

NORCAL Golden Retriever RESCUE



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

VOLUME XVII, ISSUE NO. 2 ~ FALL 2011

SILENT & LIVE AUCTION

FINE ART

EXCEPTIONAL WINES

OUTSTANDING HOLIDAY GIFTS

GIFT CERTIFICATES

WEEKEND TRIPS

AND SO MUCH MORE!

**RAFFLE DRAWING
FOR \$10,000!!**

APPETIZERS & GOODIES

All net profits from the auction and raffle go toward our medical care expenses. Even if you can't join us for the event, please consider a donation. Thank you in advance!!



**The Auction
is Back!!!**



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2011

MILL VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER

180 Camino Alto, Mill Valley, CA 94941

Sorry, humans only please ☺

\$40 donation includes wine OR beer tasting

\$50 donation includes wine AND beer tasting

- • • RSVP greatly appreciated (for headcount purposes) but also payable at the door.
- Please return the coupon below by mail, email your rsvp to shirleet1@yahoo.com, or follow the link on the events page at www.ngrr.org.

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☐ Yes, I will attend ☐ Yes, I will attend but will pay at the door

☐ Unfortunately, I cannot attend but please accept my tax-deductible gift of \$ _____

Name: _____ Name of guest(s): _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

No. of people attending _____ @ \$40.00 each = \$ _____

No. of people attending _____ @ \$50.00 each = \$ _____

Please make checks payable to **NORCAL GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE** or authorize a charge to your credit card below:

Credit card number – VISA or MASTERCARD

Expiration month/year

Signature

Print name as it appears on credit card

Mail back to:
NGRR – Auction
405 El Camino Real, Suite 420
Menlo Park, CA 94025
650.615.6810

Amos Made Our Family Whole Again

Thanks to Amanda and Glenn Schaffner for writing this story.

Last month we lost our beloved Golden, who we had loved for 12 years, to advanced arthritis. Our hearts were heavy and our house silent. We started the rescue adoption process with NGRR quickly as we suspected it might take a while to find a good match.

A Golden, male or female, 1 to 8-years-old, who likes a swimming pool, a large fenced in backyard, a mom and dad who work from home, long walks, ball throwing, and tons of hugs and kisses might be a hard find!

Within a week we were matched with Ambrose who was an 8-month old bundle of energy and love. He had passed the cat test at the foster home, but unfortunately not in our home where he was convinced that our blind, deaf, and toothless cat was

up for a fun play time. Umm... definitely not. Ambrose was adopted out the next day to a great family with a stay at home mom and three kids. Perfect!

We told Shirlee at that point we were going to give it some time. Well, that lasted a week for me. As I explained to my husband, I did give it some time. I gave it a week. Smart man as he said, "well OK then."

Shirlee put me in touch with Jill, who had rescued this big 100-lb, 5-year-old blond boy from a man who "liked the bottle too much" and was homeless. We took Amos home the next day. He had a tumor on his hind leg so, a week after he came to our house and in conjunction with NGRR, we decided to have it removed and get a biopsy. We cried many happy tears when we heard "NO cancer!" In only two weeks he is the absolute love of our lives. We feel



like we've had him for years as he fits in so well and makes us laugh and smile all day. There is nothing better than waking up to hear the thud, thud, thud of the tail, the heavy breathing, and the enthusiasm of "hurry get up, it's another beautiful day so let's go play!"

We are so blessed to receive this wonderful gift! Thank you NGRR for all that you do and all that you give! 🐾

Lily and Lucy: The Golden Girls

Thanks to Dave Ball for writing this article.

It's February 2009 and Kathleen and I are sunbathing and reading at Kona Village when her email chirps with a message from Jill Morgan at NGRR. We had contacted Jill to let her know we wanted to adopt two Goldens – preferably siblings. Jill had just rescued Lily and Lucy from a hoarding situation in the Central Valley. They were living with five other dogs and 20 cats in a one-bedroom home! Their owner advertised them on Craig's List stating she could no longer afford to feed them. They were 1-year-old and weighed about 50 pounds (15-20 pounds underweight). Lily had already had a litter fathered by a Great Dane. Jill included pictures in her email and we immediately fell in love! We called her and asked her to keep the girls for us until we returned from vacation – she agreed.

(Continued on page 5)



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Woof, Wine & Brew Event

Norcal's premier wine and art auction is back – with a twist! Mark your calendar for November 5th and join us at our Woof, Wine & Brew event.

Fine wines for your tasting pleasure will be served up from Sonoma, Napa, El Dorado, Placer and San Joaquin counties. Some of our favorites from Mutt Lynch, Long Meadows Ranch and Philip Staley are ready to be uncorked. The twist this year is the addition of microbrews. Come and enjoy a variety of beer from Drakes, Moylan's, Broken Drum, Lagunitas, and Lockdown breweries. Plus sample the great appetizers

and goodies available for you throughout the afternoon.

If you have an item to donate to the auction such as a stay at your Tahoe cabin, beach house, jewelry, or anything (object or service) or you would like to volunteer to help the Woof be the most amazing successful event yet – please let us know! Don't be shy – ask your favorite restaurant, hotel, B&B, or yacht captain – maybe they will donate? Just ask, it won't hurt a bit! You can contact Shirlee Thomas at 916-727-7068 or email her at shirleet1@yahoo.com if you have any questions.



Aquadog Changed Buddy's Life

Thank you Ron & Cathy Jacob for writing this article

My wife and I were interested in bringing a dog into our family and were looking at the NGRR website. We put our name in for a number of dogs, but they were all adopted by their foster families. Until Buddy. Buddy was the dog no one wanted.

Buddy had a rough start to his life. He was purchased from a questionable breeder by a couple who probably should never have owned a dog. Among other things, Buddy was mainly kept in the garage. One day, he suffered some trauma to his front left leg. X-rays showed his leg was damaged but treatable. His owners decided to do nothing. As a result, Buddy ended up lame, with a malformed leg. Fortunately for Buddy, his owners decided to give him up to the Rescue Group about 6 months later.

His picture and story were posted, and he touched our hearts. We adopted him. At that point, he was 11 months old and the effects from the injury were permanent. He did not use the leg very much just held it up off the ground. An orthopedic specialist recommended amputation.

Amputation of a front leg at such an early age is quite serious. Since he did not appear to be in pain, we looked for other solutions. My wife thought water therapy would be beneficial and looked online for places that offered it for dogs. Enter Aquadog. We talked to the owner, Connie Frank, and decided to give it a try.

The very first time Buddy saw the pool, he didn't know what was going on. His roots as a water dog were not apparent. He had to be picked up and carried in. But once he learned that he could swim after tennis balls, nothing could keep him out. He loves it! It is easily his favorite activity. And very quickly we saw results. The muscles that



had atrophied in his shoulder and upper leg were built up again. He started being able to put his weight on his left leg. He started using his leg, just like other dogs.

We were impressed with how Connie worked with Buddy. As a trained therapist, she knew what exercises and movements would benefit Buddy and Buddy clearly loved Connie and the pool.

Buddy is now 5-years-old and is doing fine. He is the most spoiled dog in the world, though I know others might say their dog holds that position. We continue to go to Aquadog, focusing more on maintenance and cardiovascular health. During the time we have been going, we have seen many other pets benefit from water therapy. We recommend Connie and Aquadog to any dog owners who feel their pet may benefit from water therapy. 🐾

Connie Frank of Aquadog in San Jose can be contacted at (408) 472-6631.



