



NORCAL GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE

A nonprofit, all-volunteer organization dedicated to finding forever homes for displaced Golden Retrievers in Northern California.

VOLUME XXXI, ISSUE NO. 2 ~ FALL 2023

Poppy – PUPPYHOOD

From Robin and Ben

Poppy is wonderful and awful. She gives us great joy, anxiety, fits of profanity, and the sweetest, warmest, cuddle time in our lives. We love her dearly. 🐾



PUPPIES PUPPIES PUPPIES



NGRR's goal with backyard breeders is to encourage the surrender of the "Mom" dogs before pregnancy. Rarely, if ever, has a litter of puppies been surrendered to NGRR but this Spring there were three litters surrendered.

In March, a backyard breeder was able to place three pups of a litter of nine, but when the remaining six reached 12 weeks and had not sold, the breeder contacted NGRR for help. All six puppies, their father, and later their mother, were surrendered to us.

In April, Momma dog Betsy and her litter of five four-month-old puppies were surrendered.

Then in May, Sunny Honey, a pregnant Golden Retriever, was surrendered to NGRR. Delivering and caring for newborn puppies is a significant job and an act of love. We are so grateful to Mary Livingston,

of Redtail Golden Retrievers, who delivered the puppies and provided instructional guidance in this challenging assignment. By late June, nine puppies were placed in homes.

We're happy to report that all of the puppies have now been placed in loving homes, with commitments from their adoptive families to continue with puppy training classes. 🐾



NORCAL GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE



2024

2024 NGRR Calendars are Here!
The perfect holiday gift...

Get our beautiful 2024 NGRR calendar and help support our mission to provide comprehensive veterinary care to the Golden Retrievers in our program! Featuring our wonderful rescued Golden Retrievers!

\$15 per calendar (including tax and shipping).

www.ngrr.org/store

Pairs – Double the Love

Here are some stories from adopters who weren't looking for two dogs but opened their hearts and homes to bonded pairs who were surrendered and could not be separated. NGRR is beyond grateful to these adopters.

Crosby and Ginger

By Beth Gardner

When I lose a beloved Golden, I think no other dog can take the place in my heart of the one I just lost. And then, along comes another dog, or two, who do just that. In August 2022, I adopted Crosby (10) and Ginger (4), a bonded pair. I lost my sweet Brandy (16) in June and didn't plan on getting another dog for a few months. The NGRR website said we should expect to wait up to a year for a Golden, so I was prepared to spend the rest of the year without any pet responsibilities... until this pair came along. I was contacted multiple times about them, and of course, when I finally went to see them, I couldn't say no.

As a bonded pair, they took some time to warm up to their new home. Because it was August and hot, they spent a lot of

time with each other in the foyer on the tile. I thought they were lying on the tile to stay cool, but in retrospect, I think they were hanging out with each other, instead of me, until they got comfortable with their new life.

Now Crosby is never out of my sight and Ginger likes to snuggle every night on the couch with me. They aren't allowed on the beds, but I often find shoes, toys, and leaf litter on the bedspreads so I know they are taking advantage, even though there are dog beds all over the house!

Ginger can drive me to distraction with squeaky toys and her zoomies. Crosby is a mellow soul, loves belly rubs, and likes to carry my shoes around for attention. They both love the two-mile-long walks that we take each day, rain or shine. Ginger is highly reactive to other dogs, so we're working with a personal dog trainer to

teach her to be calmer. We want to be able to take longer walks without fear of encountering another dog.

My house is a home again and I'm a happy Golden mom with my 7th and 8th Golden! 🐾



Dahlia and Rose

Dahlia and Rose were surrendered to NGRR as a bonded pair with very special needs. Dahlia is blind and depends on Rose for support. Obviously, we had to find a special family for these girls that could not only take two dogs at once but also provide an environment for a blind dog. Thanks to our volunteers, we found the perfect home.

