

Letter from GRR's President – Maura Phelan

Dog Days of Summer are Upon Us

I've always wondered why they were called the "dog days of summer" ... until I started doing rescue. Then I figured it out – summer is when rescue is FILLED with dogs!

You see, the yearly cycle of rescue intake breaks down into three periods of excuses:

- 1. After New Year:** the turning in of the dogs they have been holding on to because they cannot dump them during the Holiday season;
- 2. Spring:** the turning in of the pup they got as a Holiday gift who is now chewing things, digging holes in the yard or escaping from the back yard because he is not allowed in the house – Oh, and because he never learned any obedience (taking him to a class was never even considered).
- 3. Summer:** the turning in of the dogs they cannot keep because they are moving or going on vacation, and the dog cannot go. Usually these are the "come and get him NOW or else" turn-ins.

Of course, Spring and Summer are when our volunteers and foster homes are taking vacations, moving, and adopting their own foster dogs—further reducing our volunteer workforce and list of foster homes.

Given this pattern, it is no wonder that rescue is completely full and begging for foster homes and volunteers. Without people to field the calls; do the interviews; make the home visits; and foster the dogs, we cannot get the job done. This means that we cannot pick up the goldens dumped at the animal shelters— the ones who will be put down. This means that we have to make the owners who want to turn in their dogs wait—and then they take them to these shelters because they cannot wait any longer. And, this means that the dogs in foster care linger without a forever home because we cannot get homes approved.

In this time when belts are tight and donations are down, placing our dogs is the best way to get money coming in so that we can afford to save more goldens. So that we can give these wonderful dogs the wonderful life they deserve. So that we can make a family happy by providing them with the dog that fits their life. So that we can take in the older dogs dumped by their "loving owner" because they have aged. So that we can take in the young pup whose only crime was wanting attention and not being trained. So that we can cure that perfect dog who was dumped because the owner would not address a chronic ear or skin or eye problem and get him healthy. So we can get those healthy dogs into a forever, loving home. So we can educate people about Golden Retrievers and proper dog care. So we can make dogs and people happy.

Please think about taking in a foster or volunteering your time or talent. In this issue of the Gazette, we have listed a "Golden Classified" section to help you find the task that fits your talents best. The more volunteers we have, the more we can share the workload and relieve the burden placed upon our dedicated core group of volunteers.

Take a look at your wonderful Golden. Think of how your efforts can save another just like him and make someone as happy as you.

GRR IS CONSTANTLY LOOKING FOR WAYS TO REDUCE COSTS. IF YOU WOULD PREFER TO RECEIVE YOUR GAZETTE VIA EMAIL, PLEASE SIGN UP AT:
WWW.GRR-TX.COM/ON-LINE.HTM
BE SURE TO UPDATE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS.



Shake, Paddle & Roll!

That's right, we said "Shake, paddle and roll". You can save your 'doggone soul' and join us for GRR's inaugural summer swim fest on **Saturday, July 19th from 10am to 1pm** at the Happy Hour Farm in Manor. (Rain date July 26th.) The Goldens can romp and swim in the 2 acre pond while their humans enjoy a wonderful breakfast for only \$7 per person. All proceeds will go directly to help our Goldens with medical needs.

We'll have a Golden wet t-shirt contest (for the dogs only!), plenty of games and a raffle. Bring a beach chair, your appetite and don't forget a towel or two for those shakin' Goldens! Come enjoy the morning with the GRR family – you and your Golden are sure to have a 'rockin' good time! Get directions to Happy

Hour Farm and **RSVP** by July 11th at **www.GRR-tx.com**

(ahhh, thank you, thankyouverymuch—Elvis has left the building)



GRR Health

Keep Your Golden Cool and Healthy This Summer

Editor's Note: Summer in Central Texas can be brutal to say the least. It's hard enough on us humans who can crank up the air conditioner or at the very least turn on a fan. But for our four-legged, hairy friends—summer can be deadly. As the heat index rises, the risk of heat stroke, ear infections, and skin allergies also rises. The following articles do a wonderful job of providing tips to help keep our Golden healthy and cool.

Never, Never, Never.... Shave a Golden

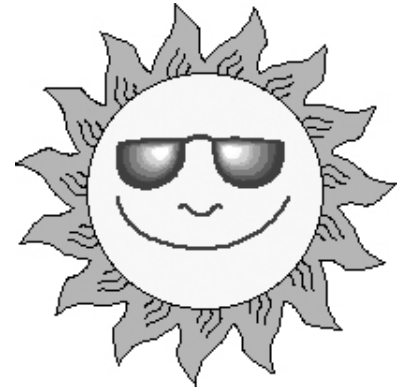
As you travel around Austin in the summer, you'll doubtless see plenty of shaved Golden and other thick-coated dogs. And it seems logical: get rid of all that heavy fur, and your Golden will be cooler, right? WRONG.

