
N O R C A L

Golden Retriever

R E S C U E



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

VOLUME XI, ISSUE No. 1 ~ SPRING 2005

Lending a PAW

Thank you to Gabriel Best for submitting this and to Carol Robins for suggesting it.

My name is Gabriel Best. I am twelve. I love animals, especially golden retrievers, so I volunteer at the Golden Retriever Rescue located in the Soquel hills. Before I tell you about the goldens, I would like to talk about why I chose this job.

I have had two dogs in my life, Pumpkin and Jasper, both very sweet golden retrievers. I don't remember much about Pumpkin, only that she was very loving. I adopted Jasper from the Golden Retriever Rescue when I was eight. I walked him, fed him and did everything for him. He was my dog. Unfortunately, he died of old age two years ago.

The first time I went to volunteer, I was astonished at how patient Carol, the Golden Retriever Rescue coordinator for Santa Cruz County, was with all nine fostered goldens. Each dog had their own drama.

You may be wondering what my job is. For the past couple of months, I have been walking and training Buddy, the most recently fostered dog. Since Carol has

not had Buddy for very long, she does not let him run freely with the other dogs, so he sleeps in the garage. I think that Buddy is coming around very nicely and will soon be able to frolic around with the other dogs. He will make someone a very nice pet.

I want to tell you about Annie, one of the nine Golden Retrievers. So that maybe you will be interested in adopting her. Annie is a beautiful, intelligent, silky chestnut colored, short haired, half golden. Annie has a sad history. When she was a puppy she was kept in a kennel with many other dogs, and I think she was abused by her master. She didn't have a chance to get much food. Now when I give her food she is very aggressive and pushes the other dogs out of the way. Over the past couple months, Annie has warmed up to me and often licks my hand. But on the other hand she has a hard time warming up to Carol's husband, Sam. I think that maybe she was abused by a male adult. I think that in a couple months of training and trust building that Annie will be less vigilant and more adoptable.

I started off thinking that I was helping Carol. Now it feels like I am getting more than I am giving.

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Gabriel and "Buddy"

NORCAL GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE FUND

At the end of last year, we sent out our Rescue Fund letter. The purpose was to raise funds so that we could expand and continue to rescue and relocate dogs from Bakersfield to the Oregon border. We were very happy with the results of that letter. We raised over \$xx,xxx. We would like to acknowledge those people who responded to the letter. Listed below are those donors who gave generously to this fund.

Best Friend: \$1000 and up

Holly and Mike O'Brien
Bob and Marilyn Ormond
The Dahl Foundation

Pure Gold: \$500 to \$999

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Cold Noses: up to \$99

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Larry and Margy Banfield
Carol Barba DMV
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Byron and Virginia Basett
Marilyn Bedford
Norma Bennett
Robert and Wendy Bergman
Larry and Diane Blanc
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Misty Braz
Robin Brumell
Karen Burlingame
Robert and Vera Burns
Pauline Bury
Clarke and Barbara Carey
John Chiozza
Nancy and Roger Clark
Charles Cobb

(continued on page 3)

RESCUE FUND (continued from page 2)

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
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| Debbie Hilbert | Nina and Dan McQueen | | Rose Wright |
| | | | Beverly Zell |

Shop on-line at www.golden-rescue.org

Turn your on-line shopping into philanthropy! The following merchants will donate a percentage of each on-line purchase when their web site is accessed from NGRR's web site:

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|--------------|-----|--------------|----|
| Amazon.com | 5% | LandsEnd.com | 5% |
| Dogtoys.com | 15% | Pets.com | 7% |
| PETsMART.com | 10% | | |

Please add the following link to your favorite places and use it whenever you buy from one of the above retailers:

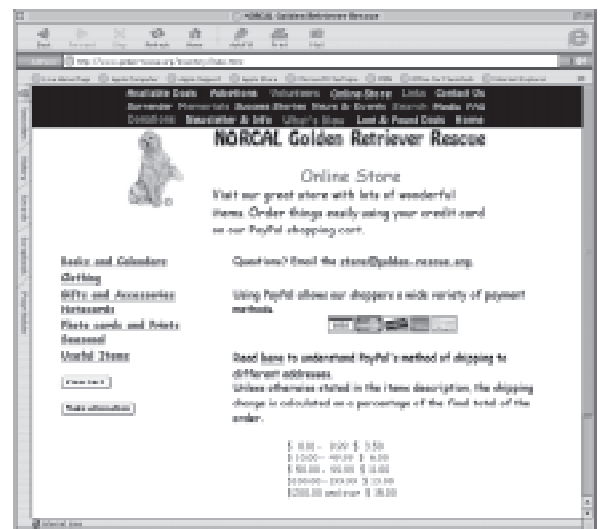
<http://www.golden-rescue.org/allabout/friends.htm>

Remember—we only get these contributions when their site is accessed through NGRR's site.

Thank you for helping us!

Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue Goodies

<http://www.golden-rescue.org/goodies/sales/index.htm>



Celebrate the Volunteer

Jeff Wilson, President

I am honored to serve as the organization's President in the coming year. I've been involved with NGRR for roughly four years and have been a foster family, raffle chairman and Treasurer for the past two years. Luckily, outgoing President, Marilyn Ormond is staying on the Board and will be a great resource to me as I find my way in this new role.

I simply cannot say enough about Marilyn. I have watched her as President these past two years and she has a true passion for the Golden and our mission. She has worked tirelessly, not only providing direction but also rolling up her sleeves, and being involved in every single event. Marilyn set a high standard that will be difficult to match.

I am passionate about many things this organization represents. First is a shared passion with all of you for the breed. I often think the world would be a better place if we all had a Golden's temperament! Never angry, always loving, adoring human contact, but understanding if one is not around, forever patient, forgiving, and then jubilant when one arrives.

I am most proud of our foster families that provide a warm family environment to the dogs in transition. I've been a foster and know the challenges as the dog gets adjusted, a close tie develops, and then the dog is given up for adoption in an emotional farewell. A Golden deserves to be with people in a warm family environment instead of cold cages. We now realize that kennels are an important back-up plan but are recommitting ourselves to focusing on the foster system as the primary method of care.

Another group that I greatly admire is the Area Coordinators and their volunteers. I hope to get to know each of you more in the coming year. To name a few, Pat Lynch has worked in my area for years. I know her phone is always ringing, and her weekends are spent moving dogs around. Jill Morgan in San Joaquin rescued an unbelievable 75 dogs last year! These are only two examples of the fabulous contributions made everyday.

Then there are the adopters that have opened your hearts and homes to Golden in need. Repairing broken loyalty from a prior owner, (something a Golden could never fathom), to seniors whose time will be shorter, to sick dogs who need warmth, reassurance and a loving hand before crossing the rainbow bridge. If you are a prospective adopter, I guarantee your most rewarding experience will be adopting a



Jeff and his Golden

senior Golden. They are the best.

Another thing I'm proud of is the funds raised really do go to the dogs in our all-volunteer force. I want to express my sincere appreciation to our donors that provide the financial support we need to carry out the mission. As board members, fundraising is our top priority, realizing this is our lifeblood in providing care and supporting our volunteers in fulfilling the mission, one dog at a time.

Regardless if you are a donor, volunteer or an adoptive family, you can take pride in your involvement with this organization and its noble cause. Thank you all so much. 🐾

Thank You!

Submitted by Cade Deverell

A HUGE thank you to Martina Contreras for the many, many hours she spends evaluating and working with our Golden who have problems. They are all better off for having met her!

Another HUGE thank you to Kara and Dan Juneau for fostering Bella.

Bella came to us abused and poorly socialized but, with Martina's guidance, Kara and Dan patiently and lovingly worked (and worked!) with her. Now Bella is a trusting, tailwagging girl with a new family who adores her.

Submitted by Linda Gomoll

Just want to say thank you to the volunteers who helped at the Rescue booth at the Cow Palace at the end of January. Goes

to show when you enjoy what you are doing the results are tremendous! The "booth" was set up by Joan and Phil Fisher and Dorothy Carter on Friday and to say it was not hard to find – well ya'all have to come next year and check it out! We were busy (very busy) all day long and managed to raise over \$300 in contributions Saturday alone! Jennifer Masterson was gracious to let us store our "valuables" under her setup and we even got to borrow her puppies to come hang with us at the booth. Boy did that please the folks who needed their golden petting fix! And the chocolate "dog" kisses were a great substitute for the real thing!

So thank you to Jeanne Hanlon, Barb Tornberg and Marilyn Ormond (and Pat Lynch) for rounding out a great team on Saturday and Mary Kennedy, Dorothy Carter and Charlene Flynn on Sunday!

Hip hip hooray to all! 🐾

A New Home for Callie

Thank you to Joan, Phil and Casey Fisher for submitting this.

Our hearts were broken when our sweet twelve-and-a-half-year-old Golden Kelly girl went to the rainbow bridge on February 26th, 2004 after a valiant 6-month bout with cancer. In late May we heard from Area Coordinators, Linda Gomoll and Jeanne Hanlon, that there was a female rescue available, also named "KELLY". We thought that it was our beautiful Kelly sending us word that "THIS IS IT-HERE'S A GOOD ONE". We took her advice and adopted Kelly II, whom we renamed Callie. Our heavenly advisor was "on the ball." Callie is

adorable. She is a beautiful golden red color with amber eyes and is sweet, funny, and playful.

