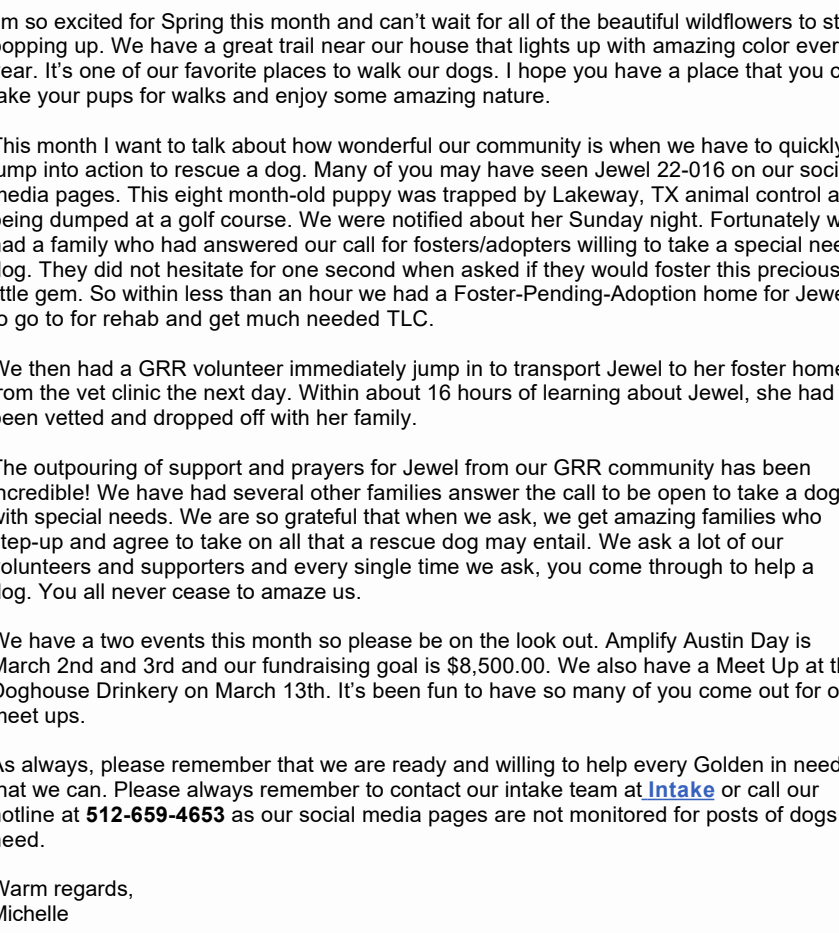


Golden Tales

[Join GRR](#) - [Donate](#) - [Volunteer](#)
[GRR Store](#)

March 2022

A Message From Our President



Hello Friends,

I'm so excited for Spring this month and can't wait for all of the beautiful wildflowers to start popping up. We have a great trail near our house that lights up with amazing color every year. It's one of our favorite places to walk our dogs. I hope you have a place that you can take your pups for walks and enjoy some amazing nature.

This month I want to talk about how wonderful our community is when we have to quickly jump into action to rescue a dog. Many of you may have seen Jewel 22-016 on our social media pages. This eight-month-old puppy was trapped by Lakeway, TX animal control after being dumped at a golf course. We were notified about her Sunday night. Fortunately we had a family who had answered our call for foster/adoptioners willing to take a special needs dog. They did not hesitate for one second when asked if they would foster this precious little gem. So within less than an hour we had a Foster-Pending-Adoption home for Jewel to go to for rehab and get much needed TLC.

We then had a GRR volunteer immediately jump in to transport Jewel to her foster home from the vet clinic the next day. Within about 16 hours of learning about Jewel, she had been vetted and dropped off with her family.

The outpouring of support and prayers for Jewel from our GRR community has been incredible! We have had several other families answer the call to be open to take a dog with special needs. We are so grateful that when we ask, we get amazing families who step-up and agree to take on all that a rescue dog may entail. We ask a lot of our volunteers and supporters and every single time we ask, you come through to help a dog. You all never cease to amaze us.

