

Rescuing, Rehabilitating and Rehoming
Golden Retrievers in Central Texas

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June 2020

A Message From Our President



Hello Friends,

I hope you and your families are doing well and staying healthy. Things within Gold Ribbon Rescue are going well as we move into the summer months. Intake was very slow with new dogs from January 1st to May 15th, with only 23 dogs coming in to GRR. The good news is that we had a little flood in the last two weeks of May and took in eight dogs, including four 3 1/2 months-old Golden puppies. The Board continues to monitor the situation and look for ways to broaden our outreach and intake possibilities.

We are thrilled to announce that Suzette Coen will be joining the GRR Board of Directors as of June 1st to represent the medical team. She will she'll eventually assume Margo's role of medical supervisor. Suzette has been an active volunteer with GRR since 2006. During her volunteer time, Suzette has been a key member of the medical team, including as the medical supervisor from 2006-2009. She and her husband have adopted twelve dogs from GRR and have fostered many others. Suzette was also a vet tech for sixteen years and a boarding kennel manager for ten years. We are lucky to have her as part of the GRR family.

Our adoption team has been meeting to discuss ways to continue with processing applications that were in our queue when the shelter-in-place notices hit. They are also

working on a plan to address the many adoption inquiries that have come in over the past two months. We are working on plans to begin resuming some activity within this area.

In May we launched our GRR Volunteer Facebook group and began discussions for our volunteer socialization program, which is a program to help our fosters and others to learn how to better socialize their dogs. Watch for more details over the next few months. We continue to look for opportunities for GRR to grow and keep our volunteers engaged. Our newsletter is one tool that we use to keep everyone up to date on what is happening. We would love to have you share updates and stories on your adopted GRR dogs. Everyone loves to see where they are now. Please send stories and photos to Dori Olsen at dorianolsen@earthlink.net.

Thank you for your continued support of Gold Ribbon Rescue.

Best regards,
Michelle Goldberg

Do you have questions or comments for the Board? We value your input. Please send a note to grrboard@grr-tx.com and include **Questions For The Board** in the subject line. We hope to hear from you! The next board meeting is **July 11, 2020**.

Fun in the Golden Sun!



A few words on gratitude, strength, and caring from the Board of Directors at Gold Ribbon Rescue.

The past several months have been something that none of us could have ever imagined. Loved ones forced to keep apart, added burdens for those who now need to home-school, the sadness of missed birthdays, anniversaries, graduations and much more. Added to that, the loss of jobs, or a constant, reliable income.

All of us at Gold Ribbon Rescue want to let you know how much we care about each and every one of you. You've given us incredible support over so many years and we hope you have always felt our immeasurable gratitude for that support. We understand that times are very hard on everyone and have made it a point to drastically reduce our requests for donations, memberships, even pushing our usual summertime Calendar Auction out.

Your participation and donation to our [Fun In The Golden Sun](#) fundraiser specifically benefits our Extraordinary Golden Fund for Goldens needing exceptional medical care in 2020. Please click [here](#) to get started.

Please take care of yourselves, your families and your dogs.

We're all family here.

- Michelle, Paula, Tim, Dawn Marie, Dawn and Jacki

About Our Extraordinary Golden Fund

Your donation to the Extraordinary Golden Fund (EGF) enables GRR to continue helping dogs with serious medical needs. It is our policy to take in Goldens in need, many of them dogs that other rescues aren't able to help, regardless of their medical condition. With this fund, we are able to deliver on our commitment to helping all Goldens. Because of your generosity, GRR helped 13 EGF dogs in 2019. With your donation, we can help 2020 Goldens in need as well. **You can make a difference in the life of a Golden.**

As always, thank you for your donation.
Click [here](#) to get started!

Tax Day



Tax Deductibility Reminder - The Due Date This Year is July 15, 2020

As a 501(c)(3), GRR is a "qualified organization". The IRS allows you to claim the following deductions as charitable contributions, if you itemize: mileage for every mile you travel for GRR purposes, vet appointments, transport, home visits, etc. Direct expenses such as food, medical supplies and other items for a foster dog. Money spent on envelopes, postage, containers for supplies, baggies for supplies, membership fees, dues, etc.

From publication 526: "You may be able to deduct membership fees or dues you pay to a qualified organization. However, you can deduct only the amount that is more than the value of the benefits you receive." GRR always recommends that you talk with your tax consultant/adviser on all deductions. See publication 526 [here](#).

