



NORCAL GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE

A nonprofit, volunteer organization dedicated to finding new homes for displaced Golden Retrievers in Northern California and Western Nevada

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A Perfect Fit

Marti and Dennis are longtime Golden lovers. I think they have lost track of how many Golden Retrievers they have had. When their son was young, they adopted a puppy named Cleo and later rescued a dog from Norcal, Luke. Sadly, Cleo passed away last year, and Marti was noodling around on our website when she saw Kensi. Something about this lovely dog called to her. Dennis agreed it was a good idea to meet Kensi, so they packed up Luke and drove to meet her. They returned with two dogs in the car. As soon as they met her, they knew it was a perfect match, and that bond has kept growing among all of them. When their son came home from college, he summed it up by saying, 'It feels good to have two dogs in the family again.' 🐾



Luke and Kensi



Duke and Taco

Home to Stay

by Carrie

Duke came to us still needing treatment and diagnosis for jaw pain. He is now pain free and doing well on meds. He finished his second round of dog training class, and he was the best behaved dog there. He's a bit more stubborn at home and prefers to do commands when he's sure treats are involved, but he's doing great overall. It took time but Taco has finally really accepted him and now enjoys him. They play together all the time. We took them with us on a trip to Oregon. We all enjoyed the secluded beaches. He's now living his best life and is just a bit spoiled. 🐾

Frisco's Second Chapter

by Annika and Daniel

Frisco has been such a blessing. He greets us in the morning with cuddles and kisses, and an enviable energy for the start of each the day; he jumps for joy with us when the laptop shuts and the workday is done; and in the evening, he snuggles up for belly rubs and cuddles. He is an absolute ham and charms every human he meets.

While he's in training for some dog reactivity on walks, and can be a little wary at first meetings, Frisco has also made some new dog friends, including: Ruby Gene, 'cousin' Goose, Monday and Gunther. He's just a good boy who LOVES his ball, squirrels, and playing with other nice dogs.

We kept his given name, in part because we didn't feel anything else fit right, but also as an homage to the love and care his first family very clearly gave him. 🐾



LouSeal and Aubrey

Often, when families face difficult times, their dogs need to be rehomed. LouSeal and Aubrey were 10 and 11 in 2024 when they were surrendered. We found the perfect home for this senior pair. Sadly, LouSeal recently crossed Rainbow Bridge. We are so grateful to her adopting family that provided a home filled with love for these seniors. Dad and Aubrey are learning to navigate without her. 🐾



Volunteer Corner



Deb and Jay

Golden Retrievers hold a special place in our hearts and home. They offer constant love, affection, loyalty, and laughs. As foster parents, we've been fortunate to open our home to

many Goldens over 10+ years. Each one is unique in their own way by color, size, toy preference, trainability, and yet similar in their companionship toward our family. We love all Goldens, and Norcal helps us care for them no matter the stage they arrive at our home: stabilizing the sick, nurturing the skittish, and finding forever homes where their love and loyalty will be reciprocated. Norcal provides everything necessary to set the fosters and families up for success: veterinary checkups, surgeries like spay or dental work, food, medications, a crate, and more. We are supported by Area Coordinators who work with us all in the interest of providing comfort and care as our fosters navigate the transition and start their new lives with their forever families.

But, most of all, we love watching the fosters play with our Golden (a foster "fail"), learning the ropes of the household and how to just be a goofy Golden Retriever. Each foster is so different, with their own personalities and quirks. Fostering Golden Retrievers has brought much joy to our home, and we are grateful to participate as transition families through Norcal. — Deb and Jay 🐾



Lily and Maggie

Maggie

by Nicole D.

We adopted Maggie at three months old in March 2025 and even had the joy of fostering her sweet mama for a short time. She brought fresh happiness into our home and lifted our 5-year-old Golden Lily's spirits after we'd recently lost our 9½-year-old lab. Now a year old, Maggie's puppy energy is still in full force. She greets everyone with a nonstop wag and an infectious love of life. Last summer she joined us on our annual doggie trip to Lake Tahoe, where she learned to swim and explored the meadows and forest. She loves snuggling, chasing birds and squirrels in the backyard, and playing endless games of fetch with Lily and their mountain of toys. We're forever grateful to the incredible Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue volunteers who entrusted Maggie to us, and we look forward to fostering more Goldens in the future. 🐾