Many people mistakenly believe that shaving or severely clipping their Golden is a wonderful way to keep the dog cool and comfortable in warm weather. What they don't realize is that they're actually putting the dog at greater risk of health problems like skin cancer—and the dog is NO cooler. Here's why:

A Golden's coat is made up of two parts—the long and smooth outercoat and the soft and fuzzy undercoat—which work together throughout the seasons to protect the skin from sun, heat, cold and moisture. To understand how the two coats work together, consider what naturally occurs in a Golden's coat as the seasons progress ...

The undercoat thickens in cold weather to keep the Golden warmer and dryer. It also begins to come out in big clumps in warm weather, when the Golden no longer needs as much of it. (You probably know all about those hair balls floating around on your kitchen floor!)

If the dog is shaved, the undercoat will immediately begin to grow and thicken—often to double or even triple the normal thickness—in an attempt to restore the protection which has been lost. The dog winds up as hot as if not hotter than before.



That's why the key to keeping your Golden not only cool but safe in warm weather is to keep the protective outercoat intact—something shaving or severe clipping DOES NOT do—and to remove the undercoat on a regular, weekly basis.

To do this easily and effectively, invest in an *Undercoat Rake*. Once you use one of these handy grooming tools you'll wonder how you ever got along without one! It makes very quick work of brushing, particularly when the goal is to remove lots of undercoat. And you'll significantly reduce those floating hair balls in your home!

They're available at most pet supply stores, and through pet supply catalogues and web sites. Or you can help support GRR by ordering one directly from our website boutique at GRR-tx.com. You're Golden will thank you!

Beware of Heatstroke

For many dogs, hot Summer days pose a serious health threat – heat stroke—when they are left in cars, or yards or anywhere where temperatures rise to dangerous levels.

Temperatures inside a car can soar to over 150 degrees in a matter of minutes, turning the inside of your car into an oven. Leaving your dog in a poorly ventilated car with the windows partially open will probably result in heat stroke, a life-threatening condition that CAN and should be avoided.

Gold Ribbon Rescue

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But be aware—heat stroke doesn't only happen in cars. It can also happen right in your own backyard, just by leaving your dog outside in the blazing sun with no access to shelter or shade. Another good reason for our "Inside While Gone" policy.

Signs of heatstroke include weakness, glassy eyes, dehydration, vomiting, diarrhea, pale gray lips and body temperature in excess of 107 degrees (a dog's normal temperature is 102.5 degrees).

You must act quickly to reduce the dog's temperature below 103 degrees. Move the dog inside to an air conditioned room or to a cooler, shady area and get the dog some cool water to drink or rinse its mouth with water to aid the cooling process. If the dog is unable to drink or is unconscious, DO NOT try to pour the water down the dog's throat. You don't want to add choking to this medical emergency. Apply cool water all over the dog's body. Apply ice packs wrapped in a wash cloth or towel to the top of the dog's head, the back of the dog's neck, and the dog's chest.

AND GET THE DOG TO THE VET ASAP! Heat stroke ALWAYS requires immediate veterinary attention.

Goldens Love the Water—Their Ears Don't

Those hairy, hanging ears on a Golden are especially sweet when they're perked up with their doggie head cocked to one side. But one of the reasons that Goldens are prone to ear infections is because of those floppy ears. The ear canals (which are L shaped) are shut off from air and can stay moist and warm—an ideal environment for bacterial growth. Untreated ear infections often develop into chronic conditions which are very painful to the dog and can even

Golden Tips for a Cool Summer...

Tip #1: Take your dog out for exercise early in the morning and in the evening, before the sun is up and after it has begun to go down. Do NOT make her come jogging with you at lunchtime or right after work! She'll try to keep up to please you, but it's dangerous for her. How would YOU like to go jogging in a full-length fur coat in a Texas summer?

Tip #2: Before walks, try installing this primitive doggie air-conditioning system. Get a hand towel sopping wet with cool to lukewarm water. Now rub your dog all over—head, face, back, sides, tummy. Now walk on out the door with your damp and fragrant buddy—and be sure to stop for a minute in any running sprinklers along your route!

Tip #3: If you like to take your dog along on errands, be sure he can go into the store, cleaner's, etc. WITH you. Don't leave him in the car—even with the windows cracked open—and even if it's only for a few minutes. A few minutes can unexpectedly turn into more, and dogs overheat FAST in closed cars. (How much help would cracked-open windows be to you if you were wearing a heavy coat?)