I'm a Lucky Dog

Thanks to Lacey Judd for writing her own story and submitting it. Good doggy!

Many dogs are born under a lucky star but not me. I was a puppy mill puppy who became a breeder. All I did was live in a kennel and have puppies. When I was 3 years old, I was pregnant with my 4th litter. No one noticed that all the puppies had died inside me; probably from malnutrition. Who knows but when Jill Morgan took all of us away from the puppy mill, it was quickly discovered that I was in serious trouble. After undergoing a D & C, and the removal of all my baby making equipment, I was

healthy enough to go to my forever home. This is when my luck changed because I went to the best home ever. I was so afraid of everything. The television, the dog in the mirror, the refrigerator door, the broom, the car and of not getting enough food. It was such a scary big old world but my new Mom would love me and tell me it was okay and soon it really was. I have a forever sister who also is an NGRR rescue and she taught me so much. She even taught me how to bark and believe me living on a ranch in Sonoma County a dog needs to know that!!!!!! Now that I have learned how to "load up" in the car, I go to fun places like the beach, the lake and even up to our cabin near Tahoe-Donner. I love it up there so much. I play



in the lake, the creeks and run like the wind with my sister. We have so much fun. I never knew that life was this good. I love it all but especially my snuggle time. I love to snuggle. Thank you everyone for making my life such a pleasure. I would love to thank each of you personally with a big, wet kiss but a huge thank you will have to do. So thank you from the bottom of my heart! 🐾

2nd Annual Los Gatos K9 Cancer Walk – OCT. 9, 2011, VASONA LAKE PARK, LOS GATOS


Join the team of Golden Retrievers To the Rescue as we plant our feet firmly on the ground and walk with hundreds of people to fight cancer.

The Morris Animal Foundation needs our help to fund the research that will one day find a cure and end the devastation of cancer in our canine family members. The science behind the fight is not limited to our canine pals, but flows over into our human lives. Many of the research studies success has turned into cures, treatments, or prevention in the war against human cancers.

Last year our amazing Golden team was #1 – we raised over \$6,000. Let's do it again. Please help NGRR help Morris to put an end to the nightmare of cancer in our dogs. The statistics are hard to hear, but you must know so you understand why we ask for your support. Today, 63% of Golden Retrievers over the age of TWO, will die with a diagnosis of cancer.

If you can't walk with us in body – join us in spirit and make a donation to the team in honor of your best friend at your feet or in memory of one lost. Rally the troops, have a bake sale, ask your

vet or groomer to sponsor you!

Sign up today at www.k9cancerwalk.org and look for our team – Golden Retrievers To the Rescue! If you have any questions, give team captain Shirlee Thomas a call at 916-727-7068 or by email at shirleet1@yahoo.com. 



Ralph: 13 ½ and Cuter than Ever

Thanks to Apryl von Arlt for submitting this.

I love old dogs. Taking in senior dogs allows me to teach my kids by example compassion, the responsibility of living with pet, and how to care for others. With old dogs, they are additionally learning that you don't throw something (or someone) away just because it's no longer shiny and new.

Ralph came to us after having been surrendered to a shelter at 11 ½ years old. He was in sorry shape. Due to long-term neglect, he had very low thyroid levels and a chronic skin condition. His tail was bald, he had no energy, and suffered from itchy, infected skin.


He also had a condition that made it hard for him to breathe when it was hot or he exerted himself. (The vet suspects it's a build up of scar tissue from a de-barking procedure.) Having originally come from Nevada, he made a second journey from the heat of Modesto to the cool climate of San Francisco. Given his age and medical condition we figured this was most likely a hospice placement.

After taking him in, we discovered a host of other health issues: bells palsy, limited vision, limited hearing (this later turned out to be selective hearing), weakness in his hind quarters, an old lick granuloma on his front leg, a pronounced limp in his front leg (I lovingly call it a 'hitch in his giddy up'), and the beginnings of dementia. Despite all this, he was beautiful to us.



After getting his thyroid stabilized and making progress on his skin condition, a new Ralph emerged – a naughty one, whom I would find on more than one occasion standing on my dining room table. Not bad for an old guy!

There have been some setbacks in his health, of course. Whenever his thyroid levels drop, his skin condition and ear infections flare up, his energy plummets and we fear the end is near. His thyroid meds have been increased so frequently that he receives the highest dosage my vet has ever prescribed. But our biggest scare was when Ralph started urinating in the house. The vet found a greatly enlarged prostate and suspicious masses in his testicles. Whereas before we had declined to neuter him due to the risk of anesthesia on an 11 yr old dog, now there was no option. We prepared ourselves that he might not survive the surgery and even if he did, it was likely to be testicular cancer. The surgery went fine, and after a few worrisome days we were relieved to learn that the masses were benign tumors and the vet expected a full recovery.

We've had him two years now, much longer than we expected, and have loved every day of it. Old dogs teach you to measure a life in terms of quality of days, not quantity. Ralph gets cuter every day and we love him a little bit more. His youth might have consisted of living in a yard with little human contact or vet care, but his old age will be filled with fluffy dog beds, good food, and a whole family of people who dote on him. 

Bailey, Senior Super Dog

Thanks to Loretta Miller for writing this article

When I sold my home in Los Gatos last year I was able to buy a place in Citrus Heights with not only a pool, but half an acre for my Golden, Beau, to run in. Another plus was I was just a mile or two from my good friend, Shirlee Thomas, who is always neck-deep in NGRR activities and rescues. Shirlee's home is a haven for hapless Golden Retrievers and rarely has fewer than two or three fosters in addition to her own three. But there is always another needing rescue, so when she told me she had to pick up a senior boy in Yuba City and was desperate for a foster, I said I would be happy to foster him. He was one of several dogs, one of which was constantly breeching the fence so all the dogs escaped. The owner finally rounded them all



up and dropped them at the shelter.

It is an understatement to say it was "love at first sight" when Shirlee returned from the Yuba City Shelter with Bailey. At 11+ years old, I was expecting a nice comfortable couch potato, but Bailey definitely didn't fit that mold. He was a tall, rangy redhead with the build of an athlete at a little over 80 lbs. He was also sweet and loving with an adoring white face and deep brown eyes. I soon learned he was a "ball nut" who would retrieve balls as long as you kept throwing them. He also loved to swim and went into the pool several times a day, either after a thrown ball or just to cool off. He was a strong, graceful swimmer and seemingly tireless. I got him on March 25th and by April I had signed the adoption contract. No question, he was a keeper!

I didn't really realize he was SUPER DOG until the Spring Fling put on by our Golden Retriever Meetup group in April. This is an event at Performance Dogs in Action, a 10+ acre home/farm/training facility for herding, agility, etc. It has grass, fields, animals of all kinds and, most important – if you're a golden retriever – a pond. All dogs are off leash to run, play, swim... well, you get the picture. Bailey was first into the pond, of course. And he wouldn't quit. He would dance, whine,



whatever it took to get someone to throw something, anything, in the pond so he could swim out and snag it and bring it back. This went on for about two hours, with no breaks except a 15 minute walk in a large field, and I started to worry he was going to wear himself out. He was the Energizer Bunny of the canine world. I finally left early to keep him from collapsing from exhaustion because I had no doubt he would not quit until he did.