When the family met these cuddling petite girls, we knew we found the perfect family. The adopters had their work cut out for them, and they were up to the challenge of training and socializing them. With the help of Dog Logic University, and a lot of owner work, this pair has settled into a wonderful home where they are cared for and loved! 🐾



Pops and Rosey

Pops and Rosey (both 4) came into NGRR as a bonded Golden pair as well. The surrendering family requested that NGRR find a forever home that would keep the pair together. Luckily, we found a family who opened their home for this lovely duo. Pops and Rosey are very bonded and stay close together whether they are just walking through their home, on their daily walks, or sleeping. They have adjusted well to their new home. We are thankful for families willing to give forever homes to our bonded pairs. 🐾



Pairs – Double the Love *continued*

Rex and Maya

By Hudson Brower

Shortly after we lost our dog of 15 years, we started looking into rescuing and found NGRR. We wanted to give a dog with unfortunate circumstances another chance. At the time, we were thinking of one dog, but we were given the chance to foster-to-adopt a bonded pair, Rex (3) and Mya (2). We immediately connected and became an instant family.

Rex loves our pool and playing fetch, and Mya loves to explore on walks around our neighborhood. They both had some medical issues, but NGRR and Amanda Schaffner (NGRR Coordinator) were amazing to work with. Amanda immediately picked up on signs that Mya might have had a thyroid issue, which we found out is rare for her age. After a few months, we got the dogs back to good health and officially adopted them! Overall, we cannot thank NGRR and Amanda enough for the amazing opportunity, and we absolutely love our Golden Retrievers!! 🐾



**American
Red Cross**

American Red Cross Pet First Aid App and Online Course

The American Red Cross has a Pet First Aid app and an online class to help pet guardians know what to do in an emergency until veterinary care is available.

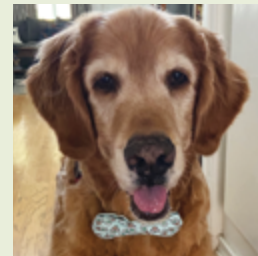
Download the app by texting 'GETPET' to **90999** or by going to [redcross.org/apps](https://www.redcross.org/apps) to download the Pet First Aid App

Cat and Dog First Aid Online Course

You can register and access this course at bit.ly/4518t1B for a 35 minute self paced course.

The course includes:

- How to determine a pet's normal vital signs so owners can notice if there are any irregularities;
- Step-by-step instructions and visual aids for what to do if a pet is choking, needs CPR, has a wound, or is having a seizure; and
- Information on preventative care, health and tips for a pet's well-being.



Melvin and Finn's Food Corner

If your kitchen is like mine, you always have bananas that are past their prime in the fruit basket, and who wants to waste them? Making banana cookies is a yummy and easy alternative.

CANINE BANANA COOKIES

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups ripe, mashed bananas
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla
- 3 cups oats
- 1/4 cup applesauce

Instructions:

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- Mix all ingredients together thoroughly.
- Drop spoonfuls of the mixture onto an ungreased baking sheet, then press flat with a fork.
- Bake for approx. 15 minutes, cool on a rack before serving, and store leftovers in an airtight container.

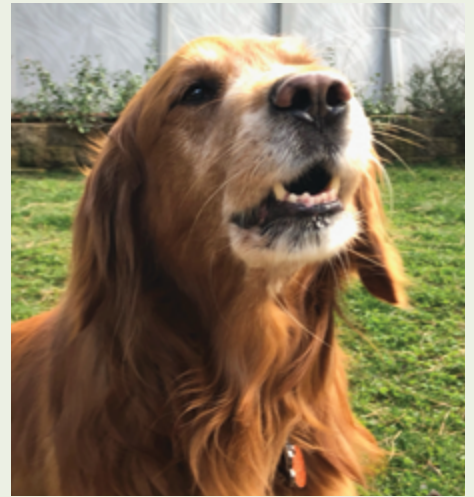
Our Fosters Are Amazing – Midas's Story

By Georgine Nordin

When his owner passed away, Midas was surrendered to Norcal, and Janice Burns signed up to foster this wonderful boy. Shortly after his arrival, Janice observed labored breathing, and vet appointments were scheduled. Since his owner passed away, we had no history on him. After many tests and a rather grim diagnosis of late-stage cardiomyopathy, we began a regiment of heart medications and taurine. We hoped to give him some time to enjoy his life. His “foster-to-

adopt” status turned into a “Foster for Special Needs”. NGRR will continue to fund his care for as long as needed, and Janice and her family will provide a loving home. Most days are good, but some days can be challenging. He does love his pack of Golden Retrievers, so playtime is a daily occurrence.

