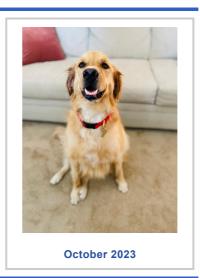
Rescuing Goldens and changing their lives forever.

Gold Ribbon Rescue olden Tales



A Message From Our President

Happy fall y'all!

Well yes, it is fall but sadly the weather is not cooperating. If you made it out to the Golden Pawlooza we hope you had a blast. It was so much fun to see so many long-time GRR friends and make many new ones. We had over 120 people with over 62 dogs. We gave out a lot of GRR swag, had a wonderful commemorative cake, fantastic silent auction items and a big group photo. We also had a celebratory toast to cheer our twenty-five years! Continuing to celebrate our 25 years of Golden Retriever rescue has been nothing short of fun, exciting and a lot of hard work. HOWEVER, it's been worth every bit of our hard work.



I want to share a great story about Bentley 23-082, who was surrendered to us because When he came in his ears were so badly infected that black gunk was ozing out of them, and the vet could barely get the scope into them to see inside. We did a little research and realized that a much drier climate would be better for him, and he would be so much more comfortable. We did a little networking with some of the other Golden Retriever rescue groups and Retriever Rescue of Las Vegas was the perfect option for Bentley. We went to work on a plan to get him headed west.

After a few weeks of living in a different climate, our hopes were fulfilled and we received the best news we could have imagined. Bentley's allergies have almost cleared up and his ear infections are gone! His vet is very excited at the progress he is seeing so quickly. And to top it off, he has now been adopted by his forever family. We couldn't be happier that we were able to network to give Bentley the best quality of life. We've had two beautiful dogs, Violet and Aster, come to GRR at the end of last month who really needed our help. Violet is an 8-month-old female who was found on the side of the road sitting in an old wicker chair with lots scrapes and infested with ticks. A Good Samaritan took her in and got her cleaned up. When it was evident that she had no owner GRR was contacted. At the intake evaluation we learned that she has the sweetest personality and knew we needed to help her. She has an injury that we have now learned may require her rear leg to be amputated.

Aster's age is not known to us just yet. He was in the Pharr shelter in South Texas. He has an injury to his rear foot that is badly infected, and the shelter contacted us for an emergency rescue, or he was going to have to be euthanized. Of course, we had to help. Plans were put in place to find someone to fly down to get him and bring him to Ausitn to an emergency vet clinic. Several volunteers jumped into action to help get Aster into GRR's care. We are expecting his leg will require amputation as well. Stay tuned for more details as we learn more over the next few days Both dogs are examples of GRR's "why" and we continue to be amazed with fantastic community of volunteers. and we continue to be amazed with fantastic community of volunteers. GRR is ready, willing and able to help Goldens. If you know of a Golden in need or one to be surrendered, please always remember to contact our <u>intake team</u> or call our hotline at 512-659-4653 as our social media pages aren't monitored for posts of dogs in

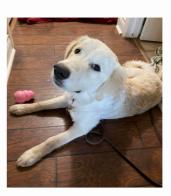
Warm regards, Michelle

need

Do you have questions or comments for the Board? We value your input. Please send a note to the <u>GRR Board</u> and include **Questions For The Board** in the subject line. We hope to hear from you! The next board meeting is November 15, 2023. What's Going On This Month?

From FAX Machines and Sticky Notes to Social Media

In the past three newsletters, we shared how Gold Ribbon Rescue was founded and how our Intake and Adoption processes have evolved. This month, we want to share how our communication processes have evolved and adapted to the digital world, resulting in faster and easier communications for the rescue of our Goldens.



In 1998, we only had FAX machines, paper forms and the telephone - plus lots of notepads and yellow sticky notes to stay in sync. Contracts, medical notes, etc. were on paper and were filed away for safekeeping in a volunteer's garage! Our old newsletter, The Gold Ribbon Gazette, was printed and mailed out by USPS until 2010.

In 2001, we created the GRR website and began gathering applications online. Some of our potential adopters and fosters didn't have a computer, so we mailed them a paper application, which had to be mailed back to GRR and input manually by a volunteer. We could not always get a digital photo of a dog being surrendered because most of us only had standard cameras. Since we often didn't have photos, we drove many miles only to discover that the dog was not a Golden.

Considerable volunteer time was spent working around these limitations, which greatly slowed the time needed to rescue a dog. It was a seat-of-our-pants approach, but we did it despite these obstacles - dogs still needed to be rescued! By 2010, we evolved and moved most processes online.

Social media has totally changed how GRR shares information with our community and vice-versa. Today, we have three Facebook sites - our FB community, our public page and a volunteer page, plus Instagram and Twitter pages. Whether our news is about a lost dog, an upcoming social event, a training webinar or more, social media is where we quickly announce news. Our social media communities total over 19,000 followers.

