

GRRIN NEWS

**Home is
where your
dog is.**

First Quarter 2020 | Happy Tails, Golden Hearts



2019 in Review

Many changes have occurred in the last few months. The traditional summary of our accomplishments is overshadowed by the uncertainty of rescue work we can safely attempt in 2020. Inside this newsletter you will find information about how we are reacting to COVID-19 and the restrictions we are following for the safety of our volunteers and others with whom we interact.

GRRIN left the decade on a high note, rescuing almost twice the number of dogs in 2019 than the year before. We brought 45 new dogs into foster care and cared for six dogs that weren't adopted in 2018. Our most incredible rescue story belonged to Bogie 15-04, who was

re-surrendered to GRRIN in June. Semi-paralyzed in his hind end and incontinent, he required extraordinary and expensive medical care totaling over \$6,000, most of which was covered by grants, local fundraising, and anonymous donations. Bogie was adopted in October by a wonderful family and their pack, but would never have had the opportunity without the countless hours of care provided by veterinarians and volunteers. Bogie's story is a testament to GRRIN's policy of always accepting previously adopted dogs back into rescue: once a GRRIN dog, always a GRRIN dog.

In preparation for another busy year, we are dedicated to increasing our volunteer team despite the challenges of social distancing. We welcomed several new volunteers at annual training this January (which seems like a lifetime ago) and they were already learning how to conduct home visits, casework foster dogs, and manage transports. There was an increase in surrender calls early in March and we scrambled to safely get new foster dogs into homes before we lost the opportunity. New caseworkers are being trained via email and we will soon be attempting to conduct further training and communication through Zoom meetings – dogs are welcome!

Unfortunately, many of our outreach events have been canceled, including our annual luncheon for members. The business portion of the meeting will be postponed to Gold Rush in October and the election of board members was conducted by postal mail service in April. We aren't sure we'll be able to hold a fundraiser later in the year, so we will keep you updated about the status of Omaha Gives, an online community giving event scheduled May 20. We also have a committee working on a GRRIN calendar that will be available at Gold Rush, so stay tuned for more information about submitting photos of your dogs. This is a great time to check out our website and follow us on Facebook to keep in touch with what's happening.

THANK YOU for your support in 2019 - we look forward to spending our 29th year of rescue with all of you and the beautiful Golden Retrievers we love!

Sincerely,

Barb Garrett, GRRIN President



EXTRA! EXTRA!

THE LATEST NEWS + RECENT HAPPENINGS

Twitter: @GRRINebraska | Facebook: facebook.com/grrin | Website: www.grrin.org

GRRIN's Response to COVID

In light of the impacts from COVID-19, the various restrictions imposed both nationally and locally, and the safety of GRRIN's volunteers, the following policies are being put in place:

- GRRIN will not accept applications for adoption or foster families; traditional home visits will not be conducted
- Public events have been canceled through the end of May
- We are asking families needing to surrender to wait 30 days if possible, but please call our Goldline now (402-330-6680) so we can gather information; exceptions will include previously adopted GRRIN dogs
- Adoption procedures for current foster dogs will be managed on a case-by-case basis and adoptions will only take place if absolutely necessary
- Foster families will receive support from caseworkers and other volunteers by email or telephone
- Foster dogs have been able to visit local vets per their safety restrictions; all dogs are receiving care if needed

We will review these procedures periodically, but anticipate safety restrictions will continue for a longer period of time. Again, the safety of our volunteers and dogs is a high priority. We do not have a facility and rely on approved foster families, therefore we are trying to preserve those homes for dogs with the most need.

GRRIN has always tried to provide resources to families in need, whether it involves behavioral problems or special care for their Golden Retrievers. Please contact our Goldline with questions, 402-330-6680.

GRRIN Annual Training



Our annual GRRIN volunteer training day was held on Sunday, January 26, 2020 from noon to 3:00pm at the new Xcel Community Center. Thank you to Xcel Roofing for providing us with such an awesome venue this year. Also, thank you to everyone who attended this year's annual training – many new and old volunteers and board members! We had an awesome time socializing and covering hot rescue topics! Lunch was provided - Subway sandwiches with all the trimmings, chips, drinks and cookies.

