

THE GUARDIAN

DECEMBER 2019 | ISSUE 95



Buddy #2624

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CANADIAN GOLDEN RETRIEVER ADOPTION SERVICE INC.

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The Front Cover

Buddy #2624 ~ Buddy is a true Christmas baby, as his birthday is on December 24th. This handsome boy came into the GR program with anxiety and allergies. Initially, medication helped his ailments but with love and patience, Buddy is completely drug, anxiety, and allergy free. One of his funny, quirky habits that we adore is how he says 'hello' when he greets people. He runs to get one of his stuffed toys and then makes the funniest sound that is a cross between a cow mooing and a wolf howling. Buddy wins the hearts of everyone he meets. He regularly visits residents in a nursing home, where his big smile is contagious and he brightens everyone's day. You can see more of Buddy's smile as he is Mr. August in the 2020 calendar. **Audrey & Doug**

THE GUARDIAN

December 2019 | Issue 95

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.

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 Katherine, Colin, Ian and Cameron McKay 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 Retrievers can read all about the golden world we live in.

Betty with Shadow #1342



THE TRAINING CORNER



English is a Second Language

It's been a while since the Guardian has had regular articles on dog training, so we thought we'd start with the basics. This may come as a surprise to some of our readers, but dogs are not born understanding English. In fact, for them, English is a second language.

Knowing that, let's put things into perspective. The average adult human understands 20,000 to 35,000 words. The average adult dog can understand about 165 words. Think about that for a moment. Twenty thousand words for us, compared to 165 for them. That's less than 1% of our vocabulary range!

Additionally, it's known that English is one of the hardest languages to learn.

Dogs don't understand things like verbs, adverbs, and pronouns. They don't understand sentences and they have difficulty distinguishing between words that sound similar. Oh, I know it can seem like they know exactly what we're saying ~ especially when we come home from a hard day at work and they look steadily into our eyes while we recount to them the trials and tribulations of our day. It seems like they're giving us their full attention...hanging onto and absorbing every word we say. But what they're really doing is sensing our emotions and reacting to that.

If you're like most of us, you might say something like this to your Golden: "Augie, I'll bet you're hungry. You've been such a good boy. Why don't we go into the kitchen and get you a treat." What he really understands is "Augie...Hungry...Good boy...Treat." And probably the only reason that he appears to understand the word 'hungry' is because he's learned that if he looks at you with those big sad eyes while you're eating, you're likely to respond with "Are you Hungry?" He hasn't been formally taught the word 'hungry'. He's simply learned that he can make you say that word when he looks at you a certain way and, if he's lucky, he'll get a treat or a biscuit in return.

Considering that an average dog's intelligence is equivalent to that of a 2 to 2.5- year-old child, this helps to explain why their ability to learn words is limited and why it takes time for them to do so. Of course, there are exceptions, which is why I've said "average". There are some breeds that can learn more, but I'm afraid most Golden retrievers fall into the average category in this regard.

Not that this is a bad thing. We just need to remember that because our Golden retrievers understand only a limited number of words, it's important to select those words carefully and, most importantly, to use the same words consistently!

Think about (human) kids for a second. They aren't born with an understanding of language ~ we have to teach it to them. What's the first word they learn to say, after 'mommy' and 'daddy'? Often, it's the word 'no'. Why? Because when they're little and just learning, it's a word they hear over and over.

The point here is that while I'm not suggesting that dogs are the same as children, some of the teaching principles and theories are similar.

Here's a good example. Augie #2623 came to us from Quebec at eight years of age. He had apparently never been exposed to English and our French was rusty at best. The first thing we did was enroll him in our basic obedience class. He was already well behaved, but attending the class gave him the opportunity to start learning some basic English commands. After a few months, he began putting things together and a year later, he knew enough commands to start attending our Scent classes. He has added the words 'Search' and 'Alert' to his repertoire and has earned D.O.T. certificates in the detection of wintergreen and pine.

One word of caution: It's very important that every member of your family uses exactly the same words consistently when training your Golden. This is especially important with our rescues, who may have been taught an

entirely different vocabulary in their past lives.

Let's say mom uses the word 'sit' to teach Goldy to sit. However, when dad tells Goldy to 'sit down', she looks at dad as if he has three heads. Here's the problem ~ if Goldy has previously been taught that 'sit' means 'sit' and 'down' means 'lie down', she won't know whether she's supposed to sit or lie down. Even if she hasn't been taught the word 'down', what she really hears from dad is 'siddown'. Try it ~ say the word 'sit'. Now say the words 'sit down'. Notice how the 't' in sit disappears when we say the two words together. That little nuance is not something dogs pick up on. In fact, Goldy is hearing a brand-new word. If dad then tries to teach Goldy that 'siddown' actually means 'sit', she becomes confused as to why two different words mean the same thing. So, it's extremely important that everyone in the household agrees on the words that will be used when training.

The other thing that dogs don't do well is to generalize. What we mean by this is that if you have taught your dog to sit in the kitchen (because that's probably where the treats are), and then one day you tell him to sit while you're in the living room or out on the deck or on a walk, he may look at you as if he's never heard the word before in his life. He's not ignoring you or not listening. He just hasn't learned that 'sit', regardless of where you say it, still means 'sit'. So, remember when you're teaching your Golden a command, be sure to practice using it in many different locations.

To get the best results from your training, remember these keys to success: patience, consistency, and multiple locations (and lots of practice, of course).

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. She lives with her husband Vaughan and three Golden Retrievers ~ Molly, Star & Augie #2623.

MEET & GREET



Myah #2836

When Myah arrived at the Toronto airport from Istanbul, she starting licking my hand through her crate. That certainly brought on the tears and created 'love at first sight' emotions that we will never forget. It did take Myah a few months to regain her trust in humans and it also took a few months for her to realize that her new sibling, Bentley, was a loving, gentle, forever brother. Now, everyone is living happily together and Myah even grooms Bentley every morning by licking his face. She has put on weight and her feathers have grown in, making her a simply beautiful girl ~ a beautiful, loving, happy, grateful girl who has stolen our hearts.

Gloria & Wayne



We have never needed your help more. We want to make our Wishbone Lottery bigger and better than ever before because we have Golden Retrievers waiting for our help and we need the proceeds from the lottery to continue our mission to give every Golden the second chance they deserve.

Please help us sell lottery tickets. Please email board@goldenrescue.ca for information on how you can help!

WHEN And WHERE Will I Find Golden Rescue EVENTS?