We have three “Special Needs” Golden Retrievers in our care right now and could never do it without the support of our Special Needs fosters. We are deeply grateful! 🐾



Is the Puppy a Bit Incontinent? Is it an Ectopic Ureter?

An ectopic ureter is a congenital condition that occurs when the ureter connects to the urethra instead of the bladder. Because the urine cannot be stored, leaking issues occur. The diagnosis is confirmed through an ultrasound, cystoscopy, or CT scan. Historically this could only be resolved through surgery but today laser ablation can often be used which is a far less invasive procedure. 🐾

Community Outreach Outreach Activity and Events



Sept 16 - Bark in the Park
Williams Street Park (Sponsor) - San José

Sept 23 – Bow Wow Days
Orangevale Community Center -
Orangevale

Oct 14 - NorCal Golden Palooza
Redding Convention Center

Watch for coming events:
www.facebook.com/ngcrr or
ngrr.org/events



President's Message

New to the Job, But Not to Rescue

Little did I know that it would be the post-pandemic year of youthful surrenders when I started my presidency. For those of you who do not know me, I have been a volunteer for Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue since 2000 and have held various roles over the years. Still, my true love of fostering has given me the greatest joy, welcoming displaced Goldens into my safe and loving home until they are ready for their forever family. The nine Goldens my husband and I have raised could have been enough, but when is it ever enough when we can open our hearts and help a Golden in need?

2023 has been a flurry of activity, with 90 Goldens surrendered year-to-date, compared to 37 last year. Surprisingly, 70% of our dogs have been under two years old. These dogs were purchased as puppies during COVID, when people were home but classroom training and puppy socials were unavailable. They were not well socialized, and when surrendered, these pups needed extensive support from our fosters to complete essential socialization and training. In our more complex cases, we enlisted the help of professional behaviorists to prepare the dogs and increase the success of their placement.

Additionally, we accepted surrendered dogs with significant medical issues. There were puppies with congenital problems: Ectopic ureters requiring laser surgery; Entropion on eyelids

requiring corrective surgery; orthopedic problems requiring surgeries, recovery, and physical therapy; and others needing extensive dental care.

And then the jackpot. As you saw on the newsletter cover, three months in a row, we received a litter of puppies and, more importantly, their soon-to-be retiring moms. In May, we received our beautiful Honey, a pregnant mom who delivered nine puppies under the watchful eyes of Amber Moore, her family, and friends in Redding. In total, we placed 20 puppies into loving homes in 2023, and they are all doing fantastic, but we continue to work with these families as they raise these young dogs.

For the remainder of the year, we will continue to recruit and staff for the increase in dogs, have a more significant community presence through our outreach activities, make website enhancements that make our jobs more manageable, and recognize our teams who work hard for our success.

We are forever grateful for the generosity of those who donate financially to support our mission. These donations allow us to ensure that Goldens in need have every opportunity to live a healthy life. We are fortunate for our wonderful community, brought together by our love for these beautiful dogs with hearts of gold.

We at NGRR hope you and your families stay safe and healthy. *Georgine Nordin* 🐾

Community Outreach

Norcal Golden Lovers of Sac

Robin is the NGRR Assistant Area Coordinator in the Sacramento area. A lover of Goldens and a dedicated rescuer, she is also the founder of NORCAL GOLDEN LOVERS SAC. She wanted to tell us about the organization with the following article:

Norcal Golden Lovers Sac (short for Sacramento) is a group of Golden Retriever owners and lovers dedicated to creating lasting friendships, supporting community organizations, and contributing to the needs of the pets of the less fortunate. Our group gathers with our dogs as often as possible to have fun and gain comradery. We also team up for community events such as the SPCA Doggy Dash, the Orangevale

Bow Wow Days, and others. We support causes by collecting food and supplies for pets of unhoused children, and we work with organizations such as Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue, and Growing Past Today, to help with community needs. We have a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/164019385583509>) where our community interacts, as well as a meetup group page (<https://www.meetup.com/norcalgoldenloverssac/>) to schedule events. We have over 1300 members in our group, and we use the love for our dogs to bring love to the world around.

