

Thanks to adopter Mia Deason for submitting this story about Bella.

Bella is a treasured member of our family, and has taught us countless lessons in patience, trust and unconditional love. As we enter her 12th year, we look back on all of our memories with her that we would love to share with you. We adopted Bella from NGRR in late 2007 when she was 9 months old. Bella and our family's youngest daughter, Mia, have spent countless days playing, training and going to school together.

Starting just after Bella turned 2,

we enrolled her and Mia into a local dog agility course, where they took off and thrived for years. While Mia grew and transferred into high school, some underlying anxiety came to fruition and made it difficult for her to succeed daily. She would come home and pull Bella close and unwind from her stressful day. Upon seeing this, the family came together and decided to register then 7-year-old Bella as an Emotional Support Animal (ESA) for Mia to keep by her side at school.

ISSUE NO. 1

Later that year, after seeing how Bella not only comforted Mia, but other students as well, we decided to (Continued on page 3)





Sweet Lulu

Thanks to Cynthia Stevenson for submitting this story

We got a call from the shelter that they had a young 2-year-old Golden girl and they said if we could come now we could take her into NGRR. I immediately jumped in the car!

Lulu was an absolute sweetheart with everyone and quickly adjusted with her foster family in Walnut Creek. Her amazing foster mom, Brenda Douglas, said she became friends with everyone...her two children, three dogs, cats, chickens, and even their foster kittens. Lulu loved everything! They soon noticed she was limping a lot on (Continued on page 4)

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 can expand and continue to rescue and relocate Goldens from Bakersfield to the Oregon border. Our donor support last year was wonderful and we thank each and every one of you! Below are the names of those who contributed using the green donation card in that year-end mailer. Many thanks again to all of you – and to those of you who contribute throughout the year.

Best Friend: \$1,000 and up

Donna Albini Susan Almlie Leslie Bianchi David Bissell Linda Bonomo Elia & David Borbas Kathrvn Coffey Robert and Patricia Dahl Waters Foundation Sudhir Ganti Mike & Bev Groeniger Stephen Hansel Jim and Leena Krasno Catherine Kruttschnitt Roberta Laporte Marilyn Makepeace Katy Nelson Carl Shannon Bruce Stielv Norm & Joan Wallace Kristine Williams Gil Wymond

Pure Gold: \$500 to \$999

Pamela Adams Bauer and Associates Robert & Jeanne Breunig Steven and Patricia Bristow Alan L. Carter Daniel Fink Jennifer Wallace & Robert Fulton Linda Herman Julie Hood Mary-Ellen Kennedy Loren and Rachel Kertz Gregory Koll Yuchun Ku Clifford Lange Paul Lindstrom Jane and Conrad Lynch Wayne & Jan Monahan Mike & Darlene Nellis Greg & Candace Osborn Claire and James Williams

Wet Kisses: \$250 to \$499

A1 Property Joann Banayat Greg Barr Fran Beach Carole A. Beeton Steve Broccoli & Laura Nakashima Rensselaer Brown Teresa Chinn & Paul Miyashiro Lynn Dantzker Laurie Depaolo

Ann Doyle Ann Fairbanks Tracy Gibbons Mark Group Peter Karagiannis Stacev Lavton Nikki Lloyd Molly & Steve Lopez Margaret Lynch Peggy Lynch Angelena Mangini Marta Moreno Lynne Mueller Holly & Mike O'Brien Jan Ölsen **Richard Partridge** Tia and Mark Pierce Michael Roman David Roseman Susan and Charles Rothschild **Denise Sanders** James Thompson James Tompson Michael Vanlonkhuysen Janet Widmann Carol Winter

Wagging Tails: \$100 to \$249

Mrs. Katie Ai Dave Aikins Herman L. Alcalde Dede & Homer Alexander Julia Allen Fred & Maureen Allen Larry & Mary Anderson Sue Anderson Nancy Anding Applied Materials Bob & Debee Armstrong Anne Bacon Susan Baker R.G. & Joan Bea Deborah Behrman Constance Bell Robert Bergman Cheryl Berner Laura Best Bradley Bettencourt Cheryl L Birnie Suzanne Blue Jackie Boccabella Marilyn Boyle The Brantings The Buehler Family Andrea Burling Robert and Catherine Butler Richard Carey -Anonymous April Carlson Mary & John Castagna Linda Castell Douglas & Carol Chalmers

Marcie & Tom Charlesworth Alan Chew Sylvia Chou Carla Holmes and Pete Chow Mary Cipriano Leslie Code Ian D. Colson Nicholas Cooper Ed & Carrie Dalsev Toshie Dempsey Midge Dobbins Thomas Donohoe Richard Dunckel & Paula Tokugawa Charles E Farnsworth Mr & Mrs Richard Farrar Nancy Fedders Jovce and John Felch Bob Fletcher Ray & Jean Folla Lisa Fonarow Kathleen Ford Harold & Janet Freiman Michele Fuller Nancy Gagos Richard & Pat Garland Lin Gentry Linda Gibbons Kris & Steve Gilsdorf Kathleen Gogan Joann Golden Cherie Goulet Deborah Greene-Jacobi & Jakie Boy John & Marcy Gretz Lauren Gully Darrah Hallowitz John Hansen Jo Haraf Adrienne Harber Dennis W. Henkelman Denise Hershkowitz Gary L. Hill Debby Holcomb Virginia Holmes Lynn & Bill Hoyer Jennifer Bock Hughes Sarah Jackett Sandra Janotta Pat Johnson Loretta Jones Donald Jones & Gladys Adachi Gale Justin William and Nancy Kales Kathleen Keller Kathleen Kenyon Elaine King Joyce Kinton Christopher Kleinbauer Constance Koehler Louise Korn