**Awareness events all over the place!
Join us, have fun, and help our Golden Retrievers!**



Georgie #2267

November 23rd

SANTA CLAUS FOR PAWS with ST. JOHN'S AMBULANCE

11 am – 4 pm

Columbus Community Centre, Cobourg, ON

November 23rd (9 am – 6 pm)

November 24th (9 am – 5 pm)

TORONTO CHRISTMAS PET SHOW

International Centre, Toronto, ON

November 30th

VOS INDEPENDENT GROCER TAG DAY

11 am – 3 pm

Port Perry, ON

November 30th & December 1st

December 7th & December 8th

December 14th & December 15th

December 21st & December 22nd

THE PICKERING MARKETS

9 am – 5 pm

Squires Beach Road, Pickering, ON

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



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MEET & GREET

Cleo #2936

Cleo came from Egypt...skinny and timid. Our 39-pound girl has blossomed into a healthy, happy 52-pound stunner who thinks she's a lap-dog! After a difficult couple of weeks of her not liking loud noises or going out at night, we have settled in beautifully with Cleo and she with us. Cleo is a proud new Canadian who loves her new family and our big, safe backyard and that other amazing Canadian place called the dog park.

Teagan & Tim

A great big
THANK YOU
 to all Retriever Believers!
YOU TRULY HAVE
GOLDEN HEARTS!



ER BELIEVER CLUB



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but those giving more. *H. Jackson Brown Jr.*

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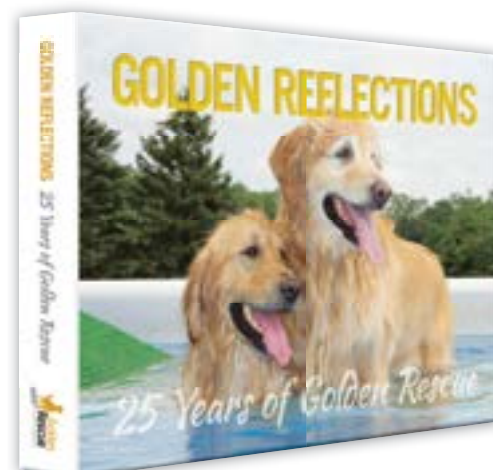
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“Told you not to use sticks!”

PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFTS!

**WISHBONE
LOTTERY
TICKETS**



MEET & GREET



Fiona #2982

Fiona, named after Shrek's Fiona, came from the forests of Istanbul. You would think that this poor girl would find everything foreign... but not so. Fiona settled with us in a heartbeat. Perhaps you've heard that rescues bring lots of baggage and unpack it very slowly. Well, Fiona packed light! Even though she was found in a forest, she didn't bring any 'issues' with her ~ just that handy passport and her protective beaded Turkish necklace that really worked! She is very smart and well trained... OR she was so grateful to be rescued and so smart that she figured out all our human needs and commands almost instantly. This wonderful girl is the hit of our neighbourhood, especially with her two Golden cousins who live next door. Her very best friend, besides us of course, is Lola ~ a big Bernese, who is under two like her. They are the best wrestlers, chasers, and tuggers you've ever seen. Fiona arrived here in the winter and took to Canadian winters immediately. Now, after her first summer, she is confused about the 'water' thing. She likes paddling in it, but this swimming thing is a mystery to her which is no problem...lots of time to learn that, Fiona. Look how far you've come already! We want to thank Golden Rescue for finding Fiona for us ~ we know it was a ton of work and we're glad we can 'pay it forward' by volunteering.

Marg & Dougal



Holiday Hoopla & Health Hazards



With the holidays fast approaching, it's time to think not only about how to celebrate them but how to keep your Golden safe during them.

To ensure that the season stays merry and bright, plan ahead and start early. Change the appearance of your home from 'everyday' to 'holiday' over a week or two. This will allow your Golden ample time to grow comfortable with everything from new or additional furniture and tabletop arrangements to wall and window decorations. To encourage your Golden to view this as something positive, reinforce the sentiment by keeping him or her occupied with Kongs filled with pet-friendly peanut butter or puzzle toys, while you slowly transform the space around them. Maintain their normal feeding and walking schedules. Ensure that their 'go to' place for security remains the same, unless you know from past experience that their doggy bed, crate or favourite blanket should be moved to a quiet room far from the festivities.

Whether you're hosting a single event or several, follow the same routine to minimize your Golden's potential uneasiness. Ask any unfamiliar guests and all of the children to calmly ignore them when they arrive. Monitor your Golden for any signs of anxiety or stress and lead them to their 'go to' place if necessary. On the other hand, if they appear relaxed and are eagerly going from guest to guest, let them join in.

Be conscious of and careful about the greenery you bring into your home. The sap of the **poinsettia** plant is considered mildly toxic and can cause nausea or vomiting in your Golden. **Holly** is considered moderately toxic and can cause nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, whereas mistletoe is severely toxic and can cause everything from gastrointestinal disorders to cardiovascular problems. **Christmas trees** are considered mildly toxic. Their oils can irritate your Golden's mouth and stomach, causing excessive drooling and/or vomiting, while their prickly needles are hazardous to their entire gastrointestinal tract. Wherever possible, keep all plants beyond your Golden's reach and watch them carefully for signs of curiosity about, interest in or the impulse to either lick or chew. To err on the side of caution, buy artificial plants instead.

Consider next the breakable ornaments and dangling tinsel, shiny ribbons, ropes of small

lights, and flickering candles.

All eye-catching eye candy to curious canines ~ from noses and teeth to paws and tails.

Hang delicate **ornaments** higher on the tree and resist placing any in decorative bowls on low surfaces. Not only can your Golden choke on them but the sharp edges of any broken pieces can lacerate the mouth, throat, and intestines. Drape **tinsel** higher on the tree as well and keep ribbons on gifts underneath the tree to a minimum. If tinsel or ribbon are swallowed, they can twist and bunch inside the intestines, causing serious, sometimes fatal damage if not caught quickly enough.

Artificial snow is toxic and should be avoided at all costs. **Lights**, large and small, solid and flickering are another danger, not only because they are hot and breakable, but because of the electrical cords holding them together. If bitten, they can cause electrical shock if not properly grounded, and if frayed, they can cause severe lacerations to your Golden's tongue.

Place all lighted **candles** out of reach of your Golden to reduce the risk of singed fur, pads, paws, and tails. Candles can easily be tipped over with a tail, leaving burning wax everywhere or worse, starting a fire.

As appetizing as holiday fare is for people, it can prove agonizing, even lethal for pets. The most notorious offenders are:

GRAPES: the precise substance which causes the toxicity in grapes is unknown (some dogs can eat grapes without incident, while others can eat one and become seriously ill)

ONIONS AND GARLIC: the sulfoxides and disulfides in both destroy red blood cells and can cause serious blood problems, including anemia

HAM: high in salt and fat, it can lead to stomach upsets and, over time, pancreatitis

MACADEMIA NUTS: within 12 hours of ingesting them, dogs can experience weakness, depression, tremors, vomiting, and hyperthermia (increased body temperature) lasting between 12 and 48 hours. If your Golden exhibits any of these symptoms, contact your vet immediately.

BONES: whether rib roasts or lamb chops, turkey, chicken or duck, they all have bones ~ thick ones and thin ones, brittle, fragmented, and splintered ones. Whatever the size, shape or texture, they all spell the same thing: **DANGER** ~ from throat scratches to stomach perforations to bowel obstructions. To safeguard against these painful possibilities, all leftovers, particularly bones, should be carefully wrapped and promptly disposed of.