She came from a home where the husband didn't want dogs, however, despite this, the wife went out and purchased two puppies from the same littler-Kelly and Ben. And guess what!! A year later the couple got a divorce. The husband still didn't want dogs and the wife was moving and couldn't keep them, so both Golden's were surrendered to NGRR at one-and-a-half-years-old. They were not kept together because Ben was very dominant towards Callie. We think they were kept in crates a good deal of the time.

When we got Callie she was shaky on

stairs, could not jump up either in the car or bed or even over anything, she was afraid of men, terrified of the car, and couldn't swim. She turned her head if you raised your hand for any reason. She also had to win over her new housemate, our 4-year-old Golden Boy, Casey.

In her first four months with us she has learned to jump, loves men, climbs stairs in leaps and bounds, and can't wait for her ride in the car. She traveled back and forth to our Tahoe home many times, went to Oregon and stayed with us in lovely hotels and bed and breakfasts with other golden cousins, learned to swim all over Lake Tahoe, and she and Casey are the best of buds. They chase each other and balls, run like the wind, roll around and pull each others ears and tails, and

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Come One Come All to the Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue Parade 2005!

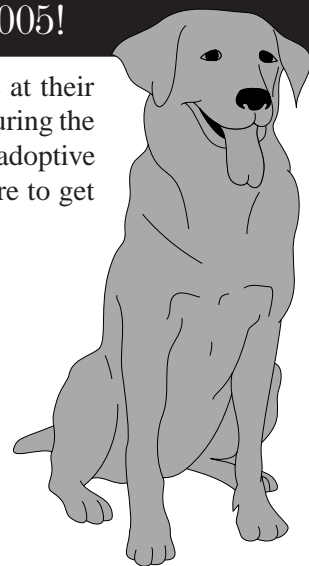
Norcal Golden Retriever Club invites all golden retriever rescue dogs to participate in a parade at their Specialty Dog Show at Bolado Park in Hollister on April 29, 2005. This event, which takes place during the lunch break, has always been a great success as it shows everyone present what great work our adoptive families have done with their dogs. There are a limited amount of spaces for this event so be sure to get your application in early.

Rescue Parade 2004 • April 29, 2005 • Bolado Park, Hollister

Deadline for Application: April 14, 2005

We would like to honor our Rescued Golden(s) at Norcal Golden Retriever Club's Specialty Show. Dogs must be at least six months of age. There is a \$10 fee for entering and each entrant will receive a special gift. Please include a brief history of your dog, such as how you acquired him or her and any past history you are aware of, which will be read at the show. To enter, please fill out the form below, enclose a check for \$10 (payable to Norcal GRC) and send by Thursday, April 14, 2005 to:

Marilyn Ormond, Rescue Parade
139 Oak Springs Dr., San Anselmo, CA 94960
415-453-5473 or miscnow@earthlink.net



Registered Name (if known) _____

Call Name _____

Birth date or approximate age _____

Owner _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Brief History (use extra paper if necessary) _____

IN TRIBUTE

In Thanks to the Family of Elaine Glass for their generous donation.

In Honor of “Edison”
Donation by William & Rebecca Raymond

In Thanks to Shirlee Thomas for making use of her Employer Matching Fund and her many donations “In Memory of Gideon”.

In Honor of Janice Lee
A donation was made in Janice’s name from Susan Clink, who commissioned a portrait of her dogs by Patricia Luppino. Ms. Luppino donates a percentage of her fee to rescue groups. Thanks to all for their generosity and thoughtfulness!

In Honor of Jude & Dino Restelli Birthdays –
“The best friends a Golden ever had!”
Donation by Carol & Allan Porter

In Thanks to Berkeley Shore
“Posse wanted to be sure that the Berkeley’s of the world receive the same great care in their Golden years. Here’s to healthy aging!”
Donation by Ian Vossbrinck on behalf of “Posse”

In Honor of “Ribbon” and her owner/trainer, Janet Hellum
“Ribbon leaves me feeling much better at each visit and Janet is great. God bless them both! I believe they’d bless lots of kids at Shriner’s Hospital in Sacramento. Love them both – Janet Hellum and Ribbon, too.”
Donation by Earl Ball

In Honor of “Callie”
Owned by Ann
Donation by Peter Levy of Bark Buster Home Dog Training

“Happy Birthday – to Paula Storti”
Donation by Lauren Littman

In Honor of “Digger”
Donation by the Woglom Family

In Honor of Carole Gray-Weihman
Donation by Clifford Weihman

Merry Christmas to Anne Belisle and wishes for a Golden 2005!
Gifted with love from Diane Head

In Thanks to Ackerman’s Servicing Volvos, Inc. and Molly McCoy for donating a portion of her automotive fees to Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue.

Merry Christmas, Aunt Sharon McConell
Love to you from Kimberly Daly

In Honor of “Bonnie” and
In Memory of “Mattie”
Donation by Raymond & Margie Einberger

In Honor of “Maggie”
“Maggie has been with us three years and is our baby. Thank you.”
Donation by Perry & Toni Petersen

In Honor of “Rosebud”, our rescue Scottish Deerhound and
In Memory of “Emmett” and “Cooper”
“They were our two Golden Retrievers and the light of our lives. Goldens changed our lives by enhancing it with their heart, love of life, joy, humor, and kindness. All Goldens should have an opportunity to thrive and be given the opportunity to live a healthy and happy life.”
Donation by Marsha & Jim Dandridge, Rosebud, Jimmy Preston, Elle, and Bailey

In Honor of Janine and Don Matheson
Donation by Diane Head

In Honor of Peter FitzGerald
Donation by a FitzGerald Family member

In Honor of Dee and Richard Ferrar
Donation by Rosemarie Peterson

In Honor of Peter FitzGerald
Donation by Virginia Atwood

In Honor of “Charlie”, “Bartlett”, & All the Glass Family
“Happy Hanukkah and a Golden 2005 to all of you!”
Donation by Priscilla Laula

In Honor of “My Beloved Goldens”
Donation by Marilyn Bedford

In Honor of our “Jake”
Donation by Dave & Mary Kemnitz

In Thanks to Mike & Holly O’Brien for making NGRRescue part of their employee matching program!

In Thanks to “All the Rescue People”
Donation by Emanuel & Lucy Aron

In Honor of “Bear”
“Congratulations on celebrating your 15th birthday, Bear!”
Loved by George & Catherine Horsfall
Donation by Jo Leggett

To our following friends from the C-Vu “crew” (Yankee, Pi, Schoo, Galle, Rig and Cara):
“Merry Christmas to Don & Joni Rapp”
“Golden wishes to Caylee, Buck, and Ian (Janet Peacock, too).”
“A Golden year to Spuds, Passion, Tasha, and Diva (Nancy Kelly, too).”
“Golden kisses to Misty and Thunder (Pat & Steve Klim, also.)”
“Happy Holidays to Meg & Gus (Janet & Bert Lum, too.)”

In Honor of Tom & Shannon Aiken
“We very much admire and respect all that you do to rescue these beautiful Golden Retrievers poorly treated by not so wonderful people.”
Donation by Ray & Laura Gann

In Honor of Carole Weihman
Donation by Elaine Weihman

In Honor of Christine Harrison
 Donation by Elizabeth Harrison

In Honor and On Behalf of Karyn Hunt
 Donation by Tom & Evelyn Hunt

In Honor of Sandra Schatz
 Donation by Betsy Haehl & John Kriewall

In Honor of
"All the Wonderful Golden and Great Volunteers of NGRRescue"
 Donation by Elaine Bowers

In Thanks to the following individuals who have donated to Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue through the United Way campaign at their places of employment: Sharon S. Pepper, Kimberly Stover, Mark Hoeser, Monica Russell

In Thanks to Dr. Enke, Dr. Butler and the Martinez Animal Hospital Staff
"Thank you for you wonderful care of 'Sadie'".
"Yes, you were with us too short a time. Your flirting ways will be missed."
 Loved by Julie Rennie

In Honor of Karen & John Ellis
"Happy New Year!"
 Donation by Nona Liang

In Honor of "Indy", and Mr. & Mrs. De Mauro
"I am an RVT employed at the Chabot Vet Clinic in Hayward. About 2 weeks ago we performed emergency intestinal surgery on a lovely young Golden, named Indy. Unfortunately, his owners were unable to finance his surgery. One of our doctors had the insight to call the De Mauros - a wonderful couple who are clients of ours, who work closely with your organization. Through them, NGRR was able to finance Indy and find him a new home, saving his life. Thank you from all of us at Chabot and thank you Mr. & Mrs. De Mauro."
 Donation by Bea Linn

"Happy Birthday, Peter FitzGerald"
 Donation from Mary & John Fisher

In Honor of Barbara and Dick Crespo
"With Great Thanks!"
 Donation by Linda Loring and Steve Oroza

I N M E M O R I A M

In Memory of "Annie"
"Annie was the beginning of an enormous amount of wonderful dogs - including our Beau and Max. Thank you, Annie."
 Loved and missed by Colette & Jack Agresti
 Donation by Marilyn & Bob Ormond