Tip #4: Dogs like ice cubes! Put a few in the water bowl or just give them a chunk of ice to lick. Or try combining a couple of mashed bananas with a cup of plain yogurt. Spoon the mixture into small, flat-bottomed ice-cream cones (like Comet Cups). Freeze and give to your dogs for a special treat.

Tip #5: Freeze your water bottles for day trips. They work great in the cooler to help keep your food and drinks cold and when they begin to melt—Oh yea, ice cold water for you and your dog!

cause deafness. In some cases, surgery is necessary to rectify the problem.

It's generally a good idea to do an "ear check" once a week, but if your Golden likes to spend the Dog Days of summer in the water, then their ears should be cleaned at the end of each day they swim. A few drops of a half and half combination of distilled white vinegar and isopropyl alcohol in each ear after swimming often prevents yeast growth and helps to prevent bacterial infection. There are other cleaning solutions that you can make at home or purchase from a pet store, but in all cases, check with your veterinarian to see which 'recipe' they recommend for your dog.

The most common reason, by far, for recurrent ear problems in Goldens is

underlying allergy. All sources of allergy (flea, inhalant, and food allergy) can manifest as ear problems—but that's a whole other article!! Be good to your dog's ears. 

Banana Rama Kong

For a refreshing frozen treat on a sizzling Texas summer day try this recipe:

Mix together:

1 fresh banana (mashed)

2 tbs wheat germ

1 tbs plain yogurt (or favorite flavor)

Stuff into Kong and freeze for 4 hours. Double recipe for large kong.



Extraordinary Golden Fund and Success Stories

Very Special Goldens

Mikey's Story

Mikey is an adorable 2-year-old male that came to GRR from Town Lake Animal Center. A little on the small side for a male at 55 pounds, Mikey is as friendly and playful as he could be. He is friendly with children and very playful with other dogs. And, oh what a face!

Shortly after he arrived at his new foster home, Mikey had a short episode of dizziness. He was taken to the vet and the vet noticed a heart murmur. Blood work was done which revealed a low thyroid level, so Mikey is now taking thyroid medication. And, his heart murmur needed to be evaluated, so he was taken to a veterinary cardiologist for a specialized ultrasound. The results of his tests were good and showed only a very mild aortic stenosis (narrowing of the aorta).



Mikey's veterinary workup is now complete and he is waiting patiently for his forever home. See more pictures of Mikey on the website at www.GRR-tx.com/adoptables. The cost of vet care for Mikey - \$500.

Dakota's Story

Ear problems in surrendered dogs are not uncommon, but in Dakota's case the condition was so severe it required surgery. He had suffered from so many untreated ear infections for so long that he had developed a mass in his left ear that was blocking the ear canal.

It was so bad that he had to have the entire canal removed and resectioned so that he would be able to receive the medication effectively and more importantly—relieve him of the pain he'd had to live with for longer than we'd like to think about. Dakota has had his surgery and we're happy to report that his ears and quality of life have greatly improved and he hears just fine. (See Dakota's picture on page 8.) Cost of surgery and meds for Dakota— \$1,200

He's a Golden of Many Names— Beau

There are some Goldens that come into GRR care that remind us why we do it. Why we spend the time we do to save these wonderful dogs and help find their forever home— where they can live out the rest of their days giving love and receiving the love they so deserve. Beau's story is one of those. For all the GRR volunteers involved in his rescue— this is what it's all about.

Kelly Hay, our volunteer in the San Antonio area received a call on Friday that a Golden in a small shelter in Live Oak was scheduled to be euthanized on Monday. He'd been at the shelter for two weeks, and no one had showed up to claim this beautiful boy.

We named him Oakley, gave him a GRR number and got him out of that shelter! Kelly brought him to San Marcos on that Tuesday and Pam and Dean Phillips, who just recently had one of their fosters adopted agreed to take him in. Dean was out of town, but Pam stepped up to the task. Breaths were held as he met the cats for the first time.

Pam and Dean decided that the name of "Oakley" just didn't suit him so they renamed him Kerbey (for the Kerbey Lane Cafe in Austin). Kathy Burton describes it like this, "If he hadn't had such good karma we would never have known about him". His forever family was soon to appear and take him into their loving home.

We received this update from his family: *Well Kerbey is now Beauford (Beau for short). Here's my long winded update—he's awesome! All is well with everyone. Well that's not totally true. I'm having one battle with him that I'm losing. Beau is the world's worst fishing partner. Keeping Beau out of the water is like well...keeping a golden out of the water. The picture was taken 2 days after we adopted him. Think he fits in?*



Beau with his baby sister.

