

# THE GUARDIAN

MARCH 2019 | ISSUE 92

Benson #2768



ARE YOU A  
**golden  
retriever**  
BELIEVER?

 **Golden  
Rescue**  
...About Second Chances

# MEET & GREET

## Flanel #2708

This snow-loving girl couldn't wait for the snow to come this year ~ it's one of her favourite things. She put a bit weight on this summer and is now on a yummy diet including carrots and cucumbers and she's getting lots of exercise. She is a happy, happy girl.

**Denise**



## MEET & GREET Amanda #2873



When Amanda arrived from Cairo, she was pretty traumatized and scared and had some fear aggression. With love, patience, and understanding, within two weeks, this little girl grew in leaps and bounds. She now loves her new Canadian home and is sooooo affectionate and grateful. We love her to bits and it was our privilege to adopt her and give her a safe, loving home.

**Janice & Wayne**

## MEET & GREET Murphy #2864

When this beautiful girl left the streets of Istanbul, she was called Scarlett but she never quite took to that name. When we changed it to Murphy, her ears perked up right away and she has been Murphy ever since. This Turkish delight has already learned to sit and shake a paw and she is about to learn everything there is to know about dog park etiquette. She can't wait. She loves her walks but the dog park will take that to a whole new level. We are smitten by Murphy but, believe us, it is obvious to everyone that the feeling is mutual.

**Susan & Pat**





CANADIAN GOLDEN RETRIEVER ADOPTION SERVICE INC.

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## The Front Cover

**Benson #2768** ~ Benson fit into our family the minute we brought him home from the airport. He adjusted beautifully to life in Canada and enjoys hanging out on the deck and really loves chilling at the beach. You would never know he came from the streets of Istanbul ~ people can't believe it when we tell them. He truly is the perfect boy for us!

**Bevan, Sara, Addison & Neve**

# THE GUARDIAN

March 2019 | Issue 92

### 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.

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The postal code on our BRE IS CORRECT.

## Mission Statement

**Golden Rescue gives second chances to Golden retrievers 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 Golden retrievers 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 Golden retrievers who so desperately need our help.

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**If you have any comments or suggestions for the Guardian, please email [guardian@goldenrescue.ca](mailto:guardian@goldenrescue.ca).**

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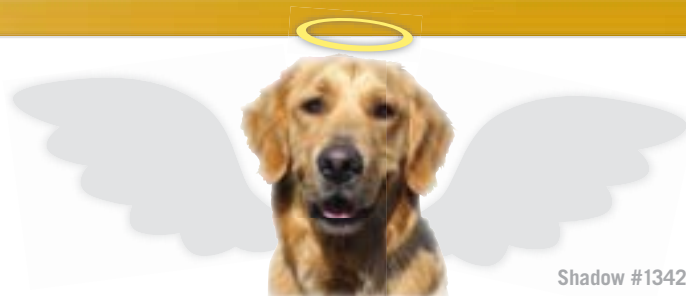
*We would like to thank all of our contributing writers and photographers... too many to list. Betty, who loves her furkids, has given up many weekends and evenings to design and assemble this newsletter so that we Golden retriever lovers can read all about the golden world we live in.*

Betty with Shadow #1342



# GOLDEN ANGELS

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



Shadow #1342



Wanetta & Dan with Shiloh #2617

## Wanetta Doucette-Goodman & Dan Botnick

Wanette's son fell in love with Golden retrievers after watching *Homeward Bound* and on his 12th birthday, he received a Golden puppy, Shadow, who filled their home with joy for almost 14 years. Wanette discovered GR at The Pickering Markets and kept up with our activities on Facebook, but when the family lost Shadow, Wanette realized she wanted to help GR in any way she could. Wanette and her husband Dan soon adopted Tiggs #2474 from Istanbul. This amazing boy unfortunately had cancer and died eight months later; however, not before he experienced everything Canada had to offer ~ cottage life, swimming in the lake, boating, camp fires, eating steak, and visiting Dairy Queen. The family was

heartbroken but knew the best way to heal was to rescue another Golden, which they did a few months later. Enter Shiloh #2617. This spectacular girl is now being trained as a therapy dog and every single person who comes in contact with sweet Shiloh immediately falls in love with her. This amazing couple are huge GR advocates, spreading the good word wherever they go. Besides being monthly donors, they volunteer on many fronts ~ fundraising initiatives, helping at the airport, providing transport, and Wanette is also on the hotline team and a volunteer coordinator for events. Thank you both...for all you do! Golden Rescue couldn't be luckier to have you both!!!



Elsie & Jack with Libby

## Jack Scott

Jack and his wife Elsie have had dogs most of their life...many of them rescues. Through friends, who had Golden Oscar #1945, they were introduced to the gentle, loving Golden and they were sold. Jack and Elsie now have sweet Libby, a wonderful, sweet girl. Libby and Oscar join Jack and Ross at many GR events like The Pickering Markets and the GR Picnic. They also have done long-haul transports where Jack and Ross have driven to Boston to transport Golden retrievers who have arrived from Istanbul to Ontario. Recently, Jack and Elsie went to Boston again to pick up Adam and Eve ~ two Istanbul Golden retrievers and brought them to Canada. Jack and Elsie say they love volunteering for GR, interacting with other GR volunteers, and doing transports. Lucky us ~ thank you both for your tremendous dedication.