In Memory of "Lola"
"Lola was truly a wonderful girl with a gracious, loving spirit."
 Loved and missed by David, Stephanie, Laura Getzler, Bart and Rita
 Donation by Ken & Jennifer Workman

In Memory of "Bonnie's Clyde"
 OTCH Wynwood Specktaclar Hit Man, UDX, SH, WCX
"Clyde, a Golden Retriever, was the beloved companion of Bonnie Speckels. He was a faithful companion by her side for almost 16 years and will be deeply missed."
 Treasured and loved by Bonnie Speckels
 Donation by Deep Peninsula Dog Training

In Memory of "Birdie"
 Loved by Pam Tyson
 Donation by Town & Country Dog Training Club

In Memory of "Molson"
 Donation by Susan & Charles Rothschild

In Memory of "Max"
"Max was adopted by the Akre family of Sonoma and Kenwood. He was a sweet, gentle dog who will live in our memory forever. He was Jon Akre's best buddy."
 Loved and missed by the Akre Family
 Donation by Elaine & Harry Akre

In Memory of "Cassidy" Russell
"Cassidy was a beautiful Golden girl who left her two Goldie brothers, Butch and Sundance, and her human caretakers, Gloria and Russ, for the Rainbow Bridge on October 1, 2004."
 Cherished and loved by Gloria & Russ Russell
 Donation by Sue & Steve Salnick

In Memory of "Sadie"
"Loved and missed by the Moore Family and all who knew her. She was truly a Golden Girl. There are so many of us who are grateful to have wonderful Golden's descended from "Sadie". She will live on forever in your hearts. We are so sorry for your loss."
 Adored by The Moore Family
 Donation by Joan, Phil, Casey & Callie Fisher

In Memory of "Gideon"
 Donation by Shirlee Thomas

In Memory of "Daisy"
"Missed and loved by Trish Mills. Our girls' weekend would not have been the same without her there."
 Loved by Trish & Josh Mills
 Donation by Susan, Don Ludwig and their Norcal Rescue, "Sandi"

In Memory of "Astro" and in Honor of "Elmo"
"Our loving golden, Astro, crossed the Rainbow Bridge in May 2001. While we miss Astro dearly, we have found so much love and joy in our golden boy, Elmo, who is now almost two. We admire the people at Norcal who work so hard to help all of these lovely creatures have a happy life, which is what they all deserve. Happy holidays to all of you."
 Donation by Maureen & Don Johansen

IN MEMORIAM

In Memory of "Skipper"

"Skipper was a great dog and Molly's best friend. I hope they're together again."

Loved by Kathy & Jeffrey Williams

Donation by Molly's mom, Linda Davis

In Memory of our Beloved "Ouzel"

Donation by Bruce Macintosh &

Christy Smith

In Memory of "Shannon Marie"

"You are missed dearly and remembered daily."

Loved and missed by Harvey Veon

In Memory of "Triscuit"

"Triscuit loved to be loved. Her wonderful personality and the love she gave, especially to Bill, will be missed."

Loved by Lisa & Bill Lambert,

Deanna, Kyle and Bill's son

Donation by Stephanie, David &

Laura Getzler

In Memory of "Jack"

"Jack was only on this earth a short time but got a lifetime of love from his family. His sweet disposition has a left a mark on the hearts of all who loved him especially

Carole, Marc and Michaela."

Cherished and loved by Marc Weber,

Carole & Michaela Fishback

Donation by Stephanie, David &

Laura Getzler

In Memory of "George"

"George was a very dear pet and companion of Rosemarie."

Missed and loved by Rosemarie Peterson

Donation by Dolores & Richard Farrar

In Memory of "Frosty"

"Remembering one senior by helping others."

Cherished by Steve Kennedy

Donation by Mary Ellen Kennedy

In Memory of Karen Lindstrom

Donation by "Misty the Wonder Dog" and Rogers Family

In Memory of Ron VanBuskirk

"My thoughts and prayers are with you at this most difficult time."

Donation by Judy Kornbluth

In Memory of my "Alex"

"Golden Retrievers are perhaps the most fantastic dogs in the entire world. My Alex, affectionately known as ATD (Alex the dog) was the love of my life and was a wonderful friend to me during a difficult period of my life."

Loved, cherished and missed by

Chris Cassidy

A Christmas Memorial for "Tawny",

"Moby", "Natasha", and "Chelsea"

"These four Golden's shared several years of unconditional love with Howard and Judy Guild."

Donation by Bill Moore

In Memory of "Peary Grossman"

Donation by Gina Grossman

In Memory of "Mellissa Fuller-Lewis"

"Mellissa will be missed but the memories will survive forever. She was a wonderful companion."

Loved by Jeff Fuller & Andrea Lewis

Donation by John, Cindy & Delaney

Gordnier

In Memory of Mrs. Roach

"Her laughter, her cribbage games, her welcoming home and heart will always be part of my memories and make me smile."

Donation by Stephanie Getzler

In Memory of "Sundance" and "Rose"

In Thanksgiving for brothers, "Buddy" & "Cody" and our adopted Golden,

"Annie Rose"

Donation lovingly given by

Fay & Frank Putnam

In Memory of Steve Zeppa

Donation by John Chiozza

In Memory of "BOO", the cat

"Boo was a cat that loved a Golden Retriever. She disappeared one night at the age of 17 years old. She lived with 'Saber', a fourteen year old Golden who came to the Mishra Family from Norcal Rescue. Saber is a great dog who really misses his comrade, Boo Cat."

Missed and loved by the

Mishra Family and Saber

Donation by the Schiffman Family

In Memory of "Cody"

Donation by Anne Sutherland

In Memory of "Buddy"

"Never has a dog been so loved nor an owner so adored than 'Buddy' who was rescued by Jon. Jon and Buddy were always together. They were the best of buddies and the hole left in Jon's heart by Buddy's passing is filled with sadness. We had the pleasure of knowing these two and our heartfelt wishes go out to Jon."

Cherished, loved and adored by Jon Warren

Donation by Stephanie, David, Laura,

Bart, Rita and Kitties Getzler

In Memory of the Life of "Sam"

"Sam was a very gentle and kind Golden. He will be greatly missed."

Loved by Rosanna & John Valentini

Donation with love by Joyce &

Amber Dinslage

In Memory of "Phoebe"

Donation by Elisabeth & Nelson Lampert

In Memory of "Linus"

Donation by Gretchen Schiffer &

Matt Borrer

In Memory of Betty Litten

Donation by Theresa &

Thomas McCarthy

In Memory of "Ditto"

Treasured and loved by Diann Riggs

Donation by Town & Country Dog

Training Club, Inc.

In Memory of "Justin"
"Justin was a wonderful and very brave dog."
 Cherished and loved by Mona, Ravi, Rohan, Anya, Riya & Bailey Sinha
 Donation by Carol & Allan Porter

In Memory of "Chloe"
"We know how much you miss Chloe because we are best friends. Even though it was a short time, you had the blessing of living with Chloe. May we all live with such an opportunity."
 Loved by Jean & Doug McDonald
 Donation by Dennis, Joani, Chance & Queenie Scarborough

In Memory of "Brandon"
"Brandon was such a brave boy. We will really miss him. His love will always be with you."
 Missed and loved by Jennie Keifer
 Donation by Barbara & Joe Tonelli

In Memory of "Shelby"
"Shelby was a true Princess!"
 Loved and greatly missed by Teresa, Stu, Beau, Oscar and her Nordic Lane friends
 Donation by Teresa Colucci

In Memory of "Carmen"
"We miss Carmen. She was our four-legged, reincarnated baseball player who gave us 9 years of joy. She couldn't even go out to potty without her ball. Keep up your good work."
 Donation by Verna Pingrey

In Memory of "Dooley", "Basil" & "Shasta"
 Loved and missed by Judy & Terry Klimko

In Loving Honor of the naughty spirit of our "Justin 'Goofball' Sinha"
 1999-2005
"Our best buddy, forever in our hearts!"
 Loved, cherished and missed by Riya, Anya, Rohan, Mona, Ravi & Bailey Sinha

In Memory of "Hobie"
"Hobie came to Norcal in September of 2004. He was ill with cancer and hadn't had a very good life. Dr. Anne Walker took him into her home and she and her husband loved him. He had the best 5 months of his life. Thank you Anne and Karl."
 Cared for and loved by Anne & Karl Pfendt
 Donation by Marilyn & Bob Ormond

In Loving Memory of "Justin"
"Justin was a loving, playful and attentive Golden and the Sinha's gave Justin the best home he could have ever known!"
 Loved by the Sinha Family
 Donation by Justine Eller

In Memory of "Mitzi"
"In memory of sweet, gentle Mitzi, and in gratitude to Anne and Bob who welcomed Mitzi into their home and gave her what were undoubtedly the best months of her life."
 Loved by Bob & Anne Huggins
 Donation by Pete Chow & Carla Holmes

In Memory of "Gideon"
 Donation by Shirlee Thomas

In Memory of "Mavis"
"Mavis was a dear. She will be missed and fondly remembered."
 Loved by Richard Ostreicher

In Memory of "Brandon"
"In memory of your boy. We will miss him."
 Cherished and loved by Jennie Keifer
 Donation by your friends at Vallejo Dog Training Club

Memorial & Tribute Donations

Donations may be made to memorialize or pay tribute to a special person, Golden or pet of any kind. 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.