Our current newsletter, <u>Golden Tales</u>, reaches over 2000 people and Golden Notes reaches all volunteers. We are able to better educate our volunteers via training webinars and hold business meetings via Zoom. Our foster coordinators, foster families and medical teams share information on each dog as a team in real time - via text. This keeps everyone in sync on what a particular dog needs. Our website provides a central place for potential adopters who can read about our available dogs. It also provides information about upcoming events and activities, as well as, facts and advice about living with Goldens.

In 2023, we began researching various technology tools that will work to integrate our records and make it easier to share data. We're also working to reduce technology costs. We are rolling out this project soon.

Saving Goldens and finding their special homes is our purpose and passion - we have rescued and placed over 3500 dogs in our 25 years. Our enhanced communication and technology tools will continue to help make this possible.

Shake, Rattle and Roll!





Shake Shack at the Domain 11228 South Domain Drive, Austin

Shake Shack on Lamar 1100 South Lamar Blvd, Austin

Grab your pup and head to Shake Shack on October 16th and October 23rd to help raise money for GRR! Shake Shack has assorted burgers and shakes for you and a **Pooch-ini** for your pup.

They are pet-friendly and dogs are welcome at their outdoor tables. Best of all, when you visit on October 16th and October 23rd, **use the code DONATE25** when checking out and GRR will receive 25% of your purchase. How simple is that! Thank you for supporting Gold Ribbon Rescue.

Celebrating the Past and Preparing for the Future: A \$25K Challenge - 25 Years of Rescue

Thanks to our generous supporters, we've hit 43% of our goal to raise \$25,000 for incoming Goldens. Thank you to all who have donated to our \$25K challenge. But we need your help to hit our goal. As one of our supporters said, "A donation is the least I can do to help future Goldens - in honor of the joy, love and laughter that my own GRR dogs have given me. I'm thankful GRR was able to



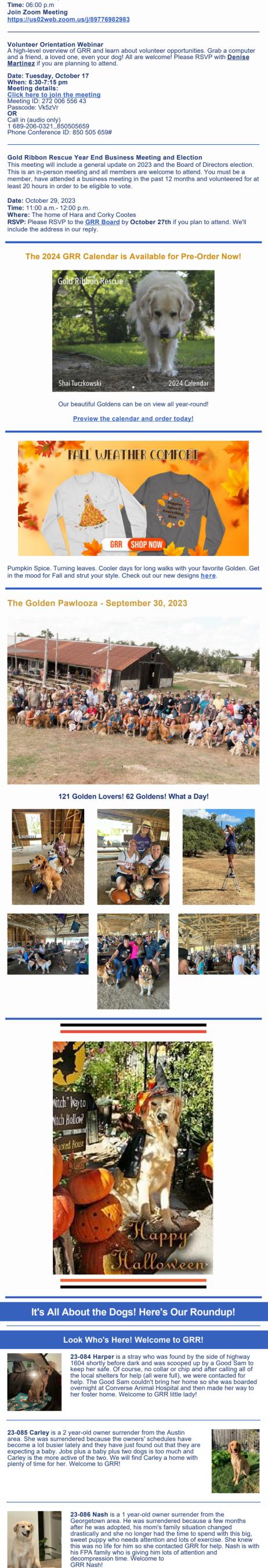
rescue my dogs. They are such an enormous gift to me. As Golden lovers, we all know the positive and powerful impact our Goldens have on our daily lives. Please help us reach our \$25,000 goal to ensure future Goldens a well-deserved life, too.

> Read about several of our special 2023 Goldens here! Make a donation here!

The More You Know..

Leash Reactivity Webinar As promised, we are resuming our training webinars this fall and Michele Mendoza, with Every Dog Behavior Training, will be presenting the next webinar on Leash Reactivity. This is open to all to attend. I strongly urge all volunteers to attend, as well as, to reach out to families you've worked with or who have fostered or adopted from GRR. Extend the invitation!

Topic: GRR Webinar - Leash Reactivity Presenter: Michele Mendoza, Founder CBCC-KA, CPDT-KA Date: October 12, 2023



23-087 Kayce is a 8-month-old owner surrender from Kyle. The reason for surrender is one that we hear frequently. The surrendering owners' other dog is a smaller mix of some sort and they didn't realize how big this guy would get or how much time and energy he would require. The family teens have more and more extracurricular activities and both parents work full time. They want more for him from a family who has plenty of time for him. Kayce is with his EPA family. who has plenty of time for him. Kayce is with his FPA family and has his new parents' undivided attention, as there are no other pets.





