# THE GUARDIAN

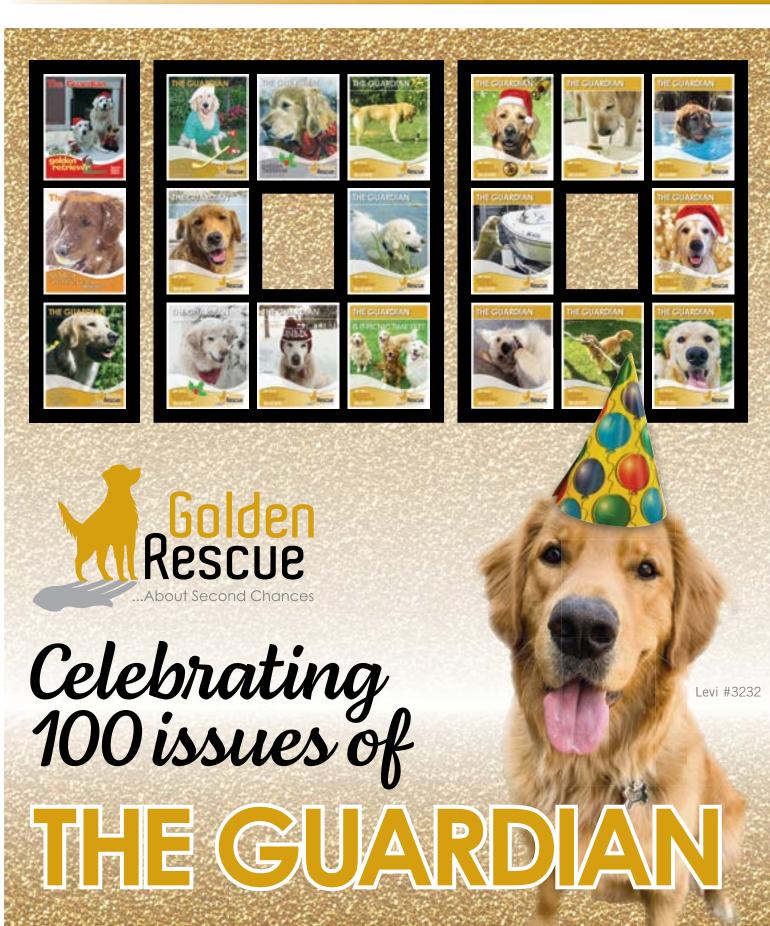
MARCH 2021 LISSUE 100

# ARE YOU A golden retriever BELIEVER?



HENRY #3416

#### March 2021





Rescue Hotline: 416-657-2445 1-866-712-8444



CANADIAN GOLDEN RETRIEVER ADOPTION SERVICE INC.

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#### The Front Cover

Henry #3416 ~ Henry was a favourite with his rescuers in Cairo and we can understand why as he is an amazing boy. He is doing so well in Canada and getting along with his feline sister. Sometimes he thinks she is a toy but mostly he is just curious. He absolutely loves the snow and often leaps into the deep snowbanks. He loves everyone he meets ~ neighbours, dogs, and kids. He has a favourite stuffed toy that is an avocado and he loves his rope toy and kong. He has been learning quickly ~ he already knows sit, paw, and high five. He is learning to walk on the leash and wait and he already knows his name, especially when we call him for dinner. He truly is an amazing boy and a fabulous addition to our family. Rose & Lon

# **THE GUARDIAN**

March 2021 | Issue 100

#### Give the gift of gold. Give the gift of love.

The Guardian is the official publication of the Canadian Golden Retriever Adoption Service Inc., a not-for-profit rescue and adoption service for Golden Retrievers.

A one-year subscription to Golden Rescue's 'Guardian' is \$30 and it's complimentary for monthly donors.

Our address is: Mailing address: P.O. Box 31026, Barrie, ON L4N 0B3

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Please consider a subscription to The Guardian for a special friend or relative.

**BUSINESS REPLY ENVELOPE (BRE) NOTICE:** The postal code on our BRE IS CORRECT.

#### **Mission Statement**

#### Golden Rescue gives second chances to Goldens in need.

Our mission is simple and straightforward because that's who we are and that's what we do. Our volunteer-run organization, led by a volunteer, working board of directors, is dedicated to ensuring that each and every rescued Golden receives exceptional care, regardless of the extent of their needs. We provide veterinary care, rehabilitation, behaviour training, and numerous other services to help our Goldens prepare for their second chance with a loving forever family. We also help educate people about the virtues of rescue as rescue is our favourite breed.

At the root of everything we do are our core values ~ integrity, kindness, compassion ~ all delivered without judgment. These are our guiding principles that drive our purpose and sustain our ability to continually wrap our arms around Goldens who so desperately need our help.

#### Golden Rescue<sup>™</sup> is a registered trademark of the Canadian Golden Retriever Adoption Service Inc.

### If you have any comments or suggestions for the Guardian, please email guardian@goldenrescue.ca.

Please note that due to publishing timelines, there may be a waiting period before the acknowledgement of your contribution. We appreciate your patience and will do our utmost to be as prompt as possible. Articles/photos in The Guardian may be reproduced with the express permission of The Guardian team.

The Guardian is the result of many people who have generously donated their time, expertise, design, and resources to its production. A great big THANK YOU goes to Betty James for the design and to Lyndsay Caslick and Michael Gibb for doing the mail-out.

We would like to thank all of our contributing writers and photographers... too many to list. Betty, who loves her furkids, has given up many weekends and evenings to design and assemble this newsletter so that we Golden lovers can read all about the golden world we live in.



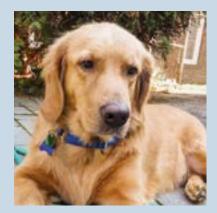
Betty with Shadow #1342



### Midas #3354

Meet Midas...another Cairo transplant! This handsome Egyptian dude has acclimatized very well to Canada. He has a lovely back yard, a swimming pool, a place to join mom while doing yoga (although he's not very helpful as he jumps on me and doesn't let me move), and a food bowl that gets filled twice a day like clockwork. Being the only pet in our home, he sure gets lots of love and attention, which he laps up and gives back tenfold. His love of life and enthusiasm is contagious and he makes every day an absolute joy.

Marlene, John & Katie





RESCU

## Just Click 'SHOP' GRAND OPENING OF THE NEW GR STORE

We are just goofy-crazy happy about the grand opening of Golden Rescue's new online store.