Laura with foster Tucker #2956

## Laura Wilkins

Laura has been helping Golden Rescue by fostering for almost 12 years. Gracie #1546 was Laura's first rescue and Barney #1920 was her second. She has had Golden retrievers all her adult life and now she fosters for GR and absolutely loves it. Laura has fostered eight Golden retrievers over the years including Lola, a heartworm pup. Laura is in total sync with GR's mission and wants to help in any way she can. She says and we quote, "Golden retrievers touch my heart in a very special way and I want to help them as much as possible". Laura, you touch our heart as well ~ thank you for all your hard work and kindness.

**THANK YOU**  
**To All Our**  
**Golden Angels!**



# Sadie #2963

Our Golden Rescue story starts in December 2018. We had sadly lost our baby girl, Katie, on November 9th the month before. At 15.5 years old, she was the best Golden we could ask for (as most of them are). She had given us lots of love and laughs over the years, but unfortunately her health had failed her. We were heartbroken and felt that it would be awhile before we could bring another one home. Katie had been with us her entire life and we were even lucky enough to hold her at just two days old, which was pretty special.

After about a month and a half, we felt like the house was missing the energy of a furry friend and started warming up to the idea of adopting. We looked online at breeders with upcoming litters and had emailed a few to inquire but weren't 100% sure on any of them. During our internet searches, Golden Rescue kept popping up. When I clicked on the website, I thought, "Why haven't we heard of them before?!" We were amazed at what they did and felt we could really support their cause. Honestly, after seeing all of the cute faces available for adoption and their endearing stories, we wanted to adopt them all! On Boxing Day, we had decided to put our name in for an up-coming adoption, thinking it could take months before we heard anything. Three days later we got a call, stating a little one-year-old girl named Louise was available and would be coming from Istanbul the first week of January and would we be interested. We were nervous and excited at the same time but never hesitated to say yes. We were sent two pictures of her. Louise (we call her Sadie now) looked a lot like Katie so how could we say no?

Even after we agreed, we still had lots of questions and didn't really know what to expect ~ would she be healthy, would she be timid, would she be okay around my son, would she be happy here, would she be like a wild animal? We have never adopted a rescue dog before. Besides her name and age, all we knew was that she was good with people and other dogs, had her vaccinations, and had been tested for illnesses and was cleared. They didn't know much about where she had come from or what she had been through.

Her estimated arrival date had been changed from Monday, January 7th to Saturday, January 12th, five days later. It was the longest week ever! Finally, Saturday arrived and Miss Louise was coming on Flight #91 and we were ready. Unfortunately, when we woke up and checked the flight status, we discovered that it was delayed four hours in Turkey. The arrival time in Toronto had now changed from 6:30 pm to 10 pm...it was going to be a long day, but we didn't care.

When we arrived at the Swissport building at the airport, we discovered that she was one of 18 Golden Retrievers that were brought over. This was incredible! As all the families piled into the building, you could tell what a big deal this was. I was excited to be part of something so wonderful. We waited for approximately two hours while the Golden Retrievers were transported to the cargo building and for all the paperwork to clear. Then, one by one, they started releasing the Golden Retrievers to their new families. The anticipation was almost too much. We couldn't see much since we were all waiting in the stairwell by the door to the building, but there was a window at the top of the stairs that looked out onto the parking lot. Some of us were watching as the first Golden went outside with their new owners, then another. They were so happy and excited to run around. I think I almost stopped breathing when I saw that and I couldn't wait for my Louise.

Then around 12:30 am they called us next. Yippee! The wait was over. As we walked towards the area where she was, I could see behind some doors a friendly little Golden that had jumped up on someone to say hello. Then I realized, oh my gosh, that's Louise! I get to take her home! After some instructions and a quick pit stop, food, and water for our new friend, we were on our way.

The first few nights were kind of rough while Sadie's body clock adjusted from Istanbul time, but after about day three, we were sleeping solid hours again. There were also a few accidents inside the house daily and our carpet shampooer has never worked harder. Thankfully, she seems to have gotten the hang of it now.

Since we've had her, Sadie has adjusted quite well to her new home and feels more



relaxed. She does have a bit of separation anxiety but that seems to be getting better. People who meet her just love her. My ten-year-old son and her get along well and are fast becoming best buddies.

Sadie is the sweetest girl you'll ever meet and is super cuddly. She always raises her left paw and leans in for hugs, which we just love. All in all, we couldn't have asked for a better addition to our family and would recommend this route to anyone who is looking to open their hearts and homes to give a Golden a second chance. We're sure glad we did.

**Dagmar, Joe & Ethan**



# RETRIEVER BELIEVER CLUB A great BIG thank you

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We can no other answer make, but, thanks and thanks!  
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# to all Retriever Believers ~ you truly have GOLDEN hearts!

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## MEET & GREET Karo #2868



This Cairo boy is a real comedian. He is nicknamed Granny Grin because of his long tongue that is always hanging out of his mouth, coupled with his crazy antics in general. He melted our hearts and we fell in love with him instantly. He has had to learn a thing or two about Canadian life and he's getting the hang of things beautifully. We don't want to train him too much as we love his spontaneity ~ he truly is a goofball.

