

GRRIN NEWS

SPRINGING INTO 2021

First Quarter 2021 | Happy Tails, Golden Hearts



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF RESCUE

Five short years ago GRRIN celebrated its 25th anniversary. Now here we are in 2021 ready to celebrate another milestone – 30 years of rescue! In 1991, three women took the idea of rescuing homeless golden retrievers and created an organization that has survived the Great Recession and most recently a pandemic.

To date, GRRIN has rescued over 1200 dogs; some years we rescued 100 dogs, some years we rescued 20, but we always had room for them thanks to our amazing foster families. There is no way we could properly thank all the volunteers and adopters for the endless hours they have

given to making rescued dogs feel secure and happy, but we will work during 2021 to honor them. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for pictures from the past!

We cannot forget two other very important parts of GRRIN's mission. Our founders determined that GRRIN should provide both educational and social opportunities for its followers and the community.

During 2020, when families were spending a lot of time indoors with their children and pets, GRRIN received several calls for help with managing their goldens' "fun-loving" and vivacious personalities. GRRIN rescue team volunteers worked with thirteen families who were considering surrendering their dogs to GRRIN. By providing training resources, compassion, and understanding (we've all had a golden with quirks!), eleven of those dogs remained with their families.

While we were challenged to provide our normal selection of social opportunities to golden lovers in 2020, we managed to hold eight in-person events and kept connected with volunteers and members through virtual meetings. Thank goodness for the virtual fundraiser! Our donors were generous, and this allowed us to pay for veterinary care that averaged nearly \$1,000 per dog. We cannot say it often enough, we are incredibly blessed to have the means to provide both necessary and extraordinary vet care, especially for our gentle senior dogs.

How will we celebrate in 2021? Currently, we are planning to hold the greatly missed Gold Rush Annual Celebration in October, and we hope to slowly bring back meet-and-greet events, along with a 30th anniversary event over the summer. Stay tuned for details about our upcoming Annual Member meeting scheduled Sunday, April 25th.

Thank you to everyone who has supported GRRIN over the last 30 years. The dogs wouldn't have their loving homes and life-saving veterinary care without you! We look forward to celebrating in person during 2021. We can't wait to see all the beautiful goldens wagging their tails and escorting their humans!

Barb Garrett, GRRIN President

EXTRA! EXTRA!

THE LATEST NEWS + RECENT HAPPENINGS

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



FOSTER FAMILIES NEEDED

Do you love dogs, especially golden retrievers? Wouldn't it be rewarding to help a dog that is in need of a new home? Well, Golden Retriever Rescue in Nebraska (AKA GRRIN) would love your help! We get goldens into our care that need foster homes to live in temporarily. Currently, we are especially in need of foster homes that do not have a resident dog, but we also always need homes with dogs and/or cats. Fostering a golden is such a wonderful experience for you and your family. You get to take them into your home and give them love and care, and you teach them what they need to know to make their transition into their new home successful.



If you are able to help give a golden a new start to life with GRRIN, please call us on our Goldline at 402-330-6680 and someone will be in contact with you. (A fenced yard is required to foster or adopt. For more information, visit grrin.org/foster-golden.)

CASEWORKER COORDINATOR NEEDED

We have been without a Caseworker Coordinator for several months now, and we hope someone will step forward and volunteer to be in charge of training new caseworkers and assigning caseworkers for new dogs coming into GRRIN. That person should be a current caseworker or someone willing to be trained as one.

The most important duty of the caseworker is to keep an accurate file of the dog's paperwork. Second, and just as important, is to visit and get to know the dog while it is in foster care. You work with the foster family and the adoption coordinators to find the best match when the dog is ready for adoption.

If you are interested in becoming the caseworker coordinator, please call Judy Davis at 712-527-9527.

PAMPERED PUPPERS FUNDRAISER

We'd like to say a big thank you to Alan and Sara Oleson of Pampered Puppies who offered to donate a portion of the proceeds from basket sales to friends of GRRIN! They adopted GRRIN dog Sadie and decided they want to keep helping foster dogs. Baskets were purchased online in February and delivered at The Bookworm meet and greet on March 7th. There will be some lucky "puppies" receiving those baskets! Want to order a basket for your favorite pet? You can find order information on their Facebook page, Pampered Puppies Gift Baskets.