FAT TRIMMINGS: they cause upset stomachs, vomiting, and diarrhea

ALCOHOL: it's common that holidays are celebrated with more alcohol than usual ~ in cooking and in drinks such as eggnog and fruit punch. For safety's sake, keep these temptations (including partially eaten plates of food and half-empty glasses) out of reach of your Golden to avoid intoxication and alcohol poisoning

CHOCOLATES: although chocolate has long been taboo for dogs, many chocolates are wrapped in foil for the holidays. Now, not only can your Golden get sick from eating the chocolate, the wrappers themselves can get stuck in their throat or cause problems as they work their way through their digestive tract.

CHRISTMAS PUDDING, CAKE, AND MINCE PIE: filled with potentially toxic raisins, currants, and sultanas, they are also made with fat and suet and laced with alcohol ~ from scotch and brandy to sugary liqueurs

And so, with some strategic planning beforehand, you and your precious Golden can be assured of spending the happiest and safest of holidays together.

By Nomi Berger

Nomi is the best-selling author of seven novels, one work of non-fiction, two volumes of poetry, and hundreds of articles. She lives in Toronto with her adopted Maltese, Mini, and has been volunteering to write for animal rescue groups in Canada and the U.S. since 2013.

Golden Rescue 29th Anniversary Picnic



This year's picnic, celebrating our 29th anniversary, was a huge success in many respects. We had a picture-perfect day ~ lots of sunshine and heat...and no rain (it might have even been a tad too warm)! Viamede Resort and former board member Ben Samann, hosted yet again, the perfect setting for over 140 of our beloved furkids (mostly Golden Retrievers) and about 300 people. In honour of our upcoming 30th anniversary, Sam #3000 was our ambassador and gave us a heart-warming speech that officially opened the celebrations.

Our silent and live auction run by Carolyn Hart was a huge success. We thank all of you, individuals and companies, who contributed to an interesting and robust auction. There were SO many fabulous items to bid on.

The games, sponsored by GoodLife Fitness and run by Jane Riddell and Viive Tamm, were hilarious and included Leave It or Steal It, the Oopsie-Dropsie Egg Race, Pick Your Golden Blindfolded, and Sam Says. The Best Dressed Competition was won by Pat and Robin Hart and their Golden Kingston who was dressed as a Rastafarian. Thank you to Sheri & Barry Dell for sponsoring the Best Dressed.

Golden Rescues Shutter Pups was a new idea organized by Nancy Leask and it was also a big hit. There were two hiking experiences through the woods with Ben and Toby #2000. Thanks to all our volunteers including I.E. Weldon students who sold 50-50 tickets, Cynthia Mazur and Karen Kilpatrick who ran the very busy General Store, and Jude Heather who presided over the Rainbow Bridge memorial. So many other volunteers, coordinated by Wanetta Doucette-Goodman, made our 29th GR picnic a wonderful, furry success. And last, but nowhere close to the least, a HUGE thank you to Julie Hendren, our Picnic Chair, for organizing the entire event. It's an inordinate amount of work and for all of us who enjoyed the day immensely, including all our Golden Retrievers, we thank you!

Stay tuned for next year's 30th anniversary picnic extravaganza!



Save the date for next year's picnic ~ September 19th!



Sam #3000'S Poem/Speech

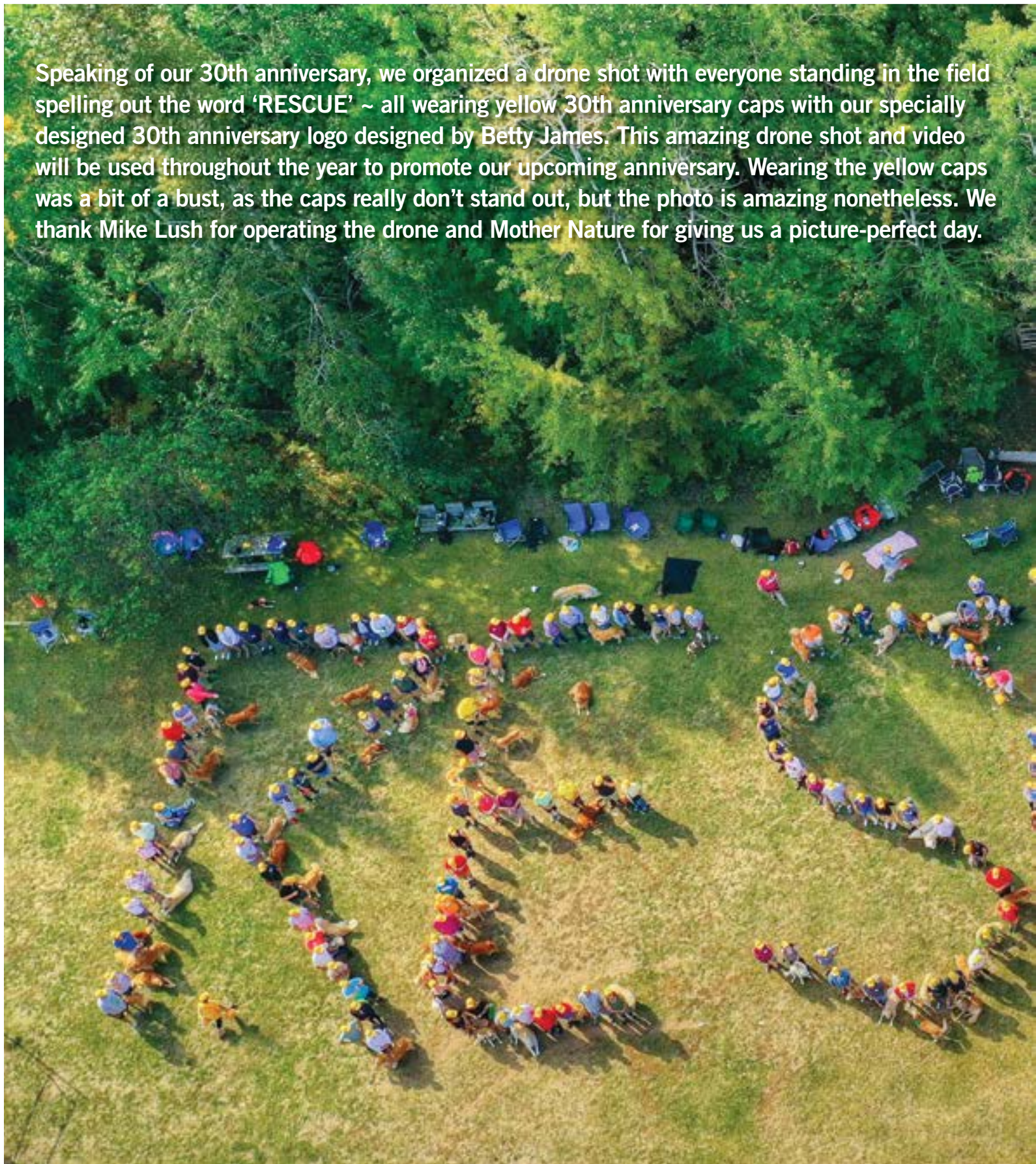
Thank you, Paul, I'm a little shy
 But with my amazing mom's help...I'll try
 I love you guys...Canada's got everything I like
 You even put peanut butter on my mike
 Now I'm gonna tell you a story of how lucky I was
 And why I'm so dedicated to GR's cause
 I was dumped on the streets of Cairo, vicious and hard
 I was broken and battered and badly scarred
 A wonderful kind woman made me whole
 By healing my wounds and soothing my soul
 Then she arranged to send me far, far away
 And that's why I'm here with you today
 Yes, I'm the 3,000th rescue...hard to believe
 That's three thousand kinds of pain you've relieved
 3,000 rescues over soon 30 years
 What an achievement, what an ocean of tears
 Tears of despair turned into tears of joy
 I know well how that feels, I'm one grateful boy
 I now sleep in a California king-size bed
 I have a kong full of goodies and I always get fed
 My dear mom and dad are devoted to me
 Even when I eat socks, corn cobs, and a blanket or three
 They failed training classes and had to return
 My teacher says they still have a lot to learn
 That's fine, I'm patient, and I love them so
 Even though they still have a long way to go
 Only kidding of course, it's me who needs school
 To learn what 'no' means and where not to drool
 But don't worry, I'll get it...they say that I'm smart
 To help I have two people with two giant hearts
 As well, each of you here has a heart of gold
 Yeah...when they made Golden Rescue, they broke the mold
 Canada, Turkey, Egypt...you go above and beyond
 You touch every province, you cross every pond
 In search of Golden's who need you, you never give up
 Thank you from every Golden, every senior, and pup
 So, here's to 3,000 rescues and more every day
 And to my cousins still waiting...GR's on its way.