**Lafreniere Family**

# Help Us Help Golden's – CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING!

**Golden Rescue continues to grow and evolve...and we're looking for volunteers! Might that be you? We run solely with volunteers ~ a wonderfully dedicated group sharing a common vision to safeguard the well-being of every Golden in our care. Our work is hugely rewarding and we would love to hear from you. We currently have needs in these areas.**

### Foster Families

We continue to have Golden's coming into our care! We always need foster homes throughout Ontario and Quebec. Fostering a Golden and helping him/her through a transitional phase is an incredibly rewarding experience because you're the first step in their new life. We particularly need foster families who are willing to take Golden's with medical or behavioural issues, families without any other dogs or cats in-house or families who are willing to foster a pair. If you are interested in fostering, please fill out a foster application online at [www.goldenrescue.ca](http://www.goldenrescue.ca). Once you've filled out an application, a volunteer will contact you to clarify any points, answer any questions you might have, and arrange a home visit.

### Transport Volunteers

**Quebec, particularly the Montreal area & the Montreal-Kingston corridor**

Transport help is always needed to move our Golden's from their past to their future new lives. To do this, volunteer drivers travel the province picking up our precious cargo from their previous homes, shelters, vet offices, etc. and driving them to their foster families. Sometimes this trip is short and can be done by one person and other times the distance is greater, requiring volunteers to work as a relay team, picking up or dropping off at identified locations along the way. Obviously, this is a very important task. Drivers must have a valid driver's licence and be willing to use their own car.

### Graphic Designers

Are you an experienced graphic designer looking for a rewarding volunteer role? Are you interested in creating dynamic, contemporary visuals for our readers to call them to action? If so, we would love to hear from you. We're looking for a couple of graphic designers who understand our periodic need for speed and fast turnarounds (although not all assignments will be time sensitive) who have a flair for contemporary

design, who can create and distribute eblasts through Mailchimp and who can work with Wordpress (the power behind our website). Writing our eblasts and other communication pieces is not a requirement right now ~ content/copy will be sent to you for design. The primary purpose of this role is to create visuals for key communication pieces for general e-distribution and our website. If you have the talent and the time, we would love to hear from you!

### Photography Team

This is an important new team we have created as there is nothing more valuable than the perfect Golden photo when it comes to adopting, fostering, fundraising, PR, and getting media attention. We are looking for volunteers with a good eye so, photographers...here's your chance to use your skills. A few things that are critical are:

- a love of Golden's and photographing them
- a dSLR camera is a must
- an understanding of ISO, aperture, shutter speed, exposure & composition
- a sense of fun and creativity
- the ability to travel within your locality
- comfortable using Dropbox or willing to learn

**Do You Think You Can  
Help Us Help Golden's?**

**They're counting on you...  
and so are we. If any of  
these opportunities are of  
interest to you, please email  
[teamresources@goldenrescue.ca](mailto:teamresources@goldenrescue.ca)**

**Thank You!**







## MEET & GREET Sandy #2900

When Sandy arrived from Cairo in November, she couldn't wait to get out of her crate. Immediately, she met us and we gave her some water and a great big hug. Sandy's tail started to wag frantically and the rest, as they say, is history. Everything was new to Sandy ~ things like snow, which she's not crazy about. She has a big sister to play and cuddle with. What is 'play' exactly? And toys...what are those? Sandy was newly exposed to many things and activities and she now goes about her day feeling happy and safe. She is such a wonderful girl and she is constantly showing us her gratitude.

**Jo-Ann**

## GOLDEN MOMENTS<sup>©</sup>



Making winter last until the very last patch of snow!

# Why Istanbul... Why Cairo... Why Mexico?

The answer is “Because we can!”

Some people have asked us what the situation is in Egypt as it relates to dog rescue and how and why Golden Rescue got involved. We thought the best way to describe the Egypt dilemma is to give you a first-hand account of the journey to Cairo that we, Jane Riddell and Viive Tamm, Golden Rescue board members, took so we could understand what was going on and what, if anything, Golden Rescue could do to help. Before we relate our personal account of the trip, let us give you some general information on the situation in Egypt.

Like Istanbul, the stray dog problem in Egypt is dire. Of course, this problem exists in many countries but Golden Rescue can only help if there is an organized group of volunteers in the country where the problem exists. Since our involvement in Istanbul, we have been inundated with calls from other countries to see if we could help rescue Golden Retrievers. Unfortunately, most of these calls were from people who had no volunteers, money or mechanism in their own country so we could not help. Egypt, on the other hand, has a group of dedicated volunteers who, like in Istanbul, were able to organize rescue in their own country and get potential rescues vaccinated, vet checked, kennelled, and everything else required to ship a dog to another country for a better life. Mexico also has a wonderful group of volunteers equally motivated and organized.

Unlike Turkey, Egypt has a policy of euthanizing its strays. In fact, it is even worse as the current president is trying to ship strays to Korea from Egypt for the dog meat trade. Again, as we did in Istanbul, we went to Egypt (at our own personal expense) to see the situation for ourselves and to meet the wonderful volunteers there who are doing all the heavy-lifting with no government help either with manpower or money. They are the true angels. Our job is easy in comparison to these saints of the streets.