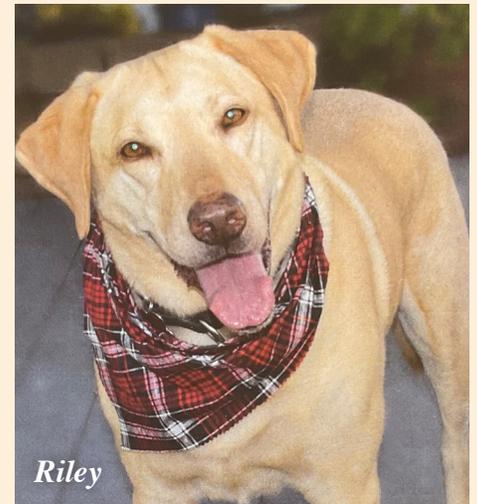


Cricket

From Terror to Bond

by Cris H.

This is Cricket, my hiking partner whom I adopted in 2023. She had a tough time in her first foster home, but when she came to me as a foster, she became part of our family. Despite initially terrorizing my 6-year-old Golden, Shea, Cricket now washes Shea's face and ears every morning. While she still roughhouses a bit too much at times, she is my loyal hiking buddy, and we enjoy exploring public lands together daily. 🐾



Riley

Pin Up Girl

by Janet C.

You may think she looks pretty silly in her holiday garb, but if you look at her face, you can tell she loves being the center of attention. Poppy loves her walks and playtime with dogs of all sizes and loves people just as much. She is always ready to jump in the backseat of the car to see which park we will be visiting that day. Her favorite stop afterward is the drive-through at In-N-Out Burger to get a pup patty. She is a willing Pin-up Girl because a lot of treats are involved in the process! 🐾



Poppy

In Honor of Riley

from Walt and Peggy C.

"Riley" was adopted by us from Norcal in June, 2021. We immediately changed his name to "Riley", a new name for a new life. He responded very well and is now living "the life of Riley". At first, he was very reserved (he didn't bark for six weeks!). He soon relaxed, and is now the sweetest boy ever! Our first male dog, and he is a love and the star of the neighborhood! 🐾

NORCAL GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE FUND

All of us at Norcal are very grateful to all of our donors. They make it possible for us to make a difference in the lives of our rescued Golden Retrievers. We couldn't do it without them. Thank you.

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In Memory of Tom Wong from Jane Kesselring. Tom was a good friend and will be missed.

In Memory of Tom Wong from Debra Quan

In Memory of Tom Wong from Joan Hart. *Tom was a devoted Golden Retriever Rescue "dad" and a wonderful man/father/grandfather/great-grandfather. He's probably taking long walks in Dog Heaven now, because he'd find it better than people heaven. He will be missed.*

In Memory of Evan Lonsdale from Stan and Joan Myers

In Honor of Lisa Cogar from Christina Blevins
Lisa is "Max" and "Comet's" Mom. Her devotion and furry friend care are constant and it's a joy to meet her on dog walks. She is a willing dog walker for friends and neighbors. Her example is awesome for other furry friend lovers.

In Honor of the adoption of "Buddy" from Karen and Jim Withrow

In Honor of the adoption of "Jack" from Ron and Cathy Jacob

In Memory of "Khloe" from Karen and Tom Hogan
Khloe was a very good girl and a constant companion to Kristen and her family. Khloe loved to play fetch and carry around her favorite fluffy squeaky toys, and get a good hip rub. She was well loved and will be missed greatly.

In Honor of my wife, Mary DeLorenzo, from John Reyes

In Honor of Jan Dreyer and Georgine Nordin from Laura Nakashima and Steve Broccoli

In Honor of the adoption of "Astro" from Spencer and Stephanie Ewing

In Memory of "Cooper" from Karen Lamberti
Beloved by all who met him, Cooper was a beautiful boy who brought comfort and joy to everyone he encountered. He was a regular visitor at the Carnelian Assisted Living facility where he was always greeted with adoration. Most of all, he was the cherished companion.

In Memory of Dana Baumgardner from Lynn Brubaker

In Memory of "Moby" from Heather McLean. He was a good boy.

In Memory of "Lily" from Lloyd and Crystal Lee.
To our soul dog, whom we love and miss dearly.