In August we had another event at Performance Dogs, Summer Splash, and it was the same story. Senior Super Dog was at it again. I have witnessed some young, field trained Golden Retrievers in their prime with that amount of energy and dedication, but I never expected to see it in a Golden oldie going on 12. Many thanks to my friends and co-volunteers at NGRR for this amazing and irreplaceable addition to my wonderful Golden family. 🐾

Lily and Lucy

(Continued from page 2)

A friend offered to help me pick them up from Jill's home in Lodi so we drove over a day after our return from vacation. The girls hopped right in the car and headed for their forever home at The Sea Ranch. They are our fourth and fifth Golden Retrievers, all but one adopted through NGRR.

They are now 3-years-old, weigh 65 pounds and, according to our vet, are in perfect health. Lucy is a redhead and her sister is blond. They have loads of energy, love to wrestle and play fight with each other, and are very bonded. If you're worried about litter mates bonding with you, don't. They bonded with us right away and love to be with us. They take long walks with us every morning and afternoon, and play together or nap the rest of the day. Our local boarding kennel is a happy place to go when we travel.

Both girls have to stay on leash outside of the house. They've gotten away from me three times resulting in a frantic search of the neighborhood. Once we found them happily eating dog biscuits from a Sea Ranch security guard! Lucy decided to take off the night

before we left on a three week vacation. That was a little hairy but fortunately we found her in a few minutes.

Lily wants lots of attention and petting. She believes she is a lapdog and will climb in our laps given any opportunity. When she is ready to get up in the morning she puts her paws on Kathleen's side of the bed as if to say "let's get another great day started!" Lucy is quieter but equally loving. She follows Lily's lead in playtime. The girls then race through the house sending the rugs into heaps – great fun.

We have been blessed with our Golden Retrievers and these two are no exception. They became members of our pack very quickly, are remarkably well trained given the situation they came from, and we look forward to many, many years of their companionship.

Our first rescue Golden, Chester, had been running in the countryside for several weeks before he was saved by NGRR. He was food aggressive for a year and loved to find ways out of our backyard in Los Altos. He was found outside the local doughnut shop one day begging for goodies! Maui, our second rescue, was in love with tennis balls. He thought it was great fun to swim for them in the Gualala River. Both boys lived over 12 years and loved living at The Sea Ranch. 🐾

IN TRIBUTE

In Thanks to All who donate through their work and denote Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue as their charity of choice!

In Honor of "Bello" Breimhorst
"Happy Birthday, little Bello! Hope you enjoyed your first year of life!"
Donated with loved by Sharon Breimhorst

"A donation to honor my son, Peter FitzGerald, on his birthday."
Lovingly donated by Mildred FitzGerald

In Honor of "Savannah"
"April 24th is the anniversary of my adoption of Savannah. She is no longer with me, however, I will always celebrate her arrival into my life and remember the wonderful rescue organization that brought her to me."
Lovingly donated by Tracey Robin

In Honor of "Avalon"
Who donated her winnings from the "Shameless Doggie Diva" contest.
"On behalf of Buffy, my dog, Avalon and myself thank you, for the fine work you do."
Donation by Deborah Maturi

In Honor of "Hayden" and "all his brothers and sisters over the year."
Donated with love by Leslie Lighthouse

In Honor of "Morgan"
"Morgan is such a very cool dog and I am sure he's going to be a great addition to our family. We appreciate what you do for Goldens and for families like our. All of your time and support really means a lot to us."
Donation by Jim, Gina, Carly, Zach & "Morgan" Miller

In Honor of "Riley" and "Nelson"
Lovingly donated by Carol Brown

In Honor of "Sierra"
"Sierra is almost 10, but still active and a great bed companion."
Cherished by Mason Wallace

In Honor of Howard Guild
Donation by Mary Ellen Gilliatt

In Honor of Sylvia Donahey
"Thank you mamma, Sylvia, for my great home! I can't believe a year has gone by."
Lots of love and kisses from "Hoshi" Wallace

In Thanks to EVERYONE who donates to Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue through their employee programs and the United Way.

"Today is my 4th happy anniversary with my forever family in my loving and wonderful home. So this comes with heartfelt appreciation from me and my 'parents' – Arthur and Joy."
Luv and licks from "Rusty" Sacco

"Happy Birthday to Andrea Burling!"
Andrea asked her parents, Burt & Rita Seidner, to make a donation to NGRR in lieu of a birthday gift. Thank YOU, Andrea!

In Honor of "Bella"
In Thanks to Kristine Williams and Kevin O'Grady
"Every day we are so thankful and blessed to have our Golden girl, 'Bella.' She needed a good home and we needed her in our life. She is a joy. Thanks again to Kristine Williams in Truckee and Kevin O'Grady in Gardnerville for contacting us about Bella. Thanks for all that you do for Goldens!"
Donation by Irene Babcock & George Drews

In Honor of Pat Lynch
Donation by Linda Canaan

In Honor of Barbara and Roger's Marriage
"I could not think of a wedding present you would appreciate more than a donation to such a worthwhile cause like Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue!"
Donation by Tony Panariello

Happy Birthday wishes are sent to Sharon McConnell!
Donation by Kimberly Daly

In Thanks to Nikole Godoy from Torani for her donation!

In Thanks to NGRR and Shirlee Thomas
"Thank you for the opportunity to adopt my sweet Gracie. Last year on May 2nd, I met 'Mimi' and fell in love. Her name and our lives were changed that day. She is the joy of my life."
Donation by Mary Miles

In Honor of Sue Wilson
Donation by Jeanette Rose

Happy Birthday to Sue Wilson
"CHEERS!"
Donation by Michelle Fox

In Thanks to Felix Yeung
Felix participated in the Lexis/Nexis Customer Innovation Team program and chose Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue as his choice charity to receive a generous donation!

In Honor of "Quincy"
In thanks for your help and support in our search for a rescued Golden. We have been thrilled with 'Quincy' as he has most definitely become our new and cherished family member."
Loved by Joe, Vicki, Melissa, Angela, Alyson, Meghan & "Quincy" Perna

In Thanks to Ken Blanchard for donating his earnings as an AKC Obedience judge.

"We dig big 'Rig'!"
"In honor of Rig's Master Hunter title. He is a true master in the field!"
Loved and trained by Nancy Corbin
Donation by Laurie & Mark Berman

In Honor of "Freddie"
In Memory of "Sneakers"
"Both Sneakers and Freddie, wonderful senior Goldens, were adopted from NGRR."
Donation by Marla Miyashiro

In Honor of Sue Wilson's Birthday
Donation by Isobel & Herman Christensen

In Thanks to Kathy Quiroz
In Memory of "Hank"
In Honor of "Wilson"
"When Hank passed away on May 21, 2011 a huge hole was left, and Kathy helped us find Wilson (aka Aspen), who has brought smiles and warmth into our home again. She is amazing, as anyone who has worked with her can attest. It is just a way to say thank you to Kathy, say our goodbyes to Hank, and a huge welcome to Wilson."
Donation by Laurie & Rich Bassin

In Honor of "Daisy"
"Daisy, Happy 14th Birthday and Happy 13th Anniversary of your adoption. I am so grateful to love this sweet girl each and every day!"
Donation by Daisy's mom, Louise Korn

In Thanks to Loretta Miller for requesting that her Golden babysitting fees be donated to NGRR. Thanks to the Byers, too.

