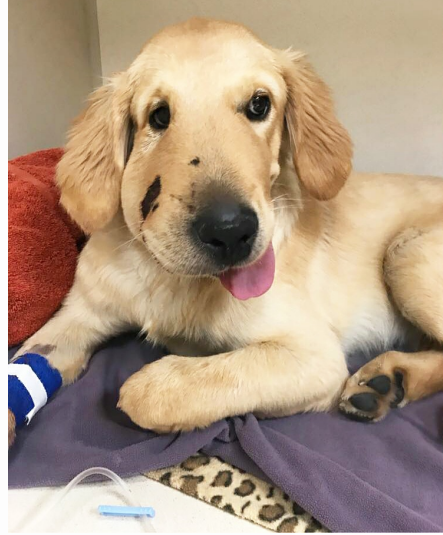
Benadryl for Snakebites

Contributed by Robin Early and reviewed by Dr. Ron Stried. This article was written by a veterinarian of the United Waterfowlers Forum.

"First, let me say that I have been a vet for 23 years in N Florida. We treat probably an average of 15 snake bites a year. That would translate to over 300 snake bite cases I have treated, or been involved in. Two, my opinions are not based on what happened to one dog, or my neighbor's dog or even the two dogs that have been bitten that I personally owned. So not only have I treated a lot, but since I do treat so many, I stay current with current treatment options and what works best, based on data, not stories.

So, here goes with some absolutes about snakes. The things that follow are facts that I have either observed or read or both.

- There is no magic time for how long until treatment. Get them to the veterinarian as soon as you safely can. I have saved dogs that were bitten 24 hours prior and had patients die that I saw within 30 minutes. The exception is if there is a bite to the tongue or inside of mouth that may cause breathing issues. I have never seen a bite to the nose cause life threatening breathing issues.
- You do not need to make any effort whatsoever to "get the snake" to take it to the vet. If it is poisonous and causes swelling, we know what to do. The only other poisonous snake in Florida is the coral and it does not cause swelling. Unless it is some released species and, in that case, we will not have antivenin anyway.



[Read More...](#)

Oh Danny Boy...

*"but come ye back when summer's in the meadow
or when the valley's hushed and white with snow
I'll be here in sunshine or in shadow
Oh Danny Boy my Danny Boy I love you so..."*

Danny (19-043) was finally rescued from the San Antonio Animal Care Services the morning of May 17th after three long days of attempts by GRR to obtain his early release. Long-time GRR volunteer and foster Arne Larson and new GRR volunteer Ashley Aimee were there at opening and, armed with a stretcher, immediately took Danny to the Converse Animal Hospital to see if we could save him.



He had so many medical issues. He could not stand and while lying on the bed, he urinated three times. He had skin issues, his right hip was possibly out of joint, he could not extend his left shoulder, one kidney was very large and there were major issues with the blood work. These were just a few of his medical issues. The doctor advised us that he would have a very poor quality of life and if it were her dog, she would euthanize him.

Danny is now running free over the Rainbow Bridge and his pain is over. None of us want to see a dog suffer and we are here to be an advocate for our dogs. This was the right decision to make. Now Danny is not suffering.

We don't know anything about his life and whether he was loved, but Danny will always be a GRR dog, even though he was only with us for a few hours.

Run free, sweet boy – we love you!



Help Wanted: Newsletter Assistance

Newsletter: Urgently need a person to input the newsletter content and photos into Constant Contact on a monthly basis. The content will be submitted so the task requires input only. Approximately 3 hours per month. If you can help, please contact Dori Olsen at newsletter@grr-tx.com.



New sletter Editor: Dorian Olsen

Send comments or suggestions to: newsletter@grr-tx.com

The Gold Ribbon Rescue newsletter is published monthly. Articles reflect the opinion of the authors and do not necessarily reflect GRR policy. Gold Ribbon Rescue and its Editor(s) seek to publish accurate material, but neither assumes responsibility in the event of a claim of loss or damage resulting from publication.

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