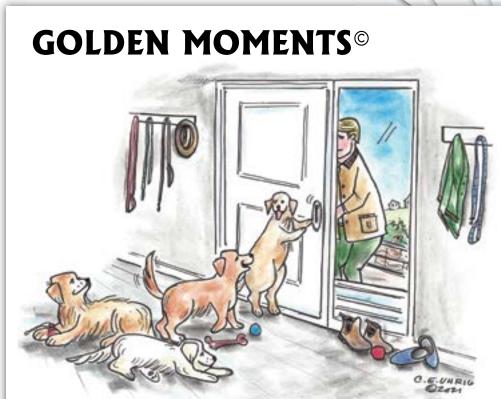
We have taken the on-line store in-house to provide you with more selection, easier ordering, and faster delivery. Lots and lots of new inventory for sale. Go to our website and just click 'SHOP' ~ it's that easy!



# COMING SOON Online 50/50 & Catch the Ace

**Stay tuned for more information!** 





"Let's go guys – you know how he loves the big lick, meet and greet!"



Why are Golden Retrievers so smart?

Because

they always

\*get\* things!

# THE TRAINING COR

# So, What is Concept Games-Based Training?

You may have heard of Games Based or Concept Training. It has been around for about 10 years but has started becoming more popular and recognized all over the world. It is seen as the next revolution in dog training and I completely agree.

One of my trainers introduced me to it a little over a year ago. As we had to shut down during the first wave of COVID last March, it gave me the opportunity to investigate and pursue games-based training. The changes it brought to Star in the way she reacted to things was amazing. So much so, that I signed up to study and become Certified as a Pro Dog Trainer through Absolute Dogs.

At Who's Walking Who, we have been using positive reward-based training for the past 20+ years. Last year, we started integrating games-based into our regular classes and again, the results that people were having with their dogs was simply far beyond what we had seen in the past.

So, what's the difference? The way Absolute Dogs puts it, there are three types of trainers ~ Trainer 1's, Trainer 2's, and Trainer 3's. Trainer 1's use aversive methods that inflict pain or fear such as shock collars, prong collars or choke chains in order to get the dog to do what they want them to do. Trainer 2's use positive reward-based training. Basically, reward what you want and ignore what you don't want. In both of these training methods, they train in the situation, not for the situation. In other words, they train 'in the moment' rather than preparing the dog for when it occurs.

For instance, if you have a dog who barks or lunges at another dog while on leash out on a walk, Trainer 1 might suggest putting a prong or choke chain on them. Trainer 2 might suggest making your dog sit and make eye contact with you, not the dog up ahead. And I have to admit, as a Trainer 2 for many years, it's something we used to do. But when you know better, you do better. In both cases, you are forcing them or telling them what to do.

Trainer 3's train for the situation instead, not in the situation through games. We work instead on building concepts within your dog's brain which then produce real life results. Concepts such as proximity (to you), flexibility, confidence, optimism, impulse control, thinking in arousal (being excited or worried), focus, engagement, disengagement, and I'm probably missing a few.

Let's think about this for a minute...your dog sees another dog up ahead and he starts barking and/or lunging. Your dog could be excited to see the dog and wants to get to them or he could be worried or anxious about this dog and doesn't want to get near them. Just because the hackles on their back go up, doesn't mean they're mad. Hackles can go up when they're excited. In both cases, the dog is aroused, either negatively or positively at the sight of the other dog.

Now, if you have a prong or slip collar on them, you are inflicting pain when they see another dog. What kind of message does that relay to the dog? If you ask them to sit and stare at you while you feed them treats, first you create more worry because now they can't see the other dog approaching and secondly, if you know anything about dog body language, staring is intimidating for a dog. Yes, our dogs will stare lovingly at us when they're relaxed at home, but your dog is not relaxed in this situation.

Trainer 3' instead show the owner a number of different types of games to play with their dog in many different places in their home and outside in safe places like the backyard, driveway or on leash out on a walk. In the example above the games prescribed might be designed to build disengagement (from what's happening in the environment), proximity (wanting to be with you, not what's ahead), confidence (a dog that is upset about seeing other dogs is not confident, in fact lacks confidence), optimism (it's perfectly



# **SAY CHEESE!**

Please share your Golden pictures for future newsletters, our 2022 calendar or for our website and marketing materials.

- Set your digital camera or phone to highest settings (largest size)
- · Please don't make photos smaller (or compress them) for email

#### Please e-mail photos to photos@goldenrescue.ca

Please make sure you tell us who's who and their rescue numbers.





normal to see another dog), flexibility (nope, I don't need to be worried or play with the other dog), etc. There are actually over 200 games, each building on more than one concept. The best part is that you adapt the training to the individual dog ~ there's no cookie cutter solution.

What games-based training does is help the dog make better decisions. We build on the concepts that are weak in your dog. We are not telling them or forcing them to do something, instead, through games we build the concepts they're lacking so they make good decisions. And the best part is playing the games is fun!

It's great to teach your dog to sit or down using rewards-based training. We still do that and will continue to. But if you have a dog that gets worried or anxious about sounds, things that move, new places, has trouble settling down, has little impulse control, wouldn't you rather help reshape their brain so those things aren't a struggle?

I will give you a perfect example of how this training is different. I have a new little puppy named Tula. We got her at eight weeks and I have been using games-based training from day one. As you probably know, puppies have no self-control, so I have been playing a number of impulse control games with Tula to help her develop some self-control. I have Tula with me on most of my one-on-one virtual training sessions. I had a consult with a lady who had just adopted a rescue and one of her concerns was her dog rushing through the front door when it opened. I told her I would show her an obedience exercise that she could work on with her dog and I would use Tula to demo. I also told her Tula had never been taught this (and she hadn't) so it would be a good real-life example.

The exercise is open the door, then as the dog tries to walk through it, pull him back so he can't go through. Continue to do this until they wait for you open the door fully. Then mark & reward and tell them to go through. Tula and I approached the door to a room that she loves because it's where we keep our supplies. I opened the door all the way, expecting her to walk through it and she promptly sat down and looked at me. She did not attempt to walk through into the other room. The reason is, I've worked so much on impulse control through games that she made the decision to sit and wait. Tula was only 17 weeks at the time.

Does games-based training work? You bet it does! I'll be talking more about it and including some games in upcoming articles.

By Lynda Kitson



Lynda Kitson is the owner of Who's Walking Who Dog Training Centres with locations in Ajax, the Beaches, and Distillery District in Toronto ~ whoswalkingwho.ca. She lives with her husband Vaughan and 3 Golden Retrievers, Augie #2623, Star and their newest addition, Tula.

### Miss Daisy #3343

What is driving Miss Daisy? Well, we think it is everything in Canada because she loves it here. Her life in Cairo was pretty marginal compared to her delectable life here in 'eh' land. We hit the motherload when we met this sweet, gentle, and precious soul. Having lost our lovable Louie after 10 years (who was also a Golden Rescue), she helped us heal so it's truly a who-rescuedwho scenario. She keeps us smiling, laughing, and remembering all the silly things that Goldens do. There is enough room in our hearts for more crazy, goofy memories to be made.