Marc Korody & Alan Canas Suzanne Krakover-Nickel Anthony Label Pamela Lawrence Donna Leonard Lvnne Lewis Greg Lindahl David Lipsky Terri Locke Deborah Lubeck Carol A. Lucey Chris & Bette Lucey Peter Lucich Don and Susan Ludwig Douglas Lynn Stuart Mackenzie Janet Malan Allison Martin Katherine Martin Mrs. Lee H Masover Valerie Matthews Sloan McDonald Christine McInerney Jean McKinley Mark & Sandra Meiser Linda Meyer Randall Miller Dev & Cathy Mishra Sharyn Mitchell Dolores Mogg Sheela Mohan-Peterson Robin Moore Anne Moselle Emilia Motroni Ken Nahigian Diane Nelson Randy and Lynn Nickles Laura Nielson Norcal Golden Retriever Club Ann Nyborg Craig Okuda Caren Patrick Larry Patten Judith Peake Christine Perri Richard & Janice Petersen PGE - Your Cause Kate Piersanti Marden Plant Mary Pridham Brenda & John Radcliffe Pilar Parducci and Tony Richmond Michael Robinson Melissa Roland Greg Rosenberg Markus Rosgen Ted Rue, DVM Edith Lavin & Richard Ruggieri Joy N Sacco John Sanders R. J. Sanders Madeliene Scheiman

Paul & Linda Schulman Terry Sechrist Virginia Shea Kevin J. Sheridan Scott & Lisa Sherwood **Raymond Shields** Karen Shore Carrie Sinn Cloyd Smith Sara Steffen Ruth Sterling Laurel Stroud Betsy & Don Sumner Cynthia Swainbank Vivian Tavlor William W Taylor David and Gail Turner Harvey Veon Douglas Ward United Wav Irene Weakley Linda D. Whitley Mary Wilson Susan Wilson Jim & Karen Withrow Tom & Pat Wong Rose Wright Your Cause Adobe Kevin & Barbara Zaney Cathy Zimel

Cold Noses: Up to \$99

Dona Allen Judy Amado Anthony Anderson Richard Anstruther Mary Ayala Mike Bachman David Bacon Judith Bartel James R Bartlett Susan Barton Linda Beeson Nadean Bissiri Roberta Blake Robert D. Bloom Md Lisa Boden Kristine Bosworth Barbara Brickell Ann Brown Sally Burns Anne Caird Anne-Marie Cantwell Tracey Carrasco Daniel Castellano Mary C. Castle Angela Cheong Joe and Jill Chouinard Kristin & Daniel Clark Cathie Cook Anna Corba Gordon S.W. Craig Barbara A Cresci William Davis

Gordon Delfaro Shaun Desimone Donate Well Robert & Jean Downey Janis Dreyer Barbara Dutcher Sharyn Sala & Bruce Dwiggins Toni Eames Karen Eckman-Rippy Patti Eissler Tom Emmitt Jacki Engstrom Lance Erickson Amy Erwin Nicole Evje Pet Food Express Caroline Fieweger Robert Finch Joan & Phil Fisher Michael Foley Uki Fratzke Roberta Friedman & Kathryn Brown Patricia Gallagher Judi Gibson Karen Gill Gilbert, Barbara & Casey Gordon Stanley & Elaine Gould Lisa Gouveia Angela Guenther & "Cassie" Randal & Terry Gunther

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Christopher Osborne Michelle Padden Lynn Parapar Thomas Parkin Kathleen Parmer Walter & Diane Parrish Janet Peacock P Peterson PGE - Matching Robert Pigozzi Michael Posner **Gwennie** Preston Gerald Pretti Pat Prosek Chervl Ramos Deborah Rankin Dorothy Rhoades Adele and Bruce Richards Barb & Bob Richards Diann H. Riggs Patricia Robin Ann Rosenthal Olivia Rudin **Denise Runneals** The Russells John & Camille Rutkowski Susan Salnick Rex Samson Annie Sartori **Raymond Schilling** Sandra Schlatter Fritzi Schnel Robert Schumacher Colleen Sigh

James Silva Andrew & Jordan Smith James Spratt Tana Steinert Ellen Stevens Carol A Sublett Nikki Svoboda David Taft Ruth Taggart-Clute Hiromi Takekuma Nelson Tandoc Jim & Debbie Templeton Suzanne Thomas **Dionne** Thomas Susan Thornton Janice Tisovec Michael Torigian Gary & Marchita Troedson Truist Tara Valentine Charlene Vorous Harry J. & Betty Waldman Aileen Walton Susan Wasson Jeff Weiss Maureen & Griffin White Pamela White Maureen White Becky Williamson Elisabeth Yost Your Cause Your Cause AT & T Your Cause Chevron Jack Zwissig

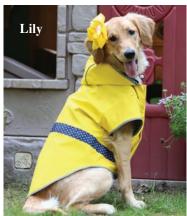
Luna and Lily

Submitted by Margaret McNamara

Hello I'm Luna, an 11-month-old puppy that was surrendered to NGRR because I was just a bit more than my family could handle. I have lots of energy and I'm a little rough around the edges. All I need is some basic training and direction and then I will be a wonderful family pet. Just keep in mind it might take more than just a couple weeks of training; after all, most young people get 12 years of school and then some go to college... right? I promise I won't take that long.