Our international **MISSION OF LOVE** is never to replace saving every single Golden who

comes across our radar in Canada. In fact, the international program has garnered so much publicity that it has helped us grow in Canada. We have really grown in Quebec and are now getting inquiries from a number of different provinces including BC, Alberta, Manitoba, and the Maritimes. In fact, we



Mira with Jack #2896

have adopted Golden Retrievers to families in each of these provinces and as we get better known, we will be able to start to get foster homes in these provinces, which will allow us to grow even more. Eventually our goal is to be Canada-wide but this will take time. Early signs, however, are encouraging.



Mira, Jane, Vicky #2887 & Laila #2922

We truly believe rescue has no borders and a Golden in need is a Golden we should try to help so we go where we can, when we can. The problem world-wide is vast and sometimes we feel our efforts are like a drop in the ocean. Having said that, we never lose heart as we save one Golden at a time...no matter where that takes us.

Here are our personal reflections and observations of our trip to Cairo. We had a fair amount of trepidation about the trip before we left for Egypt...as both of us generally try to avoid anything that shows any animal suffering. We both flip past FB posts, switch channels or tell people to be quiet. We know suffering is out there and happening but we prefer not to see the gory details.

We knew that we would not be able to avoid experiencing it in Egypt but we had no idea of the magnitude of suffering (both human and animal) we would witness.

Leaving the airport in Cairo, we were struck by the drabness of Cairo ~ brown, grey, and dusty, despite the sun. It had rained that morning, which supposedly was a good luck omen. At the time, we didn't realize how badly we would need it.

Mira, our main contact, picked us up at our hotel and took us to a small shelter in a building that had been owned by her family for generations. In addition to her shelter, it also housed the school that is her business and is how she funds her shelter.

Conditions were extremely basic, the facility consisted of a few rooms in the old building and a small outdoor area surrounded by a high wall. Dogs were not segregated from each other, but it seemed they were generally happy and social. There was a mix of small white dogs and we also met the first Golden who would be part of the group we brought back with us to Canada ~ all young and extremely enthusiastic to see people! We left covered in kisses, dust, fur, and a fair amount of urine.

Off to the old market we went, which was the more 'touristy' part of Cairo ~ old but pretty clean by comparison to the rest of the city. The streets of Cairo and the surrounding areas were not maintained, the infrastructure is in bad shape, and we saw very few smiles. Mira drove like a typical Egyptian, which is to say fast and furious. Lane changes without warning, tail gating, and continual horn honking...all at high speeds (surprisingly very few accidents). The only accident we saw was the one we were personally involved in and we were in the car of the most conservative driver we caught a ride with. Apparently, she was driving too slowly so she was rear-ended. Driving always elicited a heightened awareness of our mortality. We were generally white-knuckled and high on adrenaline by the time we arrived at our destinations. And speaking of destinations, whenever we took

a taxi or an Uber, we would have a general location but not a specific address, which was always exasperating as the driver would get to the area and then would have to ask multiple people, multiple times, if they knew where so-and-so was. Eventually, they would always figure it out but we were often lost, once in the middle of a slum where the garbage was being bulldozed. The stench was indescribable and our driver rolled up the windows and sprayed cologne around the car, which was almost worse. Little kids were playing in bare feet in human and animal waste and the people seemed despondent. We have both been to many parts of the world, and by comparison, the people of Egypt seemed to have very little optimism or hope. We heard anecdotally that the government is oppressive and the people are being taxed into poverty. The only part of the country that seemed to be flourishing was the military. Armed soldiers were everywhere and we saw lots of propaganda promoting the glory of the armed forces.

Our hosts, Mira and Simon, took us to a nightclub for 'dancing on the Nile' on our first night. There seemed to be a very small percentage of the population that was affluent enough to afford this type of luxury. We had a lovely evening getting to know our hosts better. It was late when we went to sleep and we both had our hotel



windows open and after sleeping for about 10 minutes, we were awakened by the call to prayer. We were definitely not in Kansas. One thing that stuck with us from that evening was something that both Mira and Simon said to the effect that Egypt had a glorious past but they had an uncertain future.

The next day we went to another shelter ~ **The Animal Protection Foundation**. Hanan, who runs the shelter, takes in mostly injured and sick animals. We were told there were 600+ dogs in her facility. Many had been badly abused. It seems as though people generally make no effort to avoid running over a dog or a



**The Animal Protection Foundation**



**ESME**

cat on the street. Many acts of outright cruelty ~ some dogs had been hit by cars, some tossed off balconies or thrown from cars. Some had been used for fighting. There were only tiny signs of hope ~ a few young boys volunteering who clearly loved the dogs. And it was an 'Open' day, which meant that the public was invited to visit and adopt and we saw a couple of families with younger children who were in the process of finding a dog for their family. However, we learned that less than 1% of all dogs in shelters are adopted by Egyptians.

We were struck by how much dedication and compassion Hanan and her team had for the animals in their care. Some days it must

surely seem like they are fighting a tsunami with buckets. We came away with a great respect for their unwavering determination to make a difference. We recently read, since coming home, that one district in Cairo had signed a TNR (which we believe stands for Trap, Neuter, Release) agreement, which is obviously the way to the future. If it is true that there are 22 million stray dogs in Cairo, the only hope to make a difference is through this more enlightened approach. Currently, the government has a policy of shooting and poisoning strays and most recently shipping them to Asia for human consumption. It is difficult not to judge, but when there is so

much human suffering, it at least provides context for how these decisions are arrived at.