"With gratitude for our beloved Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue Golden girl, 'Francis' (previously known as Summer)."
Ever thankful – Greg & Candace Osborn and "Franciepants"

"Happy Birthday, Sue!!!"
Donation by Sandy Gregory

In Memory of Sally Gunderson
Donation by SeeSaw Networks

In Memory of Barbara Huebner
"Barbara so loved her two Golden, brothers 'Riley' and 'Nelson' that she refused to succumb to her illness until she had placed them in your care. You successfully placed them together. Thank you for your efforts on their behalf. Please continue your good works."
Donation by Patricia Dowling

In Memory of Ron G. Snyder
"Ron was our good, great buddy. 'Daisy Mae,' his Golden Retriever, will be of great comfort to his wife, Shirley during the following months."
Donation by Gail & Jon Sandham

In Loving Memory of "Tobey" and "Taylor"
"Our perfect Golden."
Lovingly donated by Anne & Ken Lawler

In Memory of Ron Snyder
"Our friends, Ron and Shirley, have loved their beautiful Golden, 'Daisy.' She was a great comfort to them while Ron was sick and now that he is gone she is good company to Shirley and a loving furry friend to all who visit her. Thank you for all of your good work and please accept this donation in loving memory of our dear friend, Ron Snyder."
Donation by Vicki & Bruce Wiedmer

In Memory of "Lacey Lei" and "Luieie"
"They both left us this year."
Loved and missed by Norma Moore

In Memory of "Shadow"
Loved by Jim & Debi Leonardini

In Memory of "Goldie" Winston
"There is a special place in heaven for our granddog!"
Cherished and missed by Barbara, Michael & Apryl Winston
Donation by Dianed & Dick Bolz

In Loving Memory of "Dreyfus" and his kitty brother, "Johnny"
"Our hearts are aching for you in the loss of your two furry babies. How very wonderful it was to share their beautiful lives with you. Please know how deeply we care."
Missed and loved by Sue & Steve Salnick
Donation by Karin & Steven Chase and kitty, "Hamilton"

In Memory of "Pete"
"Such a sweet boy, we will miss him."
Loved by Gus Sousoures
Donated with love by Louise, Terry, Masuo, Tom, Hanna, Rorie & Magic

In Memory of "Clark" Kauffman
"Clark was not a 'rescued dog' – but a specialty trained dog to be placed with persons with physical challenges. Clark found a home not with people of special needs but with a loving family. His life was too short. He brought much happiness to the family he lived with. He will be missed."
Loved by the Rennis Kauffman Family
Donation by Mary & Lewis Kauffman

In Memory of "Marty"
Loved by Debbie & Jeff Lucchesi
Donation by Yvonne Hunter

In Memory of "Murphy"
Cherished and missed by Marie Lindaas
Donation by Carol & Allan Porter

In Memory of Anne G. Mauro
Donation by Kathleen P. Cush

In Memory of Ron Snyder
Donation with sympathy, Jan Dreyer

In Loving Memory of "Charlie"
Cherished by Charlie's Family
Donation by Flo & Don Kristofferson

In Memory of Ch. Jimmy "Coco Pop"
"Our little rebel without a cause. Granny's beautiful boy."
Loved and missed by Marsha & Jim Dandridge
Donated with love by Debbie & Mike Claussen

In Loving Memory of "Kevlar"
"Kevlar was the beloved friend and pet of John, Susan and Mylar."
Lovingly missed by the Callahan's
Donation by Joyce Shiarella

In Memory of Anna Mauro
"Anna passed away on February 3, 2011."
Donation by Lois G. Berg

In Memory of Senior Hunter, "Skippy"
"Hunter extraordinaire, best friend of the little Senor – a gentle, wonderful, boy."
Loved and missed by Jan Teichman
Donation by Debbie & Mike Claussen

In Memory of "River"
In Memory of "Sophie"
"The two grande dames at the Miskelly household. Our sweet, old gals."
Missed and loved by Dale Miskelly
Donation by Debbie & Mike Claussen

In Memory of Ch. "Rhett"
"A perfect loving boy, always the perfect gentleman and my son-in-law."
Loved and missed by Robin Baker
Donated with love by Debbie & Mike Claussen

In Memory of "Marty"
"Marty was loved and is missed by Debbie and Jeff. He touched many. Marty especially loved his calendar shot. Thank you Debbie, Jeff and Chana for giving Marty such a wonderful life."
Cherished and loved by the Lucchesi's
Donation by Justine & Jim Eller

In Memory of Sharlene Surprise Hays
Donation by David Lindsay

In Memory of "Murphy"
"Murphy, 'Wonder Dog,' you are so missed by Marie, Greg, and all those that you touched. You were such an NGRR spokes-Golden, going to all those house visits and helping to place so many other wonderful Golden. You are dearly missed."
Loved and treasured by Marie & Greg Veatch
Donation by Justine & Jim Eller

In Memory of Anna Govern Mauro
"In memory of Anna and a life lived well... you will live on in the wonderful memories of you but you will be missed terribly by your wonderful family and friends!"
Donation by Barbara Michalick

In Memory of "Marty"
Eternally loved by Debbie & Jeff Lucchesi
Donation by Inge Lehmann

In Memory of my beloved "Kayla"
"I was fortunate to get Kayla through NGRRescue 8 years ago when she was 2. She was the most gentle, sweetest girl in the world, and she has left a big hole in my heart. Thank you for all the wonderful work that you do and for allowing me to share in Kayla's life."
Loved by Vicki Ratner

In Memory of "Millie"
"I am so glad I got to meet Millie. What a privilege to provide a loving home for her. I wanted to thank you with a gift to NGRR. I think the greatest gift of all is your work with NGRR."
Lovingly missed by Judy & Howard Guild
Donation by Susan Wiedeman

In Memory of Anna Mauro
Donation by Janetha Dunahoe

In Memory of Beatrice Korn
"In loving memory of my mother, 'B'...a lover of dogs her whole long life."
Missed and loved by Louise Korn

In Memory of Bruce Goronsky
Donation by Bobby Levin

IN MEMORIAM

In Memory of Bruce Garonsky
"In loving memory of a great guy."
Donation by Bob Carr

In Memory of "Maggie"
"Maggie was my sister's beloved family 'girl,' who went over the Rainbow Bridge after a wonderful 13 years, post cancer. She's gone on to join Macy."
Donation by Betsy & Patrick Kelly
Lovingly missed by Judy & Arthur Miller

In Memory of Ron Snyder
Donation by Shari & Myron Bowman

In Memory of "Pumpkin"
January 23, 1997 – March 31, 2011
"He will be missed by many."
Loved by Nancy Kivelson and Tom Angstadt

In Memory of "Sandi"
"We will miss our sweet Sandi and never forget our fun-filled overnights, lazy days together, and happy meetings at the fence!"
Cherished and loved by the Janz Family
Donation by Margaret Lynch

In Memory of William De Mattei
"In loving memory of your Dad, Willie."
Donation by Lynne & Jerry Lewis

In Memory of Ron Snyder
Donation by Roxy & Allan Games

In Memory of "Ribbon"
"She was beautiful, joyful, gentle, playful – a perfect example of loving faithfulness. I am privileged to have her litter sister, 'Ruffles.' She has been a blessing from God."
Loved by Janet & Bill Hellums
Donation by Marge Gentner

In Memory of Bruce Goronsky
"Bruce and his wife, Louise, have adopted 3 dogs from NGRR."
Donation by Brian Bender, Robert Simon, Richard Neely, Scott Evans, Robert Michel-son, Brian Gross.