BEST DRESSED CONTEST



Speaking of our 30th anniversary, we organized a drone shot with everyone standing in the field spelling out the word 'RESCUE' ~ all wearing yellow 30th anniversary caps with our specially designed 30th anniversary logo designed by Betty James. This amazing drone shot and video will be used throughout the year to promote our upcoming anniversary. Wearing the yellow caps was a bit of a bust, as the caps really don't stand out, but the photo is amazing nonetheless. We thank Mike Lush for operating the drone and Mother Nature for giving us a picture-perfect day.





MEET & GREET



Levi #3232

My husband and I have wanted a Golden Retriever for as long as we can remember. Something about getting a puppy didn't feel right and adult Goldens were so hard to come across. That's when we found the incredible people at Golden Rescue and everything changed. About a month ago, we fell in love with the sad face in the picture on the left. He was across the world from us in a shelter in Cairo, Egypt. We didn't know much about him, other than he liked other dogs and was friendly. We had no idea about his medical history or if he was trained. All we knew was that he was destined to be ours. With much anticipation, we drove four hours to Toronto to pick up our new family member from the airport. We were nervous, anxious, and excited beyond belief. The first few days were quiet and calm as he adjusted to a new schedule, new home, new people, and a whole new life. He quickly learned that we were 'his people' and within a few short days had snuggled right up to us showing us all the love he had to offer (which was a lot!). One of the things we laugh about most is Levi's inability to use his back legs to jump up. It became very obvious that he had never used them for climbing and forgets that he can lift them to climb stairs or get onto the couch. He is learning quickly that if he takes a running start, it is much easier! Fast forward two short weeks and the photo on the left is our Levi now. His eyes have never been brighter. He loves a good belly scratch, scrunches his nose up with excitement when we come home from work, wants so desperately for the cat to love him back, is obsessed with walks, and adores his new toys. Levi was without a doubt meant to be in our family. He is happy, he is loved, he is home. THIS is what rescue feels like!



Levi (before he arrived)

Karley & Brendan

MEET & GREET



Ray #3045

This amazing one-year-old is often called Mr. Personality. Ray has filled our life with love and he is such an integral part of our family as we go everywhere together. We adopted him in the spring and we immediately introduced him to water, which he just loves! Water in the pool, water at the cottage, and even water in the shower ~ he loves it all. Since Ray joined our family, there is no such thing as a private shower anymore...Ray is right there getting wet with us. Ray does everything full tilt, especially in the morning as he starts each new day by zooming around the house and backyard at full speed until he tires and is ready for breakfast. Loved by everyone in the neighbourhood, especially the kids, he gets visitors regularly to see if he can come out to play. He often is brought gifts and treats ~ lucky boy! As the saying goes 'Everybody Loves Raymond'...especially us!

Heather & George

Curious About Cross Breeds?

It began innocently enough...

In 1989, Australian Wally Conron, who worked for a guide dogs association, crossed a Labrador Retriever with a Standard Poodle (non-shedding) to serve as a guide dog for a blind woman whose husband was allergic to dogs. Out of a litter of three, only one didn't trigger his allergies and it was a match!

Enter the Labradoodle, "a dog with the working ability of the Labrador and the coat of the Poodle", explained Conron in candid interviews three decades after breeding the first supposedly hypoallergenic dog. He also admitted that it was his "life's regret ~ I opened a Pandora's box and released a Frankenstein's monster".

Why? It led the way for unethical, ruthless people (so-called backyard breeders) to cross any kind of a dog with a poodle and sell them for big bucks without considering their health and the health of their offspring. There are so many poodle crosses having fits, problems with their eyes, hips, and elbows, and a lot have epilepsy.

In fact, Labradoodles are predisposed to health issues common to both Labrador Retrievers and Poodles that include hip and elbow dysplasia, progressive retinal atrophy, and von Willebrand's disease (a bleeding disorder). And Goldendoodles (the result of crossing a Golden Retriever and a poodle) can develop health problems common to both Golden Retrievers and Poodles that include hip dysplasia, sebaceous adenitis (a skin disease), subvalvular aortic stenosis (a heart condition), Addison's disease (a pituitary gland problem), and eye diseases such as progressive retinal atrophy, cataracts, and glaucoma. Certain allergies (such as food allergies) are becoming more commonplace in them as well.

Since both Labradoodles and Goldendoodles are hybrids as opposed to purebreds, their behavioural characteristics (some are untrainable) and physical appearance can be quite unpredictable. Even their coats may vary from wiry to soft, and may be curly, wavy or straight. Many of them shed, although they shed less and with less of a 'doggy' odour, but most importantly, there's no guarantee that they'll be truly hypoallergenic ~ the sole reason for crossbreeding them in the first place.

By Nomi Berger

Nomi is the best-selling author of seven novels, one work of non-fiction, two volumes of poetry, and hundreds of articles. She lives in Toronto with her adopted Maltese, Mini, and has been volunteering to write for animal rescue groups in Canada and the U.S. since 2013.