CALENDARS DISCOUNTED

Didn't get a GRRIN calendar? We still have a few remaining. Don't miss your chance to get eight more months of cute golden cover photos. We've discounted calendars to \$15. Order at <https://grrin.org/calendar-orders/> or send an email to calendar@grrin.org.



EVENTS

HANG WITH THE PACK

We missed out on a lot of events last year, but we are hopeful that this year will be different. Some events may look a bit different than in the past, but we are committed to finding ways to gather, work, and celebrate.

SUNDAY **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

25
APR

WHEN: Sunday, April 25th, Noon - 3pm

WHERE: Bonafide Dog Academy, 960 S 72nd St., Omaha, NE

Join us for GRRIN's 30th annual membership meeting where we'll talk shop, vote for board positions, and catch up with our fellow GRRIN members. Dogs are welcome and RSVPs will be required. Details about the meeting will be included in the letters mailed to GRRIN members at the beginning of April and will also be posted on grin.org.

SAT-SUN **I LOVE MY DOG EXPO**

17-18
APR

WHERE: Lancaster Event Center, Lincoln, NE

Come visit the GRRIN table at the I Love My Dog Expo in Lincoln! The I Love My Dog Expo is an annual benefit to help support Domesti-PUPS programs to provide service dogs, therapy dogs, and adoptables. Well-behaved dogs are welcome and the Lancaster Event Center follows county/city guidelines for COVID-19 safety measures. For more information, visit www.ilovemydogexpo.com.

SUNDAY **30TH ANNIVERSARY GOLD RUSH CELEBRATION**

3
OCT

WHERE: SumTur Amphitheater, Papillion, NE

We weren't able to celebrate last year, but this year Gold Rush is back and we're ready to celebrate GRRIN's 30th anniversary! Make sure to save the date. We can't wait to see you all again for a day of fun with all of our four-legged friends.

DO GOOD WEEK WITH SHARE OMAHA

After eight years of fundraising and philanthropy, Omaha Gives, an annual 24-hour fundraising event, is no longer being hosted by the Omaha Community Foundation. Instead, SHARE Omaha will be hosting Do Good Week - five days dedicated to meeting a wider variety of needs in our community, followed by a day of celebration. Do good every day at SHAREomaha.org! GRRIN will be participating in Do Good Week.

Omaha Gives was always a successful fundraiser for GRRIN, and we hope you will continue to support GRRIN and all your favorite organizations during Do Good Week. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates and activities during the week of April 19-24.



- April 19: Mission Monday • April 20: New Donor Tuesday • April 21: Wish List Wednesday •
- April 22: Volun-Thursday • April 23: Fund It Friday • April 24: Celebration Saturday •
- PLUS April 25: GRRIN Annual Members Meeting! 30-year anniversary! •



IN MEMORY OF KEN VETTER

GRRIN has lost a dear friend. Volunteer Kenneth Vetter passed away on January 9th and our hearts are with his wife Rita and their family. Ken and Rita have been involved with GRRIN for thirty years. Like many husbands, Ken may have been originally recruited to help Rita, but over the last ten years he took on several rescue transports. Ken and Rita could also be seen at GRRIN's annual meetings and yearly Gold Rush celebrations with friendly smiles and warm handshakes. We hope you enjoy a few memories our volunteers shared about Ken.

"Rita was the first person I knew who was a GRRIN member. She and I started out on the Hotline Committee together in 1992. Ken and Rita were constant attendees at GRRIN events, and it's hard for me to believe I've known them for 30 years." - **Judy**

"I still remember Ken giving me a big hug at every GRRIN meeting we attended. We would laugh about one of his transport missions in 2013 to Sioux Falls to pick up two breeder dogs. We had just discovered that one of them was pregnant! He rode with another long-time volunteer and I wish I could recall who it was. They had quite an adventure, praying the future mama didn't have her pups in the car." - **Barb**

"I crossed paths with Ken Vetter many times in the years he volunteered with GRRIN. One time in particular sticks in my memory. It was an annual meeting at Greater Lincoln Obedience in the spring of 2013. Despite our dog Josie being 11 she was still high strung in many ways. She would act silly each time I sat down to eat. In his laid-back manner Ken quietly took her leash and walked with her. She didn't mind in the least and respected his leadership. This is a poignant memory because Josie had bone cancer that had metastasized to her lungs and she died a few weeks after this." - **Tammy**



DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF KEN

Dick & Judy Davis | Marty & Cheryl Huebner | John & Sue Russell | Julie & Phillip Matheny | Debbie & Paul Anderson | Kayla Engel and family | Terry & Carolyn Adams | Marie Mogis | Joe & Gerry Mistretta | CQuence Health Group | Cherie Eastes | William & Judith Anderson | Gary & Mildred Ryan | Ronald & Jeanette Bacon | Sunset Hills Baptist Church | Patricia Newman | Diane & Anthony Metz | James & Carol Sacoman | John & Patti Smith | Steven & Janet Chambers | Terry & Lori McMullen | Mary Jane & Jim Fitch | Gene & Claudia Cerny | Gordon & Sally Hrnicek | John & Debra Flor | Douglas & Joyce Steensma | Richard & Patricia Collura | Kathy & Alan Schneider | Michael & Jean Burggraf | David & Anita Osborne | Andrew Lenhart | Jeff & Kandyce Arnold | Chris Fletcher | Larry & Rose Bergerson | Jon & Sue Sprinkel | Robin & James Griess | Thad & Janie Tinder | Barbara Vetter | Barbara Crowder

DONATIONS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND CONTRIBUTIONS
AND PARTICIPATING IN OUR MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!

Christopher Maroney | Jack & Pat Bell | Joe & Rita Kean | James Thele | Barbara Weinberg | Kristin Rock | Sara & Jeremy Penn | Bobbie & Bruce Moore | JoAnn McDonald in memory of Linda Wax | Dave & Cindy Buechler | Charles & Michele Klingler | Dennis & Linda Larson | Janice Little | Linda Kneifl | Diane Mumford | Mary Jane & Jim Fitch in memory of Riley Fitch | Aaron Barnes & Becky Willits in memory of Brody & Chase | John Weston in honor of Maycee | Matt & Sarah Wickencamp | Leigh Houfek in honor of my favorite Goldens! | Bob Williams | Vickie & Dick Sklenar | Patty Carrell & John Binderup in Honor of Shadow and in Memory of Jake, Sam & Maddie | Corky & Doris Buell | Marsha Peal & Mike Awsiekiewicz, Shelbie, Scooter & Shonie | Harry Quinlan | Reagan Pufall | Debra & Doug Wallace | Beth & Tom Culross | Celia Lazar | Jacque Rank & Jane Wiederspan in memory of Abby | Sandra Steele-Triplett & Steve Triplett in memory of our Golden "Beau" | Kathy Creighton | Darrica Baird | Heather Wrenn | Danielle Pedersen | Jill Shefte | Karen & Dana Throener | Cynthia Jones | Karen Stevens | Kristy Campbell | Sid French | Michelle Wright | Gregg Christensen in memory of Sheyanne | Dorothy Wright | Karen Sedoris in loving memory of Chester, Razy & Toby | Rich & Laura Roccaforte in memory of Hadley & Maia | Jodi Flores in memory of Angus | Ruth Kupfer & Mary Lingelbach in memory of Goldie | Kim & Jim Walsworth | Elizabeth & Jim Marriott | Cause for Paws - Lincoln | Ralph & Kari Sands in memory of Seeger | Kevin & Dora Klein in honor of Nell | Jon & Sue Sprinkel in honor of all the GRRIN Board members | Kathy Glenn & Curt Bright in memory of Wiley, Sophie & Boomer | Julia Tracy & Owen Henderson, DVM for Matthew Henderson Memorial | Maureen Nickels in honor of Rocky (20-02) | Kathy Arends | Janie Tinder | Ken & Rita Vetter in memory of Creed | Mesharia Montgomery & Scott Kever | Judy Seeman | Jill Russell | Patricia Newman in memory of Bear & Oscar | William Andres in memory of Maralyn (Micki) Andres | Colleen & Kyle Cochrane in memory of Roxie | Ted & Judy Brass in memory of Missy & Casey | Pam Nathan in memory of Greta Lilly | Wayne & Linda Rasdchke in memory of Daisy & Sophie | Linda Gfeller in memory of Emily, Amanda, Maddie & Bailey | Dave & Sharyn Marreel in memory of Bailey & Bree | Vern & Karen Wirka in memory of Michael Hoover | Elisa Blazek | Nancy & Phil Wolf | Lee & Sherralyn Peacock in memory of Snoopy, Bella & Mack | Kimberly & Thomas Olson | Jeff Weier | Rhonda Heineman | Julie White in memory of Rusty & Rosie | Merry & Ken Hinton in memory of Flash & Maybea | Jeff & Sherrie Chester in memory of Lucky | Amy Pirolo in Honor of Gracie; we are so thankful you were able to help Gracie and us in our time of need | Dennis Gilmore in Honor of Karen Stevens | Chris Christensen | Tanja & Douglas Evans | Ernest Yount & Wendy Benigno | Roger Campbell | Scott Vala | Sharlene Wilson, DDS | David McElhose | Phyllis Titus | Dick & Judy Davis in memory of Sadie | Sara & Al Oleson | GayLynn & Galen Baker | Joe & Rhonda Zugmier in honor of Sadie | Annette & Paul Jeanes | Amy & Kevin Koehler in honor of Heenoo & Ollie | Cherlyn Humburg | Donn Demaree | Amy Vifquain | Fred Susgin | Kelly Courtney | Marilyn Maude | Nancy Bowen | Emily Meador | Erica Schumann | Kate Eubanks, Emily Vanous & Nick Vanous in memory of Kathleen Finnegan | Jeff & Tori Ryan in memory of our Golden treasurers, Missy, Maggie, Roxie & Ginger | Betty Johnson in memory of Maggie & our fosters | Ameritas Individual Service Management team birthday gift in honor of Teri Wolever, who recently adopted 2 Goldens | James & Jeri Regan