And it is not just dogs who suffer ~ cats, horses, and donkeys too. Many times, we saw donkeys and small Arabian horses pulling carts loaded to the max trotting along the 10-lane freeway. We saw a dead horse floating in the garbage-filled canal running through a Cairo neighbourhood...and a short distance away, people fishing in that same canal. And garbage was literally everywhere you looked. These are sights neither of us will ever forget.

Our final day, we risked our lives once again in a taxi to find the last shelter, **ESME**,





**Welcome to Canada Lucy #2895!**

from which we were taking dogs to Canada. We had met the owner, another Hanan, at the nightclub and she wanted us to see her facility. She had just purchased another property and was in the process of building the shelter. After a long, frustrating, and convoluted drive, we arrived to find roughly a two-acre enclosed area. The ground was just dirt ~ no grass anywhere. The kennels had largely been completed and there were dogs in residence but the bulk of them had not yet been moved over from the old facility. Walking past all the enclosures, we were serenaded by howling and barking and so many eyes looking at us as if to say “pick me, pick me...please save me”. Neither of us, including Hanan, had a dry eye. We met the man who was in charge of looking after the facility and once again, we were struck by the kindness and compassion of the people who were dedicated to making a difference for the dogs in their care.

Back to the hotel for a quick rest before beginning the long journey home that left at 1 a.m. We arrived at the airport six hours before our flight in order to get the Golden Retrievers into their crates, through security, and

weighed and tagged. At the EgyptAir counter, it was determined that they could only board 18 of the 24 Golden Retrievers. To say it was stressful trying to determine which ones to take and which ones to leave behind was an understatement. After a lot of haggling, we were eventually asked if the crates could be stacked. We immediately said a resounding ‘yes’ and thankfully all 24 Golden Retrievers were boarded on our flight.

This was a three-day whirlwind, life-changing trip. Upon arrival in Toronto, there was the interminable delay once we got to Pearson as the dogs had been unloaded but forgotten outside the baggage area. There was a mix-up with the birthdate of poor **Alex**, and the vet from The Canadian Food Protection Agency wouldn't let Alex stay and we had to return him to Cairo on the next flight. This quite literally broke our hearts.

Before Alex was taken back to EgyptAir for his return flight, we solemnly and tearfully promised to bring him back to Canada (which we did a few weeks later). Despite Alex taking one for the team, we made 23 families and 23 Golden Retrievers happy that day.

Our impressions of that trip will remain with us forever. We will remember the horror and the suffering. It seems that we humans have an infinite capacity to inflict cruelty on other species and on each other. But we have also come to realize that we also have an infinite capacity for kindness and compassion. We have immense respect for the shelter workers in Egypt who work so hard with so little to make a difference in a world that seems largely indifferent to their efforts.

**We are very proud of Golden Rescue for the work that we do. Even though it is a drop in the ocean, or perhaps a teardrop in the ocean is more accurate, it is a start. We MUST do what we can.**

We do what we can but it never seems enough ~ what we have seen, both in Canada



**Welcome back to Canada Alex #2889!**

and abroad, can literally break our hearts. However, fretting, wringing our hands, and railing at the wind accomplish nothing.

**Last year we rescued 230 Golden Retrievers and we are approaching our 3,000th rescue... often from unimaginable circumstances.**

We do as much as we can and we do it with passion, love, and care...with the help of our tireless, like-minded volunteers, supporters, fosters, and adopters. It is our collective hope that drives us!

*Jane & Vive*



**Welcome to Canada Babe #2898!**



**Welcome to Canada Ricky #2899!**



**Welcome to Canada Jessy #2904!**

## MEET & GREET

### Diva #2732

Diva IS a diva. She is beautiful, loving, and crazy smart. This alpha girl is so smart she actually chewed off her gentle leader as if to say, "I don't need this ~ I walk perfectly on the leash without it". And she was so right ~ we are sorry for doubting you, Diva, because you walk like a dream. Apart from having to lose a few pounds, she is a very healthy girl who loves running like the wind at her dog park. When we go to the dog park, I put bells on Diva's neck so we can keep track of her because she wants to explore everything. She particularly likes rolling in mud puddles, which is very un-diva like! I extend my gratitude to all of you for bringing the lovely Diva to Canada and sending her my way.

**Marcia**



## MEET & GREET

### Jeremy #2973

This Istanbul superstar is settling in well with his new forever family. He was initially out of sorts and a bit disoriented after his long journey but he is slowly starting to believe that the journey is over and he is finally home. We're pretty sure he's starting to feel this way as he has already picked his favourite chair. He is absolutely wonderful, kind, and gentle. He is very friendly and great with kids and his new year-old brother Cooper. This eight-month-old cinnamon-coloured photogenic boy has already stolen everyone's heart.

**Craig, Tamara, Madeline & Patrick**



# IG Wealth Management Awards Grant to Golden Rescue

IG Wealth Management has a program that recognizes its employees who do important volunteer work for a cause near and dear to their heart. Once a year, employees can apply for a grant. Here is Cindy McClelland with Steve Butchard, IG Wealth Management's Regional Director receiving a cheque for \$1,400. Thank you IG Wealth Management for your generosity and thank you Cindy for being an invaluable volunteer and for applying for this grant.