Hello I'm Lily – I was living in a little tiny apartment until my Mom surrendered me to NGRR. I was lonely for more companionship and space to play. I was only 2 years old when my Mom decided that she worked too much and that I deserved a better life. I now live in Alamo with a wonderful family who has two young kids and I also have a Golden brother. Life is grand! We play and play and hang out together when my people are away at school and work. I have a huge yard and a swimming pool. Life is really good for me now. Thanks to my Mom for being unselfish and doing what was the right thing for me. It was truly wonderful on her part and I truly appreciate it. And thanks to NGRR!





Bella

(Continued from front page)

enroll her in another training course as a therapy dog. If Bella could pass this test, she would be able to go visit elderly patients in the hospital. Sadly, Bella did not pass this test because the test required her to ignore food falling onto the floor; in true Bella fashion, she did not allow the food to hit the floor, pulling Mia along with her.

Bella is also an avid swimmer and kayaker. Weekly summer and early fall trips to the Russian River allowed her to hone her skills as a duck chaser, kayak rider and stick fetcher. In Lake Tahoe, Bella would swim as far as she could, tailing Mia's kayak, until Mia pulled her onboard to continue the adventure.

She greets us almost every single day with a toy, a shoe, a wrapper, or even a sleepy grin from the couch by the door. Bella brings joy to our lives every minute and we are so thankful for Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue for bringing us together.

Thank you so much for reading our story! Have a wonderful day! \bigstar

– Mia Deason

Sweet Lulu

(Continued from front page)

her front right leg. After many diagnostic tests through local vets and then ultimately UC Davis, it was determined that she had significant osteoarthritis in her front leg/ elbow joint as well as muscle atrophy in the right shoulder/ triceps and even her left thigh/hip.

Due to her unknown history, we didn't know if this was from birth or brought on from trauma. So the first course of action was arthroscopic surgery at UC Davis. Her foster family was also given the instructions to help her lose weight since she came in quite on the "heavy side." During the surgery, they removed numerous bone fragments and some were so large (even starting to embed in her joint) that they felt this was brought on from some sort of trauma.

She came through the surgery like a champ and again her foster family was amazing helping restrict her activities and coming up with creative ideas on fashionable arm sleeves so she wouldn't bother her incisions. She needed crate rest, then short walks, and then slow range of motion exercises. Unfortunately, she continued to limp. Many discussions on next steps led us to visit The Canine Rehabilitation Center in Walnut Creek.





They assessed her and it was quite evident that Lulu still showed significant limping/discomfort but was a very willing girl. They wanted to try two techniques. First up was the hydrotherapy tub to help build up muscle and ease her range of motion while walking in water. She LOVED it and didn't even need the toy or peanut butter "hanging" in front of her. Next was Laser Therapy to decrease the pain/inflammation of the joint and soft tissue to accelerate healing.

These two techniques alternated for weeks and she was getting stronger in the water. However, the Laser Therapy wasn't working as much as they had hoped it would. She continued to limp and show discomfort with range-of-motion tests. It was then discussed that maybe another arthroscopic surgery might be needed. But the team at UC Davis also suggested a Platelet-Rich-Plasma (PRP) treatment.

Lulu's own blood would be separated into its components and injected into the elbow joint. Platelets have antiinflammatory properties and have growth factors that promote healing, which could help her be more comfortable. Before either could be done, the team needed to scope the area to see if there were any more possible loose bone fragments. During the scope, they didn't see any fragments so they decided to do the PRP.

While Lulu was on this medical

rollercoaster, there was an amazing lady in Alamo named Katy Nelson who became interested in Lulu and didn't think twice about a young dog with early onset osteoarthritis and ongoing future treatments. And this is when Lulu met her special Forever Mom.



Lulu's PRP treatment was a success!! She has been showing significant improvement with range of motion without discomfort. Katy and Lulu still go for her hydrotherapy sessions and she is doing great with increasing time, speed, and

(Continued on facing page)

Sweet Lulu

(Continued from facing page)

resistance in the tub. It is possible that she may need another PRP procedure in the future.

Lulu is one lucky girl these days! She has her own pool to continue her water exercises, a one-story house so she doesn't need to worry about many stairs, holiday fashionable bandanas, short walks on the Iron Horse trail, a bike pet trailer that she can ride with her mom, and even gets to stay with her former foster family when her mom goes out of town.

Lulu was in foster care for many months and much longer than we all anticipated. As with all dogs and various situations that come into our group, we all learned so much from her experience.

NGRR would like to thank Brenda Douglas and her family for their love, devotion, fun, and commitment while fostering Lulu through all of her journey. Truly amazing special fosters! Also, we would like to say a huge thank you to Katy Nelson who adopted Lulu and turned this all into the perfect ending. Even knowing that Lulu will need treatments and ongoing therapy in the future, she has welcomed her into her heart and home without question.

