

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 XX, ISSUE No. 2 ~ FALL 2014

Scarlett (originally known as Roxie)

Thank you to Margaret McNamara, our San Francisco Surrender Area Coordinator, for submitting this!

Scarlett was found by a Good Samaritan who almost hit her with his car on Skyline Boulevard in the fog. His name is Jacob Angel (not kidding, that's really his last name). Jacob pulled his car over and she immediately ran into his arms and into his car. They were fast friends. He did everything he could to try and find her rightful owner(s).



He went to the Peninsula Humane Society and filled out a "lost dog" report and waited 2 full weeks. No one came forward to claim her, which is hard to believe, considering she was so friendly and obviously trained. Someone had loved and cared for her. He did not know what to do with her, as he was moving to the East Coast and couldn't bring her with him. He was talking with a friend, Zoe Dunning, one of our fosters, and Zoe suggested NGRR. He contacted me, and Zoe quickly went and picked up Scarlett! All was sorted out upon our meeting – how he got her, if he's tried to find her owners, what her medical history was that he knew, etc. She was definitely a friendly Golden but ... surprise! She was in heat! She had been running around on the streets for who knows how long and I thought she may be pregnant. She had a bad rash on her back, which I wasn't concerned about, but her running the streets loose in heat, now that I was

concerned about. She needed to be seen by a vet posthaste.

After multiple phone calls, I found a foster for her (thank you Meg and Kayla Hill) through Georgine Nordin, who took her to the vet and evaluated her before placing her in her forever home.

The good news is, she was not pregnant and has now been spayed and is recouping from her surgery. What a wonderful dog she is and what a wonderful life she'll have thanks to Jacob Angel, Zoe Dunning, Georgine Nordin, Joan Green, Meg Hill, and Kayla Hill. A true testament that it takes a village to care for these dogs! 🐾



Chevy – Our New Little Bundle of Joy!

Thank you to Margaret McNamara, SF Surrender Coordinator, for submitting this!

I got a call from Animal Care & Control here in San Francisco, asking me if we could take in a 3-month-old Golden male who had been surrendered by a family who simply couldn't afford all his vet bills. He'd had a history of nausea and diarrhea and was very skinny. After getting the approval from our vet committee, I took him in. I immediately picked him up from our shelter and brought this little blonde bundle of cuteness to SF Vet Specialist to get diagnosed

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Chevy – Our New Little Bundle of Joy!

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and stabilized. He had not been neutered or vaccinated because of his health problems! You did not need to be a vet to see he was not doing well. He was very dehydrated and lethargic – not normal behavior for a puppy his age. Parvovirus was ruled out. He's tested negative twice. The vet stated that he had a pretty bad case of pneumonia and might have megaesophagus, a condition which impacts the esophagus and makes it difficult



to hold down food. After three or four days of IV fluids, antibiotics, antacids, and hand-feeding (he has to be fed sitting up), he's been stabilized and is now in foster care!

Chevy has a heart of gold and is progressing every day. Since he has been in foster care, he has more energy and is acting much more like

how a 3-month-old puppy should act. He is still learning how to run on his wobbly legs and the stronger he gets, the faster he gets. He has an appetite like we have never seen and looks forward to his feedings multiple times a day. Sometimes his tail is wagging so fast we worry he is



going to lift off the ground!

He has taken interest in toys and has found that Golden trait, wanting to carry everything in his mouth! He likes to take naps in his crate but welcomes cuddle and play time whenever he can get it. He is still learning to use the potty outside but continues to work on this every single day. He likes to wrestle with his foster sister and always gets excited when he gets to chase around the cats and cannot figure out why they don't want to wrestle with him too. Every day he continues to get stronger and stronger.

What a cute, sweet boy. We are lucky to have him. Keep your fingers crossed he continues to progress and can be a happy, healthy pup!

Special thanks to Jen Reese and Alvin Paez who have been fostering and taking special care of this little bundle of joy for his first week out of ICU. He's now more energetic, hates getting pilled, has a huge appetite, and loves playing with their Golden, Maya. He's off to a permanent foster to get him stabilized before finding him his forever home! 🐾

Emma

Thank you to Joan Forney for submitting this.

We have had two Golden Retrievers from NGR. Five years ago we put our last one to sleep. It also was when my husband was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. Due to the disease, life has been going flat. I kept wondering if it was time to add a Golden to our lives. I talked to our adult children and they did not support the idea, thinking that a big dog could knock me over, pull too much, and increase my hand joint pain. Basically, add too much work to my life. I kept wondering though.

One night I asked my granddaughter Tabitha if she would like to pray with me about getting a dog. She was eager! I filled out the application and met with a

darling representative, Lynn Randelman, to check out our home and yard. I expressed all of my concerns, doubts, and my bigger desire to add some life to this place. She listened well and then strongly encouraged me to go ahead. Along the way I met Jill Morgan over the phone. She heard my story in a deep way, as she works with Alzheimer folks during the week. Then I met Cheryl over the phone and she said that they would find us the "perfect dog." This happened quite soon actually...quite soon came the phone call that the perfect dog was found for us. The next weekend we drove to pick up Emma, a golden from Taiwan, and brought her home for a "trial." Looks-wise, she was all Golden to me. She was 7 years old, a smaller size (47 pounds), didn't pull when walked, and sweet. All of those these

words became true.