In Honor of my Mom, Carole Frank, and her great example that inspired me to get into rescue. From Debbi Behrman

In Memory of "Cookie" from Gordon Del Faro

In Memory of "Hank" our sweet, gentle boy. AKA 'A little bit of Hanky Panky.' We miss you. From Joanne Elliott

In Honor of "Kensi" from Maureen Drotleff and Bob Knickerbocker

In Honor of "Francie" from Greg and Candace Osborn

In Honor of "Corfu" from Edith Lavin and Richard Ruggieri

In Honor of "Luke" from Susan and Matt Pandolf

In Honor of "Buckley" from Al and Anne Code

In Honor of "Abbie" from Leslie Lloyd

In Honor of "Sunny" and all her sisters from Sandy and John Wagner

In Memory of Joann Bonner from Michael Roman

In Honor of "Piper" from the Dombrowski Family
We adopted Piper at 8 months. Our one-year-old Golden, Agnes, needed a friend. Piper became that sister Agnes needed. We named her Piper Mei (Chinese for sister). Agnes helped Piper overcome her fear of other people and dogs and now they wrestle and play often every day and are very bonded.

In Memory of Ryder LaCross from Linda McIntyre

In Memory of "Daisy" from Linda LeBoa. *Daisy was family, friend and therapy dog to many. She had a wonderful life filled with love.*

In Honor of my rescued Golden, "Stuart" from Carolyn Hoyum

In Memory of our beloved Golden from Teresa Chinn and Paul Miyashiro: "Rascal", "Kimo", "Cody", "Abbie", "Dusty", and "Lulu". Always forever in our hearts every single day.

A Tribute to "Duke", "Tipper", "Miracle", and "Cabo"; my loving Golden Retrievers now playing together over the Rainbow Bridge. From David Roseman.

In Memory of "Mitzva", "Atira", "Amit", and "Aly", our four wonderful Golden Girls who each died of cancer, from Linda Henderson

In Honor of Ellen Fenichel from Gina Saldanha

In Memory of Al Bien from Daniel Shader and Elisabeth Dutton

In Memory of "Mo" (Mona Lisa) from Bobbie LaPorte

In Memory of "Jack" from Steven Nevins. *We rescued Jack from NGRR 12 1/2 years ago. He crossed the Rainbow Bridge recently. He was an absolute angel that was always loved and cared for.*

In Memory of my Golden girl, "Sophie" from Suzanne Blue

In Loving Memory of "Sky" from Richard Dunckel and Paul Tokugawa

In Memory of "Maggie" from Jim and Marilee Bellotti

In Memory of Zoey Britt who was a beautiful, loving soul who maintained her grace and elegance until the end. She is greatly missed! From Tracy Goins

A Tribute to Nicky Batterby from Valerie Ballerini who wanted a donation to NGRR as his Christmas gift

In Honor of the adoption of "Toby" from Joseph and Ellen Lyons

In Memory of “Maggie May” from Fritzi Schnel.
My family got rescued by Maggie May from NGRR. She was our fourth Golden as a family. She was the best. She passed right before the pandemic. Wish she could have cozied up with us then. Thank you NGRR for your work.

In Honor of “Milo” from Homer Alexander

In Memory of “Bailey”, the sweetest Golden who passed this year.
Forever missed and loved. From Fidel and Janis Mendoza

In Memory of “Hannah”, the perfect Golden (except for eating that apple pie) and in Honor “Kynzi”, also perfect from Larry Patten

In Memory of James Healy from Christopher Healy.
My father Jim has been an important part of my life, always encouraging me to push myself to my fullest potential. I am pleased to make a donation in his name to NGRR, through whom we have successfully adopted 5 wonderful Golden Retrievers over the years. Merry Xmas Dad and a Happy New Year!

In Loving Memory of Paul Banayat and all of my Golden retrievers that have crossed the Rainbow Bridge from JoAnn Banayat

In Honor of friend, dog lover, Jean Connors from Tracy Sechrist

In Memory of Steve Mason from Lindsey Harrington

A Tribute to “Mack” and “Archie” from Misty McIntyre.
We have a Golden Retriever named Mack we brought back from Missouri, and we just adopted Archie from Haven Human. He was one of the 3 who got dumped in Anderson in July.