Cindy & Steve presenting the donation



## GOLDEN MOMENTS©



"It's OK...I know just how you feel!"

## Give the Gift of Rescue

Looking for the ultimate gift for the person who has everything ~ for a birthday, anniversary...for any reason actually?

Why not give the Gift of Rescue and give a Golden a warm bed, a good meal, a kind heart, and a loving forever family. That's what your gift can do!

We've made gift-giving effortless! All you do is make a donation...and we'll do the rest. We will send your Gift of Rescue certificate directly to you by email or mail and then all you need to do is wrap it or email it. Easy, right?

Go to our website and download the Gift of Rescue order form!

Thank you from our heart to yours!



askGoldie  
Goldie #654



# M@il Retriever

**Dear Goldie:** I seem to be very itchy lately and need to scratch all the time. I'm not sure why...I don't think I have fleas. What else could it be? Itchy Pete

**Dear Pete:** Sorry to hear about your condition. I know how irritating it can be! Your need to itch may be caused by a few things ~ allergies, anxiety, dry skin, hormonal imbalances or parasites such as fleas as you mentioned. As Goldens, we often have problems with 'atopic dermatitis', which is an allergic reaction to something. If you can't pinpoint what it could be from, I recommend seeing your vet to get an answer. They can run some tests and hopefully find a solution to your issue. Good luck!

**Dear Goldie:** The other day when I was watching TV, someone kicked a ball off screen and when I ran behind to get it, it wasn't there. I'm so confused. Where did it go? Mystified Mabel

**Dear Mabel:** Ah yes...the disappearing ball trick. That too had me stumped for years. Even though we, as dogs, are smart enough to perceive images and sounds on television like humans do, what you see and hear on TV is not really in front of you. And so, unfortunately, that ball will never be found. Sad but true.

**Dear Goldie:** I love to go out but sometimes when it snows, I don't get to go on walks or spend as much time outside. I don't think I've been bad but I don't understand why, especially since I love the snow! Maybe you could help explain. Cabin Fever Chloe

**Dear Chloe:** Not to worry ~ you're not being punished. I'm sure your mom or dad

are just looking out for your well-being. With the winter cold, it's important to not spend too much time in the elements in order to protect yourself from the risks. If you have any health issues (such as heart disease, diabetes or arthritis), the cold can actually affect you more. Not to mention, the snow and ice can get into our paws and make it painful to walk... ouch. If you are okay wearing them, a jacket and booties may help prolong the time outdoors during the winter. So, don't fret. I'm sure it's only temporary until the weather warms up. Then you can get back to your long walks once again.

**Dear Goldie:** I used to have tennis balls and now I have no tennis balls. I miss playing with them. Where did they go? Max

**Dear Max:** Haven't you heard? As much as tennis balls are fun to play with, they are not safe. If we catch one with great excitement, there's a risk that the ball can get lodged in our throats. Then when we breathe, it forms a suction cup and the ball can't be removed until it's too late. Scary thought, isn't it? Plus, the chemicals on them are not good for us and pieces can break off. I'm glad you don't have them anymore. If you find any around, please don't play with them...I don't want you to get hurt!

**Dear Goldie:** I used to be the only pooch at my house and now there's a new puppy here. I'm not sure how I feel about that yet, but I do know that I don't like having to share my toys or the attention I was getting. It seems like everything is about Charlie. Since it looks like he is staying, how can I learn to accept the new addition to our family? Leo

**Dear Leo:** It's natural to feel a little jealous of the new puppy, especially when you're used to being the only one around. Perhaps if you were introduced to the new puppy a few times before he moved in, in a neutral location, that may have helped. But if that didn't happen, try your best to not feel insecure. You are your family's first love and they will continue to love you. There is enough love in them for both of you and that's pretty special! Also, remember that if it looks like Charlie is getting all of the attention right now, it may just be because he needs extra time for training. He's still young and needs time to learn the ropes. Has your mom or dad given you any extra treats or attention lately to help you feel better about the situation? That definitely would help too. Try to think back to what it was like to be a young pup and how it feels to be in a new home with a new family. I'm sure he could use the guidance and protection of a big brother right now. Good luck and let me know how it goes!

Riley, a Golden, goes missing & his Dad is frantic.

His Mom says "Why don't you put an ad in the paper and put up some posters around town?"

He does and a few days later Riley was found.

"What did you put in the ad?" Riley's Mom asks.

"Here boy!" his Dad replies.





## MEET & GREET Koula #2923



Koula was the Christmas present that truly blessed our family. How can we best describe her? Well, she is the most affectionate and caring girl we have ever known and she is super smart. We could not have asked for a better family member. She has fit in beautifully with her other two canine siblings. She is being spoiled rotten and she deserves it.