Oakley, Kerbey, Beau... reminds us all that this is why we do what we do. We literally saved his life— with quick actions and caring people who were willing to do what was necessary to save him. Our dog team does an incredible job— day in, day out— from intake calls; to coordinating transport teams; to pleading for foster homes; to handling our special medical needs dogs. A tremendous effort! And to our foster families, like the Phillips and so many others. You receive those last minute calls and respond with a "yes". Oh, the joy felt by our Dog Team when that wonderful word is heard on the other end of the phone line. To all foster families— thank you, thank you! 🐾



Save a Life— Foster a Golden

by Becky LaBrum and the GRR Dog Team

What's one of the best feelings in the world? For me, it's seeing a rescue dog snoozing in my living room— safe, clean, well-cared-for, loved. It's knowing that he's been saved from a dangerous life on the streets, death in the animal shelter, or a sad, lonely life as a yard dog, that he's on the way to finding a great new home where he'll never have to worry about a thing. It's seeing a skinny, scruffy girl get sleek and glossy, watching a timid boy turn confident and playful, seeing a dog who never even knew what a toy was falling asleep each night surrounded by tennis balls, plush squeakers, and Kongs.

So many callers to our Hotline, so many adoptive homes tell us how much they appreciate GRR's foster system, how much it means to them to get a temperament-tested dog. And we're committed to maintaining that system— but we simply cannot do it without your help. It probably seems to you that you see this plea in every newsletter, and receive it between newsletters, too. But the fact is that we have a constant, chronic shortage of foster homes. Foster families get tired and need to take breaks between dogs; circumstances change, making it inconvenient for them to foster at all; or—understandably!— they fall in love with their foster dog, adopt him or her, and end up with a two— or three-dog household that makes it hard to take in yet another Golden in need. That's why we are always looking for new families to open their homes to the dogs that come our way. And the stream of dogs never ends! Each week we get calls from desperate owners, from Good

Samaritans who have found strays, from animal shelters— all telling us about Golden who need our help. We know those guys and girls would be perfect for some family out there, and we don't want to tell any of them "no."

If you have a GRR dog now, you know how much his foster family did for him. Won't you return the favor now, and help another Golden find his or her way to a forever home? And even if you don't have a GRR dog— or even a Golden Retriever— won't you try fostering? We will give you plenty of help and advice, and we'll try our best to find a foster dog that suits your household. Fostering can be challenging at times— but it can be one of the most rewarding things you'll ever do. Please help us help all the Golden who need us so much! If you have any questions at all, feel free to get in touch with any one of us. We'll be so happy to talk with you.

Thank you from the GRR Dog Team!

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CAN'T FOSTER BUT STILL WANT TO BE ON THE DOG TEAM?


Would you really like to help with our incoming dogs, but you can't foster right now? You can still help us enormously by working as a Foster Coordinator. FCs are folks with good dog knowledge who take a foster home or two and work with them through the fostering period. You answer any questions the foster home may have along the way (usually in consultation with other Dog Team members, so you won't be all on your own), keep up with any vet work the foster dog may need, remind your foster family to file weekly reports on the dog's progress, and prepare the adoption contract when a forever family is found. It's fun knowing all the details about some of the dogs you see up on the website— and being an FC is rewarding, too, since you'll be working alongside your foster families to help a GRR dog find the perfect forever home. If you'd like to volunteer as an FC, just e-mail or call any of us on the Dog Team. We'd love to hear from you. 



Fostering just feels good!

Better Homes and Golden— Decorating Tips?

Dog crates, when stacked three high, can add height to a room and pull the eye upward. If fastened securely to the wall, the top can provide a dramatic setting for exotic plants or statuary that might otherwise be molested by your pets..... What?!! Decorating with crates is probably not the best advice we can give. But there must be plenty of unused

crates out there in the GRR family that would be better suited for our foster homes than as an eclectic piece in your living room or collecting dust in your garage. If you have a 36" to 48" wire mesh crate, please consider donating it to GRR. Call our Hotline at 512-659-GOLD or email donations@grr-tx.com. 



Tail Wags

Editor's Note: The following story has made a few rounds via email so the original author is unknown. And, for lack of print room, it has been edited— but just a little. Those of you with "Glutton Goldens", like mine, will completely relate! So sit back and enjoy a good laugh!

Author Unknown

We have a fox terrier by the name of Jasper. He came to us in the summer of 2001 from the fox terrier rescue program. The dog came with his own idiosyncrasies. He will only sleep on the bed, on top of the covers, nuzzled as close to my face as he can get without actually performing a French kiss on me. Lest you think this is a bad case of no discipline, I should tell you that Perry and I tried every means to break him of this habit including locking him in a separate bedroom for several nights. The new door cost over \$200.