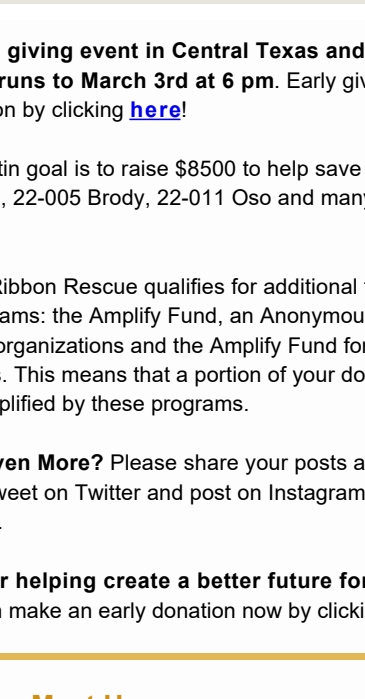
We have a two events this month so please be on the look out. Amplify Austin Day is March 2nd and 3rd and our fundraising goal is \$8,500.00. We also have a Meet Up at the Doghouse Drinkery on March 13th. It's been fun to have so many of you come out for our meet ups.

As always, please remember that we are ready and willing to help every Golden in need that we can. Please always remember to contact our intake team at [Intake](#) or call our hotline at [512-659-4653](#) as our social media pages are not monitored for posts of dogs in need.

Warm regards,
Michelle

Do you have questions or comments for the Board? We value your input. Please send a note to arboard@grr-tx.com and include **Questions For The Board** in the subject line. We hope to hear from you! The next board meeting is **March 26, 2022**.

Happy St. Paddy's Day



The More You Know

Important Updates and Information from GRR

We are in need of fosters and adopters who have a "true" heart for rescue!

- True rescue dogs need love, comfort, good nutrition, transport to/from vet appointments (GRR pays for necessary medical costs through our own approved vets), security, heating and training.

- True rescue dogs need a firm commitment that you'll invest time and care to help them heal and thrive. We work with you and coach you to provide what the dog most needs.

- In return, you'll watch your true rescue blossom and grow which is a truly rewarding experience.

If you'd like to help a true rescue dog, note on your application under "Consider Special Needs Dog" that you are willing to foster or adopt a dog with special needs. A huge Golden thank you to wanting to help these special Golden.

Note: If you are not interested in a special needs dog, the wait time may be lengthy.

Foster Dog Adoptions

There is a temporary stop on allowing foster families to adopt their foster dog regardless if it is or is not their first time fostering. This should not be confused with our FPA process, which is still available. For more information, contact [Jacki Mulkey](#).

Let's Rock. Let's Amplify Austin. Let's Save Golden.



Amplify Austin is the #1 giving event in Central Texas and it officially begins March 2nd at 6 pm and runs to March 3rd at 6 pm. Early giving is now open so you can make an early donation by clicking [here](#)!

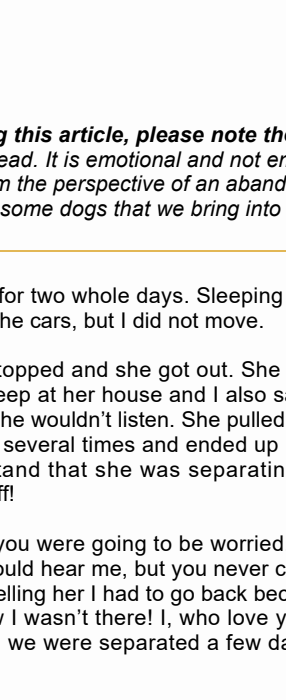
This year our Amplify Austin goal is to raise \$8500 to help save Golden in need including 22-013 Jewel, 16-096 Zoe, 22-005 Brody, 22-011 Oso and many more. We can't do it without you.

The Good News: Gold Ribbon Rescue qualifies for additional funds from three Amplify Austin programs: the Amplify Fund, an Anonymous Funder for Animal Care and Service organizations and the Amplify Fund for Small and Medium-Sized Non-Profits. This means that a portion of your donation to Gold Ribbon Rescue will be amplified by these programs.

Want to Amplify GRR Even More? Please share your posts about Gold Ribbon Rescue on Facebook, retweet on Twitter and post an Instagram to spread the word about Amplify Austin.

Thank you for helping create a better future for our Golden.
You can make an early donation now by clicking [here](#).

March Madness Pup Meet Up



Mark Your Calendar!

We're planning another Pup Meet Up - this time it's MARCH MADNESS at the [Dog House Drinkery Dog Park](#) in Leander. This place is great! We'll have access to our own off-leash area. Plus, Dog House has multiple areas for dogs and owners to hang out without using the off-leash park areas. Dogs are always welcome in the bar area(s). Sadly, no kids under 16 are allowed in the off-leash area. There is no charge for the off-leash area.