NORCAL Golden Retriever Rescue, Inc.

Purpose: NORCAL Golden Retriever Rescue, Inc. (NGRR) is a nonprofit, volunteer organization dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, and placement of displaced Golden Retrievers in Northern California.

Volunteers: NGRR has a large network of volunteers in communities throughout Northern California. Among these are a board of directors and numerous area coordinators and foster families who care for and place over 400 Goldens a year into new homes. Our volunteers do not receive any form of compensation for their time and effort.

Articles: Articles and news items of general informational, educational, or human interest are welcome. We especially

like to hear and see (send photos) how our rescued Goldens are doing with their new owners. If submitting a reprint of an article from another publication, please obtain prior permission from the publisher. Permission to reprint any material in this newsletter should be obtained from the author, crediting NGRR.

Mailing List: This newsletter is mailed to all persons and businesses who have adopted a dog or donated money, time, services, or auction items to NGRR within the past two years. It is also mailed to members of the NORCAL Golden Retriever Breed Club, officers of the Golden Retriever Club of America, and other animal rescue groups. We do not share our mailing list with other organizations.

Forever . . . Justin

Thank you to *Mona Sinha*
(*morasi@aol.com*) for contributing this
and to *Justine Eller* for suggesting it.

Wednesday January 19, 2005

Today, it is snowing, softly and steadily. The backyard has a sheet of snow spread over it. You would have nuzzled into it, covered your nose with a big heap and given me a big, goofy grin, proceeding to eat the yummy mush. It has been a day and a week since you left my side and I miss you more than words can ever describe. I expect to turn around from my typing and see your head resting on my office carpet. One little squeak and you would look up immediately. The minute I stand, so do you, ready to follow me onto the next thing.

Why did it have to be you? I ask so many times a day. Why did I have to lose my best friend and soul mate . . . why will I never again feel the weight of your head on my knee and have your beautiful soulful eyes look into mine? Why can't I talk to you in so many different languages (gibberish too) and hear your tail go thump, thump, regardless of what I was saying? Why do I love you so much that even writing this makes my heart ache and eyes well up with tears? Why is this loss the deepest I have ever felt?

Maybe, because it is the deepest connection that I have ever made. I remember the first time I saw you. We had moved to California from New York, in March 2001 and within a month, knew that we wanted another doggy companion for our firstborn doggy Bailey and ourselves. We were checked out by NORCAL – the beginning of a long friendship with Carol and Justine (your namesake) and then that fateful day the phone call. “Mona, we have a 2 year old



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Justin, Anya, Rohan, Riya and Bailey.

male, a bit wild, not sure if it will work for you, but see him anyway – his name is Tristan.” Did I mention that I was three months pregnant with my twin girls, Anya and Riya?

We went to see you in South San Francisco and the conditions under which you were kept were appalling. A filthy backyard and there you were, a big blonde boy, in a small cage, matted hair, just chomping at the bit. The lady let you out and you ran wild. Bailey would not engage you and looked away. But Ravi, my husband, and I saw those eyes and we knew that inside, there was this energetic, lovable, loyal being just waiting to be found. We took you home that night, against our better judgment, thinking that we would provide you temporary shelter until NORCAL placed you in a home. The next day was a frantic whirl of NORCAL visits, vet visits, groomer visits, and my own investigation into your past. Within days, hours really, you crept into our hearts and were not going anywhere else. That’s when we renamed you Justin, as a tribute to Justine who found you for us. The family joke was that we found you “Just-in Time”.

Oh those early days! You were nervous, pacing all over the house, nervous to come inside when let out into the garden, knocking over our two and a half year old son Rohan and knocking me over too. Just unsure of what the future was, being gently told off by big sister Bailey time and time again. You came back from the groomer, all matted and knots gone, what a handsome boy indeed!!! You would not eat dog food and I handfed you, you stole food off the kitchen counter (including chili paste – and that did you no harm!) and we discovered by accident that you were used to eating tortillas! You were scared of going into the garage – who knows what torture you put up with, poor baby.

And then the confidence began to build. You would come into the pool with me, balancing my big belly by holding onto my back! You would be running like the wind outside in the garden, and then check back in with me ever so often as I rested – just a quick lick and you were off again, seeking the next adventure. At night, the pacing was replaced with active

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dreams when you let out happy yips while chasing balls in the yard and waved your paws in the air. My attempts at training you did not go too far. You pulled me across the street as we tried group lessons with Martina at 8 p.m., my yawning self, trying to instill discipline in you – what a joke! Instead we just worked it out between us.

I remember you running out of the front gate one day as the trigger was accidentally set off and I screaming and running behind you. Picture this, the gate shut and I fell – all eight months of belly on the ground. Your guardian angel was watching, and a jogger caught you by the collar before you ran on to the main street. You were fine, thank God and I spent that night at Stamford Hospital trying to explain what I was doing to a very bewildered doctor.

Then the twins arrived. You were not too impressed with these little bundles that made loud noises. Bailey ventured into the room to check them out, but you waited outside. Even if I called you, you'd come in, quick lick my hand and be off again. I think you were a little jealous.

We moved to New York City five months later – we were so concerned how you would adjust to city living, but you were just fine. We walked you for miles each time looking for a patch of grass for you to lift your leg, until one day YOU tired of it and became a city dog, happy with the sidewalk! You did not care where you were, as long as you were with us.

What adventures we had, Justin! Naughty, naughty boy that you were. I remember the night that I returned with a fantastically decorated cake from a weeklong cake-decorating class. As I proudly snapped pictures of my amazing creation and had everyone ooh-ing and aah-ing, you eyed it surreptitiously. A visit to the kid's room, and hey presto, the decorations were gone! Into your stomach, in a nano second. Not to mention, that

included 25 thin wires. Nine X-rays, an ultrasound and ten Vet visits later, you finally passed the wires and escaped stomach surgery! You ate chocolate cake, candy, Halloween goodies, the list is endless . . . wherever we hid it, you found it.

You constantly stole the kid's toys

*“We saw those eyes
and knew that inside,
there was this energetic,
lovable, loyal being just
waiting to be found.”*

leading to shrieks and yells. It became more of a game than anything else, both for you and the kids. Bailey, usually disapproving found herself participating too! Even when you were sick, you would still walk into the girls' room to steal your favorite pink poodle, just to make a point.

You were so protective of the family. One day someone came into our front yard at 3am. You barked so aggressively and loudly that the alarm went off. You were ready to chew this person to bits and were

growling and snarling. Just like when the pool cleaner in California came in unannounced and found himself pinned to the back wall with a big, snarling doggy face in his own.

You would run like the wind in Central Park, barking at the other dogs, chasing Bailey, chewing sticks . . . so happy, carefree and energetic. You'd strut along the street happily walking, and then stop to bark at a dog that looked at us too long. Or sniff the smells from the Chinese takeout and reach hopefully at the bagel in the kid-in-the-stroller's hand.

We had the most wonderful time with you buddy. You were always in the middle of everything. I'd walk in the door and you'd rush to me “What's up? What'd I miss?” Wagging tail, inquisitive nose, licky tongue – just the most delicious kisses.

Then last Thanksgiving, your throat felt swollen and I took you to the doctor anticipating some antibiotics. Words cannot describe the shock of hearing that we needed to see an oncologist. Several hours later we were told that you indeed had lymphoma of an aggressive nature, but given how strong you were the prognosis with therapy was a year. How much we all cried at the thought of having

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Sebastian, the Pin Up Boy, and Sarah, the Dog Who Thought She Was A Sweater

*Thank you to Laura James
for contributing this.*

In the last newsletter I told you about my three dogs, Bob, Sarah and Sebastian. This time I'd like to give you some ideas about how to support Golden Retriever Rescue and get a wonderful picture of your dog and/or get yarn spun from your dog's hair! It's true, yarn from your dog's hair and it's beautiful!

First, how to get a great portrait of your dog and support Rescue at the same time! Obviously I'm one of those crazy dog people so it's not surprising that I can't pass by a pet store without going in and seeing what new treats and goodies were available. Last year I was in Redwood City and I saw the Pet Food Express store on Woodside Road so I went in to check it out. This was before we met Sebastian so we were dogless - did that stop me from buying dog treats? Ha! On the counter was a flyer about the Pet Food Expresses My Mutt Program. Donate at least \$250 to a Bay Area Animal Shelter or Rescue Group of your choice and your pet's photo will be produced in a larger than life size and mounted on a wall of Pet Food Express store. For a donation of \$500 or more, you can keep the poster after it has been displayed for about twelve months. Well I picked a flyer up and put it in my pocket and forgot about it.

Then we met and fostered Sebastian. Of course we fell in love (surprise, surprise) and adopted him. As fate would have it



I came across the flyer! I signed on to the Pet Food Express website (www.petfoodexpress.com) and read more about the My Mutt Program, filled out the application. Since I officially adopted Sebastian through Carla Holmes I asked her to complete the form for me - the donation does have to be verified by the group you donate to. I scanned the form and with a simple click of the mouse the application was on its way and within hours I received a response with the name and phone number of their photographer.