But I digress. Five weeks ago we began remodeling our house. Although the cost of the project is downright obnoxious, it got me out of cooking Thanksgiving for family, extended family and a lot of drunk friends that I like more than family most of the time. I was however assigned the task of preparing 124 of my famous yeast dinner rolls for two Thanksgiving feasts. I am still cursing the electrician for getting the new oven hooked up so quickly. It was the only appliance in the whole house that worked, thus the assignment.

I made the decision to cook the rolls on Wednesday evening to reheat on Thursday morning. Since the kitchen was freshly painted you can imagine the odor. Not wanting the rolls to smell like Sherwin Williams latex paint #586, I put the rolls on baking sheets and set them in the living room to rise for 5 hours. After 3 hours, Perry and I decided to go out to eat, returning in about an hour.

An hour later the rolls were ready to go in the oven. It was 8:30pm. When I went to the living room to retrieve the pans, much to my shock one whole pan of 12 rolls was empty. I called out to Jasper and my worst nightmare became a reality. He literally wobbled over

to me. He looked like a combination of the Pillsbury dough boy and the Michelin Tire man wrapped up in fur. He groaned when he walked. I ran to the phone and called our vet. After a few seconds of uproarious laughter, he told me the dog would probably be OK, however, I needed to give him Pepto Bismol every 2 hours for the rest of the night.

God only knows why I thought a dog would like Pepto Bismol any more than my kids did when they were sick. Suffice to say that the dog was black, white and pink. He was so bloated we had to lift him onto the bed for the night.

Naively thinking the dog would be all better by morning was very stupid on my part. We arose at 7:30 and as we always do first thing; put the dogs out to relieve themselves. Well, the damn dog was as drunk as a sailor on his first leave. He was running into walls, falling flat on his butt and most of the time when he was walking his front half was going one direction and the other half was either dragging the floor or headed 90 degrees in another direction.

I endured another few seconds of laughter from the vet (second call within 12 hours) before he explained that the yeast had fermented in his belly and that he was indeed drunk. He assured me that, not unlike most binges we humans go through, it would wear off after about 4 or 5 hours and to keep giving him Pepto Bismol.

Afraid to leave him by himself in the house, Perry and I loaded him up and took him with us to my sister's house for the first Thanksgiving meal of the day. It's about a 10 to 15 minute drive. We were off.

Now I know you probably don't believe that dogs burp, but believe me when I say that after eating a tray of risen unbaked yeast rolls, DOGS WILL BURP. These burps were pure Old Charter. But that's not the worst of it. Now he was beginning to f *rt and they smelled like baked rolls. God strike me dead if I am not telling the truth!

Once Jasper was firmly placed in her garage with the door locked, we finally sat down to enjoy our dinner. The dog was the topic of conversation all morning long and everyone made trips to the garage to witness my drunk dog, each returning with a tale of Jasper's latest endeavor to walk without running into something.

Of course, as the old adage goes, "what goes in must come out" and Jasper was no exception. Granted if it had been me that had eaten 12 risen, unbaked yeast rolls, it might be days before I visited the porcelain bowl, but alas a dog's digestive system is quite different from yours or mine. I discovered this was a mixed blessing when we prepared to leave. Having discovered his "packages" on the garage floor, we loaded him up in the car so we could hose down the floor. This was another naive decision on our part.

The blast of water from the hose hit the poop on the floor and the poop on the floor withstood the blast from the hose. It was like Portland cement beginning to set up and cure. I (obviously no one else was going to offer their services) had to get on my hands and knees with a coarse brush to get the remnants off of the floor. And as if this wasn't degrading enough, the damn dog in his drunken state had walked through the poop and left paw prints all over the garage floor that had to be brushed too.

Well, by this time the dog was sobering up nicely so we took him home and dropped him off before we left for our second Thanksgiving dinner at Perry's sister's house.

I am happy to report that as of today (Monday) the dog is back to normal both in size and temperament. I am also happy to report that just this evening I found 2 risen unbaked yeast rolls hidden inside my closet door. It appears he must have come to his senses after eating 10 of them but decided hiding 2 of them for later would not be a bad idea. If any of you have a suggestion as to how I can remove unbaked dough from carpeting I would certainly appreciate your feedback.



Military Families and the Golden Retrievers Left Behind

by Kathy Burton

Rescue got very busy when America went to war. The troops were deploying out of Fort Hood in Killeen and found no alternative but to surrender their beloved Golden Retrievers. We were asked to take a total of 5 dogs, all in a short period of time since the military waits on no man.