A GOLDEN CHRISTMAS SONG

*So, this is Christmas, another year's done
 Please don't kiss strangers, some don't think it's fun
 Don't eat from the table, don't beg for a treat
 But please turn on the charm to all those that you meet
 Tolerate children, they have so much to learn
 Don't smell the oven or your nose will burn
 Don't drink from the glasses, that you might find
 Don't eat the scraps that our guests left behind
 Give space to your cousins if they come to stay
 Share all your toys if they want to play
 Don't jump up on the sofa, that's for our friends
 You can go back to your couch once Christmas ends*

Wow! This Christmas thing sure has a lot of rules. I'm going to do my best to be good. Here's my plan. I'm going to do all these things in the song. I'm going to be perfect and I'm going to pile on the charm. Then, I'm sure when mommy isn't looking all our friends and family, they will love me so much they will feed me treats and their leftovers anyway, right?



Tori's Fundraiser

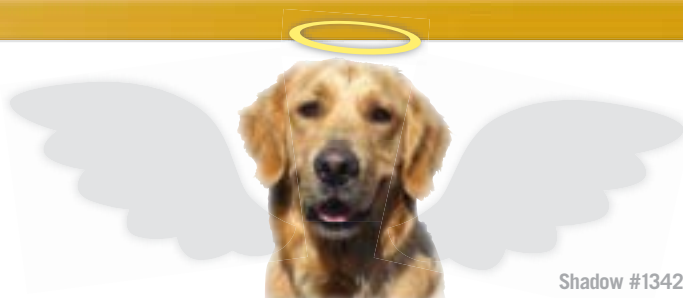
Our family adopted Riley #2781 (who was Puddles) in 2018. Our daughter, Tori, had a strong urge to raise money for Golden Rescue. After many hours of brainstorming, she came up with an idea to sell candies. She was so proud of herself and she used her own allowance to buy candies, which she sold at our annual family picnic. She raised \$40, which she donated to an organization close to her heart. It's her way of expressing how grateful she is having Riley in her life.

A special thank-you from all of us, Tori, for raising money for our Golden Retrievers. Woof-woof... our Golden Retrievers thank you too!



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

Carolyn Hart

Carolyn is a passionate fan of Golden Retrievers and a true friend to rescue. She first discovered Golden Rescue in 2008 when she adopted Butler #971, who joined her forever family, which included two Golden siblings, Carly and Dixie. Since then, Carolyn and her husband Alan have adopted three other amazing Golden Retrievers ~ Gracie #1818, Casey #1957, and most recently Gibson #2965 who hailed from Istanbul. Carolyn became an ardent volunteer starting with the Facebook team and volunteering at events such as the LCBO Tag Days and The Pickering Markets. Carolyn's real claim-to-fame is her tireless work for our picnic's auction. For five years, Carolyn has organized every aspect of our live and silent auctions. Despite a bad rain day with no tent at her first auction, she has made every auction a huge success. With the help of many volunteers, including her husband Alan, the auction has gotten better and better each year. Thank you, Carolyn and Alan...for all the Golden Retrievers you have rescued and for all the money you have raised for our precious Golden Retrievers. We are incredibly grateful!



Carolyn and the gang



Noelle with Cleo #3238

Noelle de la Vega

Noelle is one of our newest, super enthusiastic volunteers. Noelle grew up with a Golden and she missed the daily smiles, quirky antics, and endless love that a Golden brings to your life. She very recently adopted Cleo #3238, who arrived here from the streets of Cairo. Noelle claims that Cleo is the sweetest girl you'd ever hope to meet, which makes her ideally suited to become a Golden ambassador. Noelle threw herself into her volunteer role quickly and became the Ottawa area's event coordinator. Building awareness in these areas is our number one goal and Noelle has already organized multiple events including a regular spot at the Ottawa Farmer's Market and a dog-washing event at Pet Valu. Thank you, Noelle, for all you do. We wish you and Cleo a warm welcome!

The Chicago 8 Team

Our volunteers frequently go above and beyond. Recently, a large group of volunteers put their heads together to help another rescue group in the U.S. It's a long story about why the rescue group from Chicago needed our help but suffice to say they did and we, in the spirit of cooperation and rescue, stepped up. Julie Marriott, our fearless transport leader, organized these wonderful volunteers: Susan Archer, Val Barker, Joy Cairnie, Bob Cameron, Dan Cummings, Steffanie Delacour, Kim McGlade, Sue Montgomery, Lisa Moorhouse, Laura Munding, Meglyn Murphy, Danielle Robinson, Alen Schiller, Monica Seto, Christine Smith, and Sandy Tatarnic. Mitch, the owner of Sunnidale Kennels, and his group, were wonderfully helpful throughout this enormous rescue operation. Our volunteers went to the Toronto airport to meet the plane from overseas with eight rescued dogs of all breeds (now dubbed the Chicago 8). All of these dogs already had their forever homes in and around Chicago and had been waiting to find a way to North America for many months. Our group met the plane and transported all the dogs to Sunnidale Kennels and transported them back and forth to the vet for their wellness exams. The kennel bathed and groomed every dog then another team of volunteers relay-transported all the dogs to Sarnia where they were met by their U.S. rescuers. This was a huge undertaking and although all expenses were born by the U.S. rescue group, this major logistical task was handled totally by our dedicated and kind-hearted volunteers. All the dogs are now living happy, healthy lives with their forever families, who are eternally grateful to our crew who stretched their hand across the ocean and across the border to help!



Chicago Rescue



Charitable Gift Planning

Golden Rescue receives many requests throughout the year from the general public and from Golden owners trying to get information on donating to Golden Rescue on a regular basis or in the Estate Planning stages of their affairs. Many questions to Golden Rescue are similar to these samples:

I have a Golden and I'm concerned about what would happen to my Golden if I passed away suddenly? I have no family close by and my children live in another country and would not be able to take care of my Golden. Does Golden Rescue take care of these things? How does it work? Can I donate money to Golden Rescue to take care of my Golden after I'm gone? How do I go about making a donation?

OR...from a Golden's perspective, what happens to me if my owner passes away and there is nobody to take care of me? Will Golden Rescue take care of me? And how does that work? Do I need money? What about my vet bills and my special food? Where will I go?

Rather than leaving a general gift for the Humane Society, can I specify a gift for Golden Rescue? How would I do that?

Am I able to donate a charitable gift to Golden Rescue? Can I do it monthly? What are the requirements and do I get a tax receipt?

Can I leave my RRSP/RRIF or stocks investments to Golden Rescue? How does that work? What about taxes?

These questions and many similar ones come up from time-to-time and there are many answers to the Charitable Gift planning process. The short answer is Golden Rescue can and will help with answering your questions and putting you at ease with this topic, most importantly providing the comfort of knowing your precious Golden will be taken care of and your wishes honoured. Contact us by emailing board@goldenrescue.ca.

CHARITABLE GIFT PLANNING is a process of Estate Plans and can involve simple bequests of cash or property or a more sophisticated direction contained in a person's will. The gift could come directly from the estate with instructions in the will or directly as a beneficiary of life insurance, savings from a Registered Retirement Savings Plan/ Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRSP/RRIF) or from a Tax-Free Savings Plan (TFSA) or an annuity or gifts of securities. As mentioned above, the gift could be a cash payment to a charitable entity or, in the case of securities, a gift-in-kind and this can be done in your will or anytime during your lifetime. From a tax perspective, there are many



Golden advantages to helping the rescue instead of sending the estate taxes to the government.