I called Dean, the photographer, made a date and we met in
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Justin

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you for only a year – little did we know how short it really was to be. You responded so well and were in remission in a week. The oncologist did not know what to make of it. A month later you were out of remission. Another protocol lasted two weeks. January, and you were gone.

We also did acupuncture every week. Initially, you'd quietly take the needles out, and then you started to really enjoy the treatments and zone out. You ate home-cooked food and had me sleep next to you every night, snuggling in and snoring so loudly. You became so demanding of me

and I loved you more than ever before.

But you knew when it was time to say goodbye. The night before, you nudged me and kept on telling me that your time had come. You looked so happy, so peaceful, and so calm when you were gone. At five and a half, you were the wisest of us all.

The children have been most philosophical. Rohan (age 6) says that you still send him love and licks from the sky and Anya and Riya (age 3) blow you kisses. Rohan wanted to know why we could not just keep you under his bed with promises that you would not disturb anyone. He has conversations about you with his friends, how you were

so brave because you stayed a night in the hospital without mom, and how you will come back into our family in another form. Anya and Riya look at paw prints in the snow and ask if they are yours. Bailey sniffs your smell in the house and in the yard and climbs up onto your favorite couch.

As we approach your 6th birthday on March 11th, I promise that I will not speak of you with tears but remember you with love and joy, and talk of you as if you were beside me. Because as much as we all love you, I know that you love us too. You are constantly in our thoughts and in our hearts. You are forever, our Justin. 🐾



Congratulations to Tana Steinert of Fremont – last year’s lucky \$10,000 raffle winner. Tana proudly accepts her check from “Cash” of Cash & Carry – president Jeff Wilson’s dogs. Tana’s golden, “Sopie,” was placed with her a few years ago with the help of Area Coordinator, Pat Lynch.



*12th Annual Auction
and Wine Tasting*
Held November 6, 2004



Golden Oldies – Our Love Affair With Buddy, Ben & Bella

(Why adopting a Senior Golden Retriever can be a wonderful experience!)

Thank you to Bobbie LaPorte for contributing this article.

If you are reading this article, then you likely fall into one of three categories:

1. You are thinking about adopting a “senior” Golden Retriever
2. You are trying to convince someone else to adopt a senior Golden
3. You already have adopted a “Golden Oldie” – LUCKY YOU!!

Regardless of where you fit, or what you think, please read on – and let me share with you our wonderful experiences adopting three senior dogs from NGRR – Budweiser (Buddy), Ben & Bella.

Shortly after I moved to California from Connecticut (where I owned two senior Goldens), we adopted a 6-year-old Golden from NGRR named “Budweiser” – “Buddy” – a wonderful, pure-bred, fabulously tempered dog who was everyone’s pal. Our neighbors fought over who would take care of him when we went away – and he was endlessly loving, entertaining and loyal. After a long and active life – and 10 years in our household – Buddy succumbed to a brain tumor at the age of 15. He was our “forever” dog and it was difficult to believe we would ever have another one.

Then came Ben.

Last September, when we decided to adopt another Golden, we scoured the NGRR website for a senior dog we could love again. There were quite a few – but our volunteer coordinator suggested we meet “Ben,” a 12-year-old who had been “dumped” in the night box of a shelter outside Sacramento. Ben had a number of minor health issues, and because of his anti-social behavior was considered an “only” dog – so he could not be placed with other dogs or children. With all of that going against him, it appeared that nobody wanted him. We visited Ben, were attracted to his spunky attitude and affectionate nature, and decided to give him a try.

Ben quickly settled in at our home, and responded to love, attention and company. He loves to put his head in your lap, follow you around at your heels and wait for you by the door when you leave. He’s not much for playing fetch, but he spins around in circles when you pick up his leash, and he has the appetite of a two-year old. We feel lucky to have his company, and he has fast become an important member of our household.

And then there was Bella.

Found as a stray in the East Bay, Bella, at 9 years old, was also considered to be dog aggressive and could not be placed with other dogs or children. She had been in three kennels and three foster homes in 18 months before she came to her final

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“Our experience convinced us that adopting an older dog is a blessing in many ways. Golden oldies are just big-hearted sweeties.”

Sebastian and Sarah

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a park in Emeryville and she took about 50 pictures of Sebastian. She was great, worked well with us and with Sebastian and she got some wonderful pictures that she posted on her website so we could see them (www.mdbradley.com/sebastian). And guess what, Sebastian took such great pictures they decided to use two of them! Check it out, they are hanging in the Redwood City Pet Food Express! One picture is in the front window and another inside the store! Oh yeah, some other pictures are there also but Sebastian really stands out (am I a proud mom or what?). Wow, it was great. I got calls and e-mails from a number of people telling me they saw the posters.

Frank, my husband, and I drove down to Redwood City and I took a picture of Sebastian in front of his poster.

Pet Food Express also has a “Mutt of the Week” Program in conjunction with the “My Mutt” Program. If you write a story about your pet they will post the story and a picture! Mr. Sebastian is the Mutt of the Week as I write this (again, proud mom moment).

So, if you or someone you know have donated \$250 or more to a Bay Area Animal Shelter or Rescue Group go to your local Pet Food Express or go to their website and participate in this program! Your pet will have their beautiful face on a very large poster and you to can be the

proud parent of a poster pet. In addition the group you donate to will get their name on the poster and more people will know about Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue because we know that’s the group you’ll be donating to. And if you’re like me and you want everyone to know about the great Goldies you’ve known and loved you can write a story and get it your Goldies picture posted Pet Food Expresses website.

Sarah, the dog that though she was a sweater. Did that get your attention? If you have or had a Golden you probably know how much hair you can collect by grooming your dog. Some Goldies have lots and lots of hair, Miss Sarah was one of those dogs. Every time I brushed her I’d get a bag full of hair. She had this

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San Mateo County Holiday Fundraiser

Thank you to Rachel Leestma for contributing this.

There's something about the holidays that puts everyone in a giving mood. The volunteers of San Mateo County thought that the 2004 holiday season would be the perfect time to get out into the community to spread the word about NGRR and possibly raise some much needed funds.

Wrap it up . . .

On Saturday, December 11th, volunteers staffed a gift wrapping table at the Barnes & Noble book store at Hillsdale Mall to spread the word about NGRR and

our wonderful goldens. We had a great time meeting new people and although the goldens we brought couldn't help wrap, they added to the festive cheer of holiday shopping. Along with many smiles, we raised \$57 in donations in just a few hours.

It's all in the cookies . . .

On Saturday, December 18th, volunteers not only stayed up late into the night to bake dog cookies, but also staffed our first Holiday Doggie Bake Sale in front of the PetCo in San Mateo. Not only were our holiday dog cookies a big hit with people looking for a special treat for their dogs, their friends' dogs and their dog "grandchildren", but the free cookie samples were a



ABOVE: Recent adopter Mike Dworkin, his NGRR dogs, Max and Chloe, volunteer Rachel Leestma and a few potential NGRR adopters. **RIGHT:** Former A/C Sandra Schatz and "reindog" Sandy.



hit with every dog that stopped by. With sales of our holiday cookies and NGRR 2005 calendars, we were able to bring in over \$450.

We would like to thank everyone who stopped by to have their gifts wrapped, to pick up some cookies and to just say "Hi." With the success of our first Holiday Doggie Bake Sale behind us, we are looking forward to an even bigger, two-day bake sale in holiday of 2005.

A very special thank you to all the volunteers who baked their hearts out and made the Holiday Doggie Bake Sale possible – woof! 🐾

Sebastian and Sarah

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wonderful undercoat that was lighter and softer than her top coat. I'd brush her and gather up all the hair and put it in the garbage. Then one day I thought "what am I doing, this hair is so beautiful there must be something I can do with it". So I started saving it.

Not long after I started saving it Miss Sarah got sick. She was diagnosed with cancer and we started chemo therapy and weekly vet visits and the hair I was collecting became very precious to me. After she died I put the hair in the closet knowing that someday I'd figure out what I could do with it. And of course that day did come. I was told about a spinning group (no not the gym type spinning but the yarn type spinning) and because I am sort of a knitter I thought it would be fun

to learn to spin – spin dog hair! Well, spinning dog hair is not as easy as spinning wool, it takes a lot of practice, lots and lots of practice. One of the ladies in the group offered to spin some of the hair and she did a great job. From a pretty small portion of hair, a quart baggie full she spun enough yarn for me to knit a hat and a design in another hair with a bit left over! Still, I had lots more so I went on the web and type in "dog hair" "yarn" and found VIP Fiber (www.vipfiber.com) in Morgan Hill. This is a great website. It has a lot of information about spinning dog hair as well as examples of finished products and if you're a knitter she has patterns, needles, buttons and lots of other interesting items.

As luck would have it VIP Fiber

participated in a knitting show in Santa Clara last month and I brought my precious collection of hair to Victoria Pettigrew and in April I'll be knitting something with more of this very special yarn. When I finish it I'll take a picture and put it in the newsletter.