I had to get my footing, but Lynn, Cheryl, and Jill were there in person or online to help me. I found I didn't have as much confidence as I thought I had with dogs. But, we are launched now. Out of five dogs, she is our best dog yet by far. She has brought new life and energy to these walls. My husband is able to walk her. There is something new to talk about. While driving my granddaughter to school she asked:

"Grandma, is the trial over?"

"What trial?" I asked.

"About Emma," she replied. "Is she ours yet?"

"Oh, yes! She is ours! Emma is ours."

My granddaughter smiled down to her toes and said "Thank you, God, for the perfect dog." 🐾

A Golden Christmas Tale

Thanks to Harry & Betty Waldman for submitting this article.

Two weeks before Christmas three years ago, we had to put our much loved Golden boy, Ranger, down. The seizures that he had developed in the past ten months were not responding to the medication anymore, and in his final week the seizures were almost non-stop. Our big, happy 10-year-old guy, with the permanent sly smile who loved to make everyone laugh, was visibly shocked and bewildered by what was happening to him. Rest for his exhausted mind and body was a blessing. We, on the other hand, found the empty spot on the sofa and in our hearts unbearable. We had to get another Golden.

Friends told us about NGRR but



cautioned that the adoption process could take six months or more. We sat at the computer and filled out the online application form. It forced us to talk about a new dog and, in that way, was therapeutic. The application section regarding what we were looking for in a dog to adopt was particularly helpful to us and we spent a long time discussing the answers. All of our previous dogs were pups when we got them. In fifty years of marriage, we have had only four dogs and the last two were Golden Retrievers. We figured we were getting too old for the puppy training chores. A female dog about five years old would be nice. She would have a different personality and keep us from making comparisons with Ranger. If possible, we would like a surrendered dog from a family that had fallen on hard times rather than an abused dog. As I pressed "Send" we wondered when Norcal would be contacting us.

When the phone rang a half hour later, we didn't think it could be from Norcal, but it was. Kris Williams, our local Tahoe area director, called to say that she had been in the office when our email application arrived and she was going to a neighboring community the next day to pick up a dog that matched our wishes almost exactly! Could we host an inspection of our home that



afternoon? Certainly! We had a doggie door to a fenced-in backyard with a shaded patio. Ranger was very happy here and the new Golden would be too.

That night was like Christmas Eve waiting for Santa Claus. Neither of us could sleep. The next morning, Kris arrived with a slightly overweight and unkempt Golden girl. She was a little shy but very eager to meet us. Kris said we could foster her over Christmas with the intent to adopt, but after 5 minutes we knew she was the right one.

Two days later on Christmas, there was just the three of us, and it was the best Christmas ever! Thank you Norcal, and especially Kris Williams for your determination to get us a new dog before the holidays. Sunny has been a wonderful companion and friend and we have helped her reach her full potential by building her self-confidence. It's a perfect match! 🐾

Heartworm

Thanks to Peg, an NGRR foster mom, Sandy & Juliet for submitting this article!

I am a foster with NGRR and they test all dogs for heartworm. Last year I had two dogs that tested positive for heartworm. I had never had a dog with heartworm, but I learned so much.

Both of my dogs were very ill by the time they came into NGRR. They were diagnosed with severe heartworm and their treatment lasted about 4 months. We had to go slowly since the worms were surrounding their heart and lungs. They also had to be kept very quiet and go outside only to do their bodily functions. No playing, no walking, no activity to get their heart and lungs pumping too high. As you can imagine, this was not easy. I had to keep them quiet and in the house.

Heartworm is passed onto the pet by an infected mosquito. It cannot be passed onto your pet if the pet is getting the monthly heartworm prevention prescribed from your vet after testing negative. This was, of course, a big concern for me, my dog, and all the dogs in my neighborhood. They were all getting their monthly pill so my vet told me they were protected. So I accepted a heartworm-positive dog as a foster.

My vet treated both dogs with the protocol from the National American Heartworm Association, www.heartwormsociety.org. It is very informative and helps you see the treatment plan.

Heartworm is 100% preventable. Please talk to your vet about heartworm prevention and how important and easy it is to test and treat your pets to prevent this terrible disease.

I am very happy to tell you both dogs were adopted out to wonderful families after their treatment was done. 🐾

IN TRIBUTE

In Honor of the wedding of Michael Sonduck and David Zeligson
Best wishes from Tracy Gibbons

In Thanks to Apryl von Arlt & Robert Haga for donating through their employer's charitable campaign!