Be sure to read [Dog Park Rules](#) - [Dog House Drinkery Dog Park](#)
Come join us for a fun time at the Dog Park!

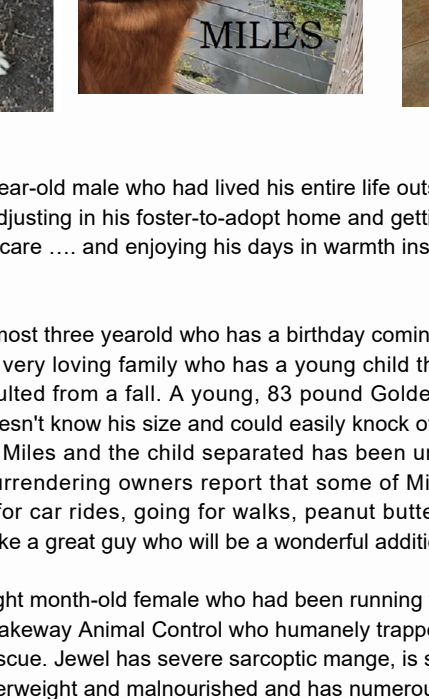
What: March Madness with Your Pup
Where: Dog House Drinkery Dog Park
3800 County Road 175, Leander, TX 78641
(Across from Williamson County Regional Park)
(512) 291-6664

When: Sunday, March 13th
Time: Noon - 3:00 p.m. for 3 hours of FUN!

Please note: Covid guidelines will be followed. Should we need to cancel, we will post information on our Facebook page and the [GRR website](#).

A Survivor's Story - Meet Zoe 16-098

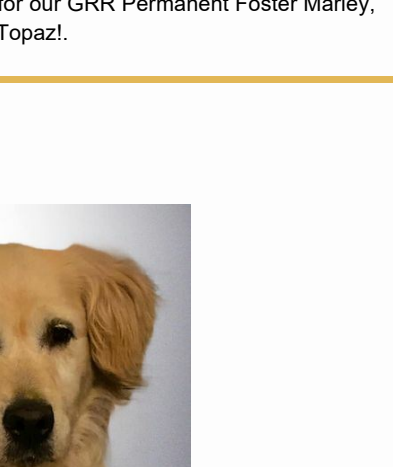
Becky LaBum



There's nothing like that Golden grin! Just look at Zoe's beautiful smile—don't you want to smile right back? And when you learn what she's been through, well, that happy face is even more cause for celebration. If ever there was a true survivor and a genuine rescue Golden, Zoe is that girl.

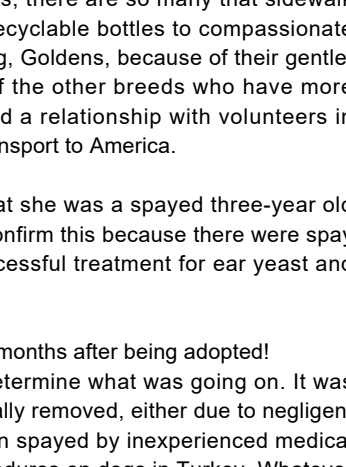
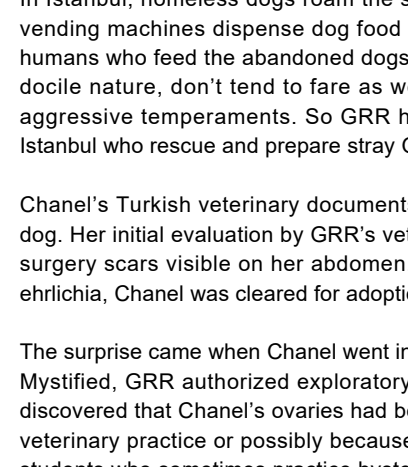
She first came to GRR way back in 2016, with a heartbreaking story. When she was very young, just about six months old, her then-owner entered into a relationship that quickly turned abusive, both physically and emotionally. Even as a half-grown adolescent, brave little Zoe tried to intervene, to shield her mom from the blows and screaming and yelling, but instead was herself showered with the same cruelty and abuse.

This went on for almost a year before the owner finally extricated herself and Zoe from the situation. By this time, the young dog had been living so long in a state of constant stress, fear, and heightened alert that it's no surprise she was left with ingrained emotional damage. To this day, she is startled by sudden movements, alarmed and defensive at the sight of younger men (especially in baseball caps), and very protective of the women in her life until she is positive of any newcomer's good intentions.



