

Rescuing, Rehabilitating and Rehoming
Golden Retrievers in Central Texas

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October 2019

A Message From Our President



Dear Friends,

Why is GRR so successful, when sometimes other rescues fail? We have survived and thrived for 21 years, saving thousands of Golden Retrievers from Texas, plus from Turkey, Mexico and China. Our professionalism and camaraderie, fiscal responsibility, loyal donors and dedicated volunteers are invaluable.

Leadership within GRR, particularly board members, is key. Ours has always been a "working board". My fellow board members average 20+ hours weekly. (I'm always at 50+ hours per week volunteering for GRR). Each board member is expected to be responsible for, and oversee, major areas of the GRR organization such as:

Financial management, fundraising and events, marketing, internal and external communications, matchmaking, adopter screening, intake coordination, medical coordination, behavior/training coordination...and more.

It is spooky, how much it takes to manage our fine organization, but it is worth it!

Reminder: GRR members are invited to attend our Annual Business Meeting, Saturday, October 12th. For meeting details, click here: <http://www.grr-tx.com/about>

Thanks to all who attended our September 29th Golden Celebration fundraiser. Could those China Goldens be any cuter? A good time was had by all!

As Ever,
Margo

volunteers. 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!

Enjoy this wonderful Gold Ribbon Rescue desktop calendar for 2020! You can order directly by clicking "**Purchase the 2020 Gold Ribbon Rescue Calendar**". This link will also show you each month's beautiful photos. A discount can be had for multiple quantities. Enjoy!

Note to winners: The images in Yearbox do not show the backs of the months, but rest assured your beautiful words are there.



The Lunchables One Year Reunion



Howloween Fest at DogBoy's Dog Ranch

Date: Sunday, October 20th

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Where: **DogBoy's Dog Ranch**

2615 Crystal Bend Dr.

Pflugerville, TX 78660

[Map/Directions](#)

There is a maximum attendance of 75 dogs. Please, only two dogs per person. Light refreshments will be provided and we are having an entertaining costume

contest. Well-behaved dogs are welcome and they must be vaccinated.

Click [here](#) under the Events section to sign up!

We hope to see you there!

Delightful Dobby (19-063)

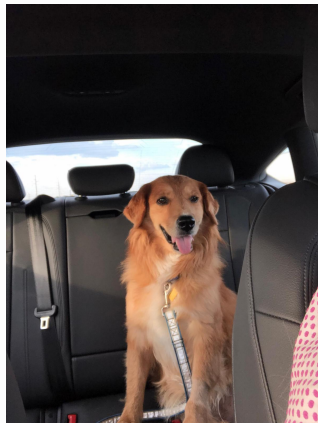
By Dawn Hinckley

Dobby (19-063), like the Harry Potter character, came to GRR through a circuitous route from Palm Valley, Texas. He's a smaller- framed Golden mix with the spirit of a pure Golden. Still in his Golden puppyhood (he's under 2 years old), Dobby has proven to be an adaptable fella that enjoys a great snuggle, some soft pats, a gentle walk and the company of his current foster family's dogs. He really wants to be the center of attention and he enjoys shredding soft toys and carrying a ball, although fetch is not one of his favorites.

Dobby does best with a routine, and verbal guidance in a calm tone. He is not letting his blindness in his left eye or his reduced vision in his right eye (from a juvenile cataract) stop him. As a matter of fact he has learned to maximize his other senses; this makes him very sensitive to loud noises and abrupt changes. Dobby, is an anxious fella and is invested in learning techniques to remain calm and confident. He is doing well with socialization. He does best with a mid-day potty break and is demonstrating the skill of being housebroken.

Dobby is just about ready to start the most difficult part of heart worm treatment. His foster family is working to enhance his manners with treats and at mealtime- his memories of being starving, critically ill and on his own haunt him. He requires patience and extra love in terms of daily trust and confidence building.