I'm Flying! Sitka 17-090
Michelle Goldberg



Sitka (17-090) was born on July 24, 2017 while under GRR's care as Sugar, along with her sister Spice (17-091). Her mom, Chiquita (17-082), came into GRR's care and was carrying two stowaways that no one knew about. We suspect that there was some sort of injury to Sitka's tail in the womb or during birth as she was born with this cute little tail that is only about four to five inches long. We took her in as a foster when she was ten weeks old and eventually it became very apparent that she was a great fit into our family, so we had no choice but to adopt her!

Sitka was quite the athlete from a very early age. She is an extremely high energy girl in a small package. She has no fear, except for thunder. She will investigate anything and anywhere. The first time that I took her to the dock diving pool she had no issues jumping right in. She absolutely loves to swim, so the fact that she can chase a ball off the end of the dock into a pool makes perfect sense.

We are just getting started with some formal training in the sport to improve Sitka's jumps with height and distance. She gets to practice at the dock at least two times per week. We also have exercises that we work on in the yard to help with this.



It is so much fun to watch her fly off the dock as I can see the total joy that resonates throughout her little body.



Her obsession with balls is her driving force. She will play with most balls, but tennis balls are her favorite. When Sitka is not playing ball, Her other obsession is her significant other, Breck (18-092), who was formerly Mayo of the Lunchables litter.



Allergies in Dogs
VCA Hospitals.com



An allergy is a state of over-reactivity or hypersensitivity of the immune system to a particular substance called an allergen. Most allergens are proteins from plants, insects, animals, or foods.

"With allergies, the immune response can actually be harmful to the body."

Exposure to the allergen, usually on multiple occasions spanning months to years, sensitizes the immune system, and a subsequent exposure to the same or related allergen causes an over-reaction. Normally the immune system protects the dog against infection and disease, but with allergies, the immune response can actually be harmful to the body. Allergies may be thought of as an unnecessary normal immune response to a benign foreign substance.

The immune reactions involved in allergies are quite complex. Most reactions involve allergen protein molecules combining with antibodies in the blood, then attaching to a type of cell called a mast cell. Mast cells are found in many tissues throughout the body. When the antigen and antibody react with mast cells, the mast cells release potent chemicals, such as histamines, that cause local inflammation such as redness, swelling, and itching. This inflammation causes the various signs associated with an allergic reaction.

What are the symptoms of allergies in dogs?

In the dog, the most common symptom associated with allergies is itching of the skin, either localized (in one area) or generalized (all over the body).

Continue reading [here](#).

Adopted!

Marley 20-006 Marley was adopted on May 13th and her new mom LOVES her. Marley lived alone in an outdoor kennel for over a year before her prior owners decided to do the right thing and surrender her to GRR. When Marley came to us, she was absolutely petrified of other dogs. She would bark, yell or whine if one came near

her, but it was all bark and no bite. Her new mom has done great work with her training and Marley has improved so much that she no longer notices when other dogs are near her or on her block.



Broly when he arrived on April 25th



Broly snoozing after puppy antics.

Broly 20-021 Broly was adopted on May 15th. Broly has been a GRR Facebook sensation, thanks to his foster who posted photos of his antics on at least a daily basis. This sweet little boy came to GRR at six weeks old, was nurtured by Hara and is thriving with his new, loving family.



He took over the bed at his foster's house!



Broly shakes the toy duck and growls, just the way their sweet prior GRR girl Rylee did. She loved her toy ducks. Broly does the same thing and his new family just dies laughing!



Lola 20-022 Sweet, petite Lola was adopted on May 19th by her foster dad. He is smitten with her and she's acting like she's been with him all along!



It is truly a match made in heaven! So wonderful! Another GRR miracle of changing lives for the best!



Dreidel 19-116 Dreidel was adopted on May 23rd and is right at home with her new family. Now known as Merel, she's already become a part of the family. She's a sweetheart and is so fortunate to have two older sisters to learn from, although usually they just bark at her for being too playful.



Dreidel was a stray from Gonzales, TX. She is now ten months old, still growing and healthy. This little lady has made many human friends and is starting to trust the few people she's been able to meet during this stay-at-home madness.

Do You Have an Emergency Plan for Your Dog?