Kovu was our first military surrender, both mom and dad were being deployed. Then came Missy, her owner was being deployed leaving a young wife with small children and this 5 month old pup. We agreed to take her and find her a good home where she would get the attention that a Golden this age needs. The next two were a pair of Golden guys, Bubba age 5 and Bo age 8. We simply had no foster space available but just couldn't turn them down. We asked DFW/Metro GRR if we could do the evaluation, get vet records and help with transport could they possibly take these two sweet dogs.

Richard Woodmansee, President of DEW/Metro GRR did not hesitate. So with the help of our volunteers in the Killeen area we were able to get all five dogs placed in care.

Kovu has since been adopted by a Gold Ribbon Family,

Missy is in foster with one of our foster families and can be seen on our web site. Bo and Bubba went into foster in Dallas and have also been adopted. And there was Sandy, her owner had made arrangements for her but that fell through at the last minute just as he was leaving for overseas. His sister called and asked if we knew of a rescue group that would take her, she'd have to go to a shelter. I called Richard again and again he said



"Yes". The soldier's sister was so grateful she drove the golden girl all the way to Dallas and Sandy has also been adopted. We would like to express a special *Thank You* to our volunteer in Copperas Cove, **Susan King**, who went out in the thick and awful ice storm back in March and brought Bo and Bubba home for safe keeping until transport was arranged. For holding on to Missy until she could get into a foster home. Also a very special *Thank You* to our transport volunteers **Nic Nichols** and his wife who not only transported Kovu to us but transported Bo & Bubba half way to Dallas to meet up with the transport volunteer from DFW/Metro GRR.

Five dogs safe and sound in family homes and their previous owners knowing that they are well loved and cared for. Without our dedicated volunteers it would not have been possible to save them all, which one would have been lost? 🐾

GRR Picnic Brings Golden Families Together

Another Golden Afternoon has come and gone—and what a very special time we had! The GRR Golden Retrievers brought their human families to enjoy a warm spring day filled with fun, games, and food!



A loud BARK of applause to Susie Schaffer (and her Bunny, Gary) and a host of volunteers who made this picnic possible. It was such a wonderful

opportunity for the foster families to see their 'babies' with their forever families, and to catch up on all the Golden Retrievers whose stories we have followed so closely on the website.

And, very special *Thanks* to the following people and businesses for their donations to the GRR Golden Afternoon. Your support and generous spirit helped make the day a Golden success.

Texadelphia— 3- \$10.00 certificates

Starbucks— 3 pounds coffee

Arbor Car Wash— car wash certificates

Vance Sack— Four Seasons Massage gift certificate (Checkers thinks you are the greatest!)



Groovy Dog Bakery— gift basket

Source Menagerie— golden retriever rug

Z Tejas— \$30.00 gift certificate

Ed Stapleton— author of signed book "Calico Buffalo"

Any Kind of Costume— discounting Bunny Costume (who was that masked man?!

Thanks, Gary.)

Suzanne Espe— face painting materials. 🐾



Adoptable Goldens



Dakota 5-1/2 yrs old

"The day I walked into the arms of GRR, I knew my life had taken a turn for the better. My ears had been so neglected that I needed surgery just to be able to take my meds and to hear. I'm so much better now and can hear just fine." – Dakota



Mikey 2yrs old

"I'm not like most two year olds– I'm calm and comfortable just being a good listener and constant companion."

– Mikey



Gabby 1-1/2 yrs old



"I love to retrieve, I love the water, I love people. I even love to watch the Animal Plant!" – Gabby



Missy 6 mos. old

"These pictures are great aren't they? Makes it look like I sleep all the time. HA! I'm a happy-go-lucky pup, full of life, full of fun and full of love." – Missy



Jake 7yrs old

"I really like to see the look on humans' faces when I catch the frisbie in mid-air! What a hoot. I'm a smart, sweet guy. Got room in your heart for more love?" – Jake



Maggie 10 yrs old

"My forever family must be really busy because I've been waiting a long time. If you see them, would you let them know that I'm ready to comfort them? I like cats, and even goats, but I'm kind of afraid of the roosters around here– they keep pecking my butt! Bad roosters!!" – Maggie



Ace 10yrs old



"I have a serious heart condition and there's no telling how long I would have lasted if a Good Samaritan hadn't brought me to GRR. Now I'm getting the medicine I need—and lots of love, too." – Ace

Cibolo 3yrs old



"When I was left outside— all by myself— no one was around to see what a people-pleasing guy I am. I need a family that knows better." – Cibolo

Lola 8 yrs old



"I'm not getting older, I'm getting better. Swimming, walking, or just snuggling up for a quiet evening." – Lola



Moses 2 yrs old

"I've been told that my face and disposition can melt a thousand hearts. My magnetism is what they call 'Golden'." – Moses



Tempest 6 months old

"It's true blondes have more fun— especially when they're all moved into a great foster home and not living stray on the streets any more." – Tempest

Thanks to our Vets!