In Memory of “Kai” (Kaimalu) from Karen Tashima

In Honor of “Kramer Marx” from Lindsey Pate

In Honor of Debbie Blackwell from Greg Blackwell

In Honor of “Poppy” from Pat Hanna

In Memory and tribute to “Cooper Rebollini-Edelmann” from Jane Falcone
He was the sweetest boy, overflowing with unconditional love and joy in his precious life. You are forever in our hearts, beautiful Cooper

In Honor of “Maple” from Tamara Galanter.
Thanks so much for bringing Maple into our lives. She’s such a wonderful addition to our family and makes us smile every day.

In Honor of “Daisy” from Geoff Cykman

In Honor of NGRR’s help with “Luna” from Rick Larson

In Memory of “Alfie” and “Amber” from Ana Martins-Deneys

In Honor of Nico Ray from Keith and Shunya Anding

In Memory of “Emmy”, “Kayla”, “Baily”, and “Gracie” from Cheryl and Eric Evans

In Memory of “Harley” from Robert Funnell

In Memory of “Bailey”, best Golden ever, from Mayra Carrasco

In Memory of my cousin, Alison F. Green from Loren and Rachel Kertz

In Memory of “Maple” from Teresa Colucci.
Missing you sweet Maple - every single day!

In Memory of my Golden retrievers “Lanny”, “Taffy”, and “Tasha”, and of my honorary Golden, “Chloe” (a Standard Schnauzer). I loved them all, and I miss them every day, from Janice Tisovec

In Memory of Karen Lindstrom from Paul Russell Lindstrom

In Honor of “Lucy” from Lisa Gross.
Lucy is a thriving, happy, four-year-old Golden Retriever, thanks to the efforts of the NGRR! We couldn’t be happier to have her in our family!

In Honor of “Hank” from Eve Mezvinsky

In Memory of “Maggie” and “Summer” from Leanne and Jason Miller

In Memory of “Bodhi” boy from Melinda Griffith

In Memory of “Maebly” from The Shailendra Family

In Memory of Albert Bien from Satomi Okazaki

In Memory of “Emmy”, “Kayla”, “Bailey”, and “Gracie” from Cheryl and Eric Evans

In Memory of Auntie Pat and Honor of Auntie Karen from Ann Rosenthal

In Memory of Robin Suzuki, who was devoted to Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue from Cynthia Suzuki.

In Honor of Sharyn Mitchell from Mary Elizabeth Schaefer

In Memory of “Daisy” from friends of Dr. Flinn

In Memory of “Chella” from Glenn Rathke.
Chella Young lost her health battle. Of course, her parents and my good friends Arnold and Rebecca Young are mourning the loss of their best pal. Here’s to Chella, back in good health at the Rainbow Bridge.

Memorial & Tribute Donations

Donations may be made to memorialize or pay tribute to a special person, Golden, or pet of any kind. Donate online at www.ngrr.org or send your donation and information (for whom the donation is being made and their address, your name, address, and phone number, plus words of personalization) to:

**Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue
405 El Camino Real, Suite 420
Menlo Park, CA 94025-5240**

A handwritten letter will be sent shortly thereafter acknowledging that a donation was made to Norcal. Give us a call if you have any questions.



Ollie

Teen Energy and Fun

We are always thankful to families who recognize when their Golden needs a different environment and surrender their dog to us, so we can find the right home for a happy life. That's exactly what happened with Ollie. He was a young pup with typical Golden puppy energy. We found the perfect family. Rachel now reports that Ollie is definitely a teenager with those hormones pumping! He is as sweet as ever and is fitting in very well with our family. 🐾

Theo's Culinary Corner:

Dietary Tip: Sardines are Good for Dogs!

I received this tip from one of my loyal readers.

Sardines are a healthy treat because they are rich in omega-3s, which support skin and coat health, reduce inflammation, and promote heart and brain function. They also provide protein, vitamin D, calcium, and selenium. Choosing sardines **packed in water without added salt** is important to avoid excess sodium and unnecessary oils. Introduce sardines gradually, and consult your veterinarian if your dog has health conditions or dietary restrictions.