We had about 33 people attend to learn more about what we do and how to help golden retrievers in need. Attendees learned about the GRRIN adoption processes - including intake, the Goldline, transportation, case working, home visits, and foster care. The presenters each highlighted part of the GRRIN puzzle, so that participants could understand that the adoption process has many parts to it, each as important as the next. Attendees were given the opportunity to volunteer for what facet of GRRIN interested them the most. We attained many new volunteers!!

Laurie Weidinger, owner of DOG SKOOL U in Bellevue, graciously volunteered her time to present on the topic of "Introducing dogs." She covered the introduction processes between foster/resident dogs, dogs and children, and dogs and cats. Thank you to Laurie for showing us some awesome tricks and ideas!!

At the end of the meeting, we randomly drew a name from all who attended for a FREE round-trip voucher on Southwest Airlines, donated by Dennis Garrett. The winner was Megan Van Alstine. Thank you, Dennis!



2019: THE NUMBERS

-  75+ volunteers
-  244 members
-  52 dogs in foster care
-  13 seniors
-  39 adoptions
-  119 applications
-  68 home visits
-  30+ events
-  \$34,756 donations
-  \$13,200 adoption fees
-  \$3,345 grants
-  \$3,145 member dues
-  \$6,995 Omaha Gives
-  \$41,187 dog expenses



TREASURER NEEDED

Do you love dogs and money? Then join GRRIN today as our new treasurer! We are looking for someone with QuickBooks and/or accounting experience who can manage monthly expenses and prepare reports. This is a board position with meetings scheduled quarterly. Please send an email to volunteer@grrin.org if you are interested in learning more!



GRRIN CALENDARS

We are creating a 2021 calendar to celebrate our 30th anniversary, and we want to feature YOUR dog! GRRIN's calendar committee needs photo submissions for its calendar photo contest. Please visit grrin.org during the month of May to submit your favorite photos. Questions? Send an email to calendar@grrin.org.

EVENTS NEWS

STAY SAFE, PARTY ANIMALS!

Unfortunately, due to COVID, we had to cancel our events in April, and May events are still on hold as well. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for updates about future events.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The annual member meeting and luncheon, which was scheduled for April, was canceled. The business portion of the meeting was postponed to October's Gold Rush celebration. Board member elections took place through the mail in April per GRRIN bylaws. Members received a ballot by mail and were able to return it by using the stamped and addressed return envelope that was included.

WED
20
MAY

OMAHA GIVES!

WHEN: until 11:59pm on May 20th

WHERE: <https://www.omahagives.org/>

Help GRRIN and other local nonprofits from the comfort of your home. Visit <https://www.omahagives.org/> to set up your donation today.

SUNDAY
4
OCT

GOLD RUSH

WHEN: 12 pm - 4 pm

WHERE: SumTur Amphitheater, Papillion, NE

Mark your calendars! Our annual community celebration has been scheduled for Sunday, October 4th. It will once again be held at SumTur Amphitheater in Papillion, NE.

MEET + GREETES

MEET OUR TEAM MEMBERS & GRRIN DOGS!

Our current meet & greets have been cancelled, but there may be some outdoor meet & greets starting next month if we feel that they can be done safely. Keep an eye on the website and on Facebook for updates.

Note: We don't always have foster dogs available, but we believe it's important for our volunteers to provide outreach to the community.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

THANK YOU to our supporters for making our end-of-year membership drive so successful! GRRIN has over 250 members and several of you also made very generous donations. You can see a list of all donations on page 5.



FAQs ABOUT PETS AND COVID-19

Information about COVID-19 seems to change quickly as more is learned about the virus. For those of us with pets, we want to make sure that we are keeping both ourselves and our pets safe. Here is some information from the CDC and the AVMA to help us protect our furry family members during this outbreak.

Can I get COVID-19 from pets or other animals?

Based on current information, infected animals can spread COVID-19 to humans, but the risk is low. There have been a small number of pets that have contracted the virus, most due to contact with humans infected with COVID-19. If pets are handled by someone with COVID-19, there is a risk of them transmitting the disease, so always wash your hands after handling any animals.