In addition, thank you to the vet teams at Four Corners Veterinary Hospital, The Canine Rehabilitation Center, and UC Davis for providing outstanding care, insight, and determination with helping Lulu. Most importantly, NGRR is extremely thankful and appreciative to all the people who kindly give donations



that make these treatments, procedures, surgeries and therapies an option for so many of our Goldens. Because of these donations, Lulu now has a second chance to enjoy being a dog for many years ahead. She absolutely loves her new life!

President's Message

It is time to say goodbye to all the rain that has brought amazing beauty across California, and to welcome spring and summer! We hope that these warmer and drier seasons will bring more adventures with our Goldens and other furry and human friends and family. It is a joy to see the green hills and marvelous wildflowers, and it reminds me how grateful I am to live in this wonderful state (the "Golden" state) and to be involved in NGRR.

I'm continually inspired by and grateful for our volunteers who go to great lengths to help out a Golden in need. From taking in an older dog who has a terminal disease who gets to live out their last few weeks, months, or sometimes years with a loving family, to bringing in puppies who haven't had a chance to figure out what it means to be a treasured family member, to all the dogs in between who just need a change of scenery or some TLC or vet care before finding their forever home. Our volunteers take time from their other responsibilities to support NGRR through home visits with potential adopting families, vet appointments, fostering, and infrastructure support, among other things.

In the few months I've served as president of NGRR, I've also been amazed by and grateful for the generosity of those who donate financially to support our mission. This allows us to ensure that Goldens in need have every opportunity to live a healthy life. Ours is a wonderful community, brought together by our love for these beautiful dogs who truly have hearts of gold. If you'd like to get more involved, we can always use more helping hands – please send me an email at kshore@umich.edu.

In gratitude, Karen Shore

From Your Editor, Deborah Armstrong

Happy Spring! A few changes have come to NGRR over the past year, which I'd like to tell you about.

After much-appreciated labor from our board, NGRR launched a revamped website last year. It's making it easier for volunteers to track dogs and keep in touch with area coordinators. Don't forget to check out our new look at:

www.ngrr.org

We've also changed a policy to align with other Golden rescue organizations. We now accept Golden mixes. These dogs must resemble Golden retrievers, but can now show evidence of carrying the genes of another breed. Of course we continue to look for the loving friendly Golden temperament we value.

We recently elected two new board members: Randy Miller, DVM and Duane Schmidt. Their bios appear in this issue. We also have a new president, Karen Shore of Alameda County.

On a personal note, I am retiring Maxwell, my sixth guide dog and will meet my new guiding Golden in a few days. I tell friends that an old guide dog is like a beloved car that you know intimately but may not run quite so well these days. A new guide dog is like a teenager with a driver's license: they know the rules but might not follow them to the letter!

IN TRIBUTE

In Honor of "*Abby*" Donations by Robert Pigozzi

In Honor of *"Bailey"* Donations by Dave Aikins

In Honor of "Buckley" "Thank you for Buckley! We adopted him a few weeks ago and he is perfect. We love him!" Donations by Leslie Code

In Honor of "*Daisy & Gayle*" Donations by Mary Castagna

In Honor of "Gracie" "Thank you for all you do. Holly now called Gracie is the love of my life. She is the hit at the dog park. Everyone but everyone loves Gracie!" Donations by Mary Pridham

In Honor of *"Jasmine"* Donations by Anna Corba

In Honor of *"Lulu"* Donation recommended by Katy Nelson Donations by Morgan Stanley Global Impact Funding Trust

In Honor of *"Maggie" "Thank you for Maggie!!"* Donations by Fritzi Schnel

In Honor of "*Max*" "*Max continues to be the best buddy ever!! Thank you =*)" Donations by Marcie & Tom Charlesworth

In Honor of *"Milo"* Donations by Dede & Homer Alexander

In Honor of "*Niga*," In Memory of "*Charlie*" Donations by Robert & Jeanne Breunig

In Honor of "Savannah" "I was really touched by Lacey's story. I adopted my first Golden Retriever from you. She was about two when I got her. Savannah lived to be almost twelve and half years old! As she aged her medical needs grew and so I understand the care of an older Golden. Thank you for what you do for ALL Goldens!" Donations by Tracey Robin

In Honor of *"Shadow"* Acknowledgment to Loren & Rachel Kertz Donations by Schwab Charitable

In Honor of friend Jean Connors Donations by Terry Sechrist

In Honor of Maddy Donations by Chris & Bette Lucey

In Honor of Pat Lynch Donations by Constance Koehler In Honor of Pat Lynch "The Great" In honor of Aunt Pat Lynch, The Great! =) Donations by Ann Rosenthal

In Honor of Shannon Moxie Donations by Harvey Veon

IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory of "Bailey" "In loving memory of our beloved Bailey." Donations by Linda Bonomo

In Loving Memory of *"Jack"* & *"Bailey"* Donations by Kris & Steve Gilsdorf

In Loving Memory of "Rascal," "Kimo," "Cody," "Dusty," and "Lulu" "In loving memory of our beloved Goldens: Rascal, Kimo, Cody, Dusty & Lulu. Always forever in our hearts. We miss them dearly and think about them every single day. Teresa, Paul & "Abbie" Donations by Teresa Chinn & Paul Miyashiro