In Memory of "Boomer"
Cherished by Donna & George Harbacek

In Memory of Janet L. Root
Donation by Joan Lawson

In Memory of Ann Mauro
Donation by Pamela & Larry Sauer

In Memory of "Murphy"
"Murphy was our dear friend's wonderful dog, Coach Kelson. We are here for you with all of our love and sympathy!"
Missed and cherished by Amanda Kelson
Lovingly donated by Sabrina Fani & Josh Jacobs

In Memory of "Ribbon"
"A huge void is left in the Hellum's family by the loss of Ribbon, a beautiful girl inside and out. She was a top-notch baseball retriever plus a patient and loving companion. To watch her compete in the obedience ring brought joy and pride to all who loved her. She will be missed by all of us, but most of all by Janet, her loving trainer and constant companion. You almost made 13 years, Ribbon Girl!"
Loved by Janet & Bill Hellums
Lovingly remembered by Tamra & Ken Howard

In Memory of "Hampton"
"Hampton was a special Golden. He loved people and the neighborhood loved him. His friendly greeting would most always receive a happy response. The staff at our animal hospital and day care considered him one of their own. His final visit turned into an impromptu memorial among the staff."
Loved by Richard Daily

In Memory of Anna Govern Mauro
"In memory of a kind person, who always spoke of and showed her love for her Goldens."
Donation by Sylvia & Duff Lundy

In Memory of "Monarch"
"Monarch will always be in our hearts and memories."
Cherished and missed by Bob Hofstadt
Lovingly donated by Laurie Ghielmetti & Kelley Matusiak

In Memory of "Shasta" Hancock Bourland
"In memory of sweet Shasta, who I loved."
Loved and missed by Becky Hancock & Gary Bourland
Donation by Sheilah Bitterman

In Memory of "Ribbon"
Tamerlans Ready For Ribbons UDX
"Ribbon was my ever beautiful Golden who radiated daily her steadfast love, animation, extreme confidence, enthusiasm and intelligence no matter what paths we traveled – obedience showing, an amazing, popular therapy dog creating wellness to shut-ins and at hospitals, from 4 months on, cheerfully modeling for L.L. Bean catalogues and her breed calendars year after year, demonstrating for my dog training classes, and the faithful best friend to our grandsons. Oh, Ribbon, I miss you so! We had an amazing emotional bond and you have left a huge void in my life! There will never be another like you. Someday I hope this terrible aching heart knows some peace. Meanwhile, your spirit of ribbons of love will remain with me forever."
Lovingly missed by Janet Hellums

In Memory of "Monarch"
Sherwood Centennial Supreme Ruler
"May all the fun times and many memories keep Monarch alive in your hearts forever. You were all blessed to have found each other."
Devotedly loved by Bob Hofstadt & Jamie O'Donnell
Donation by All at Shears & Window

In Memory of "Sassy"
"...my forever dog."
Cherished and loved by Pat Blossom

In Memory of "Monarch" Hofstadt
"We wish Monarch lots of treats, tail wagging and scratches behind the ears for all the joy he brought to everyone's life."
Loved by Bob Hofstadt
Donation by Everyone at Dennis & Leen/Formations

In Honor of Thelma Claytor
Patricia Freddie's Mother
"My thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time."
Donation by Rachel Bobroff

In Memory of "Lucky"
"Lucky was our greatest and most loving Golden Retriever for the past 10 years. We will remember you forever!"
Loved and missed by Chi-Kai Kuo and family

In Memory of Jody Stiely and her loving "Sunny"
Lovingly cherished by her dad, Bruce Stiely

In Memory of "Boone"
"Boone was a sweet Golden Retriever that loved to swim."
Loved by Ms. Kathryn Taylor & Mr. Rick Drucco
Donation by Cathy & Ron Jacob

In Memory of Frieda Wilson
"...a great supporter of Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue and the mother of Jeff Wilson."
Donation by Marilyn & Bob Ormond

In Loving Memory of "Timber"
Lovingly donated by Gretchen & Craig Veteran

In Memory of "Max"
"Fourteen years ago, I was lucky enough to adopt a beautiful 1 ½ year old boy through NGRR. Today, I had the unhappy decision to help him leave this life for the next. My heart is heavy but I realize it was the last thing that I could give him. Thank you for all of the good work you do."
Loved and achingly missed by Kathleen Keller

In Memory of "Katie"

"Katie was a beautiful Golden and member of a loving family."
Cherished by the Graves Family
Donation by Ann & C. Lawrence Graves

In Memory of "Sunny"

"Sunny was the companion of our friend, Mary."
Loved by Mary Alexander
Donation by Michele Egan & Mike McCabe

In Memory and In Honor of "Laddie"

"Ron and Cathy only had Laddie 4 days before it was medically necessary to euthanize him. They still wanted to officially adopt him which was their plan all along."
Loved by Cathy & Ron Jacob

In Memory of Carol Robins Flores

"Carol was a devoted NGRR volunteer who was the Santa Cruz county Area Coordinator for many years. She fostered innumerable dogs and placed them in loving homes, and her love for all animals was truly as unconditional as the love they returned to her."
Donation by Suzanne Krakover-Nickel

In Memory of "Buddy"

"Buddy was a great neighbor, friend, and special member of the wonderful family who gave him his forever home."
Loved by the Tashima Family
Donation by Denise Sprague

In Memory of "Sunny"

Treasured and loved by Mary Alexandre
Donation by Joan Egan

In Memory of "Skye"

"I know Skye was a good friend and will be dearly missed. XO."
Loved by Kevin & Amanda Kaffei

In Memory of "Max" Dworkin

"Max was a special friend and will be terribly missed."
Missed by Mr. & Mrs. Peter Dworkin
Donation by Joey Escobedo and Family

In Memory of "Macey"

"Out of all the Golden's I have had you are the most special one. Every time I went somewhere you heard the jingle of my keys and were at the door barking because you wanted to jump into the truck. Now there is a huge void to fill. In the last weeks, looking into your eyes, I could tell you knew it was time to go. Cross over the bridge, Sweetheart, and be free again. I love you. You have been the best."
Loved and missed by Bill Ingham

In Memory of Adam Richter

"NGRR will always remember this sweet boy and his Golden."

In Memory of Karen Lindstrom

Donation by Linda Hazirjian of Aquinna Golden's

In Memory of "Cassie"

"Cassie was a very sweet Golden belonging to our daughter, Catherine's family."
Donation by the Jeremy Wire Family

In Memory of "Regis"

"Our family was so lucky to have you in our lives for 10 years. We carry your memory in our hearts."
Lovingly the Wright Family

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.