Luckily for Zoe, she ended up with the very best GRR mom she could have hoped for: a lady who specializes in helping human trauma victims and did the same for the little dog in her care. With time and infinite understanding and patience (and further discoveries: "I figured out that a lot of the abuse must have occurred in a closed bathroom, because at first Zoe would just flip out if I went in the bathroom and shut the door. I had to open it to show her I was okay.")

Zoe began to settle down and gain confidence. She discovered the pleasures of playing with other dogs, she made friends with neighbors, she learned to go for walks, and she even got comfy with mom's clientele coming and going to the in-home office. This past fall, however, Mom ran into some health issues that left her unable to care for Zoe "in the way she deserves"; even at the age of 7+, this blonde is full of spunk and loves play and vigorous exercise. So Zoe came back to GRR - and now she's looking for another perfect home.



At this point, Zoe has had many more happier, loving years than sad ones, and it shows! In so many ways, she has become a typical Golden. She has handled the upheaval of moving from mom's home to a friend's house for a few months to a new GRR foster home surprisingly well. To women who let her approach on her terms, she's friendly and sweet and adores being petted and scratched. She loves treats and thinks peanut butter is the greatest! With careful intros, she does just fine with other nice dogs. She's manageable on her leash and interested in her surroundings. She's a calm, gentle companion as you read or work at the computer.

The emotional scars will always be there, she'll always need careful attention to her triggers and will have a more circumscribed "comfort zone" than other dogs, but none of that will stop her from being a sweet, attentive companion to the right person or couple. She deserves only the best and we know the perfect family is waiting for her!

If you think that Zoe might be a great match for your family and would like to learn more about her, please contact our [GRR Matchmakers](#).

Forgive Me, Mommy

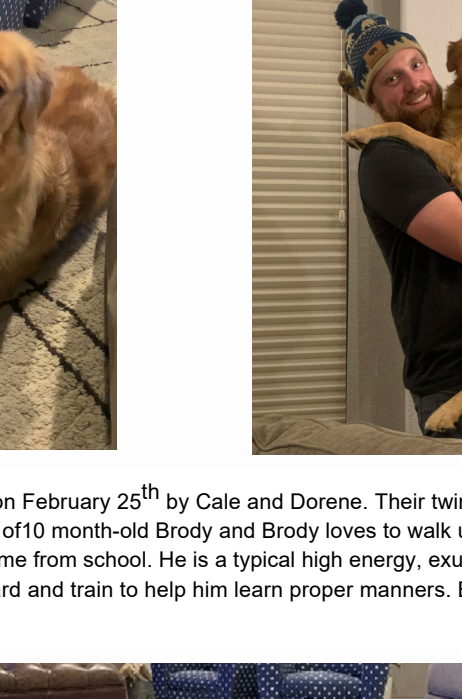
Author Unknown

Editor's Note: Before reading this article, please note the following: This article may be difficult to read. It is emotional and not emblematic of all rescues. It does, however, give a view from the perspective of an abandoned dog and helps to explain the reactions and behaviors of some dogs that we bring into GRR.

I was there where you left me for two whole days. Sleeping right on the side of the road. I was terrified of the noise from the cars, but I did not move.

Last night one of those cars stopped and she got out. She invited me to lunch, but I said no. She invited me to come sleep at her house and I also said no. I tried to explain to her that I was waiting for you, but she wouldn't listen. She pulled out a leash and said I couldn't stay there any longer. I bit her several times and ended up peeing on myself as I growled and cried! She didn't understand that she was separating me from you! She took me against my will and we drove off!

I kept so sad because I knew you were going to be worried. We ended up at her house. I was screaming, hoping you would hear me, but you never came. I vomited because of my nerves, feeling so sick. I kept telling her I had to go back because you were going to think I abandoned you when you saw I wasn't there! I, who love you with all my heart and soul, have not stopped crying since we were separated a few days ago. I want you to know, I would never do that to you.



I don't know where you are now or why you stopped the car and left me there. Surely you had something very important to do. Can you come find me now, Mommy?

Today I ate because my tummy was hurting. I also slept on a very soft bed. And by accident I also wiggled my tail a bit. I'm so sorry, please forgive me. She's just being really nice to me. She said I could stay forever. She's calling me Milo, but I already have a name. When you pick me up you can tell it to her. You'll see how surprised she'll be when you explain to her that this was a big mistake.

Because Mommy, you're coming back for me, right?

Pets are not disposable when we don't want/need them anymore. They are a life time commitment. They are family! Thank you so much to everyone who adopts and rescues them and loves them until their last dying breath. Because of you, this world is a better place. (Contributed by Kim Krause)

Look Who's Here!