Julie

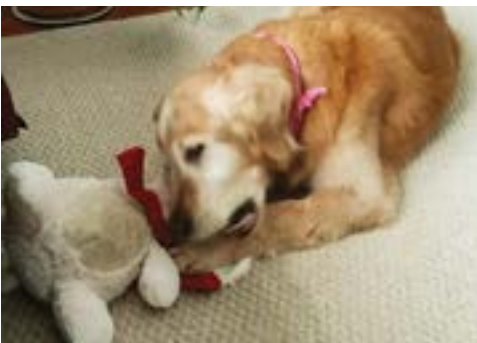


## MEET & GREET

### Lexi #2731

Lexi is a beautiful girl. This poor Istie girl had to undergo surgery for four growths, one on her eyelid, one in each ear, and one on her anus. What a brave girl she was. It was discovered that one of the growths was actually a pellet from a shotgun. No wonder she's sensitive to loud noises! After the surgery, Lexi really came to life ~ jumping, barking, and getting excited about everything life has to offer with her new Canadian family. We call her 'The Little Princess' because when we and her canine brother, Levi, come home, we go to the back door. Princess Lexi goes to the front. Servants go to the back after all.

Brenda



# Human Foods that Dogs CAN & CANNOT Eat

We've all been there. You're sitting down to eat dinner and just like clockwork, your canine friend is looking up at you with his big brown eyes making you feel as though he hasn't eaten in days and you're the only one who can end his suffering. As tempting as it might be to toss him a few morsels, there are a few things to consider in regards to what foods your dog CAN and CANNOT eat. Some human foods can actually make your dog sick with potentially fatal consequences.

I'm sure we've all heard about **chocolate, garlic, and grapes** not being safe, but certain ingredients such as **Xylitol** (a sweetener found in gum, baked goods, and toothpaste) is extremely toxic to dogs. Even small amounts may cause hypoglycemia, seizures, liver failure, and death. Some peanut butter brands contain Xylitol, therefore careful reading of the label is urged before giving to your pet. **Other foods to avoid are alcohol, avocado, caffeine (coffee & tea), fat trimmings, raisins, mushrooms, milk, certain nuts (macadamia and walnuts), yeast and dough, rhubarb, raw potatoes and skins, onions, and any salty foods**, as these can cause a number of health issues including liver damage, kidney failure, seizures, vomiting, and diarrhea...to name a few. Kitchen pantry items such as baking powder and baking soda are also highly toxic, as well as nutmeg and some spices, so keep these out of reach.

On the other hand, **the following may be given safely and can provide beneficial nutrients ~ apples (minus the seeds), bananas, blueberries, cantaloupe, carrots, cheese, cooked chicken, cooked eggs, green beans, honey, kiwi, mango, oatmeal, peaches, peanut butter (without Xylitol), pears, pineapple, cooked potatoes, pumpkin, rice, sweet potato, and yoghurt**. Be careful giving **peaches or other fruit with seeds or pits**. Not only can they cause intestinal blockages, peach and plum pits also contain cyanide, which is poisonous.

If you suspect that your dog has consumed any of these toxic products, contact your vet or animal poison control centre immediately. Keep emergency numbers handy and in plain sight, but hopefully you'll never need to use them. In knowing what is safe for your pet, it should help to achieve a long and happy life together.