Ah Layla!

Thanks to Joellen (Krasnobrod) Church for writing this.

I adopted Gia, now Layla, when she was 6 months old. Her owner had purchased Layla at a pet store...who can resist a Golden puppy? Alas, the puppy grew and the owner, not ready for her size, kept her 24/7 in a kennel, in her apartment. When Layla was rescued, she was apparently covered in fleas from head to toe and her Norcal Rescuer named her "Stinkpot." Luckily, Layla's previous owner had spent time carrying Layla around in her arms like a baby because this is what Layla loves most: being held and cuddled, and being with people.

Layla's new home has a big backyard and a view of the Eastern Sierras where we have spent many hours hiking and

swimming in the mountain lakes, and cross country skiing in the winter snows. She still looks at clouds as though they are the most amazing thing ever, and fallen leaves fluttering by in the wind are magic and the best toys to chase!

It took a good six months before Layla truly bonded with me. But she has become my shadow and is the cuddliest, happiest, sweetest and devious Golden I have ever met! Any body of water is her swimming pool. My favorite thing that she does is in the morning, when the alarm goes off, she jumps from the floor and lands perfectly in the small of my back my back, leans her head over my neck and licks my face awake!

This winter I found out that I had breast cancer. I am not sure how she knows, but my Layla is all of a sudden my caretaker instead of visa-versa. She keeps me laughing and in touch with what is important. She means everything to me. 🐾



Parvo Puppies: Volunteers to the Rescue

Thanks to Shirlee Thomas for submitting this article.

On Saturday, August 27, we got the call, and we rallied the troops. Parvo.

Fosters are the most amazing people. They open their doors to dogs with no manners, stinking to high heaven, infested with fleas, lumps, bumps, warts and all. But Parvo? Really? Who in their right mind opens their door to that? NGRR volunteers do.

It was a flurry of phone calls and who knows who that can do what and for how long and when and what is needed and coordinated and... just get the babies to safety. Get these four 9-week-old babies to safety.

It's not important where they came from. It's not important how they got parvo. They are Golden puppies that needed our help to survive. We answered the call with, "Yes, we can help."

Nine puppies in the litter and five were down hard with parvo. Four so far were doing well and not showing any symptoms. We were asked to take the four, three boys and a girl, and get them to a safe place, away from the contaminated environment.

Where would we put these pups? We all have multiple dogs in our homes. How could we isolate them and watch them 24/7 to catch



the first sign of anything going wrong? We called around to our faithful and asked everyone to spread the word, "we need help immediately." Then there was Heather and then came Barbara. Two people that, years ago, decided caring for animals was their calling. Both of these ladies are vet techs. How lucky could we get?

Heather Badin has a dog walking/sitting business in Roseville, www.yourpawpal.com. She has donated her time to help our Shadow shed some of his pounds. We gave Heather a call to see if she knew anyone that didn't have a dog that would be willing and able to care for these pups, after all,

we knew she was a vet tech so we hoped she would have some contacts in the business. So far, the pups were in good shape, but anything could happen – only time and isolation would tell. Without a second thought Heather said, "Yes, me!" No problem, she says, been there, done that, got it. Within a few hours she had four Golden pups on her doorstep. Heather quickly assessed the puppies' wellbeing and was very concerned about one of the boys. He was immediately removed from the group and isolated. By morning it was clear he was going down. We had to get him away from the three other pups still doing well. He was going to need round the clock care.



Barbara Blanke to the rescue! The baby boy went to the vet for a quick exam so that we could get the meds he needed to survive. At 9 weeks he only weighed 7 lbs 7 ounces and he had a fever of 105.9 – this boy was dehydrated and lethargic. Volunteer Marcy Hutchinson picked him up at Loomis Basin Vet Hospital and drove the hour plus to Stockton from Roseville to put him in Barbara's care. With supplies in hand, Barbara went to work to get the fluids into this baby. She is going to be faced with sleepless nights, endless laundry, hours of decontamination practices, hand feedings, and she is willingly and able to do so for this one baby boy.

As of this writing, the baby boy is hanging in there and there is hope. So far so good for the three "well" pups – known today as Pink, Orange, and Green the color of their collars. One of the sickest girls in the litter didn't make it, one more little girl is still critical, but the other three that were being treated are doing well and recovering nicely. There is hope.

Sometimes it takes extraordinary people. Sometimes it takes extraordinary measures. This time it took both. 🐾

A Thanksgiving Gift: Mika, Annie, and Koda

Thank you to P. Kelley for writing this article and to Jeanne Hanlon for submitting it.

It was a wonderful, early Thanksgiving morning and we were excited about the day to come. We were in the process of toasting our fortunate year when we heard a knock at the door, "So early... who could that be?" It turned out to be my son's good friend. Cradled in his arm was a small light brown bundle of fur.

"Who's this?" I asked. He answered, "I

can't keep her and if you don't take her, I don't know what I'll do." No sooner had he said those words than the small bundle of fur came to life, scurried out of his arms, and into our home and hearts.

That was the beginning of our love story with "Mika." Mika joined our family, which included our wonderful older Cocker "Jazz." When Jazz passed away at 15, we could see that Mika was feeling lonely and we started to consider getting another Golden. That's when we met NGRR. We were thoroughly interviewed and deemed



fit for consideration. We got a line on a 2-year-old girl in Seaside whose owner had just given up on her. So we packed

(Continued on facing page)

Goldie, our Golden Racing Girl

Thanks to MBA Racing for this article and to Shirlee Thomas for submitting it.

I remember our first day to go see her at the foster home and telling our daughter so she would not be disappointed and get too excited that “we are not getting the first golden retriever we go to see.” Goldie Girl was the only Golden we went to go see. As we all learned from each other we found out that her version of “water dog” encompassed being in the boat watching the person in the water behind the boat and if they fell she was going to be worried about them, barking and pacing until we returned to them so she could see that they were ok. She had no interest in getting in the water as that meant a bath would be in order.

Next phase she became the HotRod Dog claiming the 1965 GTO convertible as her car. She succeeded in this effort by getting car sick in every other vehicle we took her in except this car. So our Golden Girl now had her own car. I think she looked particularly beautiful in our Thelma & Louise scarves we’d wear cruising around town. She would smile at people when they looked over.

As life progresses so do passions. She now became the Drag Race Doggie. Traveling Drag Race Tracks throughout California, Nevada, and Idaho, this gal got around. The roar of horse power, smell of burning rubber, vibration of the drag cars rumbling on the ground made Goldie Girl get excited as this meant fun, people, attention, and BBQ. She had her house on wheels and big trailer that the race



cars went into one by one as she carefully supervised while keeping an eye out for kids that came by for a friendly wag and hello. As her Mommy, I would come back from my run down the ¼ drag strip and see her face looking out from the trailer door with her tail wagging and a smile on her face. Whether I won or runner-up I always knew my girl would be there with a smile and love for me. Our Team said she knew the sound of each of our cars and she would get up to wait at the door for us to pull in. Now who can’t tell me that Golden retrievers aren’t the smartest

around if she could tell the engine sound difference between all those race cars, hmmm?

She was a little girl of three when she came to live with us. She gave us a new way to look at life – outfits are not complete without golden hair. We did not have enough time together even though when she went to heaven she was 15.