In Tribute to Wendy Jones
In Memory of "Barney"
"Our special Barney died a year ago. Wendy Jones of your organization supported us in looking for another dog. Although we unexpectedly found a Golden that had just been surrendered to another organization and was a perfect match, it was Wendy that kept supporting us to look and to keep faith that we would find our special dog. It was her support and friendship that kept us positive and is why we make this donation today. Wendy is awesome!"
Donation by Patricia Beck

In Thanks to Carrie & Howard Gordon for donating through United Way

In Honor of "Gretel," "Anacie," and "Bebe"
Loved by Bev Mager

In Honor of "Teddy"
"Thank you for caring for these good dogs. Teddy is doing very well."
Donation by Leona & John McCabe

In Honor of Tim Mowrer
"On occasion of Tim's birthday!"
Donation by Catherine Nueva Espana

In Honor of "Stella"
"My best girl for 10 years!!! Happy Birthday!!!"
Loved by Douglas Del Paggio

In Thanks on the Anniversary of my forever home
Donation by Joy Sacco & "Rusty"

In Honor of Judy Guild and her "birth" day
"I am hopeful this contribution can further the cause in caring for abandoned Golden's."
Donation by Claudia & Jay Kallos

"Happy 10th Birthday to Kevin Kalkhoven (in dog years)!!!"
Donation by Katie & Wayne Oedewaldt

In Honor of "Sophia" formerly "Sugar"
In Honor of our rescue from Taiwan girl, "Sophia."
"Happy first-year anniversary, sweet pup. We are also celebrating her birthday, which is the same as Sophia Loren's! When her new daddy picked the name Sophia, we found out later that he picked her name on Sophia Loren's birthday."
Loved by Sharon Breimhorst & Family

In Honor of Peg Aten on the occasion of Sandy's Birthday!
"With love for Peg and all of 'her' dogs. They've shared so much love with us!"
Donation by Stephanie Greenberg and Stella

In Honor of Melinda Griffith and her birthday
"Wishing you a happy, healthy year. Happiest 60th birthday! Aloha!"
Donation by Dawn Prince

"Our donation is made on behalf of Lily"
With thanks from Aaron & Natasha Hughes

In Thanks to Debbie & Gary McKee
"Thank you for this fabulous wedding weekend. We are so lucky to have you as parents and so is Riley. We love you!"
Lovingly donated by A & E

Happy Birthday to Kevin Kalkhoven
Donated with love by his "Aunts-in-law"
Carol and Jeanne

In Honor of "Rose" from Taiwan
"I wanted to help with Rose's cataract surgery. I had cataract surgery and happen to have a Golden named Rose who is 2½ years old. It was a no-brainer that I had to help out a little."
Donation by Pat Robin

In Honor of "Rescued Love" from Taiwan
Donation by Clarity Academy of Spiritual Arts

To Kevin Kalkhoven
"Happy Birthday!!"
Donation by Kate Shoup

Happy Birthday to Kevin Kalkhoven
"Jim and I want to wish you a belated happy 70th birthday. This donation comes from Charlie and Max as well, who are watching over us as we speak. Thanks for bringing them into our lives."
Donation by Sally & Jim Tischler

In Honor of "Fiona" from Taiwan
"We adopted her in March. She is doing great! We love her a lot and a lot!"
Donation by Lik Wai Lawrence Lai & Yihua Lee

In Honor of Kim McIntyre
"Happy Birthday to a certain Golden's best friend."
Donation by Sally Reed

In Honor of Robin Roylance
"Happy Birthday to Robin, lover of all animals, devoted mother, and long-time Golden owner/rescuer."
Donation Anonymous

Happy Birthday to our favorite 'Dog Person,' Tracy Gibbons!
Donation by Loni & Jeff Davis

Happy 50th birthday to Marla Cabrera, a true dog lover!
Donation by Wendy Ellis

IN MEMORIUM

In Memory of "Cody"
Donation by the Bonasera Family

In Memory of Greg Mori
Donation by Ruth Mori

In Memory of My Beautiful Princess "Daisy"
"Words cannot describe how much I miss you in our home. I was so lucky you came into my life for 13 years and showed me what unconditional love is. You were my world and I find it difficult to go on without you in it. Our connection with each other was indescribable. You were and always will be my forever dog. Thank you for always greeting me with a smile, a burp, and one of your stinky farts. I love you so much and hope to see you again. Thank you for everything and all the love you gave to Jake, Scarlett, and Sierra, and your daddy, Mike."
Love, your Mamma/Julie Mellinger xoxo

In Memory of "Scoop"
"We will always love Scoop for being a wonderful 'puppy' and Koby's best friend."
Loved by the Lavoie Family
Donation by the Nutini's

In Memory of Bruce Goronsky
Donation by Bob Carr

In Memory of Edward Leech
"Ed's Norcal Golden Retriever 'Beau' was his beloved companion for most of his final years, and his family is grateful that he and Beau got to spend that time together."
Donation by Douglas Thompson