Gold Ribbon Rescue wishes to thank the following Animal Clinics for their continued support of our dogs and rescue efforts.

Animal Trustees of Austin

Pets First – San Antonio

Highway 30 Vet Clinic – College Station

Central Texas Vet. Specialty Hospital – North and South locations

Century Animal Hospital – So. Austin

Deerfield Animal Hospital – San Antonio

Griffith Small Animal Clinic – Central Austin

Prairie Creek Animal Clinic – Plano

White Rock Veterinary Hospital – Pflugerville

Emergency Animal Hospital of Northwest Austin – North & South locations

Please give them your business and support!

Attention Vets and GRR Families:

We are in desperate need of Otomax!! If you have left-overs in labeled containers, please consider donating to GRR. Other meds needed: Rimadyl, Drontal Plus, Cephalexin, Doxycycline, Baytril, Cipro and Etogesic.

To get the complete story on these adoptables and more, visit
www.GRR-tx.com



A Sign of the Times...

You may remember in the last issue of the Gazette, a new membership level program was introduced (see www.GRR-tx.com for details). Please check your address label on this issue for a gentle reminder of when your membership renewal is due and consider renewing right away. Thank you to those listed below that have renewed and done so beyond the minimum required fee. We appreciate you all!

Donations to GRR have dropped significantly—considering the economy, it is not surprising. But unfortunately it's a double edged sword for GRR. We have an increase in owner surrenders who

cannot afford basic veterinary services. It's a real shame as we see more and more of these dogs come in to GRR care with severe ear infections that could have easily been prevented, but now require drug therapy and in some cases expensive surgery.

All Golden Retrievers that come into our care are spayed and neutered as well as brought up-to-date on their vaccinations. More and more are in need of heartworm treatment—again, another very preventable but deadly condition.

Won't you open your wallet today to help save a Golden? Thank you.



Golden Nugget Membership Level \$100-\$249

*Mark Brelsford
Margot Burrell
Kelly Condon
William F. Keith
Mike & Kay Keliher
Marla McClain
David & Sharon Mills
Max Ploeger
Bruce Rossiter
Emily Tuczowski*



Golden Friend Membership Level \$40-\$99

*Mary Faloan
Janis Goodman
Peter Grudzinski
Becky LaBrum*

Please check out our Boutique on the website for some wonderful items for you and your Golden. Every purchase made from our boutique helps increase our funds.

You can make your donation on line at www.GRR-TX.com via a check or credit card or you may mail your donation to:

Gold Ribbon Rescue,
Attn: Golden Honors
PO Box 956, Austin, TX 78767-0956



Golden Memorials



**In Loving Memory of
"Lancelot"
and In Honor of
"Kenya Ten Eyck"**
Tracey Ten Eyck

**In Loving Memory of
"Audrey Biba"**
*Brenda Forsythe
Century Animal Hospital*

Golden Gifts & Honors:

*Arthur Rossiter
Jack Gomez*

**In Honor of our daughter
Barbara Bennett's birthday**
Jerry & Betty Culhane

In the name of "Rocky"
Connie & Dave Stulman

**"Keep up the wonderful work
you do for all our Golden
friends."**

Dave & Patti Tietjen

**In honor of "Grandpa's 65th
birthday"**
Cayo & Isla Saenz

Golden Classified – WHERE GRREAT PEOPLE FIND GRREAT JOBS

*There has been a re-occurring theme throughout this issue of the Gazette– we need your help! Dollars are tight, and the rescue work widens. Unfortunately the number of Golden retrievers that need our help doesn't match the downward trend in today's stock market. But there is a way that each of us can help and the sum of many can lead to GRreat things for these deserving animals. There is a job listed in here for YOU! Take a look into the loving eyes of your dog and ask yourself if you can spare 1 hour a month, 5 hours a month or more. The amount of time it takes can be minimal– but the impact can be huge. Remember, we provide all the training! We invite you to attend the upcoming training session on **June 19th**.*

No resume required. No prior experience necessary. And the pay is GRreat! It's bringing a rescue Golden and loving family together for life. How's that for a bonus!