Our Goldie Girl - Thank you for blessing us with all the joy

you gave us. From sticking your pretty face in your Christmas bags looking to see what Santa brought you, to making room in the middle of the bed between Mommy and Daddy (because that is where all Golden retrievers sleep, right?), to sitting in the driver’s seat of your sister’s car on her 16th birthday to make it special and licking the last drop of ice cream from the bowl. I think of you each morning and blow you a kiss each night. I love you my Golden Girl.

Thank you NGRR for our Golden Girl, you did a wonderful thing! 🐾



(Continued from facing page)

up the van with Mika and headed off to meet “Annie” (Amber at that time). Annie and Mika became fast friends and Annie became our first NGRR adoptee. Annie is a wonderful dog and loved her new home. The two of them would play in our big yard for hours and were virtually inseparable. Our neighbors often remarked at what a wonderful pair they were and how well they got along.

We have all had special dogs in our lives that epitomize pure love and Mika was that dog for me. As she was getting up in years we thought her end was near, but she just kept going. Mika lived to be 16 wonderful years old and passed quietly in her sleep a

few months ago. The blessings she brought were too many to count. We were very sad to see her go and Annie, her dear pal, was as sad as we were.

What else could we do to honor such a wonderful dog but turn to NGRR again and hope to find another great pal – this time for Annie. We got a call that there might be a match for us and we drove up to San Anselmo to meet “Dakota.” Dakota greeted us at her foster Mom’s, Peg Atkin, with a great bark of welcome. We knew straight away that Dakota would be our new dog. She was smart, funny, and very loving. She hopped into our car and we headed back to Aptos just like it was meant

to be. We were a little nervous about how Annie might react since she had been with Mika for over 10 years. To our pleasure and surprise, Annie loved Dakota right away and she’s even taken to playing with some of Koda’s toys, something she was never interested in before.

Dakota has been a blessing. We know that somebody gave her much love and time as she is a wonderful dog that has warmed and livened-up our home. I think I know who was responsible for all this goodness... Mika, up in Dog Heaven did the good picking. Nice going girl!! Thanks to NGRR to being there for us again when we needed them. 🐾

The Life of Riley

Thanks to Mary Anderson for writing and submitting this.

Just as gently and silently as our 13-year-old Norcal Golden Rescue, Finnegan, gestured his last goodbye to us on December 3, 2010, following several years of severe mobility issues, on February 2, 2011, one-year-old Riley entered and offered, "I am here and let's play!" As February is a month for hearts, perhaps it was a sign that Riley came to us then and truly captured ours.

Several months after Finnegan left us, I spoke to Norcal Golden Rescue San Francisco Coordinator, Joanne McGrail, following the submission of our on line registration whereby we hoped to initiate the search for a new Golden. Our experience with our beloved Finnegan was 13 years of pure delight and we wanted more of the same. After looking at the website's listing

of available dogs, we became very interested in a boy named Riley. The description read, "One-year-old male who is looking for someone to throw the ball daily and is familiar with golden retrievers. He is great with kids, other dogs, tolerates cats and while ok staying alone, prefers to be with his people."

Riley must have been on the lam for sometime, as his ribs were very visible and although a tall boy, he weighed only 52 pounds. While he did develop some tummy issues in the beginning, we felt confident that it was a matter of not only adjustment, but also eating regularly and have the proper diet. In other words, his garbage can days were over! In those early days that followed, the adjustment was amazing – he responded to San Francisco city living very well from rides in an elevator, to street noise and sidewalk activity. His foster parents gave



us a gentle, playful, polite, remarkably obedient, housebroken and patient puppy. A golden boy through and through!

If Riley has a bad habit, it would only

(Continued on facing page)

7th ANNUAL Twain Harte Play Day

Neither rain, snow, or mud could keep our Norcal Goldens and their buddies from enjoying the 7th annual Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue Play Day on May 15th at Eproson Park, in Twain Harte. Thanks to Jill Morgan for taking the lead in organizing this wonderful event!

We traded in sun screen and shade tents for snow boots and down jackets and let the fun begin! As you can see by the pictures, we all had an awesome time. There were 42 dogs and over 50 people sloshing in the six inches of new snowfall. At times, all of the participants were the same color of mud. They chased tennis balls in the snow and found them in the mud. As the extremely worn out retrievers rested, their people enjoyed hot chocolate and libations in the Twain Harte Golf Clubhouse. We were able to enjoy a wonderful fundraising silent auction and raffle baskets filled with great gifts. (Hint-hint... fewer people, better chances to win.) Thanks to Deborah and George Hart, owners of Dusty's Den for all their hard work and donations. A special thanks goes to our volunteers: Sue and Steve Salnick, Jim Knudson, Russ Russell, Bruce McColluch, Darla Duckworth and Jeff Boyd. Events such as these could never happen if it weren't for the love and devotion of the NGRR volunteers and their wonderful hearts of gold. Be sure to put May 20, 2012 on your calendar for our 8th annual NGRR Play Day. 🐾



Smile!

Goldens have the sweetest smiles! Maybe you need a portrait to capture it. Karen Hudson, of Family Tails Photography and a great supporter of Rescue, can help you do just that! Plus, she has offered to donate \$50 to NGRR whenever someone books and pays for a regular studio photo session and mentions our name. You can view her portfolio at www.familytails.com or call her at (650) 868-0019.

(Continued from facing page)

be his love of a comfy chair. Often during his rare quiet times of the day, he will ever so silently slip onto the living room chair and curl up for a little nap. None of our other dogs have ever attempted to be on the furniture, but with Riley, it just seems such a natural way of life. He will give us that look like, “why are you looking at me that way?! I’m just taking a little rest.” When he is especially tired, he looks at us and wants to be invited up for some lap time and a little snuggling. And he sees no problem that he may be too big for a lap!

Riley’s idea of a good day is to play, play and play some more! And he LOVES his toys, especially the large, soft ones he can swing in the air and throw across his back. While it has been an interesting transition to come from caring for an oldster to now a young pup, both of these dogs have enjoyed toys just the same. It is natural, fun and a good sport. Riley goes from morning



to night with little rest, as my husband is recently retired, so together they share days that are all about the life of Riley. I am sometimes disappointed when I return home from work that Riley is already into sweet dreams from a day filled with adventure.

Riley also has a vacation home at Lake

Tahoe where he spends several weekends a month. His first trip was after the Sierra’s had received a six-foot dumping of new snow in March. We immediately knew he would be a real water dog simply by his reaction to this new playground – a white blanket of soft hills and wetness. He would leap into the air and try to catch the snow all the while racing around in circles.

Although he has quite a cute sense of humor, I don’t think he realizes it. For example, he gets very excited when it is time to go in the car and he will jump . . . higher and higher. Recently when we went to the garage, our neighbor passed by as Riley was racing to the car. He commented, “I cannot remember EVER having that much enthusiasm about anything!”

In the past six months, Riley has already given us his unconditional love. Riley has entered our lives with such a sure and gentle touch. And ever, so remarkably, he is teaching us what it means to lead the life of Riley. 🐾

A Letter to NGRR

Dear Sir or Madam:

Hello, my name is Ian McElearney. I am a student at Justin-Siena High School in the Napa Valley. I am an avid supporter of the rescue of animals. My family and I have always believed in providing shelter and a permanent home for lost animals.