Patricia & Rob



# **MEET & GREET**



# MEET & GREET

### Jerry #2845

Jerry came out of his crate at the airport wagging his tail and it has been wagging ever since. This Istanbul boy has been nicknamed 'Jerry the Cuddler' because he is a cuddle champion. This strong boy had a great trainer to help with his leash training, which was successful but funnily enough the trainer's name was Terry and his dog's name was Gary. So, Jerry, Terry, and Gary had a lot of fun together except whichever name was called, they all answered. Recently, I accidentally locked my keys, purse, cell phone, and Jerry in my car at a gas station. When the CAA truck arrived, the chap moved quickly to open the door but stopped at the final step. As he was about to put his fingers inside the car, he asked "Does your dog bite?" I looked at Jerry, sitting upright behind the driver's seat quietly watching the chap with great interest and I said "No, he only licks."

#### Jill





# WHEN And WHERE Will I Find Golden Rescue EVENTS?

Join us, have fun, and help our Goldens!

#### Saturday, March 13 ~ 7 pm EST

**TRIVIA NIGHT – ST. PATRICK'S DAY THEME** Join us for our newest monthly family game ~ online trivia. The most fun you can have for just \$5!

#### Various dates in March

#### **\$10 TUESDAY WEBINARS**

#ICYMI ~ we will be offering recordings of past webinars in case you missed them!

If you're interested in volunteering for any events, please email <u>volunteer@goldenrescue.ca</u>.

#### Friday, April 23 ~ Sunday, April 25

**MOTHER'S DAY SPRING ONLINE AUCTION** We are looking for donations with a 'Gifts for Mom' theme:

- Gift cards
- Home décor
- Pet items
- Framed prints, photo frames
- Bath products
- Kitchen items
- Apparel
- Garden décor
- Games, electronics, books
- Handicrafts
- Jewellery

#### www.facebook.com/groups/317232495984795

Please email <u>sa@goldenrescue.ca</u> if you can help (new items only, please)



# askSADIE

Sadie #2963

Dear Sadie: I've noticed something common between all breeds of dogs that seems a bit odd. Why do dogs kick up the grass after doing their 'business? Ryder

**Dear Ryder:** Now that you mention it, it is a bit strange! Here is what I found out and it may not be as surprising as you think. It's a way of marking our territory. When we kick up the grass, it stimulates the scent glands between the pads of our paws, allowing us to spread our scent on that patch of grass ~ kind of like telling other dogs, "Yep, this is mine, so back off". Makes sense, right? So, kick away!

#### Dear Sadie: How often should I get a bath? Not-a-fan Quincy

**Dear Quincy:** I will begin by saying that once a month works for most dogs but it really depends on a few things such as breed and skin condition. If you have oily skin, then more frequent baths are in order, but long haired and water-repellent breeds like Golden Retrievers can be bathed less often. Over-bathing can strip natural oils and cause dandruff and frizzies, plus some shampoos can cause skin irritation... so gauge what your individual needs are. Bathing regularly is part of staying in good health so we need to embrace it. Don't forget to wash behind your ears!

### Dear Sadie: I seem to bite my nails a lot. Is there a reason why I'm doing this? Abby

**Dear Abby:** I do this too and it's usually an indicator that it's time to get my nails trimmed and have decided to take matters into my own paws. If this isn't the case for you, then other possibilities may include boredom, nervousness or the nail is broken and you're trying to fix it. Other things to look out for that you might want to speak to your vet about are allergies or possible fungal infection. Hopefully, it's just as simple as just needing a trim and nothing more.

#### Dear Sadie: Can I get ticks in the winter? I noticed that my tick prevention medication isn't prescribed for a full year. Does that mean I'm safe during the off months? Sam

**Dear Sam:** Well, not exactly. Ticks are less common during the colder months but can still be a concern. Ticks don't like the cold and once temperatures warm up to around freezing, they look for a warm host to attach themselves to. With the risk being lower, the choice to not be on medication is typically made because of cost and to give your body a break from the medication. So, although not as frequent, we still need to watch out for them. Some geographical areas are more infested so check with your vet to see if your area recommends year-long prevention or not.

#### Dear Sadie: My wonderful family insists on washing my bed all the time. It takes me so long to get it how I like it, then they go and wash all the good smells out of it! Why must they do this? Irate Indy

**Dear Indy:** Oh boy...how do I put this delicately? Your bed may not be as pleasant smelling to others as you may find it. It's important to keep items like bedding clean ~ to not only keep it smelling good but to help prevent skin issues or infection from bacteria and remove any parasites that may be hiding in them. Sorry to say that your family is doing the right thing and there is nothing like climbing into a freshly washed bed!

Love & woof-woof Sadie xxx

**AEET & GREET** 

# Beki #3007

Beki came to Canada from Cairo in February 2019. She was a little worse for wear but as the saying goes, 'Baby look at her now'. She has just come from the groomer and is SO proud of herself. Look at her sporting her gorgeous golden smile. She and her 11-year-old sister Cali get along so well together and our sweet girl loves everything about her new Canadian life and we love everything about her.







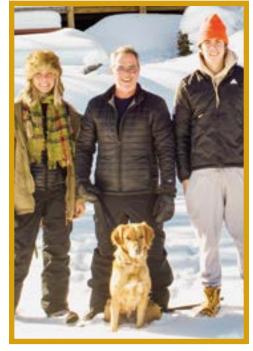


#### March 2021

# **GOLDEN ANGELS**

In each and every issue, we'd like to recognize some outstanding volunteers. Here, you will meet golden angels with golden hearts.





Dr. Scott with wife Andra, son Calum & Cleo #3390

#### Dr. Scott Bainbridge

Dr. Scott is an owner/partner of the Dundas West Animal Hospital. Scott and his clinic started supporting Golden Rescue eight years ago and Scott became more intrigued with Golden Rescue after seeing some of the amazing Goldens who were coming to him as patients from Istanbul and Cairo. When Scott's family lost their dog Kia, they adopted sweet Cleo #3390 ~ an Egyptian beauty. As a result of Scott's airport experience when meeting Cleo, he had a fabulous idea of helping at the airport whereby he and his team would do health checks on the arriving Goldens. He is a godsend to our International Mission of Love. His wife, Andra, also rolls up her sleeves and helps greet our new arrivals. We are in awe of their collective commitment to Golden Rescue. Scott also supports Golden Rescue by assisting with fundraising events and spreading the word about us on national media. He will be at our picnic and beginning in the next issue of The Guardian, Dr. Scott will be starting an 'Ask the Vet' column. To say thank you is not enough ~ you are the epitome of a Golden angel.