We welcome all Golden lovers. Join us!
— Robin Gostovich 🐾

Fosters Needed!

NGRR is looking for Foster Families in all counties:

- Alameda
- Contra Costa
- Marin
- Napa
- San Francisco
- San Joaquin
- Solano

Please contact us at
info@ngrr.org

IN TRIBUTE

In Memory of Mike McClain, a lover of Golden Retrievers. We will miss him.
From Sarah Wiley

In Memory of Mike McClain from
Susan DelMedico

In Memory of "Bear" from
Larie Mott Flaherty

In Memory of "Samantha" who went over
Rainbow Bridge February 22 after over 16
years of spreading love and joy.
From Starr Fenn

In Honor of Karen Shore from
Tejaswi Mupparaju

In Memory of "Ollie" who died of cancer
in March 2022. He was almost 10. We
love and miss you so much, sweet pup.
From Kent, Danielle and
Nico Zaragosa-Edler.

In Memory of "Molly" from Laurel Stroud

In Memory of "Shannon Marie" and
"Moxie" from Harvey Veon

A Tribute to Bobbie LaPorte from
Carl Dockhorn

In Memory of Alison F. Greene, my cousin,
from David and June Marinof



Miracle

In Memory of Miracle

Miracle was an eight-week-old puppy who will never get a chance to play or do anything that puppies do. He was surrendered to NGRR during a vet visit and sadly, the owners did not take him in soon enough to save his life. Everything that could be done was, and we all hoped that "Miracle" would be given a miracle. At the end, Dr. Kraft and her staff at Damonte Ranch Animal Hospital were there, holding his little paw as he crossed The Rainbow Bridge. We will be forever grateful to Dr. Kraft and we will hold Miracle in our hearts forever.

Linda Scheffel 🐾

In Memory of "Bill" from Julia Earle
To our beloved Golden Retriever for over 12 years. Never had a single issue with this amazing dog. Knowing that he is probably up playing ball with our Heavenly Father, helps us through this time.

In Memory of Alice Mechling from Laurel
Mechling's NGRR Friends

In Memory of "Franklin" who crossed
Rainbow Bridge in December 2022. He was
much loved by neighbors, Sean, Heather,
and Jack Harmuth from Louise Korn.

In Memory of Penny Misner from
Candace Osborn
Penny was the Empress Dowager of her entire street on Greenwood Avenue in Palo Alto. She helped her wonderful family, Maya and Tim Misner and their 3 children, socialize many Golden Retrievers from NGRR. We will miss her forever.

In Memory of "Dora" from
Marianna Kopacz
Dora was a sweet Golden angel who was diagnosed early in her life with kidney disease. She received excellent care from her veterinarian Mom. She lived in a home with other pets, including her Boxer sister, Emme and brother, Maxwell and parents, Jill and Jason. Dora was almost 7 years old when she died on April 19, 2023.

In Memory of "Cookie" from
Gordon DelFaro

In Memory of Honorable Paula Schlichter
from Richard Livermore
To quote her son, Kurt, "Mom loved her Golden Retrievers". She also contributed with distinction to the legal profession and the California Judiciary

In Memory of "Abby" and "Rosie",
mother and daughter Golden Retrievers that blessed
our lives from Steven Blair