Keeper of the Dog List

Do you have experience with Excel spreadsheets? The "Keeper of the Dog List" tracks all incoming and adopted dogs, notifies webmaster via email and provides weekly updates of the spreadsheet to the Dog Team. No fancy graphing, just plain ol' Excel columns. *email beth@grr-tx.com*
Time commitment– 1 hour a week.

A.T.A. Coordinator

Want to do your part to keep Golden retrievers from being abandoned, mistreated? You can make a difference by simply coordinating the appointments for our incoming dogs for spay/neuter, faxing rabies certificates to clinic when needed and facilitating the payment for services. *Time commitment– 2 hours a week.*

Prince(ss) of Paper

Oh yes, this is a charmer of a position. Filing. That's it! If you've got the room– we've got the files. Once one of our beauties is adopted, a file is sent your way to file away. *email Beth@GRR-tx.com*
Time commitment– >1 hour a week.

Vet Work Assistants

Have a fax machine and a scanner? Then we need you! You can work with a team to track the vet appointments and treatment of incoming dogs, and the dogs in foster care. You'll fax "to-do" lists to vet offices and match up invoices to services received. You'll get to know the dogs that need us the most and the foster families that care for them. *email Beth@grr-tx.com today!!*
Time commitment– 2 hours a week.

Doggie Drivers

Do you want to meet some of the wonderful Golden retrievers that appear on our web site? Would you like to give a dog a chance at a better life? Are you a love them and leave them (at foster home) kind of person? Then volunteer for our transport team! Pick up and/or delivery can be arranged within your work/play schedule. Most transports are within the Austin, San Marcos, San Antonio corridor and surrounding Hill Country. We need you–the Golden retrievers need you! Can you give a golden a lift? *email: kathy@grr-tx.com*
Time commitment– >2 hours a week.

Digital Diva or Don!

Oh those photographic Golden faces. We love to see them on the website and we need people throughout the Austin Metro that can visit foster homes in their own neighborhoods to take digital photos of the Golden retrievers awaiting adoption. Smile–ahh, I mean "Sit". *Time commitment– >1 hour a week.*

Hotline Helpers

This is where it all starts– with a call to our Hotline. Everyone should try this job out at least once. It really paints a picture of GRR. You sign up for one week to monitor and return calls from our Hotline. Step-by-step instructions make this job easy. *email Becky@grr-tx.com*
Time commitment– 5-8 hours a week every couple of months.

Meet the Families

The adoption team is looking for people that can help broaden the circle of GRR families. We want to ensure our Golden retrievers' second chance is the best one. There are two ways to help in this area; phone interviews or home visits. No experience necessary– and training is FREE! *email Dana@grr-tx.com*
Time commitment– 3 hours a month.

Respite Care Providers

Does your dog need a playdate? How about hosting a visiting Golden retriever for a day or two? Often we have rescue dogs that need a temporary home until their Foster Family is ready for them, or when the Foster Family needs to go away for a weekend or on vacation. *email Becky@grr-tx.com*
Time commitment– it's up to YOU!

Foster Coordinator

Can't foster, drive, file or take a picture worth a thousand words? Never fear, Foster Coordination is here! It's a wonderful way to follow the rescued Golden retriever all the way from Foster Care placement to adoption. Highly rewarding and essential to the team. *Time commitment– 2 hours a week.*

GRR Event Elves

We have many events throughout the year that are fun and educational. We're looking for folks with a flare for PR and marketing to help promote the events and even more folks to just help with the basics– like set up and clean up. *Time commitment– depends on the event and how much fun you're willing to have!*

The Rescue Business is Booming!

*Interested in any of the positions?
Or want more info? email:*

Volunteer@GRR-tx.com



Join the GRR Team – Training Class in June!

Can you spare 5-8 hours every other month? Hotline volunteers return phone calls received on the hotline. Can you spare 3-5 hours a month? Home visitors spend about an hour with new families helping them learn to care for their new golden. It's fun, easy and all training is provided. It really only takes a few hours from a pool of volunteers who love Golden Retrievers as much as you do. Please take a look at the "Golden Classified" on pg. 9 to see where your talents may fit best.

Gold Ribbon Rescue offers regular orientation/training sessions for new volunteers. The training is fun and practical, and provides an all-around view of how Gold Ribbon works. Join us, won't you?

Saturday, June 21, 1pm - 4pm

Crestview United Methodist Church
1300 Morrow, Austin, TX 78757
Room 8, Education Building

*Visit www.GRR-tx.com to RSVP so we can send your training materials to you in advance.
Directions are on the website, or you may send an email to volunteer@grr-tx.com.
Call 512-659-GOLD for more information.*

Gold Ribbon Rescue
PO Box 956
Austin, TX 78767-0956

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