Can I handle my pets if I am sick with COVID-19?

Both the CDC and the AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association) recommend that you should restrict contact with both pets and people if you are sick. If possible, have someone else in your home take care of your pets until you are healthy. If that is not possible, wear a mask around them and wash your hands before and after interacting with your pets. To be prepared in case of illness, try to have a few weeks of your pets' food and medication on hand.

Can I care for someone else's pets if they contract COVID-19?

Yes, but make sure to bathe the pets right away in case they are holding any viruses in their fur.

Can I walk my dog?

Yes. Walks are good for both you and your dog, but make sure to keep your dog on a leash and stay at least six feet away from other people and animals. Avoid high-traffic areas and do not let other people pet your dog.

When should I go to the vet? Is the vet even open?

Veterinary hospitals are considered essential business, so they are remaining open. If you have a non-emergency appointment scheduled, call your vet to see if they think you should still come in. Your vet may suggest that you postpone, or some vets are also using telehealth sessions online instead of in-person visits. If you have an emergency, contact your vet or a veterinary hospital immediately. If your pet gets sick after contact with COVID-19, do not bring your pet into the vet. First reach out to the vet and inform them of your pet's contact with the virus. Your vet can then advise you on how to proceed with treatment.

Is there anything I can do to help GRRIN during this outbreak?

Please share our information as a resource to those who might be struggling with caring for their Golden.

For more information about pets and the coronavirus, visit this link from the CDC:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/animals.html>



OMAHA GIVES!

We need your support through Omaha Gives even more this year because we may not be able to hold a social fundraising event. Please consider participating in Omaha Gives!

Omaha Gives is a 24-hour online fundraising event on May 20th organized by the Omaha Community Foundation to raise support for nonprofits in Douglas, Sarpy, and Pottawattamie Counties. It is a community-wide event to show off the area's spirit of giving, raise awareness about local nonprofits, and celebrate the collective effort it takes to make this community great. Since 2013, this community give-together has raised \$49 million for more than 1,000 nonprofits.

Visit www.omahagives.org to learn more.

Due to COVID-19, we are unable to host our annual celebration at Pizza West. We will miss seeing everyone on the 20th and can't wait to see everyone again once the threat of this virus has lessened!



Q1 DONATIONS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND CONTRIBUTIONS!