Sardines should be fed in moderation. A general guideline is:

- **Small dogs:** ½ to 1 sardine, 1–2 times per week
- **Medium dogs:** 1 to 2 sardines, 1–2 times per week
- **Large dogs:** 2 to 3 sardines, 1–2 times per week



Max and Fonsy

New Home, New Names

Alfonse Mucha and Maxfield Parish, better known as Fonsy and Max, came to Norcal as a bonded pair. They had more traditional names when they came to Norcal, but when adopted, their new family thought they needed a touch of royalty to go with their lovely personalities. They are now living a vintage life overseeing a 160-acre winery. 🐾

A Dog With Quite a Heart

At two years old, Penny was surrendered by her family because they realized they did not have the time to take care of an active pup. She was beautiful, intelligent, anxious to please and gave the best hugs and snuggles imaginable. HOWEVER, when we did the initial vet appointment we discovered that she had an arrhythmia (abnormal heart rhythms). She had a holter monitor test to determine her true condition. The vet felt she could live a normal life as long as she did not have strenuous exercise. Once a year she would need to have an EKG and echo test. We found Penny the perfect family that could take care of her special needs. She has two human kids to play with and also a foster Golden brother. 🐾



Penny

Community Outreach

Soggy Doggy Day

Over 150 dogs were registered for this year's Soggy Doggy Day at the West Sac Recreation Center. Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue was there to support all of the fun.



2026 Outreach Events

January 30-Feb 1 – 2026 California Pets Showcase, Sacramento- (Part of the Northern California Home and Landscape Expo)

February 7 – Joybounds Unleash the Love Festival, Walnut Creek

April 18 – SPCA Doggie Dash, Sacramento

July 18 – Niles Dog Show, Fremont

September 19 – Bark in The Park, San Jose

September/October – Paws For a Cause (Sponsor), Nevada City

October 10 – Golden Palooza, Redding

The Neighbor Everyone Knows and Loves

Sammi feels like she's found heaven with her adoptive family and all the neighbors she visits and plays with every day. Her family says she's a love bug at home and has lots of adventures. Her neighbor always has a string of foster dogs for her to mingle with. As you can see in the photo, she also has adventures in the countryside. She might look like a princess, but she LOVES all things gross—trash, stinky ponds, dirty socks, and sniffing out discarded food and dead things are the best! 🐾



Legacy Planning for Your Pet Checklist is Now Available Online

They've been your best friend, your confidant, and have given unconditional love, but what happens to your pets if you're no longer here or can't care for them? Legacy planning for your pets ensures that your love continues. It's more than just planning — it's a final gift of peace and devotion to your furry family members. (As a reminder, Norcal has a contract with all adopters, that in the unlikely event a dog needs to be rehomed, we will foster and rehome all dogs placed by Norcal). The Pet Legacy checklist is now available on the NGRR website at [https://ngrr.org/assets/files/PLPC\(1\).jpeg](https://ngrr.org/assets/files/PLPC(1).jpeg)

Spring Gardening with Your Dog



Dear Abby-Gold

By Laurel

Q: I'm always looking for ways to spend time with my Golden. Do you have any ideas of an activity we could do together?

A: Planting a vegetable garden is a wonderful way to welcome spring, and it can be even more enjoyable when your dog joins you outside. With some planning, gardening with your canine friend can be both safe and fun.

Spring is the perfect time to plant cool-season vegetables like lettuce, spinach, carrots, and peas, and to start seedlings for summer crops. Before planting, pick a sunny spot that gets at least six hours of sunlight daily. While you prepare the soil, your dog can keep you company or rest in a shady area you've set up nearby.

Safety is crucial when gardening with pets. Some gardening products, such as fertilizers, mulch made from cocoa shells, and certain pesticides, can be harmful to dogs. Opt for pet-safe or organic options whenever possible. Also, it's wise to check which plants are safe; while most common vegetables are non-toxic, some garden flowers and herbs can be risky if eaten.

Consider creating a designated space for your dog inside or near the garden. A small path, a resting mat, or a toy can help keep your dog entertained and less likely to dig in freshly planted beds. Using raised beds is also an effective way to prevent a dog from walking on or digging up delicate starter plants. Training basic commands like "leave it" can also protect your plants while keeping your dog safe.

Gardening with your dog offers more than just fresh vegetables for both of you. It provides exercise, fresh air, and bonding time. As your garden grows through the spring, you'll enjoy not only the harvest but also the shared experience of nurturing something together. 🐾

24Petwatch Microchip Moving to 24Pet by Petplace

24Pet by PetPlace announced that the 24Petwatch Microchip Registry will transition to PetPlace.com in 2026, creating a more connected, modernized experience for pet adopters and the animal welfare organizations that support them.