Elaine & Riley

#### **Elaine Armstrong**

Elaine's Golden, Friday, came to her as a puppy when she volunteered with Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind. Her family raised him from a puppy for one full year taking him everywhere they went. They thoroughly enjoyed this experience and were ecstatic when he was offered back to them after two months of training, as he was not a good candidate to be a guide dog. Friday was a wonderful boy and the reason Elaine chose to volunteer with Golden Rescue. Elaine is an integral part of the Foster Team and she has enjoyed bringing fosters onboard by seeing them through every step of the approval process. She is also helping Golden Rescue grow across Canada. In the not-too-distant future, Elaine is looking forward to adopting a Golden (or two). Elaine is getting to know Golden Rescue very well and is a fantastic advocate and supporter. We are very fortunate to have Elaine at our side ~ and very grateful to Friday!



Ashley with husband Dave & Toby

#### **Ashley Donaldson**

This talented lady joined Golden Rescue's education and advocacy team and last year also joined the intake team, a role that is very involved and requires compassion and a great deal of organization. As a professional performer/dancer, Ashley has worked for Disney and in a number of movies and highprofile performances in the GTA. She is also a professional seamstress so how she finds the time to help us is a mystery but one we are very happy she does. Ashley says, "working with Golden Rescue is so rewarding and filled with amazing people and I'm so grateful to be granted the opportunity to help Goldens find true love". We wish we could clone you, Ashely. Thank you for all you do!





# MEET & GREET

### Annie #3428

The most difficult thing about adopting Annie was her flight being delayed a week, which left us wracked with anticipation. The wait was worth it! When Annie arrived. she came out of her crate bouncing and jumping as if she had won the lottery and was looking forward to a very bright future ~ there wasn't an ounce of trepidation in her. Her new Golden fur-brother Charlie and she have become best friends who sound like two happy tap dancers when they come through the house playing. She is such a charmer with the kids and they adore her. It was hilarious to watch her chomping snowballs the kids made and prancing around in the two inches of fresh snow on the sidewalk. Adopting Annie has been a precious experience.

Tara



# DON'T MISS OUT ON GOLDEN NEWS!





We send out regular Adoption Alerts and eblasts for News & Events. Sign up for one or both by going to the website. In the top right-hand corner of each page, click on 'Join our mailing list' and follow the prompts. You will then always be 'in-the-know' about Golden news!

> FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

'Like' us on Facebook and 'Follow' us on Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest to stay up-to-date on what's happening with Golden Rescue. Visit our website and click on the icons to stay connected!



# GOLDEN RETRIEV

### **RECENT DONORS:**

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Diane Rys Diane Thoms Dianne M. Davies Dianne Tschirhart Don & Lynda Scott Don Scott Don Smith Donna Ince Douglas Aitkenhead

Kindness like yours can move mountains. Thank you for your supportive and loving hearts ~ we treasure you all!

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Shari Massardo

#### Trish Slater Vadim Paskarou Law Valarie Franklin Valerie Barker Vicki Lowenberger Viive Tamm In memory of sweet Rudy & Gordie Vivian Lee-Major Wayne Vizniowski Wendy Elchesyn Wendy Gillespie Wendy Moffat Wendy Santo William Farwell William Mooney Wini Chiu Woody's Instagram Family In honor of our dear friend who recently lost her best friend, Woody Yves Labelle In honour of Darcy #3150 Yvonne Budden Zeynep Ozkok

#### In memory of Dick Ronald ~ a great friend to Golden Rescue!

Ian Hunter Janet Ronald Nancy Sproule Patti Matheis Sue Nemanic Teresa Montgomery Tigercat Industries Inc. Viive Tamm

### Walli #3364

When Walli came out of his crate at the airport when he arrived from Cairo, he was quiet, reserved, and pretty unsure of himself. Today Walli is the life of the party...so much so that he is nicknamed Wala-Wala-Bing-Bang. He loves his forever fur-brother Duke and they love to play together. He also loves his walks, play time, belly rubs, and after some initial trepidation, he loves the snow and catching snowflakes. Didn't have many of those in Cairo, right Walli? He is curious, super smart, beautiful, affectionate, and a wonderful addition to our family.



# **MEET & GREET**

13

Cynthia

# GOLDEN RETRIEV

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#### Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much. Helen Keller

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# **MEET & GREET**

### Mia #2905

Mia is a beautiful senior citizen. Apart from a few arthritic aches and pains, she is a lovely, happy, and healthy girl. She is a playful soul who loves everyone she meets ~ people, dogs, and even her feline cousins are her friends. This cuddle bunny rolls onto her back when she meets someone new in the hopes of getting a belly rub and don't even get me started on snow...simply her favourite thing to roll around in. I think it is her attempt to make snow angels. Speaking of angels, she is certainly one herself.

Chris





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# **MEET & GREET**

### Rosko #3384

I welcomed Sasha, who turned out to be Sasham, and who is now Rosko. This boy arrived from Cairo and in less than four weeks, he has turned into a model puppy who has settled in beautifully to our Canadian ways. He has learned all his commands and recall at breakneck speed and has figured out a way to weasel into my bed. We have built a wonderful bond and no challenge is too much for this superstar. He is my hero and I'm looking forward to our journey together.





# **The Calming Touch**



### All dogs have places on their bodies that, when touched, can provoke an instant reaction.

There are subtle spots that you should touch your dog that feel very good to them and are highly effective at soothing rather than revving them up. It's important to try and avoid the more aggressive type of tug of war interaction because it can quickly cause play biting, jumping, and other rude behaviour.

How you approach your dog is important. It's best to project a calm and relaxed demeanour so that your dog sees you as non-threatening and will feel safe with you in your home.

This is particularly important with rescue dogs as they are often coming from an unsafe or insecure environment. One of the first things that they need to learn when they join your family is that you are a positive influence in their lives and someone that they can trust. They need to know they can relax with you and let their guard down.

With any new dog, it is important to start bonding with them right away and using the calming touch will teach the dog that your love is unconditional ~ that it means something and has value. If your dog does not accept your love, then you have no currency, nothing to reward them with at the end of a job well done. This is a crucial part of establishing that loving bond between you and your new furry friend. And if you are going to be training your dog, you have to give them just as much love and praise to keep that scale balanced. So, if you touch your dog properly in the right place and at the right time, then you will make sure that your dog is firmly bonded to you, happily accepts your love, and is eager to follow your instruction. And unlike food and treat rewards, you will never be out somewhere and run out of your bag of love!