In Loving Memory of "Callie"
"I adopted Callie as part of a bonded pair, and expected that the older male, 'Quincy,' would go first, and that I'd have my dear, funny, messy, crazy girl for support. It was not to be. She left us just before Christmas 2013 at the age of 10 years. Gone too soon, loved for eternity."
Lovingly missed by Jackie Easley & "Quincy"

In Loving Memory of Greg Mori
Donation by Chrystal Herndon

In Memory of Gregory U. Mori
"With deepest sympathy for the loss of a wonderful man. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him."
Donation by Susan & Robert Smith

In Memory of Greg Mori
Donation by Holly Lawson

In Memory of Greg Mori
"In loving memory from the Scott Family."
Donation by the Ted Scott Family

In Memory of Gayle Rivers
Donation by Nancy Phelps

In Memory of Paul Leigh Foster
Donation by Barbara & Dick Crespo

In Memory of Gayle Rivers
Donation by Elouise Jeffries

In Memory of Ruby Fitzgerald
Loved by Wendy Seagren

In Memory of John Curran
Donation by Judith Berlo

In Memory of "Kobe"
Donation by Dr. Cheryl Ramos, Pets Eternal Rest

In Memory of "Zelda"
Donation by Dr. Cheryl Ramos, Pets Eternal Rest

In Memory of "Sasha"
Donation by Dr. Cheryl Ramos, Pets Eternal Rest

In Memory of "Keeper"
"Keeper was a wonderful big, male Golden. He was the first adult dog my Vizsla, Casey, met when Casey was a puppy and Keeper was very gentle with him. He passed much too soon."
Loved by Ron & Nancy Ellickson
Donation by Jonathan Penn

In Memory of Mr. Gregory Mori
Donation by Cary & Bryan Gillgrass

In Memory of "Charlie"
"Sweet, sweet boy, accomplished swimmer, ball fetcher, avid walker. Will miss you so much!"
Loved by Cynthia Schreiner & John Rickards
Donation by Denise Sprague

In Memory of John Joseph Curran
"You will always be in my memories and prayers."
Lovingly donated by Augusta Mehill

In Memory of "Drivin' Miss Daisy" (Daisy Mellinger)
"Daisy was loved and is sorely missed by the Mellinger family. She was a happy, bouncy, beautiful girl with a heart of gold."
Missed and loved by Julia Mellinger
Donation by Psyche Clark

In Memory of John Joseph Curran
"The road never ends, and the music goes on forever!"
Lovingly donated by Becky & Mark Mehill

In Memory of "Gertie"
"Beloved dog of Kathy and Don, Gertie was a beautiful, soulful girl who graced us with her dignified and calming presence. We will miss her and her wagging tail. If we are lucky enough we will one day join her in dog heaven."

Cherished by Kathy Glass & Don Rickard
Donation by Greg Antoniono

In Memory of Greg Mori
"This donation is being made on behalf of Greg Mori. Greg was a loving man who was very devoted to his family. Our friendship and the time we had to spend with him were very special. May god bless Greg and all the Mori family."
Donation by Angela, Bob & Matt Hannaford

In Memory of "Sunnie"
"With lots of love and memories of sweet Sunnie."
Achingly missed by Autumn Virgadamo

In Memory of John Curran
"In memory of John's great wit, kindness, and great love of his 'four-legged' children."
Donation by Eileen McCarroll

In Memory of John Curran
Donation by Chris Worrall

In Memory of "Sandy"
"In memory of a terrific, spunky, girl; little 'monkey-face' Sandy. You are missed."
Loved by David Golden
Donation by JoAnn Golden

In Memory of John Curran
"Thanks for all the good times, John. I know you really did love your babies, so this donation is in honor of that. You left us too soon."
Donation by David Burgess

In Memory of "Jordan"
"To a wonderful Golden, owned and loved for many, many, lucky years by Steve and Kathleen."
Cherished and loved by Kathleen & Steve Martinek
Donation by Stefan Myslicki
In Memory of "Millie"
"Millie was a Golden Retriever adopted by Judy and Howard."
Adored and loved by the Guild's
Donation by Carol & Ken Zemel

In Memory of Glenn & Ceasar
Loved by Joanne Burke

In Memory of Bruce Goronsky
Donation by Joanne O'Brien-Levin & Robert Levin

In Memory of Bruce Goronsky
Donation by Vicki & Robert Shearn

In Memory of Bruce Goronsky
Donation by Laurie Chesler-Clark & Jon Clark
In Memory of Bruce Goronsky
Donation by Scott Ewers

In Memory of Greg Mori
"He loved his retrievers."
Donation by Kathleen & Carl Leveroni

In Memory of "Charlie"
"Charlie came into our lives in June 2002. He had been picked up by Animal Control as a stray in San Francisco. He was totally trained and well-behaved and was the healthiest dog anyone could hope for. Last fall, he became ill and for his sake, we had to let him go. Charlie, you took a big chunk of my heart with you. I can only hope you knew how much we loved you."
Cherished and loved by Janis & Raymond Musante