Charitable gift planning can be rewarding for both the donor and the charity. There is no single strategy that applies to donors ~ plans should be designed to address an individual's personal needs and financial objectives and also your Golden's needs. Many options for planning exist ~ please review with your planning professional to ensure your wishes are clear and benefiting the charity you wish to assist.

*Harry Matheis
Director Donations, Advisory & Planned Giving*



Shop & Support! HAPPY SHOPPING!

The GR store is chock full of quality branded merchandise which not only helps our fund raising 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, a set of 4 coffee mugs (16oz), umbrellas plus a number of other gift items perfect for a birthday, Christmas gift or special occasion for either your two or four-legged friends. The site is easy to navigate and your order is processed immediately.

Stuff Your Stockings!

With the 2020 Golden Rescue Calendar!

Order one at the GoldenRescueStore or use the enclosed form!



COVER GOLDENS:

Gilda #2634,
Abby #3093

MONTH GOLDENS:

Kassi #2668, Gemma #2097, Max #2780, Lilli #2944, Jaxon #2392, Bronson #1482, Riley #2421, Prince #2048, Molly #3078, Kato #1612 & Maya #2055, Benson #2768, Buddy #2624, Merlin #2286, Muru #3077, Cohen #2832, Jackson #2766

OTHER GOLDENS:

Sophie Tucker #2263, Simon, Niko #2633, Piper Pickles, Zoey #1526, Shadow #1342, Max #2939, Jacey #2529, Charlie, Hutch #1712, Trigger #1528, Jake #3087, Gracie, Vickie #3096, Bauer #1297, Bauer #2796 and Echo #2797, Sonja #2371, Rannoch, Cailey #261, Laila, Copper #2207, Saima Pickles, Treble, Jenny #1527 & Kassi #2174, Gordie #3068, Woody #1556, Sadie, Phoenix #1569,
Treasure, Manny, Duke #2946, Phoebe, Gubs #1849, Henry, Myah #2836, Sammy, Keno, Chauncey #1132, Marshall #3129, Abby, Gordie #2882, Buddy #2624, Lenny #2955, Dudley #141, Rugby #256, Simon #387, Jake #424, Molly #574, George #682, Sarge #722, Ginger #802 & Fred #801, Cody #920, Mr. Magoo #1075, Dylan #1124, Bear #1235, Ruby #1333, Macky #1428, Phoenix #1569, Louie #1606, Freddie #1747, Stanley #1864, Lochlann #1905, T-Bone #2076, Aurelia #2124, Henry #2225, Kipling #2341, Indy #2409, Dreamer #2579, Gus #2614, Bauer #2720, Tilley #2849, Max #2991, Buddy #3003



Milo #3138

Milo is a new addition to the GR family. We adopted him on August 10th and he was a superstar on the long drive home. A typical pup (just under one year old when adopted), Milo is the energizer bunny. The good news is that he loves everybody ~ human and canine alike. But cats and other varmints... not so much! He is quite a hunter...or more aptly, he is a chaser...because he never catches anything. Our little social butterfly loves the cottage, swimming, boating or just sitting on the front porch watching the world go by. We started to go to obedience school with him but so far, he's pretty distracted by the other dogs because he's just so social. We'd really like him to learn 'come' but so far that command has been a challenge. We'll get there eventually but most importantly, we adore this wonderful boy, who is so full of love and life.

Kathy & Scott



askSADIE



Sadie #2963

Dear Sadie: I'm wondering if you could help me. I'm potty training and would like to know how I can learn to wait until I'm outside to go. It's so hard sometimes. Piddle Pete

Dear Pete: Don't worry, you'll get it eventually! A good tip is to stick to a bathroom schedule such as first thing in the morning, after meals, and right before bed. For the first little while, you may want to go out every hour until you get the hang of relieving yourself outside instead of in the house. Then, once you are successful with that, you can extend the time between bathroom breaks. Being rewarded with small treats can also be used as positive reinforcement. Who doesn't like to get treats for a job well done? Sniffing, squatting or circling are good indicators that an accident may happen and your human should get you outside as soon as possible. Good luck with your training and don't get discouraged. It takes a little time and patience but you will get it!

Dear Sadie: I'm somewhat embarrassed to ask this but sometimes my paws smell like corn chips or old popcorn. Why does this happen and how can I prevent this? Stinky Sal

Dear Sal: No need to be embarrassed as this is very common. This smell is

due to bacteria and yeast ~ a result of moisture getting stuck between toes and folds. It could be from walking in the rain or snow or licking your paws. Paws also sweat and this could just be your natural odour. To help reduce this smell, you may want to have the fur between your toe pads trimmed. I find this helps a lot. A foot bath is another good option. A subtle smell is normal; however, if there is a strong smell you may want to have it checked out as it could indicate an issue or health problem. Call your vet if you notice skin flaking, redness, bumps or an infection.

Dear Sadie: I know tail wagging can mean I'm happy but what else can different tail positions mean? Jack

Dear Jack: Good question. You can tell a lot about how a dog feels by the way he wags or positions his tail. A strong tail wag using the hips can indicate happiness and friendliness, whereas a more relaxed side-to-side wag can mean contentment. Aggression can show in the form of a tail in an upright position and a tail that is down and between the legs can spell fear or nervousness. When curious about something, the tail may position straight out. Our tails are great communication tools ~ wag away!

Dear Sadie: I've noticed that when I play with my dog pals, I sneeze a lot. What's up with that? Am I allergic to my friends? Pyper

Dear Pyper: Sneezing during play is quite normal and doesn't necessarily mean you're under the weather or suffering from allergies. It's just our way of signaling to other dogs that even though it may get rowdy, we are having fun and this is just play. So, unless you are exhibiting other symptoms, this is nothing to be concerned about. Play away!

Dear Sadie: Why do my humans get upset when I try to help them by licking all the dishes when they are being loaded into the dishwasher? Helpful Hal

Dear Hal: This could be for a few reasons. Unfortunately, your human may not think this is as helpful as you may believe and may actually find this, dare I say, unsanitary. The fact is our mouths are filled with oodles of bacteria and some dishwashers don't get hot enough to kill that bacteria. Not only that, you are ingesting extra calories and foods that may not be good for you. So even though your heart is in the right place by wanting to help, you may want to allow the humans to take over this time.