In Honor of our adoption of "Maggie"
from Daniel and Julie Dowling

A Tribute to Regan Smith and Hayley Hua
from Alexander Stripe

A Tribute to Laurel Mechling from
Karen Schroeder

In Memory of my sweet "Amber" and
"Daisy". Forever in my heart from
Louise Korn

In Memory of "Sneakers" and "Freddie"
from Marla Miyashiro

In Memory of my cousin, Allison Green
from Loren and Rachel Kertz



Molly

In Memory of Molly

Molly, you were beautiful in body and soul, loved and appreciated by so many humans and other dogs during your almost 15 years. We have wonderful memories of you: as a certified AKC therapy dog, your weekly visits at schools (where children read to you, pet you, and felt your calmness); the joy you brought to the seniors you visited weekly; our trip together to Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, our adventures traveling across the country with stops along the way (including taking you to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame); your silly antics, such as chasing and catching bubbles in the air, pulling up and eating mouthfuls of grass (with roots and dirt), and our daily routines of 2-3 walks and playing with toys. You were as sweet as could be, and we miss your loving licks. Your spirit is with us, and we will always hold you in our hearts.

Julie and Burt Mabel 🐾

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:

NGRR

**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 NGRR. Give us a call if you have any questions.



Tribute to Brody

by Nico Henderson

NGRR found the perfect dog for me. He was a chill, loving dude found on the streets of Todos Santos BCS Mexico. He was flown to Lodi where we met (pictured here) in 2008. After a long search for the perfect pup, I knew he was the one.

I quickly learned Brody loved tennis balls (not to play fetch with, but to acquire and never return). He also loved smelling the roses and riding in the Jeep with his head out the window. He was stubborn and always got his way. Brody had an extensive wardrobe of Halloween costumes and rocked countless jaunty scarves and sunglasses along the way.

He was loved by all and had so many friends. He was a one of a kind, a rock star, a legend. 🐾

In Memory of Daniel Wasserman—a Golden Lover

From:

Charles Bernstein, Joanne Goldstein, and Family

Suzanne G. and James M. Gullett

Joanne and Jeff Jagoda

Donald and Sherry Koplowitz

David and June Marinoff

Amy and Steve Tessler

and Janice and Bobby Jucker who wrote:

Daniel was a gentle giant who absolutely loved all Golden Retrievers and even gave his parents' Golden, Scout, a pair of his tennis shoes just 3 days before he passed, albeit too young. He wanted Scout to have something that smelled of him. We miss him dearly. 🐾



Scout

You may remember from past newsletters Simba's amazing physical and emotional recovery thanks to Amber and Eric Wittner. In April Simba crossed The Rainbow Bridge at nearly 12 1/2 years old. NGRR is forever grateful to the Wittner's for giving Simba the life he deserved.

The family wrote the following:

"Simba's transformation was something we still can't believe. He was so reactive when we brought him home Father's Day weekend of 2020. Many probably thought his scary/ugly face scarring and his aggressive bark/lunging were unfixable. Six months - we had a completely different dog with a vocal and happy soul. Simba loved people, loved all visitors and hadn't barked a serious scary bark in over 2 years. He learned from our previous Golden (Sydney, RIP 1/6/2021) and has been a secure anchor and playmate for our newest fur addition Nala (adopted 3/5/22). We had hoped for Simba to meet our newborn son, Rand (born 3/30) and he did.

He was a medical doggie from the get-go, multiple ear/skin infections, his own dermatologist, a toe removal, allergy meds, weekly ear cleanings, detailed 'large dog' bathings, but worth every penny. We will miss our big boy."

— Amber, Eric and Rand Wittner, Nala, Ziggy, and Bizz Johnson (cats) 🐾

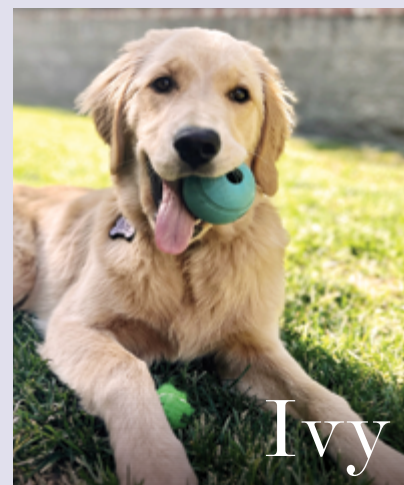


Simba

I Steal Socks and Have Stolen My Family's Hearts

From the Slausen Family

Our family was heartbroken when we lost our 13½ year old Golden last winter, but lucky for us, a 12-week-old puppy needed a home. She stole our socks, nibbled our fingers, and helped heal our hearts. She is our spoiled 'baby'. 🐾