Now, let's take a look at the simple steps involved in implementing the calming touch with your dog:

Start by facing your dog and get down on their level, keeping your body low. This can be done in a number of ways including crouching, sitting on the floor or on the edge of the couch so that you are face-to-face with your dog and at their level. Avoid too much direct eye contact as many dogs find that intimidating.

Reach your arms out and calmly call your dog to you. As you extend your arms, keep your hands open, flat, palms out, and lower than the dog's head. Avoid approaching from above as they can view this as a threat and may be reluctant to approach you for a sniff.

Once your dog reaches you, have them sit in front of you. Don't forget to tell them what a good dog they are!



Slowly start rubbing your dog along the sides of their face lightly with slow, gentle strokes. Always rub up from underneath on the side of the face and neck stroking softly against their jaw line and down along both sides of the cheeks.

Stroke the spot running from the corner of the eyes down to the ears and anywhere in that area. This is the nurturing spot that the mother dog would lick to clean their pup's eyes and ears. Your dog will be in heaven and will love it! You can also pull gently forward on or behind their ears and in the hair around the neck, which are other good spots that many dogs find irresistible. Again, go slow and steady in a gentle rhythmic motion. The calming touch can also be administered along the dog's mane. Gently follow their mane down toward their back with both hands rubbing gently on each side of their neck running from the top of the head, down the middle and stopping high along their back.



The shoulder blades and the chest areas are other great spots that when calmly stroked or rubbed will turn your dog into putty in your hands. From there, move all the way down both sides of the spine using your thumbs to gently massage and you will have your dog melting in your arms. There is also a little spot on either side of the top of the tail near the dog's bum that many dogs love to have rubbed.

When lightly stroking your dog along the side of their face, neck, and body, I highly recommend using an open palm or the flat back of your hand and avoid scrunching up your fingers in their coat. That scrunching motion can sometimes feel like a bite and may cause them to react by play biting in return.

Keep in mind that all dogs are different and some methods will work better than others so we must always watch the dog's reaction to our touch and adjust accordingly. This is why it's great to have a lot of options to select from when petting your dog. And one thing that all dogs do have in common is that the more time you spend loving and attending to them using a calm, relaxed approach, the stronger the bond will be between you.

#### By Peter Brown





# 2020 In Review

2020 was a challenging year for Golden Rescue, as it was for literally everyone on our planet. We created a number of new protocols that allowed us to function in this COVID-19 world, such as virtual home visits, meet and greets in outside spaces only, and airport protocols for our international rescues. Our fabulous team of volunteers rose to the challenge and we were still able to rescue a significant number of Goldens ~ 193 (to compare, in 2019, we rescued 316). So, 193 during this crisis we find ourselves in was an amazing undertaking. Here's where and who the Goldens were last year:

- Breeder surrenders ~ 13 (10 females/3 males)
- Humane Society/SPCA ~ 6 (5 females/1 male)
- By owner ~ 41 (9 females/32 males)
- Vet Clinic ~ 1 (male)
- International ~ 132 (58 females/74 males)
- 60% of the females and 47% of the males were intact

As for fundraising, where we would normally raise considerable funds through our picnic and its silent auction and raffle, our LCBO tag days, and regional events, all of these were cancelled due to COVID-19. Our fundraising and events teams, therefore, had to get creative on how to raise funds to be able to pay for the 193 Goldens last year. Here's a few ways in which we did this.

**ONLINE AUCTIONS** (we raised twice as much with the on-line auction as we historically did at the picnic ~ it was so successful that we're planning to do them a few times each year)

WISHBONE LOTTERY ~ we sold more tickets than ever before

#### ONLINE TRIVIA CONTESTS AND WEBINARS

**CAIRO 24-GOLD CAMPAIGN** ~ we did a specialized fundraising plea to hopefully bring 24 Goldens here from Cairo ~ we raised enough to bring 82!!! (wow...and thank you to our supporters)

All of these new events, along with our traditional ones, allowed us to stay financially healthy during the pandemic, which was no small feat indeed. With 2021 upon us, we are hoping for brighter days ahead. As we all know, rescue never sleeps and doesn't that care we are in a pandemic. In these troubled times, rescue needs us more than ever. Stay hopeful and above all stay safe!



'Goodnight Goldens' are weekly bedtime rescue stories read to you by our wonderful adopters, fosters, volunteers, and supporters...with their rescued Goldens by their side.

Don't forget to tune in every Thursday night to hear these rescue stories read from our Golden Reflections coffee table book. They will warm the cockles of your heart on a cold winter's night. Enjoy!

And you can always catch the previous episodes by going to YouTube ~ search under 'Goodnight Goldens'.

\*To purchase your very own copy of Golden Reflections, please email grstore@gmail.ca



# Save The Date

# SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH Golden Rescue's Picnic at RESORT

As you know, last year's picnic was sadly cancelled due to Covid-19. We are hoping that we'll be able to have it this year so paws crossed we will indeed be able to celebrate our Golden day. Join us for an action-packed, fun-filled day ~ details to follow soon! It's never too early to RSVP or volunteer for the picnic (picnic@goldenrescue.ca) or to book your accommodations.





This is a recent newspaper article about one of our board members ~ Dr. Patty Lechten. We are very proud of her and so grateful for everything she does for GR. Congratulations from all of us ~ it is so well deserved!

#### Dr. Patricia Lechten receives Ontario's outstanding veterinarian award

#### Published January 26, 2021 by Barrie Today

Dr. Patricia Lechten, a veterinarian in Barrie, Ontario, has received the 2021 Outstanding Veterinarian Award from the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association. The award recognizes a veterinarian's outstanding contributions to the profession and animal welfare.

Dr. Lechten is a graduate of the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Missouri. For the past 30 years, she has dedicated her career to improving the health and well-being of companion animals as practice owner of Allandale Veterinary Hospital in Barrie, Ontario.

*"Dr. Lechten has inspired many of the veterinarians and veterinary staff around"* 

her with her enthusiasm and charisma," says colleague Dr. John Brajkovich. "She takes on challenges with both hands and has a tremendous amount of confidence and passion for veterinary medicine."

She is an active advocate for the profession and animal welfare, serving on the boards for Canadian Golden Retriever Rescue and the Global Alliance for Animals and People. She has also held several roles with the College of Veterinarians of Ontario, including serving six years on CVO Council and as the college's president in 2019.

Dr. Lechten volunteers with several animal rescue groups and donates veterinary care to COPE Service Dogs, the Ontario SPCA, and the local hospice centre's live-in pet. She has also organized and participated in numerous spay, neuter, and vaccination missions in Honduras, Guatemala, and Jamaica and in First Nations reserves to help underserved communities.

She also regularly gives back to her community by fundraising for the local food bank, preparing meals for the Barrie Out of the Cold program, supporting local sports teams and the arts, and by sponsoring children all over the world to help with their education.