Dobby needs assistance getting in/out of a vehicle as his mobility is slightly limited due to short limbs and less-than-flexible knee joints. His low vision is not obvious so it's helpful to anticipate his needs by being consistent, instilling confidence and care in his environment. He is quick with treats and has been working on not rushing at meals. He does sleep through the night and enjoys the quiet of his super soft padded bed. Once recovered from heart worm treatment Dobby will begin searching for his lifetime companion. Is it you?



**How Long is Too Long to
Leave a Dog Home Alone?
Whole Dog Journal**



By Nancy Tucker, CPDT-KA
Published: April 18, 2018
Updated: September 6, 2019

How much isolation a dog can and should endure are two different things. How much time does your dog spend home alone? Is your dog experiencing isolation distress?

We know it's okay to be apart from our dogs and to leave them home alone, but for how long, exactly? Is there a limit to the amount of time our dogs should spend alone? How should you deal with separation anxiety in dogs?

A lot of dogs might spend most of their waking hours home alone and seem to do just fine, but is it okay? Are they really fine? I sometimes wonder if, instead, this is something we say to ourselves to assuage our guilt, or to avoid taking a harder look at a cultural norm that could use an update.

Let's look at how social isolation may affect dogs, and what we can do to minimize negative effects and maximize their well-being.

Being Alone All Day is Stressful for Many Dogs

Let's start with the most basic of truths: Most dogs will spend time home alone on a daily basis. How long depends on the owners' lifestyle and schedule. Someone who works an eight-hour day and has a commute, followed by errands and evening activities, could conceivably leave their dog home alone for 10 to 12 hours in a single day and on a regular basis.

Dogs have historically been left alone for long stretches without a second thought. As recently as a couple of decades ago, if a family needed to be away from home for a day or two, how the dog felt about being left behind – whether indoors or outdoors – was not an important consideration. As long as he had enough food and water, most owners felt secure in the knowledge that he was all set.

Continue reading [here](#).

Bizzy Izzy Bee (19-064)

By Wendy Ditmer

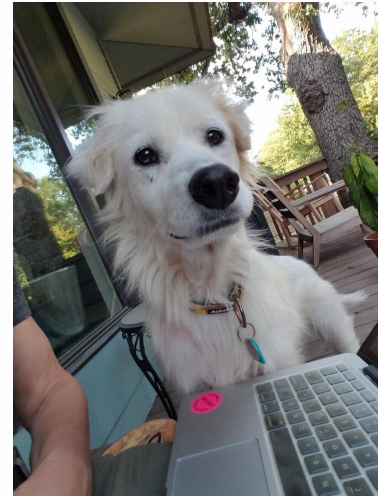
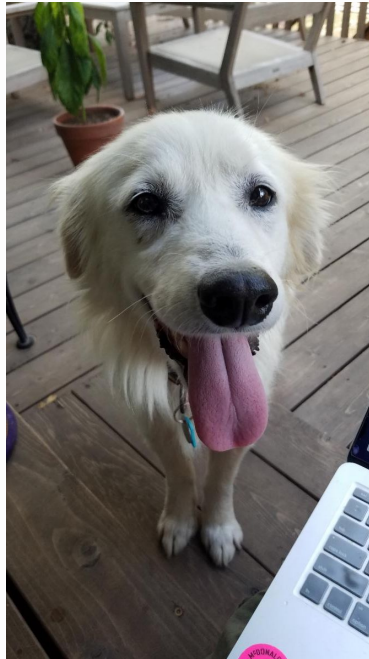
Bizzy is quite a catch! She is spunky, curious, and playful and loves companionship, both human and 4-legged alike. She is (sort of) athletic ...she clears about 2 feet with her vertical jump while waiting for her dinner and treats, resembling a hopping bunny. Picture a half-pint, fuzzy, white, hopping Golden mix, and you've got Bizzy!