In Loving Memory of "Sky" "In Loving Memory of Sky, our baby boy" Donations by Richard Dunckel & Paula Tokuoava

In Loving Memory of "Wuffy," "Dusey," "Rusty," "Charlie," "Yankee," and "Tommy" "In Loving Memory of Wuffy, Dusey, Rusty, Charlie, Yankee, and Tommy. My NGRR boys." Donations by Suzanne Krakover-Nickel

In Memory Donations by Patricia Levis Eissler

In Memory

"This donation is made to honor all of all beloved Goldens who have gone over the Rainbow Bridge." Donations by Donald and Susan Ludwig

In Memory of "Amber & Daisy" Donations by Louise Korn

In Memory of "Amber" Donations by Donald & Dorothy Hensinger

In Memory of "Aurora" "This donation is in memory of Aurora, my mother's (Virigina Bianchi) Golden retriever who was accepted by NORCAL GRR for foster. Unfortunately, Aurora became ill shortly after her foster and had to be humanely euthanized. Thank you for your continued work rehoming Golden retrievers." Donations by Leslie Bianchi

In Memory of "Badger" "Acknowledgement to Kathleen & Michael Emery: I made this donation in memory of Badger Emery." Donations by Maureen & Griffin White In Memory of *"Barney"* Donations by Christine McInerney

In Memory of *"Buddy"* & *"Sadie"* Donations by Patricia Robin

In Memory of *"Buster"* & *"Henry"* Donations by Dennis Henkelman

In Memory of "*Clint*," "*Chloe*," and "*Chiara*" "*In memory of our beloved Goldens*." Donations by Kevin & Barbara Zaney

In Memory of "Francie" "In memory of and gratitude for our precious Francie" Donations by Greg & Candance Osborn

In Memory of "Freddie" & "Sneakers" "Here is a small donation in memory of Sneakers and Freddie, two beautiful seniors rescued by NGRR. I loved them beyond words. Thank you for all you do." Donations by Marla Miyashiro

In Memory of *"Hailey"* Donations by Jennifer Bock Hughes

In Memory of *"Jenny"* Donations by Susan Wasson

In Memory of "Kodiak," "Seth," and "Clara" "In memory of Kodiak, Seth and Clara, 3 wonderful rescue Goldens" Donations by Karen Eckman-Rippy

In Memory of "Merlin" "Please find this donation in memory of Merlin, our Golden boy." Donations by Jo Ann Bonner

In Memory of "Nanna" "Thank you for helping the beautiful Goldens!" Donations by Nikki Lloyd

In Memory of "Penny" "I had many great years with sweet Penny. She was a Norcal rescue who lived to be 12. My home is so empty without her! Keep up your good work!" Donations by Stephanie Bigelow

In Memory of "Penny" Acknowledgment to Karen Posner: "In memory of your shiny Penny." Donations by Lois & Martin Mintz

In Memory of "*Rocco*" "*Thank you for Rocco – Our family best friend for 11 special years.*" Donations by Douglas & Carol Chalmers

In Memory of *"Ruger"* & *"Dixie"* Donations by John & Camille Rutkowski

IN MEMORIAM

In Memory of "Rusty" "In loving memory of my Rusty, the best friend, a great blessing, truly missed and forever in my heart. Thank you, NORCAL for my precious time with him." Donations by Joy Sacco

In Memory of "*Simon*" & "*Hannah*" Thank you for the work you do. Donations by Sharyn Sala & Bruce Dwiggins

In Memory of "Sparkle" "We appreciate your time and attention with this loving memorium to marvelous Sparkle who is sadly missed by Ronda Little. FYI: I owned Sparkle for her first 2½ years, but when good friend Rondo tragically lost her beloved Golden Retriever Classy, Sparkle went to live with her because Sparkle + Classy were very close, and I knew I would be able to continue to see Sparkle. Sincerely, Janet." Donations by Janet & Bill Hellums

In Memory of "Tierra" "Our beloved Tierra passed away March 2018. She was a miracle gift to us beyond words. Thank You!" Donations by Jim and Leena Krasno

In Memory of Dick Garland This contribution is in memory of Richard (Dick) Garland. Acknowledge Pat Garland at The Terraces Donations by Stanley & Elaine Gould In Memory of Dick Matthews Donations by Valerie Matthews

In Memory of Dorothy Hudecek Donations by Thomas Hudecek

In Memory of Fred Yost Donations by Elisabeth Yost

In Memory of Gina Tartaglino Donations in memory of Gina Tartaglino to help our precious Goldens! Donations by Cathy Zimel

In Memory of Glen Morris Donations by Rosalind Morris

In Memory of Jody This is made in memory of his daughter Jody Donations by Bruce Stiely

In Memory of Lynn Abid "My sister, Lynn Abid, passed in Nov last year. She was a huge animal lover that rescued dogs & cats all our lives. In her memory, a group of us made donations. We choose you because Karen Swanson has offered me support in the past & you were highly recommended by sisters of Laurie Harpel & Amy Lee. Thank you and keep up the good work." Donations by Susan Baker

In Memory of Lynn Abid Donations by Amy Erwin In Memory of Lynn Abid Donations by Nancy Gagos

In Memory of Lynn Abid Donations by Colleen

In Memory of Rusti Tartaglino Donations by Uki Fratzke

In Memory of Wayne Thalken Donations by Barbara Brickell

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.