Ivy



Harley, the Perfect Addition to Our Family

From the Smith family

In 2010, I was paralyzed in a swimming pool diving accident. Two years after my accident, I was selected to receive a highly trained service dog through Canine Companions for Independence (CCI). His name was Mitch, and he was invaluable for my mental and physical recovery. Sadly, he died of splenic cancer in March of 2022. My family and I were devastated. Truthfully, I fell into a deep depression and withdrew from many of the activities I enjoyed with Mitch.

Six months later, I happened upon an information booth set up by Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue. There were half a dozen beautiful Golden Retrievers present, all rescued, accompanied by their owners. My heart opened up to the possibility of owning another dog. Initially, I was looking for a middle-aged, mellow dog that I could train and control from my wheelchair. Then I met Harley.

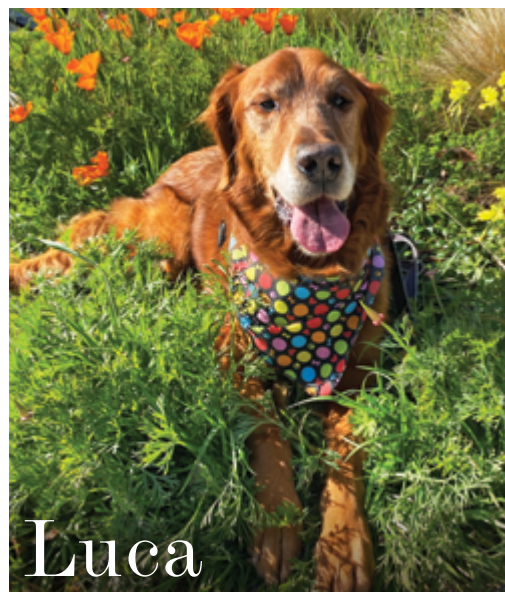
Harley is an 11-month-old male, so full of puppy energy! We don't know anything of his past, but he is the most lovable, attention seeking, loyal dog. He is full of mischief, no sock is safe in this house. He loves playing fetch and walks around all day with a tennis ball in his mouth. His favorite activity is his daily walk. There is an argument to be made about who is actually walking whom at this point. He is an absolute powerhouse, and by the size of his paws, he's not done growing yet! We are so incredibly fortunate to have Harley and I truly believe he is just as happy to have found his forever home. 🐾

Luca Found the Perfect Home

By Robin Suzuki

Many dogs that come to NGRR have very difficult beginnings and therefore finding them a home can be a challenge. We are grateful for fosters and owners who are willing to work with these issues and create the perfect home for our rescues. Luca has been in his home for over four years now. Here's what his owner (a huge NGRR supporter) says:

Luca loves to play with his toys, run, play fetch, sit by the water, get tummy rubs, and go on walks while greeting people who walk by. He has attended beginning, intermediate, and advanced dog obedience classes and classes with Certified Dog Behaviorists. He is dog, cat, squirrel, rabbit and other small animal attentive and based on feedback from his dog behaviorists and veterinarian, some of his habits are hard-wired and he may not be able to be "trained out of them". They can tell he wore a dog bark collar before he was surrendered, which was traumatizing (he never barks). Also, he wasn't socialized. He has many people friends (including Mr. and Mrs. Cookie, who were longtime NGRR fosters), a wonderful fun alpha dog walker / dog sitter, a gentle caring dog groomer, and a regular routine. After a lot of work and love, Luca has a very happy life. 🐾



Luna – Proud Member of My Brother's Baseball Team!

By Jessica Hickingbotham

Luna has been a great addition to our family. She enjoys going to the dog park for playdates, walks, off-leash hikes in Woodside and Portola Valley, and helping our disabled son with his baseball team.