Darrica Hollis | Heather Wrenn | Mark Gubser | Dorothy Wright in memory of Michelle Wright's Golden Nicki | **Kristin Rock | Sara & Jeremy Penn** in loving memory of our daughter, Samantha, & our beloved Golden, Diego | **Cookie Lazar | Judith Hartlieb** in memory of Roxy & Boris Monaster | **Sid French | Christopher Maroney | Barbara Garrett**, in memory of Gracie | **Konda Nietfeld** in memory of all our rescued dogs from GRRIN | **Paul & Lori Synhorst | Chelsea & Nate Anderson** in memory of Ellie | **David & Julie Churilla | Dora & Kevin Klein** in honor of Nelly and Greeley & Barc's Grover | **Sandy Steele & Steve Triplett** in memory of Everett Strough | **Dennis Larson | Judy & Dick Davis** in memory of Sadie, our first GRRIN dog | **Cindy Jones | Jannette & Richard Rothrock | Dave Buechler | Patricia Newman** in memory of Bear & Oscar, and in honor of Lily | **Diane Mumford** in memory of Chelsea & Abbie | **Danielle Pedersen | Jack & Patricia Bell | Pam Nathan & Craig Daniel** in honor of Jon & Sue Sprinkel and in memory of Moose & Greta Lilly | **Cathy Jo Borgman | Jamie Tinder** in honor of Brandy & Julie | **Ted & Judy Brass** in honor of our two departed Golden, Missy & Casey and in honor of Ginger | **Vickie & Dick Sklenar | Sean & Tracy McMahon** in honor of Max | **Linda Kneifl** in honor/memory of Brandy Lou, Leslie Cabela, Maverik, Sienna | **Gregg Christensen** in memory of Sheyanne | **Janice Little | Mary Jane & Jim Fitch** in honor of Pam Nathan for all of her dedication to GRRIN | **John Weston | Beth & Garry Feltus | Aimee Berndt | Corky & Doris Buell | Rich & Laura Roccaforte | Aaron Barnes | JK Barker Foundation | Kimberly & Thomas Olson | Cause for Paws | Harry Quinlan | Linda Gfeller | David & Lisa McElhose | Sherrie & Jeff Chester | Karen & Dana Throener | Tom & Linda Hanson | Bobbie & Bruce Moore | Ronald & Patricia Martin | Martha Gilchrist | Sherralyn & Lee Peacock | Owen Henderson DVM** in memory of beloved Golden, Bogart | **Rod & Connie Buchanan | Laddie Lastoka | Colleen & Kyle Cochran | John & Terry Thomas | Amy & Joe Black | JoAnn MacDonald | Karen Stevens** in honor of Reagan & Keagan | **Diane & Anthony Metz | Bob Williams** in honor of Buffy and in memory of Casey, Mike, Happy Jack | **Kathy Glenn & Curt Bright** in memory of Wiley & Sophie | **Bob & Susan Drvol** in memory of Molly | **Nicole & Michael Scheer** in memory of Doogie | **Jane Wiederspan & Jacque Rank** in memory of Lady Bug "Bug" | **Dorothy Wright & Brother Mike** in honor of Michelle Wright's birthday | **Amy & Kevin Koehler** in honor of Heenoo and Ollie | **Mario & Linda Velasquez | Kathy Pollard | Chris Fletcher** in honor of Jeff & Tori Jo Ryan & Family | **Kelly & Ray Courtney | Katherine Haskins** in memory Kathy Glenn & Curt Bright's much loved Golden, Wiley, Sophie & Boomer | **Leigh Houfek** in memory of Hazel, Gordd, Nory & Cliff | **Theresa Houston** in memory of Kandi | **Laura & Keith Beavers** in memory of Clyde | **Chris Christensen | Gay Lynn & Gaylen Baker | Elisa Blazek | Gary Brown | Ken & Merry Hinton** in memory of Maybea & Flash | **Scott Vala | Lincoln East Rotary Club** in honor of Ashley Engler, Lincoln Fire Department, who received the Fire Fighter of the Year Award | **Patty Carrell & John Binderup | Terri & Steve Johns | Rhonda & Dave Heineman | Donn Demaree | Andy & Jennifer Reul | Kristen & Eric Anderson | Betty Johnson | Ashley Engler**

Our apologies if we missed you! Please send corrections to newsletter@grrin.org



SPLINTER 19-29

ADOPTED BY:
Doug & Tanja

On a cold, snowy Sunday before Christmas, I got my Christmas wish...I was adopted by my foster family Doug and Tanja. I also have a new Golden fur-brother, Ollie; he's four months older than me and we are quite the dynamic duo. My foster mom and dad knew immediately that they wanted to adopt me, but I needed to have some training on how to be a well-mannered Golden. My fantastic trainer, Laurie, taught me so much: I know my basic commands and learned proper leash walking skills. I'm only 14 months old, so sometimes I forget my manners, but I'm trying really hard to remember to be polite and practice my skills so that I can go on new adventures with my new family. I'm looking forward to meeting all the wonderful GRRIN volunteers who helped me find my fur-ever home. I am so happy ...It's A Wonderful Life!



RUBY 19-33

ADOPTED BY:
Laura and Keith

Ruby Dooby Doo – Where are YOU? She is at her forever home with Keith, Laura, and her new golden doodle brother Koda – that's where she is!!!!

“Ruby Dooby Doo” (as her foster dad, Jon, named her) loves to wake up early to play. The sun is her alarm clock! “Jinkies”, Keith and Laura hope she outgrows this “being a morning pup” thing.

She loves to play in her big backyard with Koda. They gallop and gallivant around until 7-year-old Koda just can't take it anymore. She is definitely getting him into shape!