VIP Fiber will spin, for free, any hair donated by a Rescue Group as long as 100% of the proceeds from the auctioned/ raffled item made with the yarn is applied to the rescue foundation. Anyone who is interested in donating their dog's hair should give me a call. When I get enough I'll send it to VIP Fibers for spinning and will knit something to be auctioned it off at the next Wine and Silent Auction – who wouldn't want a lovely Golden Retriever scarf? And matching hat? 🐾

Molly Gets Her Star

Thank you to Rachel Leestma for submitting this.

It was love at first sight when Michael Nielson and Gregg Kyle first met Sadie and Molly in 1999. They had contacted NGRR to adopt a golden retriever when the call came in about two female goldens in need of a home. Unable to split up the girls who are sisters from different litters, they decided to adopt both. And so their adventures began - long walks, naps in the garden and most wonderful of all, acres to roam in the Sierra foothills with rabbits and squirrels galore.

As the years progressed the girls started to get a little older and move a little slower but always maintained their puppy-like golden attitude. Then last year, Sadie succumbed to her valiant battle against cancer and crossed the rainbow bridge at age 12.

For the first time, Molly was without her lifelong companion. In the hopes to provide Molly with companionship and to help fill the void left in their lives with Sadie's passing, Michael and Gregg contacted NGRR again. Molly was no longer the spry, young dog she was when Michael and Gregg first adopted her, so this time around they were looking for a senior dog, close in age to Molly's nine years.

After many possibilities were presented, two dogs were chosen to visit. After seeing the first dog, "We thought for sure that she would be the dog for us," said Michael. "Because we already had set it up, we decided to keep the second appointment and meet the other dog, even though in our minds we had already made our decision."

Keeping that appointment turned out to be a good decision. Walking into
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Golden Oldies

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foster family, Dan Harrington and Kara Juneau, in Menlo Park. Dan and Kara, together with dog behaviorist Martina Contreras, worked hard to improve Bella's confidence and social skills. Since Ben had adapted to our home so well, we wanted to give Ben some company and Bella a permanent home – and the opportunity presented itself last December when Dan and Kara went away for the holidays. Bella came to visit – and she stayed.

Within a day of being together, Ben and Bella were able to eat in the same room, rub shoulders in the hallway and walk side-by-side on a leash. Of course, there was some initial "establishing of ground," but the two seniors quickly adapted and have happily co-existed now for three months. Bella (the youngster!) keeps Ben on his toes, and has taught him some manners.

And Ben has graciously yielded his "top dog" status and his home to his new roommate.

If you ask Bella's foster, Kara, about Bella's transformation, she will say: "Bella was quiet, polite, well-behaved, but very tentative about her role in the family. It took her a few months to open up, but she really blossomed and it's amazing to think back on all the great strides she made. On our walks, people would gravitate to Bella, comment on her health, good looks and happy disposition."

"I think people are comforted by older dogs, they can see the rich life experiences that lie behind a wise, gray face."

Dog behaviorist Martina Contreras adds: "I often tell people, puppies are highly overrated. With older dogs, what you see is what you get. They are more established, more mellow and require a

lot less effort than puppies or younger dogs. And, if you put the effort in, they can learn new behaviors and habits."

And that's the bottom line for us: senior Goldens can learn new behaviors, adapt to new homes, are loving and affectionate beyond expectation. They have reached an age where they truly appreciate love and life. As Kara says, "Our experience convinced us that adopting an older dog is a blessing in many ways. In truth, Golden oldies are just big-hearted sweeties waiting for someone to give them another chance."

Maybe that someone is you – or a friend, or family member. There are always deserving senior Goldens available for adoption – and looking for someone to give them another chance. We did – three times – and each one has been a success story.

Now it's your turn. 🐾

A Tale of Two Golden Retrievers

Thank you to Rachel Leestma for contributing this.

When Linda Bullert and her NGRR dog Belle stopped by our booth at the Summer Dog Fair in Belmont I jokingly asked Linda if she was ready to get Belle a companion. I had no idea that she had already been seriously considering it and that it would net such a wonderful result.

You see Linda and Orin Bullert's story started when they contacted NGRR last year. They had recently lost their beloved golden, a former NGRR dog, and were ready to adopt another dog.

"When I saw her application, I knew that she would make a great owner for another one of our golden retrievers." said Cynthia Franks, former A/C of San Mateo County. "Not only was she an experienced dog owner, but she was experienced in raising cats, horses and chickens too! I had only had Linda's application a short while when we took in a young puppy named Belle."

Belle was surrendered due to a divorce. Because of her owner's travel schedule, Belle was relegated to the backyard most of the time. Not the best situation for a nine month puppy. As a result, Belle was a very loving dog who had absolutely no manners or discipline. She was a really wild, young dog. "I knew that if anyone could handle Belle, it would be Linda." said Cynthia.

Linda took on the challenge and a challenge it was.

Although Belle had no manners, she was a quick learner. It took only one hiss and swat for her to understand that, no, the kitty did not want to play. The first time Belle went to Linda and Orin's county home in Los Molinos, she wasn't sure what to make of the horses or chickens. At first she thought chasing the horses in the pasture was great fun. That only lasted as long as Linda's gelding's patience did. All it took was the gelding to chase her – right out of the pasture – for her to think that maybe chasing horses

wasn't such a good idea after all. And chickens? Well, that took a little longer. But now Belle understands that they're her chickens and she sits quietly on the grass as they peck the ground around her.

When Linda and Orin contacted NGRR after the Summer Dog Fair to adopt a companion for Belle we all knew that we were going to place another lucky dog with great owners.

Reading Simba's write-up I didn't consider him a good match for Linda. He hadn't had any socializing and no one knew if he was good with other dogs or cats, let alone horses or chickens. But, when the dog that Linda was interested in was adopted, I decided to give Lynn Jennings, Napa A/C, a call to find out more about Simba on the off chance that there was more to his story.

After speaking in length to Lynn about Simba, it turns out that, although he had not been exposed to other dogs, his trip to the vet that day showed that he was very curious and not

at all aggressive with other dogs. He was a great, young dog (only 10 months old) that, while well taken care of physically, had been emotionally neglected and relegated to the backyard, resulting in a dog who had absolutely no manners or discipline. Hmm . . . Sound familiar?

So, I took a chance and told Linda about Simba, thinking that if she could turn Belle around, she could turn Simba around. Linda agreed and that weekend they headed up to

Petaluma – Linda, Orin and Belle, to see if Simba was the dog for them.

"It was just wonderful to see Simba playing with Belle." said Lynn Jennings. "He wasn't shy at all, and when he got a little too frisky with Belle, she let him know who was boss. They look so much alike that you would think they were meant to be together."

And what did Linda and Orin think?

Well, on the ride home, they had two red dogs in the car instead on one.

As Linda was filling out the adoption paperwork, she said that she originally didn't like the name Simba and considered changing his name. But after thinking about, decided that she liked the idea of her "Disney" dogs – Belle and Simba.

How are the "Disney" dogs doing? Well, Simba and Belle have become fast friends. They wear each other out and when they become too rambunctious, they now know the meaning of the command "time out".

How did Simba take to the cats, horses



and chickens? He is fascinated by his cats. When the cat is under the bed, he will lay on the floor with his head sticking under the bedspread just waiting for some action. He is a little intimidated by horses and has decided that anything that big is probably better left alone. And chickens? Well, just like Belle, that took a little longer. After a few near misses and many tail feathers, he has learned that chasing chickens is not allowed.

Being a repeat adopter has turned out to be a wonderful experience for Linda and Orin. "We are continually amused and delighted by their antics. They make us laugh all the time." said Linda. "We have our own Disney movie twenty-four hours a day." 🐾

Special thanks to Kris Kroner of K9 County Club for her advice on introducing Simba to Belle.

Tales of Taz, the Mountain Dog!

Thanks to Jerry Senderov for submitting this and to Jeanne Hanlon for suggesting it.

I could write a book about Taz and his move to Golden, British Columbia, but I don't believe you would have enough room in your newsletter. However, I will share two stories. Taz was very much a problem dog from birth. He went through three owners and a year in the kennel in Sonoma in the first two years of his life. Both owners of the kennel said that it would take a strong alpha male plus a lot of work to turn him around. Indeed, it did! But in the end, the real Taz has emerged into a most beloved companion.

Taz is the fourth Golden Retriever that I have owned, the first three were all exceptional animals but Taz beats all three combined! In all fairness though, Taz lives in a dog paradise with an owner that is beside him most all of the time. He has acres to roam, wild animals to interact with, and a few buddies to carouse with. With training and a lot of affection, he has turned into a wonderful animal, whether he is inside the house or out. He hasn't eaten any small children, although in the beginning that was a huge problem. He has turned into a great hiking dog, especially cross country. He can go



"Taz" and Jerry

anywhere, or just about. Snow, rocks, rivers, downed trees, thick brush, none of these deter old Taz. Here are two typical Taz stories, both of which involve bears.

MAY, 2003

Taz and I again ventured out on a new adventure to find the old whiskey trail, a trail used in the early 1900s to smuggle bootlegged booze from Alberta into British Columbia. The trail is somewhere behind my house and goes up and over the Rockies into what is now Yoho National park.