In Memory of Greg Mori
Donation by Kasey & Joshua Twist

In Memory of Greg Mori
Donation by Sandra & Joe Waite

In Fond Memory of "Zachary T. Dog" aka "Deetzo"
Donation by Larry Hedrick & John Dillis

In Memory of "Millie"
"Judy and Howard, I am wishing you moments where you feel wrapped in the warmth of your memories of sweet Millie."
Loved by Judy & Howard Guild
Donation by Susan Wasson

In Memory of "Keeper"
"Great sympathy to Chris and Maureen."
Loved by Chris Hempel & Maureen Degnan
Donation by Elisabeth & Nelson Lampert

In Memory of "Annie" Akre
"Annie was a sweet Rat Terrier, whose loving presence blessed the Akre family for many years. Annie was Golden Retriever Cody's devoted companion for many years. They were inseparable from the time she arrived as a puppy. As we'd say, 'Annie is Cody's dog!'"
Cherished by the Akre Family
Donation by Elaine Akre

IN MEMORIUM

In Memory of "Amber"

"We lost Amber after nearly 13½ years of love and fun. Ten days after losing her we had the incredible opportunity to provide a new home to our 2-year-old Golden's mother who needed a new home. This was so unexpected and came at a time when we were so saddened by the sudden loss of Amber. The latest Golden addition to our home has settled in nicely and the mother/daughter combination makes both girls happy."
Adored by Dianne & David Thomas

In Memory of "Riley"

Donation by Cheryl M. Ramos, DVM
Pets Eternal Rest, Inc.

In Memory of Bruce Goronsky

Donation by Brenda Huey & Brian Bender

In Thanksgiving for our beautiful dog, "Chico"!

Loved by Linda & Brent Leboa

In Memory of John Curran

"Thanks for all the good times, John. I know you really did love your babies, so this donation is in honor of that. You left us too soon."
Donation by David Burgess

In Memory of Gregory Mori

"In memory of one of the kindest men we have known."
Donation by Carl, Jude & Chris Gaither

In Memory of "Henry"

"For the love of dear Henry, who kept our Monday writing group entertained, on our toes, amused, and laughing for years, from coast to coast.... He was a cherished mascot and a loving companion to our class, rain or shine. Henry, our pens will flurry on and remember you always, sweet friend."
Loved by Pam Wight
Donation by the Monday Writing Group

In Memory of "Riley"

Donation by Cheryl M. Ramos, DVM
Pets Eternal Rest, Inc.

In Memory of "Amber" and "Daisy"

And all my animal friends who've crossed the Rainbow Bridge this year – "Sudz," "Rusty," "Annie," and "Popkorn."
Forever loved and forever missed!
Donation by Louise Korn

In Memory of our good friend, Ron Toso

Donation by Barbara & Richard Crespo

In Memory of "Chanel"

Adopted and loved by Julia & Richard Geist

In Memory of Greg U. Mori

"In honor of our good friend and all his rescue love."
Donation by Susan & John Scherer

In Memory of Marsha & Walter Bauer and their loving family pet, "Violet"

Donation by Madeliene A. Scheiman

In Memory of "Tommy"

"Tommy is the last of the six Golden's I've adopted since 1996. Tommy only had seven short months with us but they were the best seven months of his life."
Loved by Suzanne Krakover-Nickel

In Memory of "Ginger"

"So very sorry for your broken hearts. Ginger was lucky to have you as parents."
Achingly loved and missed by Mark and Denny
Donated by Judy & Ritchie Manner

In Memory of "Luna"

"Thinking of you all during this very difficult time. Sending lots of love your way. Xoxo"
Forever loved by the Worrell Family
Donation by the Ribas Family

In Memory of "Tess"

Loved by Mary Duilea
Donation by Suzanne Thomas

In Memory of "Sneakers" and "Freddie"

"These were the Golden Oldies I adopted from NGRR. They were beautiful inside and out, and I think of them every day."
Missed and loved by Marla Miyashiro

In Memory of "Bella," my best friend

Loved by Jaxon

In Memory of "Jake"

Donation by Cheryl M. Ramos, DVM

In Memory of "Pacey"

"In loving memory of my best friend!"
Missed by Brenda Matamoros

In Memory of "Maggie" Briesach

"We are so sorry for the loss of our friend, Maggie. You gave her a beautiful life and she was so lucky to have you for her family. Our love to you."
Cherished and loved by the Briesach Family
Donation by Damon, Jess, Cole, Lexi & Sunny Mendez

In Memory of "Scottie"

"Scottie was a gentle and courageous Golden boy, who will be missed by all who knew him."
Loved by Noelene & David Byars
Donation by Penny Hurley

In Memory of "Molly" Mathog

"Born to give pleasure, Molly fulfilled that mission for 14 years. Whether smiling with a mouthful of tennis balls, squeaking a stuffed toy, or sitting with mom Sharon, Molly gave joy and love."
Achingly missed by Sharon Mathog
Donation by Elaine & Stan Gould

In Memory of Richard Anderson

Donation by Johanna & Ray Goodwin

In Memory of "Phoebe"