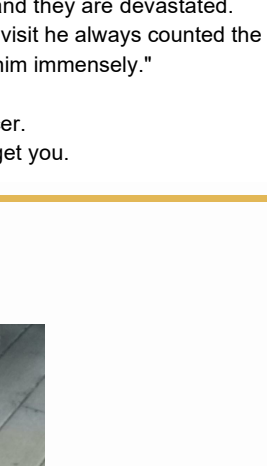
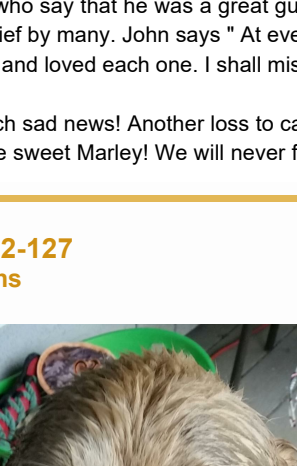
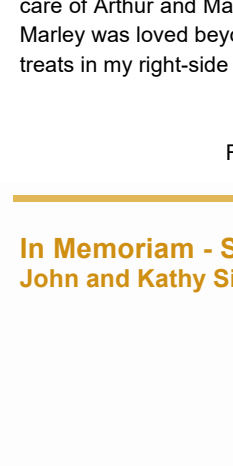
Our February GRR Arrivals



22-011 Oso is a four year-old male who had lived his entire life outside and received zero medical care. Oso is adjusting in his foster-to-adopt home and getting love, attention, good nutrition medical care ... and enjoying his days in warmth inside on the sofa. Welcome to GRR!

22-012 Miles is an almost three yearold who has a birthmark coming up on March 12th. He was surrendered by a very loving family who has a young child that is recovering from a skull fracture that resulted from a fall. A young, 83 pound Golden that is still puppyish, friendly and bouncy, doesn't know his size and could easily knock over the little one is not a good match. Keeping Miles and the child separated has been unsuccessful, both have been unhappy. The surrendering owners report that some of Miles' favorite things are being outside, going for car rides, going for walks, peanut butter, and cuddling on the couch. Miles sounds like a great guy who will be a wonderful addition to some lucky family!

22-013 Jewel is an eight month-old female who had been running for some time. Neighbors contacted Lakeway Animal Control who humanely trapped her and surrendered her to Gold Ribbon Rescue. Jewel has severe sarcoptic mange, is suffering from raw, blackened skin, is underweight and malnourished and has numerous skin/eye issues. But Jewel's Golden personality is shining through as she is recovering, gaining confidence and learning to trust in her GRR foster-to-adopt home.



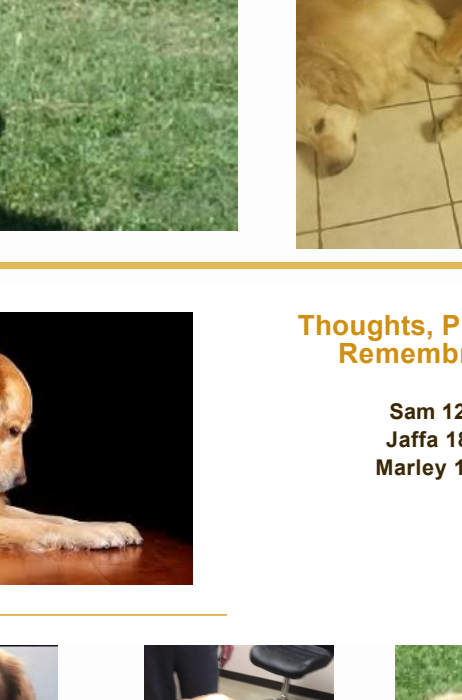
22-014 Molly is a three year-old blonde from Corpus Christi who was surrendered with her friend Hunter. Their owner needed to start a new job out of area and couldn't find anyone who could take care of Molly and Hunter during his absence. Per her owner, "Molly gets a little worried when Hunter isn't around" so let's hope we can find her a home with another nice guy for security. What a sweet girl!

22-015 Hunter is a three year-old red male who came in with his friend Molly (see above). He is just as nice as Molly per the owner and both dogs sound lovely; good with kids, good car riders and fine with other dogs. Welcome to GRR Hunter!

22-016 Topaz is a stray from Giddings, TX. She is around twelve years old with medical needs that are being addressed by GRR. Topaz is decompressing with her very experienced fosters who were permanent fosters for our GRR Permanent Foster Marley, who passed away recently. You're in good hands Topaz!