Meet Our Two New Board Members

Duane Schmidt

Having raised five Golden Retrievers over the past 25 years, I have a very special spot in my heart for them. Now I have Bo... a NGRR Golden rescue from January 2017 who at that time was skin and bones all of 50lbs. Today he is 83lbs and loves to run on the trail in the woods even though he suffers from PTSD.

I come with a business background in sales and management in the technology space, always driving towards a solution. I have a strong sense of organization and look forward to helping maximize the potential of the NGRR website.

I look forward to working with the Board, the community, and our volunteers to improve the quality of life for Golden Retrievers.

Randall Miller, DVM

I joined Providence Vet Hospital in Alameda in 1993 and co-owned the practice from 1996 until 2012, when I sold it and "quasi" retired, still working there about one day a week. I earned my DVM from Oklahoma State University in 1980 and then served in the US Army for three years as post veterinarian of the Presidio of San Francisco.

As a veterinarian, I realized early in my career that Golden Retrievers were kind of special. It became more personal in 1989 when we adopted Bud from the Alameda Animal Shelter. He went from being a 56 pound, out-of-control 1 year old to a wonderful 78 pound Golden friend. He was actually the first of a string of 5 more, "best dog ever", rescued Goldens. Our current Golden, Buddy, is the first dog we have adopted from NGRR. He came to us almost a year ago as a 113 pound, 5 year old with ruptured cruciate ligaments in both knees. In his first few weeks with us, he lost 20 pounds, had TPLO surgeries on his knees, a gastropexy, stem cell treatments, laser and underwater treadmill therapy, and extensive physical therapy at home. He has turned out to be a very loving member of the family who enjoys outdoor adventures as well as lounging on the sofa with his humans.

I am eager to see if I can combine a love of Golden Retrievers and veterinary experience to serve as a useful board member of NGRR.

Understanding the Use of Pet Microchips

From the Editor: This is part 1 of a three part series on Microchips, lost dogs, and keeping yours safe, written by board member Bob Armstrong who happens to be this editor's wonderful husband!

Most of us have heard of identification "microchips" for our pets, but how many of us really understand how they work? NGRR now "chips" all of our dogs, and these chips can be invaluable in reuniting lost pets with their owners, but they come with some limitations. It's important to understand how they really work and to know what they can and cannot do.

Pet microchips are tiny radio frequency transmitters that broadcast a fixed identification number. They are entirely passive – that is, they contain no batteries or other power source – and



Q: My Golden follows me around the house but when we go to the dog park or she's running around outside she won't come when called. How can I get her to come when I need her?

A: An off-leash recall is challenging for a young dog who wants to explore all this world's distractions. It's also hard for an older dog who never learned to come on command.

First, be sure you are not calling your dog for something unpleasant, like a bath. If you need to get your dog for a nail clipping for example, go and get the dog, snap on a leash and bring her to the nail-clipping area.

At the dog park, calling a dog also means she has to stop playing fun games and get back into the boring car. Remember, a dog only does behaviors that are rewarding.

Second, teach the dog to come on leash. Reserve a special command for this purpose only. Rather than "Fido, get over here" try "Fido to me" or simply "Fido, come." Remember not to use this command in other contexts such as a casual "come here". You can also pair it with a consistent hand signal.

Use a tasty treat to lure the dog to you after issuing the command and repeat this several times a day until the dog is happily coming. Next, practice in your home, until you have a near perfect response. If the dog refuses to come put the treat away and try later. The best punishment is no reward at all!

Inside your house, mix up calling the dog both on and off leash. Use rewards other than food such as a favorite toy or a game of tug. You can make a toy more exciting by putting it away for a few days and bringing it out again when she comes to you off leash!

Once she's coming in the house, try on leash in your yard. Gradually increase the distraction level until you can stand outside a dog park fence with your dog on leash coming to you reliably and happily. Then go back to a lower distraction area in an enclosed space, like your yard, and practice asking her to come off-leash.

If she stops coming eagerly, go back a step and make the training easier for her. Then gradually work up to a more challenging environment.

Once you are actually at the dog park or a friend's house where she loves to run around, call her to you regularly and reward. When the last call of the day is to stuff her in the car, the dog will carry with her the happy memories of coming to you many times before without any boring consequences! they can transmit only when scanned with a special hand-held reader. This reader both transmits the power to the chip that enables it to operate, and also receives the identification number transmitted to the chip. The range of the radio waves used is very short, typically only an inch or two, and the reader needs to be very close to the chip to work. Microchips are normally implanted between the dog's shoulders, but since they are only about the size of a grain of rice, they often migrate under the skin as the dog grows and ages. When scanning a lost pet for a chip, the shelter worker needs to be sure to move the reader all over the animal's body in case the chip has become displaced, and it's not unheard of for shelter workers to accidentally miss finding the chip.