"Phoebe, lovely Golden girl, forever in our hearts. She's joining all of her friends over the Rainbow Bridge. Phoebe was a loved and cherished member of the family of Ted and Linda Gomoll who have worked so tirelessly over the years for NGRR."
Missed and forever loved by Linda & Ted Gomoll
Donation by Joan Fisher

In Memory of "Phoebe"

Loved by Linda & Ted Gomoll
Donation by Donald Tornberg

In Memory of "Gracie"

"Our Golden Gracie was our joy for almost 14 years. The love she shared is all that makes our overwhelming sadness tolerable. We will love her forever."
Cherished and loved by the Hanna Family

In Memory of "Beau"

"It was love at first sight by Phyllis and Ed when they first met Beau. He lived the 'life of Riley' in Rossmoor. I thank NGRR every day for connecting Beau with his new family."
Missed by Donna Ellis
Donation by Ginny Mayer

In Memory of "Teak"

Loved by Sandy & Rick Van Mell
Donation by Vera Kark

In Memory of "Rusty"

"The enclosed gift is for my beloved Rusty's eighth birthday on September 18th. Rusty, due to incurable lymphoma, is waiting for me at 'The Bridge.' NGRR made possible seven wonderful years for both us. So as my Rusty lives on in my heart, so will our gratitude to you for all the good you do and happiness you bring to our lives."
Donation by Joy Sacco

In Memory of "Chili"

Loved and missed by Margaret & Michael Mann

In Memory of Leonard Ball

Donation by Sally & Roger Imsdahl

Never Forget Your “Dogmanity”

Thank you to Jeanne Hanlon for submitting this!

Someone said, “You can’t judge a book by its cover.”

A thousand years ago, when wolves turned traitor to hang out with man for mutual survival, a dog was indispensable as a working member of a family. They provided warmth during a cold winter, warning and protection against predators, and were loyal partners through thick and thin – and there was a whole lot of thin compared to our modern day lives.

Today, dogs are a standing member of the family, often participating in the decision-making process. They can rush the door before we can stop them, knowing it will be impossible to get them back into the house if we are leaving in the car. That trip to the mall has become a visit to the farmers’ market, where they can join in on the fun. They have tremendous influence over us in ways we hardly want to acknowledge. Dogs return that power with energy and endless, boundless unconditional love.

We pride ourselves in our daily lives by practicing acts of kindness and humanity toward our fellow human travelers. Only the most callous would consider trading in their child for another with different color hair, better athletic ability, or for one who doesn’t

have sensitive skin, an annoying runny nose, or anything else we might consider a “defect.” While dogs are not humans, a minority view if you share your home with a Golden, we should apply many, if not all, of the same treatments to our furry family members as we do our human members.

Humanity is important to maintaining a vibrant community. Dogmanity is just as important!

Your children are not designer toys...

Neither are our dogs!

Yet we find ourselves always looking for the perfect pooch. The right size, color, temperament, and energy as if we were shopping for a new sports car. We forget to apply what we know about people to dogs as well...it’s what’s on the inside that’s important. In

Humanity is important to maintaining a vibrant community. Dogmanity is just as important!

that regard, all dogs are equally perfect.

We have three Golden Retrievers. Bo and Jack were older surrenders, and they are both fabulously entertaining, fun, smart, worldly, and energetic. Simply because they are seniors doesn’t make them any less valuable; in fact, they are so smart that I often forget to think of them as dogs, which sounds ridiculous, but if you’ve had a really smart, older dog, especially a rascal, you know what I’m talking about.

I said we have three dogs...

The third one is Maggee. She was born small and blind in one eye. She is eight months old now. The breeder didn’t want her and surrendered her to NGRR. They had surrendered her sister, Mollee, about eight months before, because of leg deformities.

Maggee is something really special. Her life force and energy exponentially exceed her 34 pounds. She flies into the kitchen filled with joy and excitement



every morning, her entire hindquarters wagging with a huge smile and twinkle in her one eye; no matter that she has to turn a certain way to get a good look at you.

I am sure Bo and Jack still wonder what they did to deserve having a demon from hell released into their structured world. Maggee will not be denied attention. If the boys are ignoring her, she simply plops down on top of their heads like a Daniel Boone coon skin cap, always checking, of course, to make sure they know it’s her.

Jack loves his tennis balls. She quickly learned that if she wanted his attention, she would take one of his balls and torment him with it, putting it into range and then snatching it away, like Lucy with the football and Charlie Brown.

Bo, the older dog, and the boss, is teaching her all his rascal behavior: how to surf the counter for food left out and sharing in the bounty when he scores a loaf of bread, while good boy Jack wouldn’t even think of it.

I don’t think of her as blind in one eye or small. I see a perfect Golden Retriever who has brought joy and energy into the house and would be desperately missed by all if she were gone.

When you’re looking to add to your family, remember your “Dogmanity.”

If you do, you’ll be rewarded beyond your wildest expectations. 🐾

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.