Since Luna has joined the team, our son participates fully in games. Prior to Luna joining, he refused to play or go onto the field. Luna has been a blessing in our family. We are so grateful. 🐾



Cabo

The Amazing Journey of How a NGRR Dog Came Into My Life

By Dina Mitchell

I wasn't even thinking of getting a second dog when a series of events brought a dog that had been abandoned and tied to a pole in Cabo San Lucas ended up in my home in California. There are so many coincidences from talking to a stranger on a walking path about considering a second dog; to a posting by an acquaintance about a dog in foster from Cabo, to being accepted by NGRR as an adopter, to Cabo being the perfect dog for us, and we being the perfect home for him.

So, what is this story about? This story is about being willing to change the course of our lives when a new path presents itself. It's about being open to the coincidences that come our way. It's about the value of community connection. It's about the importance of a single life. It's about love. All of this is the Story of Cabo. 🐾

Please see the full story at: <https://ngrr.org/memorials-tributes> *Story of Cabo*



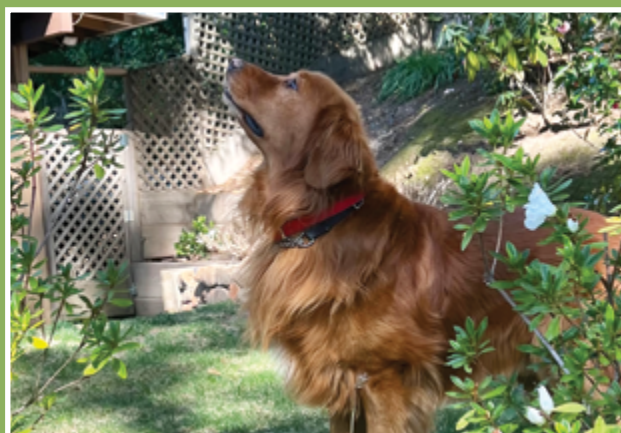
New Kids



"My new family say's it's so nice to have a Golden in the house again"
— Gracie



"I found a soft bed and LOTS of toys"
— Lucy



"The first 5 years, I wasn't allowed inside. Life is so good now" — Max



Dear Abby-Gold

By Deborah Armstrong

Q: Why are so many puppies and beautiful adolescent Golden Retrievers being surrendered this year? What can I expect and how can I prepare to bring one of these dogs into my home?

A: Unfortunately, Shelters and Rescue organizations nationwide are experiencing this same situation. People adopted adorable puppies who are now adolescent dogs during the pandemic not realizing the time, effort, patience, and financial investment it takes to raise a healthy well-adjusted good-mannered dog. This coupled with COVID training class closures during COVID and families that were sequestered full time with their pups, all set the families and their pups up for challenging times when life returned to normal with kids back in school and adults returning to the office.

Recommendations for fostering or adopting an under-socialized, untrained puppy or adolescent dog:

1. Work with a rescue organization such as NGRR that provides temperament evaluations on all in-coming dogs while they are in a foster home where each dog is given plenty of attention and love while being taught self-control and good manners to build confidence on how to live successfully as a family member.
2. Seek out puppy and dog behavior classes. Your vet office is a good resource for referrals. Classes are an excellent way for all family members to learn and have fun with their newest family member. Resources can also be found on the ASPCA and local Humane Society websites.
3. Provide stimulation, exercise, toys, consistency and lots of love. Remember your dog's greatest joy is loving you, pleasing you and being your best friend.