Within thirty minutes of my front door we found a trail that looked like it was going in the right direction. However, after a couple of minutes, the trail started to head downhill and west instead of uphill and east, so I whistled to Taz to stop and we backtracked up this dried up creekbed. Lucky for me, there were lots of good smells around for Taz to sniff. While Taz is sniffing and chewing and licking various objects in the dried up creek, I am actually leading this expedition, which is quite rare. Taz is typically twenty to fifty yards in front, or as far ahead as he can go without losing sight of me. When he does lose sight he always runs back to make sure I am coming. The dog has serious fears of abandonment. If you had had four homes in the first year and a half of your life, you would too!

As I searched for the elusive whiskey trail, I gazed up and to my delight I see a rather large mommy black bear and its cub coming my way. This being only my second bear sighting in the wild, (not counting many sightings from a car) my heart is excited yet calm. I seemed to be more worried about Taz seeing the bears and his reaction and then mommy bear's reaction to Taz and then me, than anything else. Of course I desperately tried to get a picture but they were too far away, thank God.



"Taz"

Meanwhile, I wanted to view their behavior and see if there was more than one cub. The one cub was chocolate brown and as cute as any teddy bear one has ever owned. Somehow Taz's forward movement kept my eyes on him too. The mother bear finally spotted me after I stepped on a branch. She really didn't seem too concerned and continued her search for food.

Eventually, after several minutes of observation, I had heard the repeated mantra in my head, "don't ever get between a mommy bear and her cubs" a few too many times, and the thought of Taz barking and chasing the bears was producing just a wee bit of adrenalin into my body, and click, it was definitely time to vamoose! I really didn't want to be her main source of nourishment that day. We retreated slowly and hiked the original trail we had found. It eventually headed in the right direction but ended after about three miles. We found another trail that looped back toward our home. The whiskey trail will have to wait another day.

Nature can be so subtle, calm and peaceful for one moment, and then slam

(continued on next page)



new surroundings, which is mainly nature.

“Bear #23” is a bizarre story involving once again my near famous dog, Taz. As you all remember, Taz is my trusted golden retriever, companion, and evolving into quite the trail/bear dog. He has had several run-ins or near run-ins with bears and has done exactly as asked. Last week I was up stairs watching CNN, and I heard Taz barking. Now, to all of you, so what, but to me it meant alarm, cause Taz never barks unless something is amiss.

Well, by the time I got outside, Taz had barked more than in his entire life! Obviously, something was up. I ran outside and whistled for him, he came running and was frantic, wagging his tail, panting like he just did 100 laps, and excited beyond description. He suddenly turned away and ran into the bush.

I followed cautiously, watching in all directions, especially my back! I saw nothing, I called Taz again via whistle, and he came running up to me again, even more frantic with a wild look in his eyes. This time, I was right behind him as he ran back into the bush. This part of my property is heavily treed with Firs, Pines, and Poplars. Taz was barking a mile a minute, but now I could see that he was looking up, way up. So I took another look

around and looked up too, and lo and behold, old Taz had corralled a 180-lb. black bear thirty feet up this Poplar tree.

It was quite a sight. Taz had no intention of ever letting that bear out of the tree, ever! Again, this story illustrates how stupid a defense of climbing a tree if attacked by a black bear actually is. Grizzlies, you might stand a chance if you can get high enough and fast enough, fast being the key word! Even after bribing Taz back into the house, mister bear did not come down from that tree for many hours. 🐾



bam, it can change on you in a blink of an eye. Have you ever hiked on a beautiful hot, blue-sky day that within moments turned on you by a phantom thunderstorm? This bear incident can attest to the fickleness of nature.

AUGUST, 2004

For all of you just dying to know, my bear count is up to 23, along with five moose, numerous coyotes and marmots, white tail and mule deer in the low hundreds, and very few humans! Not a bad count over six months. No, I am not turning into a hermit, however the serenity of fewer people meshes nicely with my

The Third Time's the Charm

Thank you to Jan and Henry van der Voort for submitting this and to Jeanne Hanlon for suggesting it.

Kimo, our first “senior” rescue dog, gave us nine wonderful years of trail running and love before he passed away in January, 2003 at the age of 16. Frankly, we paused for a bit before thinking seriously about getting another dog because we thought Kimo was perfect – how could another one measure up? But I missed the kisses, the companionship, the dog hair . . . well, maybe not that. Eventually, in March of 2004, I completed the NGRR application on line, hoping to get a new friend immediately.

The good news and bad news was that no dogs were available. Linda Gomoll, the Southern Marin Area Coordinator, called to let me know that it would probably be awhile, so



we went back into the waiting mode. On April 15 (a day I'll remember, but not for the usual reason!), I decided to fill out an application for a career change dog at Guide Dogs for the

Blind, figuring that I should spread my search out a bit. I had literally just put the stamp on the envelope for the Guide Dogs when the phone rang - it was Linda, saying that they were picking up a dog that day that might be a fit for us.

Linda told us Cassidy's story:

He was a seven-year-old blondie who had spent the first two years with the unfortunate name of “Fester”, and was given up at age two to NGRR. Luckily, he was placed with a new family wise enough to change his name - and he spent the next five years happily playing with a young child. When a second baby arrived and developed pet allergies, Cassidy was pretty

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Miele

Thank you to John W. Kabaker and Teddy Kabaker and to Jeanne Hanlon for suggesting it.

Living with a Golden Retriever is a unique experience in that like some form of opiate, they become an addiction. Their uncompromising love and affection, innate intelligence and sheer beauty, in their absence, become a gaping hole in one's heart. We lost our beloved Shannon two years before we had become involved with NGRR. My wife Teddy and I would tear up when we would reminisce about the "do you remember..." incidents. Many were memorable and will remain until we leave this earth.

I missed the companionship and made the move to sign up with NGRR on their website. Within a short time Jeanne Hanlon, a totally devoted volunteer, much like her counterpart, Jill Morgan, in Lodi, California, contacted us. Upon Jeanne's performance of a thorough due



diligence of our home, living conditions for the prospective adoptee, Dun & Bradstreet, credit reports and brain scans,

we were approved.

Shortly thereafter, Jeanne called to advise that there was a possible candidate that fit our criteria - Female, Over the Puppy Stage and not manifesting any unusual quirks other than those that are peculiar to the breed...such as being stomachs on legs with their focus on anything edible.



We slipped to first position and the following day we headed from Marin County to Lodi to meet a dog that had been dubbed as Mia. Of course, Mia's provenance was unknown other than she was found wandering around and ended up in the Stockton Animal Shelter. Based on some clever maneuvers on the part of NGRR volunteers, Mia was spared the consequences of being abducted by your friendly animal control officer and you know what that can amount to. Many of you know that Mia also means "missing in action" and that was what happened.

Teddy and I arrived at Jill Morgan's home in Lodi. Mia had been buffed out and was ready to take on a new life. After communing with Jill's eight or nine Goldens under her care, Mia jumped in the back of our SUV and we headed

back to Marin. She was soon to become Miele, which matches her color and disposition since the word means HONEY in German.

Miele has a fabulous temperament. She had been totally obedience-trained, house-trained and loves to play. Her favorite toys are Mr. Froggy and a George Bush Purple Elephant. Both are squeaky toys and are highly coveted along with tennis balls. She also loves to wrestle and play dervish dog. Due to her separation anxiety caused by the large gap in her life, Miele goes to work with us every day. She has her bed in the office and eagerly greets all who come to visit. A number of our employees bring treats for Miele so, first thing in the morning she makes a beeline for where they are located. When she first became a member of the Kabaker household, she was a bit on the fluffy side. A good diet has made her contours a more acceptable level. With her front paw articulation and fine motor skills, no food is safe on the countertops and must be hidden to prevent disappearance.

Miele had to contend with two large



Maine Coon Cats, Bess and Margaret Truemaine, who were not intimidated by this larger furry creature. They have finally come to grips with their new friend and there is no cat chasing or harassment taking place any more.

The last item we wanted to relate is that Miele has taken over our king-size bed but she will let us use it as long as we do not interrupt her beauty sleep. Once she has nodded off, she is like moving a 100-pound sack of concrete so we have to work around her position. 🐾

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Rescue Parade

April 29, 2005, Bolado Park, Hollister

Volunteer Appreciation Day

May 21, 2005, Shadow Cliffs Park, Pleasanton



Callie

(continued from page 5)

sleep curled up together—a truly golden, bonded pair. They hike with doggie friends in both the woods of Lake Tahoe and Mt Tam here in Marin.

Amazingly enough, a third puppy came to NGRR from this same litter and was placed in a fabulous home. Callie has gotten together with her sister, now Bella, and has had a wonderful time swimming in Bella's pool and joining each other at the Lake.

Callie, taking seriously her role as Princess, has also taken to sleeping with her head on our pillows and cuddling as close as she can get when invited on the bed while Casey will curl up on the bottom of the bed. She has adapted to her new life and truly enjoys sharing in all the activities of her new family. Callie brings love and laughter to our lives. Thank you NGRR. 🐾

Looking for NGRR Merchandise?

We're restocking and soon we'll have a new collection. Stay tuned to our website and this newsletter for the "grand opening"!

Molly

(continued from page 16)

foster Sue DeMauro's home they met Star, an absolutely adorable, nine year old gentleman who was looking for a new home after his primary caregiver went off to college and her parents could no longer keep him. Big and red, Star loves nothing more than to be petted. When ready for a belly rub, he'll sit right next to you and give you his paw until you start rubbing. Star is such a loving golden, that foster Sue DeMauro had a hard time giving him up.