Another Great Fundraiser Event!

Golden Tales – the barbecue, wine tasting, and tour at Cline Cellars in Sonoma on September 28 – was a huge success! The event and silent auction raised over \$11,000 for NGRR. Thank you to everyone who attended and to Cline Cellars for hosting!!!



“Thanks for a lovely event. It’s fun to see so many beautiful Goldens in one place.”

“It was a beautiful day . . . absolute beautiful place for people and dogs. (The Goldens had a ball . . . no pun intended.)”



“Great to spend time with you guys at the beautiful winery with all of the Goldens and their nice owners. A very special Sunday.”

“Great place to enjoy such a wonderful event. Enjoyed by all!”

Tommy: Not Your Usual Rescue Success Story

Thank you to Suzanne Nickel for submitting this!

Since 1996, I have adopted six dogs from NGRR. My first, Wuffy, had an impeccable pedigree, full of Canadian-American grand champions, and was 10 ½ years old when he came into my care. His elderly owners had neglected him and kept him in a crate in their backyard for half of his life. He responded incredibly well to his new home and his intelligence was keen, his zest for life enthusiastic, and his appetite insatiable for anything remotely edible.

A year later, Dusty came to live with us at age 12½ after his father had a fatal heart attack, leaving him orphaned. Dusty was truly mourning the loss of his father and frequently rested his head on my leg for solace. Wuffy and Dusty became great friends and remained great friends until Dusty, who was sweet, smart, and eventually very happy, died in August 1999, of complications due to old age.

In October of that year, little Rusty Thumper Dog joined our pack at age 1 ½ years. He was the product of a puppy mill, had lived in a dog run all of his short life, was fear-aggressive, and didn't even have a name when we adopted him. Wuffy taught him everything he needed to know about being an indoor dog. Bright and eager to learn, Rusty was an apt student. He never had an accident in the house, and when he saw Wuffy sit for a treat on his first day with us, he figured out that was the proper behavior and just did it.

Wuffy died of hemangiosarcoma in January 2000, and Rusty was an only dog for 13 months when Charlie, age 4, joined us. Charlie had been surrendered allegedly because the family's other Alpha dog had been harassing him unmercifully. It turned out, however, that Charlie had blown out both knees long before, and I suspect that his former owners didn't want to deal with the costs of his medical care. Charlie had two tibial-plateau-leveling osteotomies over the course of the next



Krissy (left) and Tommy

several months, thanks to some financial help from NGRR Zach's Fund, and lived happily until he, too, developed hemangiosarcoma at age 10.

Knowing that Charlie had died, a friend who lived in a condominium with no yard, offered me her 6-year-old Golden female, Krissy, because she felt

The first time I opened the car door for him and said "Load up," he just looked blankly at me, as if saying "You want me to do what?"

her dog would have a better quality of life with us.

Rusty absolutely loved Krissy. He taught her how to play, and she tugged on his ear every morning for the rest of his life to get him to play. They played Fierce Dog, Tug of War, and Chase Me. They were inseparable. We had three wonderful years together until Rusty died of heart disease in 2010. As much as I mourned Rusty, who was the smartest, most loving, impish creature in

the world, Krissy was just about as sad as I was, so I decided to get her a dog of her own.

Yankee was 10 ½ years old when he came to our home. His owner moved to another state and had left him and his sister. They were generic pets, who, I suspect, hadn't been given much love in their lives until they were adopted. Regularly, Yankee nudged his head against my leg, wanting and needing affection, and responding with gentle tail wags and kisses. For the first time in 14 years, I had two dogs that had no interest in chewing shoes, climbing on the furniture, or sleeping in my bed. Krissy taught Yankee to play, and they played together until that most dreadful of cancers, hemangiosarcoma, felled sweet, smart Yankee in August 2013.

And then came Tommy, age 10, in November. His former owners had taken him to the animal shelter in San Jose because "he was old, lame, couldn't see, and they didn't want him anymore." They wanted him put to sleep. Of course, the shelter contacted NGRR and my local Area Coordinator called me. Krissy and I drove over the hill and they seemed to like one another just fine so I took him. It was obvious that his former owners had given him minimal care and training.

(Continued on page 10)

Tommy (Continued from page 9)



It doesn't matter that he's the dumbest dog you've ever met. If he's happy and enjoying life, that's all that counts.

When he entered his foster home, he was painfully thin at 55 pounds and his nails were overgrown.

It turned out that he really wasn't housebroken, either.

Tommy was incredibly cute with a wonderfully sweet disposition, but that's about it. The first time I opened the car door for him and said "Load up," he just looked blankly at me, as if saying "You want me to do what?"

It took him a full week to learn to use the dog door. All the other dogs had learned it in four or five cookies. He had to be reminded to sit for every treat. He learned nothing from Krissy. He never responded to her play overtures. He didn't know how to play with toys. He didn't retrieve balls. He wasn't particularly good on a leash. He paced continually around the house. But he was very sweet.