Happy Holidays! Love Sadie x🐾x



WELCOME TO THE GOLDEN

Andy #3164

2-year-old male
Adopted by Deb

Archie #3130

3-year-old male
Adopted by Rosie

Archie #3186

8-week-old male
Adopted by Kimberley & Scott

Baloo #3182

6-year-old male
Adopted by Ruth

Bella #3088

5-year-old female
Adopted by Jay & Dave

Benny #3203

7-year-old male
Adopted by Christine

Boone #3206

7-year-old male
Adopted by Wendy & Mike

Brooklynne #3127

6-year-old female
Adopted by Patricia

Bubbly #3016

6-year-old male
Adopted by Dan

Buddy #3198

8-month-old male
Adopted by Elizabeth & Brandon

Cairo #2951

3-year-old female
Adopted by Emily

Cairo #3141

3-month-old male
Adopted by Carrie & David

Charlie #3133

5-year-old male
Adopted by Mark

Charlie #3162

1.5-year-old female
Adopted by Jessica

Chelsea #3111

10-year-old female
Adopted by Erin & Andy

Chloe Charlotte #3157

1-year-old female
Adopted by Kelly & Rob

Daisy #3124

1.5-year-old female
Adopted by Jennifer & David

Darcy #3150

8-year-old female
Adopted by Judy & Yves

Edith #3131

7-year-old female
Adopted by Christopher

Ellie #3148

6-month-old female
Adopted by Penny

Finn #3071 & Luna #3072

5-year-old male &
6-year-old female
Adopted by Darlene & Tim

Finn #3143

6-month-old male
Adopted by Mary & Mike

Finn #3184

3-year-old male
Adopted by Nancy & Ken

Fred #3042

3-year-old male
Adopted by Kathleen

Glinda #3085

8-month-old female
Adopted by Janet & Michael

Harley #3178

1-year-old male
Adopted by Karen & Paul

Harry #3089

3-year-old male
Adopted by Michele & Dennis

Havana #2872

7-month-old female
Adopted by Michelle & Timothy

Hudson #3192

10-week-old male
Adopted by Kelly & David

Hunter #3149

2-year-old male
Adopted by Anne & Alan

Jack #3142

6-month-old male
Adopted by Samantha & Michael

Jackson #3183

8-year-old male
Adopted by Ira & Mitch

Joey #3152

1-year-old male
Adopted by Kathleen

Juneau #3139

3-month-old female
Adopted by Wanetta & Dan

Kramer #3160

2.5-year-old male
Adopted by Marian & Pete

Lara #3151

4-year-old female
Adopted by Linda & Bill

Leo #3134

5-year-old male
Adopted by Murielle & Peter

Leo #3146

5-year-old male
Adopted by Mona

Leo #3172

9-week-old male
Adopted by Rebecca & Antonio

Lilly #3031

9-month-old female
Adopted by Melissa & Donat

Lily #3121

3-year-old female
Adopted by Robyn & Fred

Lisa #3033 & Leo #3034

3-year-old female & male
Adopted by Tamara & Kevin

Lucy #3154

5-year-old female
Adopted by Sara & Larry

Marley #3136

3-year-old male
Adopted by Caroline

Maya #3191

3-year-old female
Adopted by Sarah & Vik

Milo #3138

11-month-old male
Adopted by Kathy & Scott

Minnie #3064

2-year-old female
Adopted by Alice

Muru #3077

10-year-old female
Adopted by Jennifer



Bubbly #3016



Peri #3060



Brooklynne #3127



Andy #3164

FAMILY



Nilo #3200

9-month-old male
Adopted by Karen & Trevor

Ollie #3153

3-year-old male
Adopted by Sandy

Otis #3144

7-month-old male
Adopted by Tanya

Penny #3097 & Pawter #3098

2-year-old female &
1-year-old male
Adopted by Mallory & Joshua

Peri #3060

2-year-old female
Adopted by Debby

Phil #3170

9-year-old male
Adopted by Cynthia & Tim

Phin #3219

6.5-year-old male
Adopted by Carol & Tom

Piper #3177

8-week-old female
Adopted by Karen & Stephen

Poppy #3112

5-year-old female
Adopted by Beth

Reese #3171

9-week-old male
Adopted by Gillian & Craig

Rosy #2877

10-month-old female
Adopted by Cindy

Rosie #2888

1.5-year-old female
Adopted by Heidi & Neil

Sally #3090

3-year-old female
Adopted by Gail & Brian

Sam #3159

7-year-old male
Adopted by Christine

Sami #3166

1.5-year-old male
Adopted by Mallory & Dan

Scott #3122

1.5-year-old male
Adopted by Audrey Anne & Philippe

Shiloh #2915

11-year-old female
Adopted by Shirley & Wes

Simba #3119

1.5-year-old male
Adopted by Daniel

Sky #3137

6-year-old female
Adopted by Linda

Spencer #3194

2-year-old male
Adopted by Sheri & Barry

Starsky #3135

3-year-old male
Adopted by Shari & Paul

Stella #3161

2-year-old female
Adopted by Shannon & Kent

Sully #3173

9-week-old male
Adopted by Carley & Zachary

Suzie #3156

7-year-old female
Adopted by Ali & Jason

Torrie #3207

11-year-old female
Adopted by Marilyn & Sean

Upidus #3158

2-year-old male
Adopted by Kathleen

Verda #3185

4-year-old female
Adopted by Maddalena

Watson #3199

8-month-old male
Adopted by Tracy & Dawn

Winnie #3061

5-year-old female
Adopted by Edith & Simon

Winnie #3169

5-year-old female
Adopted by Jennifer & John

Zac #3174 & Hunter #3175

9-week-old males
Adopted by Krystin & Matt

Zehra #3123

7-year-old female
Adopted by Deena & Rick

Zeus #3102 & Hera #3103

1-year-old male & female
Adopted by Ellen & Mark

Zoey #3209

2-year-old female
Adopted by Judy



Welcome Home GOLDENS!