"Dr. Lechten is very humble about the phenomenal work she does, the wonderful care she provides, her work in the community, and her selfless commitment to her team, her patients, and their families," says Trevor Roberts, COPE Service Dogs executive director. "In our opinion, she is the veterinarian of the year."

# **MEET & GREET**

### Betsy #3458

When Betsy first arrived in our home as a foster, she was afraid of the outdoors, snow, the car, and the TV. She was shy and not very sociable. Today her confidence level has soared and she now enjoys her walks and car rides. She is totally a social butterfly when she meets strangers, especially children. She is still cautious around other dogs...until she gets to know them. In some aspects, she is still a work-in-progress but in her own quiet way she makes us laugh every day and has completely stolen our hearts. Yes, we are foster failures but adopting Bets has been one of the best things we have ever done.

Bea & Rob





# Bailey #3455...MY STORY!

Greetings...or as I like to say, happy tails! I can't believe it's been a short time since I left the streets of Cairo, flew on a plane, and arrived in Canada. A nice man greeted me and drove me to meet my new family, Laurie and Dave. The minute I walked in the door of my new home, I knew I had found my furrever family. The oldest girl, Grace, gave me a big hug and had a new toy and sign for me that said 'Welcome home'. How sweet!

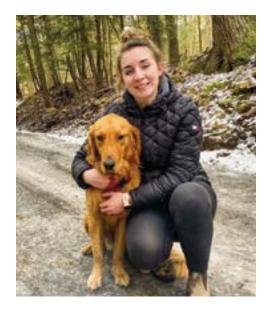
My new home is doggie paradise. My family posted pictures of me on Facebook and all their friends said I won the doggie lottery. Apparently, their home is known as the 'doggie spa' because it is pawsitively awesome and regularly gets five tail wag reviews on PupAdvisor from four-legged visitors. My new house is all one level and has a wood stove for me to curl up beside when it's cold. I have six acres with a spring-fed lake around which to roam. My family keeps telling me we will go fishing and swimming in the summer, but for now, it's all frozen and snowy. I have already been ice fishing and skating and like to blow bubbles in the ice fishing holes and minnow bucket! Within my first few days, I participated in my first Christmas bird count. This is where people from across the country go out into the fields, trails, and roads and count birds. We saw a bald eagle, geese, woodpeckers, and more. We go hiking regularly and I love watching the birds on my property. I especially love chasing squirrels. When I go out the front or back door, I go tearing after them and five or six squirrels will go flying off the bird feeders onto the fences and trees in a flourish. It makes me howl every time! My family doesn't mind because it keeps the squirrels away from the bird feeders.

It took me about a week to adjust to everything. My tummy was off a bit, so my Mom gave me pumpkin in my food for a few days. On Christmas Eve she made a pumpkin pie. She left it on the counter and asked my dad to get a Tupperware container down and cover it up. He got the wrong one that doesn't close properly and so before bed, I smelled the pumpkin, thinking it was for me and put my paws on the counter and ate half of it. Another time, a neighbour dropped some apple crisp off at the front door and as he was leaving, he got stuck in the icy snow in the driveway. They all went out to help them get unstuck so I helped myself to half a brie and a lovely charcuterie board on the dining room table. I know I shouldn't, but if silly humans leave food out like that, I can't help myself. I'll have to train them better if I'm going to keep my boyish figure.

My family is home during the day and spend their time looking at screens a lot. They take

lots of breaks though to play with me and take me for walks. They keep using words like 'Covid' and 'virus' and assure me we will visit more with other people and dogs soon. My favourite place to sleep now is in my dad's chair in the sunroom. It fits me just perfectly and I can look out of the windows and it makes me feel closer to him when he is away at work. Mom says it's like I'm a prince on my throne. Grace keeps bringing stuffed toys home for me. My ETTR (estimated time to rip apart) is 24 hours. I'm trying to improve my time to get into the Guinness Book of Dog Records. I figure I have a good shot if she keeps bringing dollar store items. I also like to go around and pick-up hats, mitts, and socks. Mom is trying to teach me to drop the dirty items in the laundry basket for biscuits. Grace has a boyfriend and he is a cat person (horrors). I have made it my secret mission to convert him to become a dog person so we snuggle a lot and play together. I think my master plan is working.

I am so happy in my new home. We believe in our hearts we were MFEO (Made For Each Other). I know this wonderful new life of mine would never have been possible without Golden Rescue and my generous sponsor. From the tip of my tail, I want to say thank you so much for bringing me to such a wonderful place.







# **Bentley #3332 ~ His Rescue Story**



The excitement started when we got our first email asking whether we would be interested in adopting Bentley ~ a 10-month-old rescue from Cairo, Egypt. We saw his photograph and fell in love. He had no behaviours and was reported to be very, very friendly and playful. It was a pleasant surprise because we had resigned ourselves to long delays due to shortages of dogs brought on by COVID. So, we said yes immediately, fearful that someone had made a mistake and would maybe want to retract the offer!

Adopting and rescuing a Golden Retriever was the best of both worlds for us. We have always adopted rescue dogs, mostly from local Humane Societies. We love to get rescues to give them a second chance at a better life...our way of paying it forward. In our opinion, they end up giving us more than we give them! We have also wanted to adopt a Golden Retriever for a long time. They have such wonderful, friendly temperaments so we felt that a Golden would be a great playmate for our Lab Retriever-cross Zoey. So, a Golden from Golden Rescue would satisfy both of our goals ~ to have a Golden and a rescue. The big question was how would Bentley be received by our Border Collie cross, Jenny? She is 13 years old, a little set in her ways, and would rather sleep most of the day than have to contend with a rambunctious puppy.

The anticipation mounted as we waited for the Goldens to arrive at cargo. When they arrived, we felt tears welling up in our eyes. Before we knew it, the cargo door flew up and the first crate was at the top of the ramp. Bentley's name was called out and it was like Christmas morning for us.

We headed towards the base of the ramp anxiously awaiting our new arrival. However, poor Bentley did not want to come out of his crate no matter how much he was coaxed. Eventually one of the team members picked him up and carried him towards us. We felt tears welling up once again at how he must be feeling ~ confused, disoriented, and terrified. All I wanted to do was to hug him and show him unconditional love. When they put him down, we put his new collar and leash on, pet him, spoke to him softly, and tried to coax him to follow us, which he did eventually. For us, it was mixed bag of sadness and joy ~ sadness for his life to-date and joy for the life of love he was about to embark upon with us and his other family members. We couldn't wait to erase all his bad memories and replace them with new ones. We whispered to him that he was safe, loved, and had found his forever family. He turned his face toward us and looked right into our eyes. We knew he understood and we bonded instantly.