And special thanks for a very generous donation from the **Barker Foundation**

GIVING TUESDAY

Judith Davis | Theresa Houston
| Barbara Garrett | Audrey Wisell
| Martha Gilchrist | Celia Lazar |
David McElhose | Jill Shefte | Pam
Nathan | Kathleen Burns | Anna
Varn | Patricia Newman | Charlotte
Curry | Matthew Tondl | Catherine
Kennedy | Anonymous donor In
memory of Norman

IN MEMORY OF GLEN FURLOW

Marlyss Knust | Jim & Beth Griffith
| Carole Rose | Nels & Jeanne
Backlund | Marsha Melingagio



IN MEMORY OF HEDY KIRKE

Steve & Kathy Zalkin | Mary Jane &
Jim Fitch | Laura Beavers | Michael
& Jennifer Merrill | Jon & Sue
Sprinkel | Robin & James Griess
| Donna Weaver-Smith & Michael
Smith | Jackie Novotny | Jason
& Mindy Weaver | Shari Griffin |
Felicia Weaver | Clark & Joyce
Ryan | Sara Thompson | Sherry
Sederstrom

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



MAIZY 20-06

ADOPTED BY: Benjamin

Maizy just turned 8 years old and is still as sweet as ever! When I first saw Maizy's picture and read her story, I knew Maizy would be a good fit for our family. My girlfriend and I have one other dog named Buttercup, a lab/husky mix around the same age as Maizy. I knew in a way they would be 'okay' with each other until they built up their comfortability with each other.

On day 1 and 2, Maizy was very hesitant about moving from two spots in the house. We couldn't even get her to eat. We tried a few things, including moving her bowl of food around to spots close to her, but it wouldn't take. Then on day 3, we heard Maizy's loud munching of food. That was a win for us. The next big win was when she started to wag her tail when we either came home or got her excited to go out.

Maizy is a very unique, sweet dog. When you first meet her, you know she will be the sweetest and will happily show that smile off. She loves the pets and scratches and will always lift her head wondering why you stopped scratching in the first place. She at times will never leave your side and will always take a good tasting treat.

Maizy is a part of our family and always loved.

Read Maizy's full Happy Tail on the GRRIN website.



MAGGIE 20-10

ADOPTED BY: Sean & Grace

Talk about being in the right place at the right time!

I'm Maggie, a GRRIN dog who was recently adopted. My foster folks, Grace and Sean, came into my life at a time when I needed a place where I could be the only pet (and top dog, of course!) in a loving home. I hit the jackpot when they decided to give me a forever home.