Microchips can store only a unique serial number which is permanently programmed into the chip when it is manufactured. The serial number of a chip cannot be changed, and no two chips ever have the same serial number. Microchips CANNOT store any other information, and in particular the chips themselves do not store the owner's name, address, or any other contact information. Moreover, the chips are not trackers. They DO NOT have GPS receivers and they can't tell you where the dog is now or where it's been. Remember that the chips don't have any batteries of their own and are completely inert except when they are being scanned by a suitable reader.

There are several different companies that manufacture pet microchips and, as you might guess, they are not all compatible. In the United States, there are three different standards for the radio frequencies and protocols used by microchips. In addition, there is a fourth, international, ISO standard that is also used here. In the old days of chipping, ten or fifteen years ago, this was a serious problem because a reader

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for one particular chip standard would not recognize any chip that used a different standard. Today, multi-standard readers, which are capable of reading all four protocols, are commonly available and are widely used by most shelters and animal professionals. It is still possible, however, that some shelters or veterinarian's offices may still have older readers that cannot read some chips. This too can lead to microchips being missed.

One thing to keep in mind is that all of the pet chip registration services will register ANY chip from ANY manufacturer, no matter where you bought it.

Now we know what a microchip is and how to read it, but how do we use that to locate the owner of a lost pet? Remember that the chips only store a serial number and do not contain any owner data, so what we need is a database somewhere that relates the serial number to the owner's contact information. A shelter or vet could then use their scanner to read the microchip number from the pet, then access this database and look up the owner from that chip number. The good news is that exactly such a database exists; the bad news is that there's not just one such database, but at least two dozen of them!

Originally, each chip manufacturer maintained their own web page with a database of their chips and the owners. Trovan is one such manufacturer and they partnered with the AKC to operate the AKC Companion Animal Recovery database, www.AKCReunite.org. Destron is another, and they operate the Home Again microchip registry and database, www.HomeAgain.com. Avid is a third manufacturer, and their database is known as PETtrac, www.AvidID.com. Originally, a pet owner would go to their veterinarian to get their pet chipped, and the vet would give them a brochure from the chip manufacturer. That brochure would tell the owner how to go to the manufacturer's website and register the chip number and their contact information. That system worked well enough, but ...

In recent years, some companies that do not sell chips at all have set up their own pet registration databases, and this has made the situation much more complicated. Some of these companies charge an annual fee for the registration, and others will register for free but will send advertisements to the owners or will sell their contact data to marketing firms. Still others will try to up sell pet owners with expensive "lost pet recovery" services and insurance. Some companies buy microchips in bulk from one of the major manufacturers and then resell them under their own brand name while pushing their own fee-oriented registration database in the process. It's a classic example of the free market at work, but what's a pet owner to do?

One thing to keep in mind is that all of the pet chip registration services will register ANY chip from ANY manufacturer, no matter where you bought it. That's true even of the databases that are run by one of the chip manufacturers themselves. All of these databases either charge a fee for registration, or they register for free and make their money through advertising and marketing, and either way, they don't care where the chip came from. All pet registries provide the same basic service of registering your microchip number and owner information, and owners should pick the one that best suits their needs. And when it comes to the additional services, such as insurance or lost pet assistance sold by some of



Newsletter editor Deborah Armstrong scans for her Golden Maxwell's chip.

these sites, the owner should read the fine print and decide whether they're really worth the cost.

NGRR registers all our dogs through the Michelson Found Animals service, www.Found.org. This is a non-profit organization founded by a veterinarian, Dr. Gary Michelson, after Hurricane Katrina saw thousands of lost pets that could not be reunited with their owners. Found.org offers free microchip registrations for life, as well as free updates to owner contact information whenever needed. When you adopt a dog from NGRR, you should receive an email from Found.org confirming your registration and contact information. Should you ever move, change phone numbers or email addresses, it's essential that you visit Found.org and update your information. Remember, if your pet ever becomes lost, this database is the only way their microchip can be used to reunite them with you. 🖄

Preparing Your Pets for Emergencies Makes Sense. Get Ready Now.

1. Get a kit of pet emergency supplies.

Just as you do with your family's emergency supply kit, think first about the basics for survival, particularly food and water.

- Food: Keep at least three days of food in an airtight, waterproof container.
- Water: Store at least three days of water specifically for your pets, in addition to water you need for yourself and your family.
- Medicines and medical records: Keep an extra supply of medicines your pet takes on a regular basis in a waterproof container.
- **First-aid kit:** Talk to your veterinarian about what is most appropriate for your pet's emergency medical needs. Most kits should include cotton bandage rolls, bandage tape and scissors; antibiotic ointment; flea and tick prevention; latex gloves, isopropyl alcohol and saline solution. Include a pet first aid reference book.
- Collar with ID tag, harness or leash: Your pet should wear a collar with its rabies tag and identification at all times. Include a backup leash, collar and ID tag in your pet's emergency supply kit.
- **Important documents:** Place copies of your pet's registration information, adoption papers, vaccination documents and medical records in a clean plastic bag or waterproof container and also add them to your kit.
- Crate or other pet carrier: If you need to evacuate in an emergency situation, take your pets and animals with you, provided that it is practical to do so.
- Sanitation: Include pet litter and litter box if appropriate, newspapers, paper towels, plastic trash bags and household chlorine bleach to provide for your pet's sanitation needs. You can use bleach as a disinfectant (dilute nine parts water to one part bleach), or in an emergency, you can also use it to purify water. Use 8 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water, stir well and let it stand for 30 minutes before use. Do not use scented or color safe bleaches or those with added cleaners.
- A picture of you and your pet together: If you become separated from your pet during an emergency, a picture of you and your pet together will help you document ownership and allow others to assist you in identifying your pet. Include detailed information about species, breed, age, sex, color and distinguishing characteristics.
- **Familiar items:** Put favorite toys, treats or bedding in your kit. Familiar items can help reduce stress for your pet.