If you're looking for a pup that follows you around for pets or to see if you just might have a treat, Bizzy is your gal. She amuses herself with plush toys, but isn't obsessed with them, particularly if you happen to be nearby with an available hand for petting. After a warm-up period, she now gets along famously with her 4-legged foster brother, swatting at him, nipping at his legs, ears, nose ... whatever happens to be closest to her in order to get his attention. She settles quickly, either laying near our feet to make sure she knows when we move or on her bed when the lights go out at night.

Currently, she is undergoing heartworm treatment and has had her first of three injections. However, this doesn't slow her down in the least and, in fact, we feel like she is more active now than when she first came to us six weeks ago. She has to be feeling better! We love seeing her come out her shell as she gets comfortable living with a roof over her head,

with a soft bed for naps, and a pack of people and other pups to love on her. Her perfect house will be one where her pack is around to give her the attention she desires, continues teaching her basic commands and loves on her at any given opportunity and, according to her, the more the better!

Bizzy will make your household a bustling hive of fuzzy love!



Bizzy Izzy Bee

Heidi is Home!

By Maureen Cannon

Heidi (19-061) was a stray at the Palm Valley Animal Center and she arrived at our house on July 3, 2019. Of our many fosters, she ranked very high in the worst shape category. She was obese (102 lbs.), had infected ears and encrusted eyes and large areas of missing fur on her tail, backside, and legs. In addition, she was intact and had obviously given birth very recently to a litter. It was highly suspected she had been a puppy mill mother since it was apparent that she had had many litters.

We immediately started here on nutritional dog food and greatly encouraged her to walk, or even just move. At first, she moved very little and once she laid down in the middle of the street and refused to walk any further. Since that memorable day, things have greatly changed for this beauty who we often call "the Duchess." She is down to 89 lbs., has been spayed and had entropion eye surgery. Her ears are clear, and she is now on thyroid medication. Most importantly, Heidi now loves to walk and when she strolls with her two golden retriever siblings, she always wants to lead the pack. She still enjoys being a couch potato but comes when called, loves to be petted and praised, and loves to give dog kisses.

Heidi's past horrible life is history and thankfully she is now enjoying her life due to the generosity of Golden Ribbon Rescue.



Our Golden Celebration Party



The Golden Celebration



Fushi (Formerly Mei Mei)



Halloween Safety Tips

Halloween can be the spookiest night of the year, but keeping your pets safe doesn't have to be tricky. The ASPCA recommends taking these simple, common sense precautions to keep your pet happy and healthy all the way to November 1st.

Stash the Treats

The candy bowl is for trick-or-treaters, not Scruffy or Fluffy. Several popular Halloween treats are toxic to pets. Chocolate in all forms—especially dark or baking chocolate—can be very dangerous for cats and dogs, and sugar-free candies containing the sugar substitute xylitol can cause serious problems in pets. If you suspect your pet has ingested something toxic, please call your veterinarian or the [ASPCA Poison Control Center](https://www.aspcapoisoncontrol.org/) at (888) 426-4435 immediately.



Watch the Decorations and Keep Wires Out of Reach

While a carved jack-o-lantern certainly is festive, pets can easily knock over a lit pumpkin and start a fire. Curious kittens are especially at risk of getting burned or singed by candle flame. Popular Halloween plants such as pumpkins and decorative corn are considered relatively nontoxic, but can produce stomach discomfort in pets who nibble on them.

Be Careful with Costumes

For some pets, wearing a costume may cause undue stress. The ASPCA recommends that you don't put your dog or cat in a costume unless you know he or she loves it. If you do dress up your pet for Halloween, make sure the costume does not limit his or her movement, sight or ability to breathe, bark or meow. Check the costume carefully for small, dangling or easily chewed-off pieces that could present a choking hazard. Ill-fitting outfits can get twisted on external objects or your pet, leading to injury.

To continue reading, click here: <https://www.aspcapoisoncontrol.org/>



Thoughts, Prayers and Remembrance...

Maggie May (14-067)

Millie (Annie 18-070)

Chase



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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