A Surprise from Turkey

Arlen Zander



Last year, the Bissell Pet Foundation awarded a grant to GRR to support its policy that all adopted dogs will be spayed or neutered. Channel, one of the dogs covered by this policy, came from Turkey and brought a surprise with her. This is her story.

Channel arrived at Houston's Bush Intercontinental Airport in July after a long, stressful flight from Turkey. She and her companion Prada were the latest of the 38 Golden Retrievers that GRR has rescued from the streets of Istanbul.

In Istanbul, homeless dogs roam the streets in packs; there are so many that sidewalk vending machines dispense dog food in return for recyclable bottles to compassionate humans who feed the abandoned dogs. In this setting, Golden, because of their gentle, docile nature, don't tend to fare as well as some of the other breeds who have more aggressive temperaments. So GRR has established a relationship with volunteers in Istanbul who rescue and prepare stray Golden for transport to America.

Channel's Turkish veterinary documents indicated that she was a spayed three-year old. Her initial evaluation by GRR's vet seemed to confirm this because there were spay surgery scars visible on her abdomen. So after successful treatment for ear yeast and ehrlichia, Channel was cleared for adoption.

The surprise came when Channel went into heat a few months after being adopted! Mystified, GRR authorized exploratory surgery to determine what was going on. It was discovered that Channel's ovaries had been only partially removed, either due to negligent veterinary practice or possibly because she had been spayed by inexperienced medical students who sometimes practice hysterectomy procedures on dogs in Turkey. Whatever the reason, Channel underwent a second spay surgery, supported by BPF, and is now permanently fixed.

Thanks to the [Bissell Pet Foundation](#) for helping beautiful Channel live her best life!

Adopted!

Honey 21-065

Honey was adopted by Paula Jo and Mitch on February 11th.

You may remember Honey from last month's issue of Golden Tales where we shared Honey's story.

Honey has found the perfect family, one that really understands her, and she is a very happy camper. Her loving parents even constructed a "cave" just for her (pictured above) so that she could be comfortable and enjoy time with the family.

Perfection!

Diamond 22-007

What a Valentine gift! Super sweet Diamond was adopted by Gail on Valentine's Day, February 14th. We wish Diamond, now known as Jazz, lots of love and many years of happiness with her new mom. Congratulations to Gail and Jazz!

Brody 22-005

Brody was adopted on February 25th by Kaye and Dorene. Their twin eight year-old boys are totally enamored of 10 month-old Brody and Brody loves to walk up the hill to meet the boys on their way home from school. He is a playful high energy, exuberant puppy and his perfect family!

Celis Brewery Pup Meet Up

Wow! What a fantastic day! We had about 30 people participate with as many dogs on February 13th at Celis Brewery. The outdoor dog park was very popular and the many well-behaved Golden Retrievers enjoyed meeting and nuzzling their new friends. Cynthia took thirty polaroid pictures of attendees for keepsakes, plus Denise and Cynthia hung our LOVE banner for more Valentine pictures-with-your-pup photo ops.

Special thanks to Event Team members Denise Brown and Cynthia Langdon for making this such a successful event. We're looking forward to our next pup meet up on March 13th at the Dog House Drinkery in Leander. We hope to see you there!

In Memoriam - Marley 18-127

Marley was a champion at heart, conquering mountain after mountain under the loving care of Arthur and Maureen who say that he was a great guy and they are devastated. Marley was loved beyond belief by many. John says "At every visit he always counted the treats in my right-side pocket and loved each one. I shall miss him immensely."

Such sad news! Another loss to cancer. Run free sweet Marley! We will never forget you.

In Memoriam - Sam 12-127

John and Kathy Simmons

A few weeks ago we lost our beautiful boy Sam, GRR 12-127, to lymphoma. He had just celebrated his 10th birthday. Sam came to our home in Sept, 2012 at nine months old. The plan was to stash him overnight until we could get him up to Austin. He stole our hearts from the minute he walked in the door and we adopted him two weeks later. We were his third home in his first nine months and, to our constant happiness, his forever home.

In July of 2013 Sam welcomed his brother Eddie and they were inseparable from day one. Sam loved finding every mud puddle possible. I suspect he really liked getting rubbed down with a towel and getting muddy always made that happen. He was a constant source of joy and love and light. We miss him terribly, but will be forever grateful that we had the honor of being his family.

Run free our joyful spirit!