This was a day of 'firsts' for poor Bentley. He did not like his leash and did not know what to think of it ~ squirming, biting, and resisting following us. The loud noises and traffic also seemed to confuse him and he froze in his tracks right in the middle of the road. When we crossed the street to get him to the grassy area, he hesitated at the curb and we realized he might never have stepped up a curb before. We gave him food and water and took him on a walk to do his business. Unfortunately, as we started our walk, we didn't realize there were some bees swarming around one of the light standards. Well, you guessed it, Bentley got stung and he dropped and rolled on the ground as if he were on fire. I bolted to a team member to let them know and I was given some Benadryl



in case he had an allergic reaction. Luckily nothing happened. Finally, Bentley was about to be separated from his playmate in Egypt, Poppy. We brought him to Poppy to say goodbye. He immediately recognized Poppy and came alive wanting to play like old-times. But we had to go. We shared contact information with the adoptive parents and agreed to keep in touch so we could schedule a reunion.

We thought we knew what to expect from Bentley's two new sisters, Jenny and Zoey. As already mentioned, Jenny is 13 years old and very quiet. She's curious but doesn't want to get involved. She politely accepts Zoey and they have developed a mutual understanding of do's and don'ts. Zoey is a sweet, friendly, happy, playful, goofy Lab. While we had no illusions about Jenny's reaction, we thought the introduction to Zoey would be effortless. Well, not quite. Zoey was jealous and guarded of us, her home, toys, and bed. Bentley was being rejected by both his sisters. It didn't take long, fortunately, after a few bumps, before a new normal came into being. In her own way, Jenny passively accepted Bentley just as she does Zoey. And, when Zoey realized Bentley was anything but a threat, she fully and completely embraced Bentley. In fact, they've become inseparable best friends and playmates ~ just as we had hoped.

Walks with Bentley are very entertaining. Everything is new to him. He simply stops and freezes when he sees something that he's never seen before. His reaction to fog, though, was quite the opposite. He jumped into the air with his mouth opened and tried to eat it! He loves to jump in the air and grab the leash out of our hands. It has resulted in a few entanglements with Zoey, who doesn't understand these strange behaviours. During our walks, people young and old gravitate to him. His sweet, gentle, loving, goofy, nature shines through and everybody wants to pet him and pitch his jowls. He has charisma and a magnetic personality. Bentley, of course, laps up the attention and can't get enough of it. It's hilarious to see Bentley grab Jenny's leash and try to take Jenny for a walk much to her consternation. Walks at off-leash parks are also very interesting. He practically gallops, sprinting through the air like a reindeer. He's very light on his feet. Everybody at the dog park found this very funny and entertaining.

Bentley has developed many endearing habits. He sits on the stool by the door when we come in the house and leave. We didn't teach him this. He just does it. We refer to the stool as Bentley's 'throne' ~ fitting for 'Sir Bentley' as we sometimes now call him. He loves water, not so much to swim in but



to try to catch in his mouth when we water the flower bed with the hose. He sometimes gets too close to the edge of the couch or bed and falls off. He also loves to jam himself into the tightest corners and then has trouble getting out. He once wedged himself behind the computer desk and became entangled in wires. He managed to disconnect some of the cables, causing us technical issues that took a while to clear-up. It's one of the reasons we sometimes also affectionately call him a 'big galoot' for the clumsy oaf that he's shown himself to be.

In the few months that we have had Bentley-Boy, we have witnessed an incredible transformation. He has come out of his shell and is now confident on walks, in the car, at the pet store, and in our home. He is comfortable and at peace. What I love most about our 'Goldie' (yes, another nickname) is his sweet, loving, innocent, goofy, gentle nature, which makes him loved by all. We have been told that he would make a wonderful therapy dog when he's matured a little more. We're actively looking into it.

This rescue has perhaps transformed us as much as Bentley. Although we have rescued many times before and many different breeds of dogs, this one seems to stand out. Bentley is definitively one-of-a-kind. He has introduced us to new adventures and experiences. He has made us laugh and brought immeasurable joy into our lives. We are certainly sold on Goldens and Bentley!

Elaine & Dario



"Anybody see the TV controllers?"

# **MEET & GREET**

## Nike #2314

Nike is our third Golden in our Golden-loving family. Daisy #912 was our second Golden, also adopted from GR. Nike came from Istanbul and loves every minute of her new Canadian home. In 2016, she lost an eye due to melanoma but this has not stopped her one little bit from keeping a constant watch on the comings and goings on her new street and I'm constantly cleaning the windows of nose-art. Our beautiful Nike was Miss May in the 2017 calendar. Not only was this charming girl given a second chance, but I was blessed to be chosen to be her new family. Shervl





# WELCOME TO THE GOLDEN

Abbey #3358 4-year-old female Adopted by Laurie & Aldo

Abby #3350 2-year-old female Adopted by Janice & Wayne

Akzel #3388 2-year-old male Adopted by Tara & Terry

Arlo #3373 5-year-old male Adopted by Nancy & Patrick

Astral Aziza #3369 8-month-old female Adopted by Mila

Azibo #3406 1-year-old male Adopted by Sara

Aziza #3438 9-month-old female Adopted by Jane

Bailey Winston #3446 2-year-old male Adopted by Lael & Rusty

Bean #3391 9-month-old female Adopted by Naomi

Beans #3395 2-year-old female Adopted by Joanne & Kevin

Beau #3342 1-year-old male Adopted by Annie & Dave

Beau #3457 & Holly #3458 3-year-old male & 2-year-old female Adopted by Julie & Ken



Benji #1721 4-year-old male Adopted by Sandy & Steven

Bentley #3372 5-year-old male Adopted by Denise & Greg

Bentley #3455 2-year-old male Adopted by Laurie & Dave

Billie #3404 9-month-old female Adopted by Nicola & Trevor

**BoBo #3334** 1-year-old male Adopted by Rachel & Jason

Brady #3341 1-year-old male Adopted by Kyle

Brooker #3322 10-month-old male Adopted by Shelley & Craig

Buddy #2989 6-year-old male Adopted by LeeAnne & Brendan

Budz #3432 4-year-old male Adopted by Mary

Cairo #3008 7-month-old male Adopted by Laurie

Callie #3412 10-month-old female Adopted by Jacquie

Charlie #3376 3-year-old male Adopted by Veronica & Art



Charlie #3444 3-year-old female Adopted by Kelly

Cleo #3390 2-year-old female Adopted by Andra & Scott

Cleopatra #3357 9-month-old female Adopted by Kathy & Henry

Comet #3348 10-month-old male Adopted by Kate & Cam

Cooper #3375 3-year-old male Adopted by Shelagh & Gregory

Cooper #3435 3-year-old female Adopted by Melissa

Daisy #3343 2-year-old female Adopted by Patricia & Robert

Daisy #3420 10-year-old female Adopted by Breanne & Jamieson

Dakota #3380

2-year-old male Adopted by Laurie & Camelo

Dallas #3449 3-year-old male Adopted by Samantha & Travis

Digger #3355 2-year-old male Adopted by Lori & Doug

Dory #3402 3-year-old female Adopted by Denise & Tim



**Dougal #3418** 2-year-old male Adopted by Robert

**Duncan #3366** 3-year-old male Adopted by Fran

Ember #3448 2-year-old female Adopted by Caroline

**Findley #3424** 7-year-old male Adopted by Sara & Mack

Finn #3393 3-year-old male Adopted by Barbara

Flyer #3293 4-year-old female Adopted by Erika

George #3328 10-month-old male Adopted by Julianne & Donald Gibson #3368 2-year-old male Adopted by Tanya & Peter