"Molly and Star hit it off immediately. Seeing them interact so well together, told us that Star was the dog for us," said Michael. "I knew we had made the right choice when on the first morning Star was with us, Molly ran down the stairs, ran up to him and gave him a big lick across the face. She adores him."

Adopting Star has given two senior goldens a new lease on life. Star has a new forever home with people to love him (and give him belly rubs), plus new canine friend to play with. And Molly has a new companion as well. Someone who moves at her pace while gamboling up the hillside after rabbits. Someone to keep her company as she enters into the golden years of her life. 🐾

Third Time

(continued from page 19)

much banished to the back yard. His family called NGRR, and asked that a new home be found for Cassidy.

Jeanne Hanlon, Area Coordinator for Northern Marin, went to pick him up on April 15. After the tearful farewells, she brought Cassidy and her two goldens to a dog park to assess his behavior, and that's where we first saw this bundle of energy. After spending some time with Jeanne, Linda, Cassidy, and the other dogs, we decided to take him home "on approval", and see how it worked. Seeing that Cassidy was a bit dirty from the time spent incarcerated in the back yard, Linda and Jeanne graciously helped us give him a bath and get him ready to move to his third home.

We had been concerned that a dog nearly 8 years old would be a bit lethargic – not to worry with Cassidy! He loves to play with other dogs, is always ready for a walk, and prances like a puppy out on the trail. At home, he just wants to be with you – curled under your feet at the computer or while you're reading, watching you cook dinner, helping you sunbathe – whatever, he's game! He loves the car, and is happy to wait for you to do your errands.

He's also quite the talker. While he rarely barks, he loves to share his latest adventures with you through a series of low moans and growls. It's absolutely charming – even our non-dog-lover guests "talk" to him.

We feel very fortunate to have been the right family at the right time for Cassidy. He has brought us love and laughter, and I think for him, the saying is true: the third time's the charm. Thanks to Linda, Jeanne, and NGRR. 🐾

When I am Old . . .

Thank you to Carol Porter for contributing this.

I shall wear Turquoise and soft gray sweatshirts . . .
and a bandana over my silver hair . . .
and I shall spend my Social Security Checks on
Sweet Wine and My Dogs . . .
and sit in my house on my well-worn chair
and listen to my dog's breathing.

I will sneak out in the middle of a warm Summer night
and take my dogs for a run, if my old bones will allow...
and when people come to call,
I will smile and nod as I show them my dogs . . .
and talk of them and about them . . .
The Ones so Beloved of the Past
and the Ones so Beloved of Today . . .

I still will work hard cleaning after them
and mopping and feeding them
and whispering their names in a soft, loving way.
I will wear the gleaming sweat on my throat, like a jewel
and I will be an embarrassment to all . . .

and my family . . .
who have not yet found the peace
in being free to have dogs as your Best Friends . . .

These friends who always wait, at any hour, for your footfall . . .
and eagerly jump to their feet out of a sound sleep,
to greet you as if you are a God.
With warm eyes full of adoring love and hope that you will stay
and their big, strong necks...
and kiss their dear sweet heads...
and whisper to their very special company . . .

I look in the Mirror . . .
and see I am getting old . . .
this is the kind of woman I am . . .
and have always been.
Loving dogs is easy,
they are part of me,
accept me for who I am,
my dogs appreciate my presence in their lives . . .
when I am old this will be important to me . . .
you will understand when you are old . . .
and if you have dogs to love too.

~Author Unknown

Volunteer Interest

I would like to learn more about volunteering for NORCAL Golden Retriever Rescue. I am particularly interested in the areas noted below. (Note: This form may also be submitted through our web site at www.golden-rescue.org.)

- Hands-On Dog Work
 - Area Coordinator
 - Area Assistant
 - Foster Care
 - Home Visits
 - Vet Appointments
 - Shelter Checks
 - Phone Calls
 - Grooming
 - Transportation
 - Senior Goldens Program

- Fundraising
 - Grant/Letter Writing
 - Event Coordinator/Worker
 - Auction & Wine Tasting
 - Wag 'n Walk
 - Calendar
 - Merchandise Sales
 - Event Coordinator/Worker
 - Order Fulfillment
 - Catalog

- Operations
 - Volunteer Coordinator
 - Transportation Coordinator
 - Weekly Dog List
 - Mailing List
 - Inventory Tracking
- Public Outreach & Education
 - Event Coordinator/Worker
 - Newsletter (and other literature)
 - Web Programming (experienced)
 - Education Program Coordinator
 - Fight Against Puppy Mills

- Professional Consulting
 - Veterinary Medicine
 - Animal Behavior
 - Dog Law
 - Non-Profit Corporate/Tax Law
 - Non-Profit Accounting
 - Education
 - Fundraising
 - Public/Media Relations
 - Publishing

Other _____



Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

NORCAL Golden Retriever Rescue is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) corporation under the IRS Tax Code. Tax ID #77-0392584

Mail to:

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

Donating to NGRR

Since our organization is staffed entirely by volunteers, every penny of your contribution will help pay for veterinary care, food and other direct expenses required in our work to rescue and find loving homes for hundreds of Golden Retrievers each year.

Gifts by Check or Credit Card

A gift by check or credit card may be made outright or as a pledge to be fulfilled over a period of up to five years. If you itemize tax deductions, your contribution is fully deductible up to 50% of your adjusted gross income; any excess can be carried forward for up to five additional years. To make a gift by check, simply fill out the donation slip, write your check, and mail to NGRR. To make a gift by credit card, please also tell us the type of credit card, card number, expiration date, and name as it appears on the card.

Payroll Deduction

The simplest (and most painless) way for many of us to manage our gift giving is with an easy payroll deduction. Each year United Way, the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), and other charitable campaigns give working people the opportunity to allocate payroll deductions or make a one-time contribution at work. Ask your employer for a Donor Option Card to direct your United Way contribution to NGRR.

Matching Gift

Over 6,000 companies encourage their employees' philanthropy through a matching gift program whereby your employer will match your individual donations. This generous program doubles – and sometimes triples – your donation. Ask your hu-

man resources department if your employer has such a program. If so, you will be given a matching gift form to send to NGRR with your donation, and we'll do the rest!

Appreciated Securities

Your outright gift of long-term, appreciated securities (stocks, mutual funds and bonds) is exempt from capital gains taxes and, in most cases, enables you to obtain a charitable income tax deduction equal to the market value of the securities at the time of transfer, for up to 30% of your adjusted gross income.

Gifts Through Your Estate

For many of us, making a gift through our estate is the most realistic way to make a substantial contribution to NGRR. At the same time, a carefully planned estate gift can reduce or eliminate federal estate taxes, depending upon the size of your estate.

Life Income Gifts

You may be able to make a gift and receive direct financial benefits. Some financial vehicles, such as charitable trusts, can provide you and/or your spouse with an income for life and a charitable income tax deduction as well. These vehicles often pay a rate of return that exceeds money market and CD rates. In addition, they typically help avoid capital gains taxes and reduce estate taxes. Gifts can also be made through your estate while preserving assets for your current needs.

Gifts of Real Estate

You can make a gift of commercial or residential real estate and receive substantial financial benefits. If you give the property outright, you can qualify for a charitable income tax deduction based on the appraised value of the property.

Tell NGRR How to Use Your Donation

There are several ways you can direct NGRR to allocate your contribution. You may choose to spread your donation across all funds, or you may tell us to apply all of it to a specific cause.

General Fund

Contributions to this fund will pay for ordinary veterinary care, food and other expenses directly related to our Golden Retrievers in foster care. Any excess monies in this fund are allocated to NGRR's emergency reserve to help cover catastrophic events, such as earthquakes and puppy mill raids, in communities throughout Northern California.

Senior Golden Retrievers

Contributions to this fund will be used exclusively to support the extra veterinary and foster care usually required for dogs eight years and older – our well-deserving Golden Oldies.

Zack's Fund

Inspired by "Zack," a severely dysplastic Golden taken in and treated by NGRR, this fund was established to provide extensive veterinary care, surgery and rehabilitation to young and deserving Golden Retrievers who are critically ill, deformed and/or injured. These dogs need immediate access to funds to restore their quality of life – and, in extreme cases, to save their lives – without financially burdening their adoptive families.

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 web site at www.golden-rescue.org.

Donation (& change of address)

I would like to make a donation to NORCAL Golden Retriever Rescue to help provide shelter, food, and veterinary care for homeless Golden Retrievers. I would like my contribution allocated as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| General | \$ _____ |
| Senior Golden Retrievers | \$ _____ |
| Zack's Fund | \$ _____ |
| Total | \$ _____ |

Name: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

The above information is new. Please update NGRR's mailing list.

If donating by credit card, please check: Visa Mastercard

Credit card number: _____ Exp. date: _____

Print name on credit card: _____

Credit card holder's signature: _____

NGRR is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) corporation under the IRS Tax Code. Tax ID #77-0392584



Mail to:

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

Thank You!

How to Contact NORCAL Golden Retriever Rescue

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Menlo Park, CA 94025-5240**

**Hotline: (650) 615-6810
Web Site: www.golden-rescue.org**

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