Ruh Roh!!! Ruby has outgrown her puppy bed, but still insists she can curl up and sleep in it! This definitely IS a sight to see!

Ruby's future looks bright. The name Ruby is so fitting for her as she is a real GEM - shiny and beautiful inside and out! Thank you GRRIN for this perfect match!!!



NEALA 19-34

ADOPTED BY:
Michael & Kaeleigh

Hey, this is Neala checking in a few weeks after I was happily adopted by my GRRIN foster folks, Kaeleigh and Michael. I came to them as a VERY high-energy young girl and have since settled into a wonderful life that's still fun-filled, but now I'm quicker to calm down and be chill.

Kaeleigh and Michael figured out really soon that my favorite toys are tennis balls, hands down! I'm also super-keen on long walks (with ALL the smells!!), car rides (windows down, please!!), and sunning myself when it's time to relax. I'm also extremely thoughtful. When my new owners come home I'm always quick to bring them a pillow because I know they've had a busy day and need to take it easy!

They tell me I've fit right into their lives and could not love me more. We are so grateful GRRIN made it all possible!!



HUDSON 19-36

ADOPTED BY: Andrew

Hudson here, and boy what a busy guy I have been this fall. I came to GRRIN and met Andrew who was waiting patiently for an opportunity to meet someone just like me.

What a great dad he has been, so I have to say I am really lucky. We go together like peas and carrots.

I get to spend a lot of time walking my neighborhood, going on car rides, and playing tug and fetch in the yard. I also have an awesome bed by the front window where I can keep an eye on the exciting things that happen on my street when Dad is at work.

I have gained a little weight which is a good thing since I have a condition with a really long name which makes it hard for me to use the food I eat. I have gained 10 lbs which is really excellent. See I told you Andrew is a great dad!



TRIPP 19-39

ADOPTED BY: Chad & Amy

Hello, from Tripp! Before I was rescued last October, I had never seen a real home before. I was too scared to move at first. I didn't know what was happening. Who are these nice people? Why do they like me? What is this soft stuff on my paws? And there are two other furry things that seem to really like me.

It didn't take long for me to realize that this was my family. Chad, Amy, Erin, Hailey and my two furry brothers, Murphy and Remington. I was sure a mess...I wasn't sure about grass, never saw stairs, didn't like how the floors went from soft to hard, never ate or drank out of clean bowls and certainly never felt what it was like to be loved.

My foster family worked very hard to get me comfy. They understood me, taught me and LOVED to play and snuggle. And then it happened... they ADOPTED me!! Thank you, GRRIN, for getting me and delivering me to my forever family!!

(See the full story on the Happy Tails page of the GRRIN website.)



SHADOW 19-31

ADOPTED BY: John & Patty

Hi, Friends!! I just came in from the yard after running down to the fence to greet some walkers and running up to the other side to see my neighbor dog buddy. I dropped the ball so my people would throw it and I could run to fetch it...again.

Running and long walks are very fun for me now, because I can move with no pain! I had a great home before coming to GRRIN, but my owner was facing a job change with travel when I would need a big surgery and a long rehab time. She talked to GRRIN, and I came to live with Patty and John. I had an ortho surgery in October and 8 weeks of leashed time in and out of the house to restrict my activity. The best Christmas presents were learning my knee was healed, gradually starting to run, and staying with John and Patty forever.

I also learned some other people donated money to help cover the cost of my surgery! Many thanks to them and all the people at GRRIN for the care and support.



Golden Retriever Rescue in Nebraska
P.O. Box 126
Boys Town, NE 68010

ABOUT US

Founded in 1991, GRRIN is a 501(c)(3) all-volunteer organization. We shelter, rehabilitate and find new homes for Golden Retrievers in distress, provide public education about responsible dog ownership and provide a forum for Golden Retriever fanciers to meet.

MAILING LISTS

We do not share our mailing list with other organizations. If you're moving, please let us know your new address so our postage is used productively. Please send an email to newsletter@grrin.org if you prefer to be removed from the list.

Quarter 1 Quick Stats: 7 Goldens Adopted | 11 Goldens in Foster Care



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