Consider two kits. In one, put everything your pets will need to stay where you are and make it on your own. The other should be a lightweight, smaller version you can take with you if you and your pets have to get away.

2. Make a plan for what you will do in an emergency.

Plan in advance what you will do in an emergency. Be prepared to assess the situation. Use common sense and whatever you have on hand to take care of yourself and ensure your pet's safety during an emergency.

• Evacuate. Plan how you will assemble your pets and anticipate where you will go. If you must evacuate, take your pets with

you, if practical. If you go to a public shelter, keep in mind your pets may not be allowed inside. Secure appropriate lodging in advance depending on the number and type of animals in your care. Consider family or friends outside your immediate area who would be willing to take in you and your pets in an emergency. Other options may include: a hotel or motel that takes pets or some sort of boarding facility, such as a kennel or veterinary hospital that is near an evacuation facility or your family's meeting place. Find out before an emergency happens if any of these facilities in your area might be viable options for you and your pets.

- **Develop a buddy system**. Plan with neighbors, friends or relatives to make sure that someone is available to care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so. Talk with your petcare buddy about your evacuation plans and show them where you keep your pet's emergency supply kit. Also designate specific locations, one in your immediate neighborhood and another farther away, where you will meet in an emergency.
- Talk to your pet's veterinarian about emergency planning. Discuss the types of things you should include in your pet's emergency first-aid kit. Get the names of vets or veterinary hospitals in other cities where you might need to seek temporary shelter. Also talk with your veterinarian about microchipping. If you and your pet are separated, this permanent implant for your pet and corresponding enrollment in a recovery database can help a veterinarian or shelter identify your animal. If your pet is microchipped, keeping your emergency contact information up-to-date and listed with a reliable recovery database is essential to you and your pet being reunited.
- Gather contact information for emergency animal treatment. Make a list of contact information and addresses of area animal control agencies, including the Humane Society or ASPCA and emergency veterinary hospitals. Keep one copy of these phone numbers with you, and one in your pet's emergency supply kit. Obtain "Pets Inside" stickers and place them on your doors or windows, including information on the number and types of pets in your home to alert firefighters and rescue workers. Consider putting a phone number on the sticker where you could be reached in an emergency. And, if time permits, remember to write the words "Evacuated with Pets" across the stickers, should you evacuate your home with your pets.

3. Be prepared for what might happen.

Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected, such as assembling an emergency supply kit for yourself, your family and your pets, is the same regardless of the type of emergency. However, it's important to stay informed about what might happen and know what types of emergencies are likely to affect your region.

Be prepared to adapt this information to your personal circumstances and make every effort to follow instructions received from authorities on the scene. With these simple preparations, you can be ready for the unexpected. Those who take the time to prepare themselves and their pets will likely encounter less difficulty, stress and worry. Take the time now to get yourself and your pet ready.

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 human

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 Goldens 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 Goldens

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.

Special Needs 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 Goldens 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 website at *www.ngrr.org*.

Volunteer Interest

HANDS-ON DOG WORK

Area Coordinator

- Area Assistant
 - □ Foster Care
 - Home Visits
 Vet Appointments
 - Shelter Checks
 Phone Calls
 Grooming
 - **T**ransportation
- □ Senior Goldens Program

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 website at <u>www.ngrr.org</u>.)

Mail to:

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



Street Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Telephone:() Email:	
NGRR is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) corporation under t	the IRS Tax Code. Tax ID #77-0392584

Name:



NORCAL Golden Retriever Rescue, Inc. 405 El Camino Real, Suite 420 Menlo Park, CA 94025-5240 Non-Profit Org U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 89 Belmont, CA

How to Contact NORCAL Golden Retriever Rescue

Mailing Address: 405 El Camino Real, Suite 420 Menlo Park, CA 94025-5240

Officers for Calendar Year 2019

PRESIDENT Karen Shore

TREASURER Tony Adair

SECRETARY Georgine Nordin

DIRECTORS FOR APRIL 1, 2019 TO MARCH 31, 2020 TERM

Tony Adair Bob Armstrong Gloria Grotjan Margaret McNamaraDuane SchmidtRandall Miller, DVMKaren ShoreGeorgine NordinCraig Simberg

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Acknowledging emailed donationsO	pen
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Mail Box DistributionJudy Gu	uild

NGRR Cell #: (650) 665-0964 Website: www.ngrr.org



WWW.Ngrr.org Stay up-to-date on our website!

Calling All Volunteers!

Would you like to get involved with NORCAL Golden Retriever Rescue? We are always looking for volunteers. Perhaps this newsletter will inspire you to help out. If so, please contact us at **info@ngrr.org**.