The shift to PetPlace.com is part of 24Pet's **\$15 million investment in technology, innovation, and collaboration** — a company-wide initiative to strengthen the pet care ecosystem through its One Effective Network approach. This strategy connects shelters, rescues, veterinarians, and pet parents through a single digital platform that supports pets from shelter intake and adoption through lifelong care.

What is not changing in the future-

- **The 24Petwatch Microchip Registry is not going away** — pet protection and reunification services from our team of experts will remain uninterrupted.
- Microchip registration remains free for adopters.
- Shelters, rescues, and veterinary partners need not take any immediate action. All existing microchip data and pet parent accounts will transition automatically.

Next Steps.

24Pet is updating all 24Petwatch adopter materials — including registration cards, tear pads, and other assets — to reflect the new PetPlace experience.

Pet parents with existing 24Petwatch accounts will receive direct communication in 2026, prompting them to log in to PetPlace.com using their existing email. They will be asked to reset their password to gain access to their account and verify their microchip information.



Anxiety Help

Baxter came to Norcal at 8 months old with severe anxiety. We found a family willing to work with him through his issues. The family also adopted Benny, an English Cream Golden, and it was the perfect way to help Baxter adjust. I think you can tell from the photo that these two have become a bonded pair! 🐾

Baxter and Benny

Active... Maybe Too Active!

We have periodically updated you on Hazel. She came to Norcal as a puppy needing hip replacement surgery. We provided her the surgery she needed, and an amazing family helped get her through her lengthy recovery. Here's their update:

Hazel is four (hard to believe, it feels like Norcal was just dropping her off!) and doing well, although she had to have knee surgery (TPLO) this summer. She was limping so we took her to the same surgeon that did her hip surgery, expecting her hip was failing. The surgeon said, "the good news is her hip is holding strong and looks great; the bad news is, the hip is doing so well she tore up her knee by being so active". We thought he was kidding, but nope - he was quite serious. Yes, she is an active one! Luckily, she got through the surgery just fine and has recovered. 🐾



Donating to Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue

Because our organization is staffed entirely by volunteers, your contribution will help pay for veterinary care, food, and other direct expenses required in our work to rescue and find loving homes for Golden Retrievers. Ways to donate include: *Gifts by Credit Card or Check, Payroll Deduction, Matching Gift, Appreciated Securities, Gifts Through Your Estate, Life Income Gifts, Gifts of Real Estate, and Vehicle Donations.*



Volunteering

I would like to learn more about volunteering for Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue. I am particularly interested in the areas noted to the right. (Note: This information may also be submitted through our website at www.ngr.org.)

Mail to:

Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue
405 El Camino Real, Suite 420
Menlo Park, CA 94025-5240

HANDS-ON DOG WORK

- Area Coordinator
- Area Assistant
- Foster Care
- Home Visits
- Shelter Checks
- Phone Calls
- Transportation
- Marketing Outreach
- Store Merchandise
- Content for social media, newsletter & website



Name: _____

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*Events and other Norcal Golden Retriever
Rescue news. Check the following:*

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ncgrr
Instagram: www.instagram.com/norcalgoldenretriever_rescue
Website: ngrr.org/events

*We always love to
see pictures of your
Goldens - please
share them with us!*

Officers for Calendar Year 2025-2026

PRESIDENT
Georgine Nordin

SECRETARY
Eileen Bauer

TREASURER
Ellen Fenichel

BOARD CHAIR
Ellen Fenichel

DIRECTORS FOR APRIL 1, 2025 TO MARCH 31, 2026

Eileen Bauer
Robert Breakstone
Deborah Cole
Ellen Fenichel

Andre Kovensky
Laurel Mechling
Georgine Nordin

Rebekah Quinn
Michael Szeto
Anne Tiry

For questions or concerns reach us at info@ngrr.org

The NGRR Store is Open!



Hoodies

Fleece Vests

Long Sleeve Tees

We continue to add Golden Goodies to our Store.
The products we sell help support our mission to
provide comprehensive veterinary care to our Goldens!

www.ngrr.org/store

NORCAL GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE



**SIGN UP NOW...
WE NEED YOU!**

Norcal is an all-volunteer organization and we are always in search
of new volunteers to work as area coordinators, foster families,
and more! NGRR.ORG/volunteer



Theo