Our first dog was a Golden Retriever named Dizzy Gillespie. Dizzy wasn’t a rescue dog but he was my first pet and one of the earliest pictures of me is at Christmas. Dizzy and I are on the sofa. I am about 6 months old and dressed in a baby Santa outfit and Dizzy has on a large Santa hat!

I believe that my affection for Dizzy has led me to have compassion for many animals. Our family has had, over the years, hamsters, guinea pigs, rabbits, cats, and even a grey squirrel that we rescued until it could be placed in an official rehab center.

I first came into contact with your organization after Dizzy died. We decided that after a year without a dog, that we were ready for another Golden Retriever. We didn’t want to pay a lot of money for a puppy and we found your group on the Internet. Our family was interviewed and we offered to adopt a dog that was under two years old.

The weekend after our in-house interview, the Napa coordinator called my mom in a panic and said that she had

a 5-year-old Golden Retriever that had just been rescued from a shelter in Solano County. She was going out of town for the weekend and she desperately needed a foster home for a few days. We met her at Scandia and she presented us with a 120-pound (yes, fat!) Golden named Gunther. Within 15 minutes both my mom and I knew that Gunther was going to be a permanent part of our family.

We had Gunther for 4 years and then he died suddenly from Rocky Mountain Spotted Tick Fever. But he had a great 4 years with us and during this time we also found a Springer Spaniel on our drive home from Jackson Hole, WY. His name is Moose, after the town of Moose, which is adjacent to Jackson Hole.

Every year we have gifted your organization some money so that you can continue your efforts to place abandoned dogs into homes. Your newsletter and website are great! It is fun to read about all of the dogs and how they’ve brought so much happiness to so many people.

I just wanted to thank you for finding Gunther for us and maybe once Moose calms down, we might get another Golden Retriever!

*Best Regards,
Ian McElearney*



Mackenzie's Life: A Senior Foster

Thank you to Stella Rose Greenberg Gallagher, 8-years-old, for writing this article and to Mackenzie's foster mom, Peg Atkin, for submitting it

Mackenzie was a nice dog and a peaceful one. But those two words do not explain her whole personality. She would run really fast – at least that's what she thought. But still, she will always be loved by others because Mackenzie was always special in every single way.

I remember when I started coming up to Peg's house to see Timmy and Kenzie, when she would sit in the first grassy spot that you see, which is now filled with rose petals that have just fallen from spring to summer. And even though she is dead, her spirit will always be with us. And that is without a doubt. But I know that she loved all of us. And if she was a mother, then she would be an excellent one. And just because



Stella and Mackenzie

a person or animal is dead, doesn't mean that you can't still love them. Everybody loved her.

My first memory was when she could walk, I was in my garden and Peg was walking her down the street. That is my only memory of me with a dog when I was a toddler. My other memory was when me and Kathy were pushing Kenzie down the street, and I was pushing by sitting at the edge and holding on, and pushing my legs like if I were walking, and having a blast. My other memory is reading to her and cuddling up. The longest book that I ever finished with her was Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. She always got me excited about reading. That's why I got to be such a good reader. Before I was only reading sentences like "the cat went outside" or things like that.

After my grandma's dog died on my dad's birthday, Kenzie was my favorite female dog in the world.



Stella and Timmy

Dakota, Timmy, Kensie, and Hunter

Thank you to Neav Healy, Peg Atkin's neighbor's 9-year-old niece, who wrote these acrostic poems for four of Peg's senior fosters.

Darling
Adventurous
Kind
Outside
Thrilling
Adorable

Thankful for love
Intelligent
Made friends with everybody
Milky smooth fun
Yummy

Kind
Endless love
Nice
Sweet
Intelligent
Excellent Dog

Happy
Unconditional
Neat
Trained
Exceptional
Retriever

Shape-Up with Shadow Update

Shadow is now under 100 lbs! He is down to 96, which is a total weight loss so far of 40 lbs. He can even to a TWO MILE walk outside on a lead. Thanks to Dog Tread for his treadmill, without it we would not be this far along. Shadow still has another 30 lbs to shed but with his energy level going up with every pound lost he will be at his goal in no time. Brandi has lost 20 lbs so far and has spent her summer swimming and getting those muscles into shape. Penny has reached her goal weight and has been adopted by the family that worked so hard to get her healthy and happy.

Thank you to all of you that contributed to the Shape-Up with Shadow program. We are still taking in obese Golden Retrievers and your support will allow us to continue to work on proper nutrition and exercise for all the rolly polly babies that come into our organization. A special thank you to Champion Pet Foods and their award-winning dog food, Orijen, for their very generous donation to Shadow. With so much weight to lose it was important that he have the best nutrition available in the small quantities he was limited to for feeding. Without a doubt he is a very healthy happy boy.

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
 - ☐ Vet Appointments
 - ☐ Shelter Checks
 - ☐ Phone Calls
 - ☐ Grooming
 - ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Senior Golden Retrievers Program

FUNDRAISING

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

OPERATIONS

- ☐ Volunteer Coordinator
- ☐ Transportation Coordinator
- ☐ Weekly Dog List
- ☐ Mailing List
- ☐ Inventory Tracking

PUBLIC OUTREACH & EDUCATION

- ☐ Event Coordinator/Worker
- ☐ Newsletter (and other literature)
- ☐ Web Programming (experienced)
- ☐ Education Program Coordinator
- ☐ Fight Against Puppy Mills

PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING

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

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

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



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How to Contact NORCAL Golden Retriever Rescue

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

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

Officers for Calendar Year 2011

PRESIDENT
Marilyn Ormond

TREASURER
Jeff Wilson

SECRETARY
Rolf Thorson
COMPTROLLER
John Murray

DIRECTORS

Pat Lynch
Kathy Quiroz
Liz Berry
Deborah Bevilacqua

Jeanne Hanlon
Marilyn Ormond
Jill Morgan
John Murray
info@ngrr.org

Shannon Aiken
Judy Guild
Shirlee Thomas
Dave Ball

Key Contacts:

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Behavioral Consultants... Martina Contreras(650) 367-6124
Trish King(415) 883-4621
Calendar Publisher..... Pat Lynch.....plynchpatricksmom@gmail.com
Events Calendar..... Kathy Quiroz.....Kathy.quiroz@yahoo.com
Memorials & Tributes.... Stephanie Getzlersgetzler@gmail.com
Newsletter Publisher..... Marketing Designs.....jayne@marketingdesigns.net
Volunteer Coordinator ... Joan Fisherjoanrfisher@gmail.com
Website John Skelton.....ngrr@ngrr.org

Other Contributors:

Acknowledging hand written donations Jan Dreyer
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Dog Inventory RecordsNancy Fedders
Foster CoordinatorLynne Hall
Mail Box Distribution..... Judy Guild
Public Relations Shirlee Thomas
Fund Raising Shirlee Thomas



THE AUCTION IS BACK!

The Auction is Back!

Don't Miss It!

*See front cover
for all the details.*

We want you there!

www.ngrr.org

Don't forget to check out our new and improved web site!!!

Email versus Snail Mail?

Want to receive your next newsletter as a pdf via email? Just send an email to mail@ngrr.org to request it.