23-088 Macey is a 5 year-old owner surrender from Sour Lake, TX who sheds too much ("too much of a house cleaning issue"), is too big and they don't have enough time for her. Macey was an indoor dog for three years, but then was exiled to the airconditioned workshop, away from her family, for the past two vears

Macey is a smart girl and knows HEEL, PLACE, ROLL (roll over), SPIN (turn one way), TWIRL (turn back the other way). We can't wait to see her in action with her new family.

23-089 London was turned into the Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter by a citizen who said she was found in Leander. The shelter notified us that they had a beautiful Golden and just knew someone was going to reclaim her, but sadly, they did not, so she has joined the GRR family

The shelter reported that London was very cuddly and sweet, but she was very stressed at t shelter. They asked that we be there at exactly 5:45 p.m. when her stray hold was over to get her out. Many thanks to our volunteer, Lynn, who picked her up right on time and and drove her to her foster home. Special thanks also to our new foster home, who immediately said yes when they got the call for help We look forward to getting to know London. So far she is settling in nicely with her foster parens. The

photo is of London finally sleeping soundly and feeling safe.





23-090 Violet is around 8 months-old and was found on the roadside about 3 weeks ago by Good Samaritans. She was sitting on a broken wicker chair by the side of a busy road and the Good Sams felt (rightfully so) that she was in danger so they rescued her. Violet is now a GRR dog and is fostering with a GRR medical coordinator. She has a broken femur that has not healed correctly and we are awaiting additional diagnosis. It's possible she'll need her leg amputated. She's in good hands with GRR!

Spencer 23-091 sneaked in right before the end of the month. We don't know much about him, other than he was found as a stray and did his stray hold at Schertz Animal Shelter. Spencer is going to be boarding at Converse for a few days while he waits for his neuter surgery. Its not ideal, but it is a safe place and Converse will take great care of him.he's in good hands with GRR!





23-094 Aster is an urgent, last minute intake who came into GRR on September 30th. He is badly injured and volunteers Dave and Lisa flew their plane to McAllen to pick him up and bring him to Austin. GRR volunteer Morry met the plane and transported him to CTVSH for care. We don't have an age or know how the injuries happened and literally know nothing about Aster other than that he needs our help Aster comes from the Pharr Animal Center in McAllen, the same shelter we received 23-076 Rio from. More details to come as we learn more about Aster.

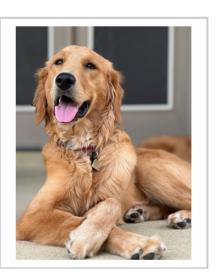
23-095 Poppy arrived in our care late yesterday. This little girl was found by a Good Sam a few weeks ago in San Antonio and is estimated to be about 8 months old. That's all that we know at this point. The name Poppy symbolizes love and remembrance.



Editor's Note: You may have noticed that the intake numbers are out of sequence. We have two Goldens coming in on October 2nd that have been assigned the missing numbers.

> My Dreams Really Did Come True! I Got Adopted!



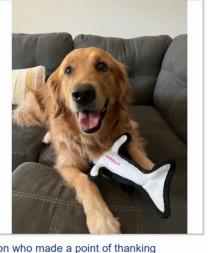


Charles Lee Pancake (AKA CLP) is one sweet and lucky boy! He was adopted by his foster family - Troy, Joyce and their son, on September 1st! Initially, he had so many challenges with his digestive system and finding a food he could tolerate, along with many restrictions and rules for feeding! Joyce and Troy were in it from the very beginning, making sure he stuck with his special food only, no special treats or even licking another dog's food bowl after they finished! They were thrilled to adopt him into their family, along with GRR dogs Marley and Allison. It's bittersweet that it happened just shortly after the loss of their GRR senior, Molly. Congratulations to Joyce and Troy and Ryan. We know CLP is looking forward to wonderful things in his future!



Rasta was adopted by long-time volunteers Donnie and Cheryl on September 2nd and we couldn't be more pleased. Time will tell whether they nickname him the Senator (Travis, English Cream brother, is the Colonel), but the whole family, including canine sisters Row and Lilly, are thrilled that he has joined their ranks! Rasta celebrated his 4th birthday with GRR and because he is totally enamored of carrots, he of course had a doggy carrot cake!





Luke was adopted on September 8th by Grayson who made a point of thanking everyone at GRR for vetting him thoroughly and handling Luke's adoption with such care. He is so excited to become Luke's family, enjoy daily walks together, and to introduce him to the rest of his friend group. both human and canine!



Scoop (aka Cooper) was adopted on September 10th by Donnie and Nicky and their three teenagers, as well as finally being accepted as a family member by the family cat. Congratulations to Scoop and the entire family!

Charlie 22-063