A recent NGRR adopter of an adolescent dog offered the following training tips: Learn how to manage time spent with the dog. Examples include: Using short regular training activities rather than less frequent longer ones; at meal time, ask the dog to sit before receiving food; when going outside, do not open the door until the dog sits; if chewing something inappropriate, replace it with a toy and spend a minute petting and praising; have an open crate handy and offer praise each time the dog chooses to go inside to lie down. Thinking about how you can catch your dog doing something good is a chance to offer praise and attention. A consistent daily routine makes a dog feel more secure and part of the family. This also minimizes the feeling that training is a huge task and sets the dog and family up for success. 🐾

Seager's story exemplifies the journey of a family that chose to foster/adopt an adolescent, untrained, exuberant dog and the dedication, time and training techniques needed to help Seager reach his potential as a Golden who can (and does) go anywhere in public, is a perfect walking companion on a leash, loves cuddles and play time at home and has obtained his Canine Good Citizen (CGC) and Therapy Dog Certificates. Here is an excerpt that will leave you wanting to read the whole story on the NGRR Facebook page @ www.facebook.com/ngrr

Seager

A "Foster to Adopt" Journey for an Untrained 15-Month-Old Golden

By Robert and Deborah Armstrong

After Bob's beloved Golden died of cancer, we needed to foster a dog to cheer ourselves up.

Seager could have become one of those problem dogs but luckily, his family realized they didn't have enough time for him before it was too late. When we began fostering him at fifteen months, he had the behavior of a three-month-old puppy and the body of an adult. Walking him on leash was like trying to fly a kite in a hurricane. Everything excited him, and he'd launch himself happily at everyone, barking furiously. In play, he'd grab everything and everyone with his powerful jaws on walks and in other public situations.

Seager needed to learn to settle and we quickly taught him to sit, down, and relax. "Down" meant what you'd expect, but for us, "Relax" cues him to roll over onto one side and remain calm. This was super difficult for excitable Seager. With lots of love and treats, and consistently reinforcing the behavior we expected in public, he gradually learned it was OK to wiggle and wag at strangers but to not lunge or vocalize.

We were careful to never punish his vociferous behavior but rather to redirect it. Sensitive Golden Retrievers can become reactive if they feel they are being punished when trying to greet strangers. If he jumped, he was asked to sit. If he refused to settle he was gently moved away from the distraction. We did not avoid taking him out in public because he needed to learn good behavior by practicing it.

Seager was also taken on walks around the neighborhood and to the park using a harness to help him to learn to be calm. Patiently walking nicely on leash is a difficult skill for an enthusiastic young dog, but once learned, you now have a dog that won't get stuck in a backyard...

For excellent training tips on how to provide consistency, positive reinforcement (redirecting not punishing), how to prevent separation anxiety, positive crate training, the use of toys in training and much more, continue reading the rest of Seager, Deborah and Robert's Foster to Adopt journey at: www.facebook.com/ngrr



DONATIONS

Best Friend: \$1,000 and up

The Susan Brady Alfaro Trust
Gordon DeFaro
Daniel and Julie Dowling
Steven J. Scully
Subaru of America

Pure Gold: \$500 to \$999

Amazon Smile
Warren Lyons and Christina Tran
Wayne Monahan
Tejaswi Mupparaju
Paypall Giving
Harvey Veon

Wet Kisses: \$250 to \$499

A-1 Property Management
Steven Blair
Chevron Matching Employee Funds
Christina Chin
Don and Catherine Coluzzi
William and Linda Desler
Verner Hansen
Shelly Johnson

Loren and Rachel Kertz
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Donating to NGRR

Since 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.*

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**Learn more about donating at
ngrr.org/donation**

For More Information

For further information, please consult with your financial planner or tax advisor. More information about donating to NGRR can be found on our website by clicking "Other Donation Options"— <https://ngrr.org/other-donation-options>.

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.ngrr.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

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Events and Golden Meetups are scheduled as the weather allows. Check in at the following:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ngcrr

Instagram: www.instagram.com/norcalgoldenretriever_rescue

Website: ngrr.org/events

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

Officers for Calendar Year 2023-24

PRESIDENT
Georgine Nordin

BOARD CHAIR
David Ball

TREASURER
Ellen Fenichel

SECRETARY
Deborah Cole

DIRECTORS FOR APRIL 1, 2023 TO MARCH 31, 2024 TERM

David Ball	Randall Miller, DVM	Linda Scheffel
Deborah Cole	Sunny Nijjar	Karen Shore
Rita Dane	Georgine Nordin	Anne Tiry

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



NGRR 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

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