Sami #3166



Phil #3170



Leo #3172



Harley #3178



Baloo #3182



Verda #3185



Hudson #3192



Torrie #3207

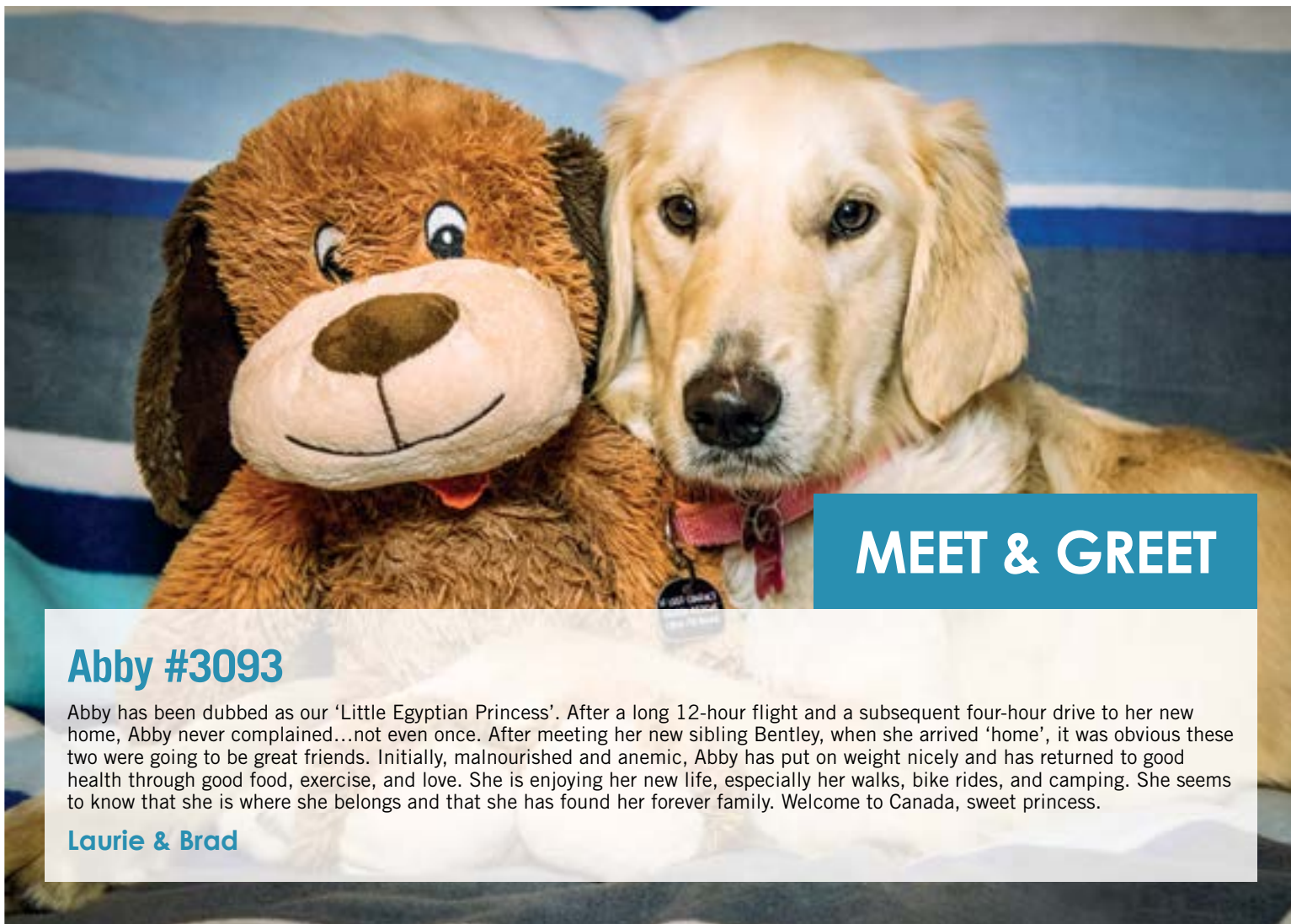


MEET & GREET

Layla #1137

Layla was only 18 months old when we met her in 2007. Now, at the age of 12, Layla is the picture of health. For the last few years, she lives by the lake and loves her long morning hikes through the woods, fishing with her dad or just sun worshipping in the front yard or in her Florida home in the winter. Layla is sweet, gentle, and affectionate. She loves everyone ~ people, dogs, cats, and all her woodland creatures... but most importantly, she loves us! And we love our petite 'Little Missy' to the moon and back!

Janice & Ian



MEET & GREET

Abby #3093

Abby has been dubbed as our 'Little Egyptian Princess'. After a long 12-hour flight and a subsequent four-hour drive to her new home, Abby never complained...not even once. After meeting her new sibling Bentley, when she arrived 'home', it was obvious these two were going to be great friends. Initially, malnourished and anemic, Abby has put on weight nicely and has returned to good health through good food, exercise, and love. She is enjoying her new life, especially her walks, bike rides, and camping. She seems to know that she is where she belongs and that she has found her forever family. Welcome to Canada, sweet princess.

Laurie & Brad

Providing Your Golden with Proper Dental Care

According to the American Veterinary Dental Society, 80% of dogs have oral disease by the age of two. Dental health is an integral part of your dog's overall wellness, especially for owners of Golden Retrievers, who are known to be more prone to dental disease than some breeds.

As with people, the main culprit of dental disease is a build up of plaque which eventually hardens into tartar, leading to gingivitis (inflammation of the gums) and periodontal disease.

The result ~ a bacterial invasion of the gums and tissues supporting the teeth, damaging them, and ultimately causing tooth loss. These bacteria can also invade the bloodstream, potentially damaging the lungs, heart, kidneys, and liver.

As a responsible owner, you can lower your precious Golden's risks by pursuing a conscientious program of oral care, ideally when still a puppy by brushing their teeth on a regular basis. Brushing teeth is the most effective way of controlling plaque by breaking it up before it can harden into tartar.

To start, buy an actual doggy toothbrush or a child's soft toothbrush along with a toothpaste or oral gel that's designed specifically for pets. NEVER use human toothpaste because the fluoride can be toxic and NEVER use baking soda because dogs mustn't swallow it.

Brush your dog's teeth at the same time every day, concentrating on the outer surfaces of their teeth. Begin slowly, praising them often, stopping if they become agitated, then beginning again. Increase the amount of brushing time slowly, day by day.

For more difficult dogs, there are rubber finger brushes or, if all else fails, your own finger. It's the act of brushing or rubbing that provides the most benefit. But should your Golden absolutely refuse to have their teeth cleaned, add a specifically formulated antiseptic oral rinse to their water. At the very least, it will help freshen their breath.

Golden Retrievers love to chew and this has the added benefit of helping to keep their teeth clean. There are scores of specifically formulated oral care products for them, including dental chews and sticks, chew toys, and dental treats that can help rub off some of the plaque on their teeth.

There are also special 'dental' diets that have been shown to reduce plaque and/or tartar build up. They work by physically cleaning

the teeth more efficiently than regular kibble (this kibble is less likely to crumble upon chewing) or by the addition of chemicals to prevent the hardening of plaque into tartar. But speak with your vet beforehand to ensure the dental formula is both appropriate for your Golden's age and beneficial to his overall health.

Thoroughly inspect your Golden's entire mouth once a week, being on the alert for such problems as bad breath, drooling, red, puffy, and bleeding gums, yellow tartar crusted along the gum line, discoloured, broken or missing teeth or bumps in his mouth. Take note, as well, of any changes in their chewing or eating habits.

Even one of the above symptoms warrants a prompt visit to the vet for a professional examination of their mouth, gums, and



teeth. If your vet finds that your dog does indeed have dental disease, a full evaluation under anesthesia, including x-rays, cleaning, and, if needed, teeth extractions will, in all likelihood, be recommended. Also, if your Golden needs any other procedure where they have to be sedated, ask your vet if dental care can be added.

And so, if you've been neglecting your Golden's dental health, it's never too late to remedy the situation.

GOLDEN MOMENTS[®]



Home for the holidays...



Happy Howlidays & Thank You

Another year and decade of working TOGETHER to rescue and rehome Golden Retrievers is behind us! There are always some difficult or sad situations but most were filled with JOY and our rescued Golden Retrievers have found their forever FAMILIES because of all of your selfless efforts. On behalf of our Golden Retrievers, we are grateful for your dedication, commitment, passion, and hard work. Without all of you there would be no Golden Rescue!

We wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season and a healthy and prosperous new year.

Woof woof from Bentley #2137