**Goldie #3345** 2-year-old female Adopted by Lynn

Gracie #3353 2-year-old female Adopted by Mary

Gucci #3426 10-month-old male Adopted by Lisa & Jeff

Halo #3453 8-months-old female Adopted by Sue & Peter





# FAMILY 🐝









Hamish #3442 6-year-old male Adopted by Meghan

Harper #3460 7-month-old female Adopted by Kathleen & Warren

Henry #3416 3-year-old male Adopted by Rose & Lon

Hope #3371 7-year-old female Adopted by Andrea & Sean

Hudson #3383 9-month-old male Adopted by Juli & Paul

Indie #3374 3-year-old female Adopted by Jacklyn & Matthew

Indy #3365 10-month-old male Adopted by Anna & Trevor

JC #2637 4-year-old male Adopted by Beth & Mark

Jackson #3386 4-year-old male Adopted by Jeff

Jake #3337 11-year-old male Adopted by Karen

Jake #3389 9-month-old male Adopted by Naomi

**Jasper #3423** 2-year-old male Adopted by Vanessa & Eric Jessy #3349 4-year-old female Adopted by Susan & David

Jimmy #3351 8-month-old male Adopted by Lee-Anne & Bruce

JJ #3335 11-year-old male Adopted by Karen

Jovi #3439 8-year-old female Adopted by Marni

Juni #3405 1-year-old male Adopted by Richard & Max

Kaila #3429 9-month-old female Adopted by Yvonne

Kaya #3413 3-year-old female Adopted by Janice

Kayla #3314 8-year-old female Adopted by Marlene & Lloyd

Kendra #3315 8-year-old female Adopted by Karen & Roy

Kyro #3399 1-year-old male Adopted by Eryn & Rob

Lenny #3407 1-year-old male Adopted by Geoff

Lexi #3382 3-year-old female Adopted by Colleen & Walter Libby #3411 3-year-old female Adopted by Susan & Scott

Lizzy #3419 6-year-old female Adopted by Judith

Loki #3401 1-year-old male Adopted by Simon

Lucas #3421 4-month-old male Adopted by Brenda & Charles

Lucky #3410 4-year-old male Adopted by Jocelyn

Lucy #3428 1-year-old female Adopted by Tara & Dave

Maggie #3363 3-year-old female Adopted by Lianne & Bill

Maggie Mae #3362 2-year-old female Adopted by Lianne & Steven

Maya #3338 2-year-old female Adopted by Morgan & Jasen

Maya #3385 5-year-old female Adopted by Heather & Bert

Midas #3354 3-year-old male Adopted by Marlene & John

Milo #3427 2-year-old male Adopted by Fabrizio



GRACIE #3353

Mitts #3459 9-month-old male Adopted by Jayne & Todd

Molly #3336 2-year-old female Adopted by Bonnie

Murphy #2804 1-year-old male Adopted by Donna

**Murphy #3398** 3-year-old male Adopted by Kristy & Sal

Nala #3392 9-month-old female Adopted by Catherine & Brian

Nala #3437 3-year-old female Adopted by Michelle & Jeff

Nebu #3360 1-year-old female Adopted by Sandra & Danny

Neema #3430 8-month-old female Adopted by Jake & Sylvie

Nyla #3352 2-year-old female Adopted by Catherine

**Okiefe #3340** 1-year-old male Adopted by Monica & Chris

0laf #3433 2-year-old male Adopted by Lee-Ann

**Oro #3347** 8-month-old male Adopted by Steve









# WELCOME TO THE GOLDEN FAMILY

#### Pepper #3296 2-year-old female Adopted by Susan & Bryan

Picasso #3403 8-year-old male Adopted by Carole & Michael

Poppy #3359 6-year-old female Adopted by Sharon & Gary

Priya #3361 2-year-old female Adopted by Daryl & Eric

Rio #3447 2-year-old male Adopted by Erica & Mike

Rosco #3384 8-month-old male Adopted by Sharon

Rose #3316 8-year-old female Adopted by Sean & Hester

Roxy #3113 2-year-old female Adopted by Candice & Kirk

Rudy #3414 8-month-old male Adopted by Kate & Nicolas

Sally #2999 7-year-old female Adopted by Stan







Sasha #3275 2-year-old female Adopted by Anne & Paul

Sasha #3450 6-year-old female Adopted by Bonnie & Dave

Shadow #3400 2-year-old male Adopted by Donna

Sheba #3327 6-year-old female Adopted by Gundy & Andrew

Sheba #3408 3-year-old female Adopted by Jeanette & Richard





Shelby #3367 2-year-old female Adopted by Tanya & Peter

Sirdar #3396 7-year-old male Adopted by Carol & Patrick

Sully #3431 4-year-old male Adopted by Lindsay

Sunny #3346 2-year-old male Adopted by Laurie & John

Symon #3381 4-year-old male Adopted by Dale & Jay

Taylor #33203-year-old femaleAdopted by Scott

**Teddy #3319** 2-year-old male Adopted by Paul

Teddy #3422 10-month-old male Adopted by Kyffen & Jason

Teifi #3445 2-year-old male Adopted by Sheila

Tim #3454 1-year-old male Adopted by Karen & Ed





Tucker #3394 2-year-old male Adopted by Christy

Walli #3364 10-month-old male Adopted by Cynthia & Ed

Weller #3434 8-year-old male Adopted by Jessica & Steve

Whiskey #3409 1-year-old male Adopted by Chloe & Benoit

Winnie #3344 1-year-old female Adopted by Courtney

Winter #3443 9-year-old male Adopted by Brenda & Norm

Woody #3370 4-year-old male Adopted by Allie & Brian

Zee #3313 6-year-old male Adopted by Sue & Gary

**Zoe #3318** 2-year-old female Adopted by Martin