I'm told I got into a routine with them right away – almost as if I'd lived there my entire life. Grace and Sean say I'm a really smart girl, super athletic, and enjoy lots of exercise, including going for runs with family members. I even got to celebrate my birthday with my very own cake.

This is going to be a great year thanks to GRRIN!



SADIE 20-12

ADOPTED BY: Alan & Sara

When we first contacted GRRIN to become foster parents, we had a 13-year-old Golden Retriever named Mishka. Shortly after our home visit, Mishka passed away. Our family of 5 was heartbroken. Just 12 days after her passing we got a call to foster Sadie. She needed to leave her home due to no fault of her own. We wondered if it was too soon but wanted to help Sadie out. She came to live with us while we nursed her back from the injuries she received in a fight and she mended our hearts. Sadie is as happy to be here as we are to have her in our family.

She loves her toys and bones and somehow manages to get at least 10-12 out each day and leave them lying all over the house. She also loves her walks even if she can't figure out how to walk a straight line.

She'd also like me to mention that she has an uncanny ability to smell a jar of peanut butter being opened from way across the house.

We are very happy that back when Sadie needed a new home, we were open and in need of a furry friend to heal our broken hearts. Needless to say, unbeknownst to all of us, the day she arrived she was already home. We believe it was destiny that we were able to take her in and she fit our home from the moment she walked in the door.

Read Sadie's full story at grrin.org.



LUCY 20-13

ADOPTED BY: Rick & Joy

What a blessing to have (Lucky) Lucy become part of our family. She and our other dog, Sadie, became fast friends.

To say Lucy is obsessed with playing ball is an understatement. She'd play forever if we would! She loves walks but definitely wants the lead so we've begun working on the pulling. She always likes to be with us and is good at snuggling.

We have fallen in love with her and we truly feel "lucky" that she has joined our family and fit in so well.



COPPER 20-07

ADOPTED BY: Mike & Julie

Hello everyone! My name is Copper and I'm so happy to be in my forever home!

My foster family fell in love with my goofy personality so they kept me. I've learned so much since I've been here. I was pretty nervous when I came but my brother Gunner showed me the ropes. We play every day! We love to play chase, wrestle, play tug of war, or just get attention!

I love to chew on anything – my mom has to search for toys that I can't destroy or eat. I like all of my toys and carry them with me around the house. I love going on walks and snuggling with my family.

I'm pretty smart. I've learned lots of new tricks, including how to find tennis balls hidden under cups and now I'm learning roll over. I do sit, stay, and down very well. I still like to pull on my leash but it's just so exciting to go exploring. I need to work on my door manners, but we don't get that many visitors with COVID so that is going to be a future project we learn.

I'm so happy here – thank you GRINN for taking such good care of me.



SAMMY 20-11

ADOPTED BY: Mark & Megan

Sammy has been a great addition to our family. His laid back demeanor is a contrast to our Vizsla Bodie. They both have boundless energy and love to play all day.

When Sammy starts to get vocal he sounds a lot like Chewbacca, which makes us laugh. Megan's co-workers love to see Sammy's tail make an appearance during their zoom meetings. It has been suggested that Sammy's tail get its own Instagram account.

We've started to do some additional training with Sammy to try and get him better at walking on a leash. He's a smart dog so I'm sure he will easily adapt.

Thank you GRRIN for placing Sammy with us.





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.

2020: IN REVIEW







2019

-  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





2020

-  40+ volunteers
-  270 members
-  27 dogs in foster care
-  12 seniors
-  22 adoptions
-  51 applications
-  24 home visits
-  8 events
-  \$32,733 donations
-  \$7,150 adoption fees
-  \$2,481 grants
-  \$3,175 member dues
-  \$6,323 Omaha Gives
-  \$25,741 dog expenses




EVENTS

-  GRRIN Annual Volunteer Training
-  The Bookworm Meet and Greet
-  DogGurt Bark to School Grand Opening
-  GRRIN Bake Sale Fundraiser at Woof & Whiskers
-  I Love My Dog Expo in Lincoln
-  Growl-O-Ween with Woof & Whiskers

VIRTUAL EVENTS

-  Annual Members Meeting
-  Omaha Gives
-  GRRIN Board Meetings
-  GRRIN Rescue Team Meetings

THINGS WE'VE MISSED

-  Gold Rush
-  Annual Meeting & Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon
-  Annual Volunteer Training – 2021