As COVID-19 continues to spread through our communities, we encourage pet parents to be prepared in case of a personal health emergency. If you develop COVID-19 or experience any other serious illness, you may not be able to leave your home for a while—or you might suddenly be hospitalized. Having a plan and an emergency preparedness kit for your pets will make life easier for both of you should you become ill, incapacitated, or quarantined for any length of time. Here are ideas to get you started on a plan:

If you have COVID-19 or symptoms and are recovering at home:

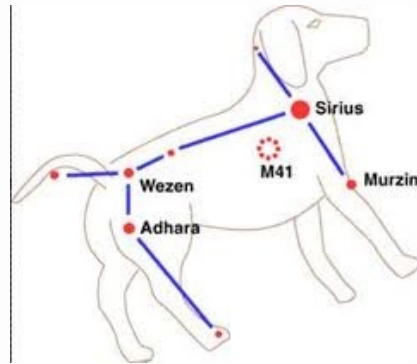
To protect your pets, you will need to restrict your contact with them. This means no petting, snuggling, kissing/licking, or sharing of food. It also means another member of your household should care for your pets while you're sick. Pet bedding, food and water bowls, collars, leashes and toys need to be thoroughly washed, and if you must care for your pet while you're ill, wash your hands before and after you interact with them.

Designate a pet care back-up person:

It's important for you to identify a designated caregiver (a family member, friend, or colleague) who can care for your pets if you cannot physically do so. This person should be given a set of house keys, be familiar with your pet, and have contact information for you and your vet. You'll also want to talk with this designated person—as well as your vet and a local boarding facility—in advance, so you can be sure they're willing and able to provide temporary care for your pets.

Canine Astronomy - Dogs in the Sky

Arlen Zander



Since the earliest days of humanity, people have been fascinated by celestial phenomena. Millennia later, after wolves evolved into domesticated dogs and achieved a bond with humans that was both endearing and enduring, humans became fascinated with them as well. So it was only natural for humans to incorporate dogs into their observation and exploration of the heavens.

One of the earliest examples of this is the naming of four of the 88 constellations after wolves and dogs: Lupus (wolf), Canis Major (big dog), Canis Minor (little dog) and Canes Venatici (hunting dogs). (There are no constellations named after cats!) These names originated with the ancients who imagined many of the stars in these constellations to be mythological figures.

According to mythology, Canis Major is one of the dogs of Orion, the great hunter. This constellation is one of the best known in the sky because it contains the brightest star in the night sky, Sirius, also called the Dog Star. The ancient Egyptians named this star after one of their gods, Osirus, who had the head of a dog. They also noticed that this star was in the sky at the same time as the sun during the hottest part of the year, and hence these times came to be called “dog days”.

Continue reading [here](#):

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!



Summer's Here! Are You Prepared?



April was National Pet First Aid Awareness Month, and June is a perfect time to go over exactly what you should include in your dog's first-aid kit. Even if you already have a first-aid kit, now might be a good time to make sure the supplies haven't expired or run out.

You never know what'll happen when it comes to accidents and emergencies, so it's good to be prepared. When you're camping, driving across the country, or facing a natural disaster, you need to be ready. Just like you have a first-aid kit for the humans in your home, it's important to keep one handy for the canines in your life.

It's best to put all of your doggy first-aid supplies in a bag, bin, backpack, shoulder bag, or container. That way it can travel with you and your dog when you're taking road trips, camping, or hiking. You'll want to make it easy to pick up and take out to the yard or wherever your dog might need treatment.

Of course, it's always best to seek professional veterinary treatment when your dog gets hurt. However, you may find yourself in a situation where you can't get to a vet, or you may need to care for your dog until you can get them to the emergency room. In those moments, you'll be glad you have a first-aid kit handy.

Here are a few essential items you should always keep in your dog's first-aid kit.

1. Paperwork: Vaccination & Medical Records And Emergency Phone Numbers

If you're dealing with a critical emergency, you'll want all of your dog's info in one place. This will help if your dog gets hurt and needs medical attention.

Continue reading [here](#).



Thoughts, Prayers and Remembrance...

Carmelo 12-144

Clancy 14-053

Ainsley 12-059

Scout (formerly Armani) 11-090



Newsletter 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.

Gold Ribbon Rescue | 512-659-4653 | 1101 W 34th St #336, Austin TX 78705
www.grr-tx.com