# WELCOME TO THE GOLDEN



Lola #2756



Sophie #2819



Toby #2825



Parker #2838



Finlay #2889



Jack #2896



Cleo #2904



Mia #2905

**Amanda #2873**  
2-year-old female  
Adopted by Janice & Wayne

**Bailey #2827**  
2-year-old male  
Adopted by Karley & Justin

**Beau #2909**  
6-year-old male  
Adopted by Matt & Nancy

**Bella #2850**  
8-month-old female  
Adopted by Karen & Doug

**Boomer #2881**  
7-year-old male  
Adopted by Kirby & Scott

**Caia #2898**  
6-month-old female  
Adopted by Joanne & Chris

**Canela #2886**  
5-year-old female  
Adopted by Janet

**Chester #2833**  
1.5-year-old male  
Adopted by Diane & Wayne

**Clancy #2843**  
6-year-old male  
Adopted by Lesley & Scott

**Cleo #2867**  
10-month-old female  
Adopted by Yvonne & Dennis

**Cleo #2893**  
1-year-old female  
Adopted by Sandra

**Cleo #2904**  
6-month-old female  
Adopted by Stacie

**Copper #2862**  
8-year-old male  
Adopted by Jenn & Mark

**Daisy #2910**  
8-month-old female  
Adopted by Leah

**Dexter #2883**  
4-year-old male  
Adopted by Mary Margaret

**Finlay #2889**  
2-year-old male  
Adopted by Sarah & Lindsay

**Ginger #2848**  
9-month-old female  
Adopted by Leanne & Bruce

**Goose #2856**  
2-year-old male  
Adopted by Carrie & Ted

**Gracy #2884**  
2-year-old female  
Adopted by Derek

**Hardy #2878**  
4-year-old male  
Adopted by Penny & Kurt

**Hazel #2879**  
6-year-old female  
Adopted by Connie & Nick

**Henry #2880**  
4-year-old male  
Adopted by Kim & Brad

**Jack #2896**  
2-year-old male  
Adopted by Jan & Santiago

**Jack #2912**  
6-year-old male  
Adopted by Karen

**Janie Gameela #2874**  
3-year-old female  
Adopted by Lisa

**Jerry #2845**  
2-year-old male  
Adopted by Jill

**Jesse #2911**  
2-year-old male  
Adopted by Deb

**Jewel #2839**  
8-month-old female  
Adopted by Nancy & Ralph

**Julius #2863**  
1-year-old male  
Adopted by Deborah & Paul

**Kairo #2868**  
1-year-old male  
Adopted by Kim & Stephan

**Kayla #2834**  
2-year-old female  
Adopted by Nancy & Pat

**Koula #2923**  
2-year-old female  
Adopted by Julia & Chris

**Kyra #2894**  
8-month-old female  
Adopted by Sandra

**Leila #2902 & Cleo #2903**  
4-year-old females  
Adopted by Judy & Winfield

**Lola #2756**  
7-year-old female  
Adopted by Lora & Phil

**Mario #2901**  
9-month-old male  
Adopted by Alicia & Brad

# FAMILY



**Tommy #2844**



**Maverick #2857**



**Oscar #2866**



**Boomer #2881**



**Beau #2909**



**Lily #2917 & Sam #2916**



**Kahra #2924**

**Marner #2925**  
11-month-old male  
Adopted by Melanie & Jeremy

**Maverick #2857**  
5-year-old male  
Adopted by Charlene & Derek

**Max #2829**  
4-year-old male  
Adopted by Cindy

**Mia #2905**  
9-year-old female  
Adopted by Chris

**Mia #2914**  
2-year-old female  
Adopted by Mary Anne & Chris

**Milo #2906**  
10-year-old male  
Adopted by Ruth & Peter

**Molson #2852**  
9-month-old male  
Adopted by Nancy

**Motley #2840**  
8-month-old male  
Adopted by Justine & Alex

**Murphy #2861**  
8-month-old male  
Adopted by Diane & Brandon

**Murphy #2864**  
2-year-old female  
Adopted by Susan

**Myah #2836**  
2-year-old female  
Adopted by Gloria & Wayne

**Oliver #2860**  
8-month-old male  
Adopted by Janice

**Oscar #2866**  
1-year-old male  
Adopted by Teresa & Lee

**Parker #2838**  
2-year-old male  
Adopted by Valerie & Gary

**Reilly #2847**  
4-year-old male  
Adopted by Sharyn & Fred

**Riley #2830**  
1-year-old male  
Adopted by Kelly & Mike

**River #2828**  
9-year-old male  
Adopted by Fern & Dan

**Romeo #2824**  
16-month-old male  
Adopted by Heidi

**Romeo #2851**  
1-year-old male  
Adopted by Amanda & Tim

**Rosco #2919**  
4-year-old male  
Adopted by Diane & Rod

**Sadie #2913**  
2-year-old female  
Adopted by Alison & Adam

**Sam #2916 & Lily #2917**  
2-year-olds male & female  
Adopted by Tess & Brian

**Sophia #2819**  
5-year-old female  
Adopted by Nancy & Ed

**Stella #2907**  
1-year-old female  
Adopted by Cyndi & Ross

**Sully #2869**  
1-year-old male  
Adopted by Wendy & John

**Tao #2920**  
5-year-old male  
Adopted by Doreen & Gord

**Toba #2885**  
3-year-old male  
Adopted by John

**Toby #2825**  
11-month old male  
Adopted by Stephanie & Ron

**Tommy #2844**  
7-year-old male  
Adopted by Shirley & Don

**Tucker #2810**  
1-year-old male  
Adopted by Lynn & Dean

**Tunk #2891**  
4-year-old male  
Adopted by Hayley & Oliver

**Ty #2842**  
9-year-old male  
Adopted by Michelle & Randy

**Wyatt #2846**  
2.5-year-old male  
Adopted by Marion

**Zahra #2924**  
5-month-old female  
Adopted by Krystle & Duncan

**Welcome Home  
GOLDENS!**

Oban #2125



## Shop & Support! HAPPY SHOPPING!

The GR store is chock full of quality branded merchandise which not only helps our fundraising efforts but, perhaps more importantly, helps to raise awareness of the organization. T-shirts, jackets, hoodies, rain jackets, windbreakers, all in a variety of colors and sizes, have the GR logo, helping us get our message out there. Other items like fridge magnets, bumper stickers, and licence plate holders also help tell our story.

Of course the store also has our stunning coffee table book 'Golden Reflections', high-quality notecards AND a SET OF 4 COFFEE MUGS (16oz), plus a number of other gift items perfect for a birthday or special occasion for either your two or four-legged friends. The site is easy to navigate and your order is processed immediately.

[www.goldenrescuestore.ca](http://www.goldenrescuestore.ca)



*Congratulations*  
**WINNERS!**

### GRAND PRIZE

**Sarah Jessup**  
Ticket #624

\$25,000 Travel Voucher + \$1,000 cash

### 2ND PRIZE

**Nicole Manuel-Botnick**  
Ticket #4749

Trip for two to an All-Inclusive  
Resort in Cancun

### 3RD PRIZE

**Brian Cruickshank**  
Ticket #1075

Trip for two to an All-Inclusive  
Resort in Jamaica

### 4TH PRIZE

**Tricia Andrew**  
Ticket #4276

VIA Rail for two (Quebec City to  
Windsor corridor) + \$1,000 cash

### 5TH PRIZE

**Nicole Hawken**  
Ticket #4394

Viamede Resort (Kawarthas)  
\$2,000 Gift Voucher

**Thank You!!!!**

**GOLDEN RESCUE VOLUNTEERS  
& SUPPORTERS ARE THE BEST!!!**