My vet diagnosed him with canine cognitive dysfunction, and we tried an expensive drug to treat it, but it didn't make much difference and so I discontinued it.

Tommy, like Yankee before him, hadn't had much affection lavished on him in his life before NGRR came to his rescue.

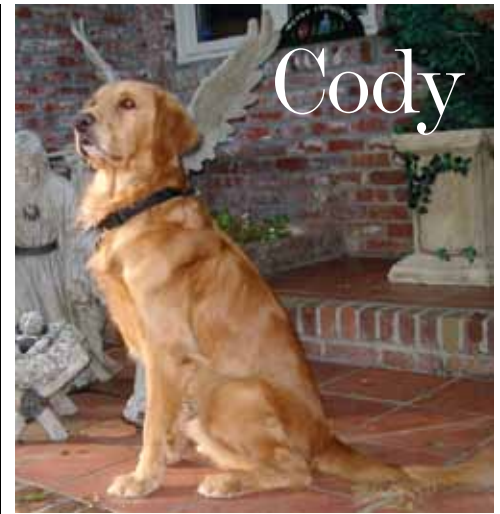
And Tommy, like Yankee, soaked it up. So, on second thought, he did have other assets. He loved being

petted, brushed, and having his cheeks scratched. He enjoyed going to the groomer. He loved his food until the last week of his life when he became a picky eater. He loved to lie on his back and wiggle around to find just the perfect spot to fix that itch.

And maybe, just maybe, when we think about successful adoptions, we really ought to look at these simple things – a dog that feels secure and loved, enjoys life on his own terms, and always, always stops to smell the flowers on his walks around the neighborhood. It doesn't really matter in the long run if he doesn't know his commands or how to play. It doesn't matter that he's the dumbest dog you've ever met. If he's happy and enjoying life, that's all that counts.

Tommy developed a large, inoperable tumor on his liver and went to the Rainbow Bridge to meet Wuffy, Dusty, Rusty, Charlie, and Yankee in May, munching happily on his favorite Charlee Bear treats until the very end.

We miss you, sweet boy. 🐾



Thank you to Mickey and Rita Bonasera for submitting this.

As I look through the recent NGRR newsletter, I ask myself, what words can I say about our Cody boy that would communicate any differently the emotion that is already conveyed on these pages?

I see pictures of beautiful Golden Retrievers – youngsters and seniors – with their loved ones, either resting, sleeping, or playing. The stories accompanying those photos all have a common thread: love. My words are not unique. They only reinforce what is already written on these pages.

Our dear Cody boy died recently at the age of 13 ½ years. We were truly blessed to have had him for 9 years. He embodied the qualities that our family especially needed when he came into our lives. The love and joy we gave each other grew year after year. How ironic that the picture shown here (that I was able to take by chance) captures what he meant to us. He was truly our angel, loved by all who knew him, both canine and human. Our story of love is no different than the scores of other stories by Golden families; only the details and circumstances vary. The bond of love and the heartache of loss are universally felt by those who love their Golden Retrievers. But how lucky are we to know that there is another Golden somewhere waiting to join us and the spirit of our previous family of Golden Retrievers? The love and happiness that comes with a Golden trumps the heartache of loss every time. 🐾

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 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.

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 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.ngrr.org.

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.ngrr.org.)

HANDS-ON DOG WORK

- Area Coordinator
- Area Assistant
 - Foster Care
 - Home Visits
 - Shelter Checks
 - Transportation
- Senior Golden Retrievers Program

FUNDRAISING

- Grant/Letter Writing
- Event Coordinator/Assistant/Helpers
- Wag 'n' Walk
- Order Fulfillment
- Catalog

OPERATIONS

- Volunteer Coordinator
- Transportation Coordinator

PUBLIC OUTREACH & EDUCATION

- Newsletter (and other literature)
- Web Programming Assistant
- 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

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

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

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Menlo Park, CA 94025-5240**

**Hotline: (650) 615-6810
Website: www.ngrr.org**

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VICE PRESIDENT
Amanda Schaffner

TREASURER
Dave Ball

SECRETARY
Marilyn Ormond

DIRECTORS FOR APRIL 1, 2014 TO MARCH 31, 2015 TERM

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Dave Ball
Liz Berry
Judy Guild

Jeanne Hanlon
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Dog Inventory RecordsNancy Fedders
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www.ngrr.org
Stay up-to-date on our website!

Need for Foster Homes

Have you ever considered being a foster home? Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue is in need of temporary foster homes for Goldens that come into our system. If you would like to foster, even for a short period of time, please go to our website www.ngrr.org, click on the "Volunteer" tab, and complete the online foster application, which will go directly to your county's Area Coordinator.

All our foster families provide a safe and loving environment until our dogs find their forever family. We particularly need foster homes for dogs with unique needs:

- Bonded pairs
- Dogs with medical challenges
- Homes without other dogs or cats
- Dogs needing to be socialized
- Hospice care

Please consider opening your home to one or more of our foster dogs.