



# GRRIN NEWS

First Quarter 2023 | Happy Tails, Golden Hearts



## 2022 IN REVIEW

GRRIN wants to send a huge THANK YOU to everyone who worked so hard to rescue GRRIN dogs in 2022.

Here are some statistics about the work that was accomplished last year:

- We carried over 8 dogs from 2021 that were adopted in 2022
- We fostered 31 new dogs
- That means 31 new intakes, 31 transports, 31 dogs to casework and foster and get to their "forever" homes!

### Of the total 39 dogs:

- 19 Male
- 20 Female
- 6 males were intact
- 7 females were intact

### Dog ages:

- 11 were less than 1 year
- 11 were 1-3 years
- 11 were 4-7 years
- 6 were 8+ years

### Where are the dogs now?

- 29 adoptions
- 1 rainbow bridge
- 1 permanent foster
- 8 dogs currently in foster care

### How did we find adoptive families?

- 45 home visits completed
- 5 of those were home visits for foster or adopt/foster
- 41 families dropped out after an application was completed



These numbers do not reflect the care and emotion and time involved in every aspect of rescue and keeping GRRIN running. And they don't reflect the appreciation we have for all the new and veteran volunteers who made a difference in 2022. Thank you to everyone who volunteered another year, started their first year as a new volunteer, recruited a volunteer, gave one hour or a hundred...you all matter to each of those 39 furry faces.



## KODA'S WEEKLY VISIT

Koda the 100-pound golden doodle knows when it's time....time to go to visit the residents of a local post-acute rehab/long-term care facility in Bellevue – Hillcrest Health and Rehab. It usually starts with a good brushing along with a few sprays of doggy deodorant, two “greenies” to freshen his breath, and then Koda and his owner are off! Koda gets so excited on the 30-minute car ride there, knowing that his afternoon will bring petting, cuddling, and smiles all the way around!

Koda and his owner, Laura, visit Hillcrest Health and Rehab once a week. It is rewarding for the residents as well as Koda and Laura. Even staff members know Koda by name and many of them also enjoy a stress-relieving cuddle and pet during his visits.

A typical visit entails strolling the halls and stopping to visit anyone who is interested in spending time with a dog. When Koda enters a resident's room, he will generally go straight to the elder and put his head in their lap, as if to say “pet me.” There are smiles and hugs.

Most residents know Koda by name and remember him. This almost always leads to a lively discussion about dogs – it is such easy and natural progression. One resident even tells everyone that Koda is her “grand-dog,” and another has a box of dog treats that she spoils him with every single visit.

Pet visitation is a favorite activity at Hillcrest. Dogs, cats, rabbits, and even chickens are welcome at any of the Hillcrest senior living communities. If you are interested in pet visitation at any of the Hillcrest senior living communities, getting started is easy: complete and submit an application and copy of your COVID vaccination record; schedule a phone interview; complete a background check; and attend a formal orientation. You can find an application at [hillcrestvolunteers.com](http://hillcrestvolunteers.com). Updated pet vaccination records are required annually, and all pets must provide either a therapy animal certification or a veterinarian's recommendation letter of good behavior prior to volunteering.

Koda, at age 10 ½ years, is living HIS best life while enhancing the lives of so many older adults. They say that pet visitation has been shown to reduce anxiety and stress and lower heart rate and blood pressure for our elders, but it is not only beneficial for the residents. A retired teacher, Laura loves these weekly visits as much as Koda does.



# EVENTS

SUNDAY

24  
APR

## GRRIN ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING & LUNCHEON

WHEN: Sunday, April 23rd, Noon - 2pm

WHERE: Nebraska Humane Society Auditorium, 8929 Fort St, Omaha

Join us for GRRIN's annual membership meeting where we'll serve lunch, have a short business meeting, vote for board positions, and catch up with our fellow GRRIN members. Friendly dogs are welcome. Please RSVP to [volunteer@grrin.org](mailto:volunteer@grrin.org).

SUNDAY

21  
MAY

## TAILS & TRAILS FUNDRAISER

WHEN: Sunday, May 21st, 11am - 2:30pm

WHERE: Glacial Till Vineyard & Winery, 344 S 2nd Rd, Palmyra, NE 68418

Join the Capital Humane Society just outside of Lincoln for a day filled with wholesome fun in a beautiful vineyard setting! There will be music, local food trucks, games for pets & people, raffle prizes, contests, demonstrations, photo ops, face painting, vendors in a flea-less market, a bounce house, and much more! Bring a lawn chair and sit back and relax. There's something for everyone!

## MEET & GREETES

### MEET OUR TEAM MEMBERS & GRRIN DOGS!

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

Meet and greets occur on the **second** Sunday of each month from 11 am - 1 pm, at The Bookworm in Omaha, NE

*Note: we will **NOT** be hosting meet & greets in April and May due to Easter and Mother's Day*

# DO GOOD RETURNS

SHARE Omaha + SHARE Iowa are excited to be partnering together in support of 2023 Do Good Days. The two organizations together will host the multi-day giving event dedicated to supporting all kinds of charitable organizations across the community. This year, the event will run for four days from Wednesday, April 19th through Saturday, April 22nd. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates about how you can help GRRIN during Do Good Week.

# HALT THE PRESSES

If you are a member of GRRIN, you have donated to GRRIN, or have recently adopted a GRRIN dog, congratulations! You have been added to the list of GRRIN newsletter recipients. However, we realize that not everyone may want to receive physical copies of the newsletter. If you are no longer interested in receiving a mailed copy of the GRRIN newsletter, please send an email to [info@grrin.org](mailto:info@grrin.org) to unsubscribe from the physical mailing list.

Newsletters can be viewed online on the GRRIN website. Visit [www.grrin.org](http://www.grrin.org) and click on the Newsletter link under News & Events to see the latest GRRIN news.

# THANK YOU GRRIN SUPPORTERS!

Thank you so much to everyone who renewed their membership for 2023 and made donations to GRRIN! Don't miss the list of GRRIN supporters on page six of this newsletter. We are overwhelmed with their generosity. Donations from the annual membership drive allow us to provide both necessary and extraordinary vet care each year. In 2022, one-third of GRRIN's foster dogs needed to be spayed or neutered. In February, we invested over \$5,000 to save Marley from a permanent life of pain and infection (his story is on page four). "Giving is not just about making a donation; it is about making a difference!"

# MARLEY'S JOURNEY

Every dog's journey through GRIN is a little bit different. Some dogs come in and can get adopted out to a loving new owner right away, but some dogs may first need a little extra care. Marley is one of those dogs who needed a little extra help, and both GRRIN and a loving foster family stepped in to give him what he needed.

In October of 2022, 10-year-old Marley was found wandering as a stray and was taken to the Midlands Humane Society in Council Bluffs. Later that month, he was picked up by a GRRIN volunteer and brought to his GRRIN foster home.



*Marley and his toy fortress at his foster home*

When Marley arrived at his foster home, he immediately attached himself to his foster mom. He was also curious and friendly to his foster dad, their two dogs, and even their two cats. A wonderful, gentle dog with good manners, he took very little time settling in. His foster family realized almost immediately that all of them were smitten by this sweet boy and he obviously was home.

Marley had been placed on multiple medications at the shelter, and the family continued those prescribed for an ear infection and hot spots on his skin. At his first visit to the family veterinarian, Dr. Courtney Knott at the American Animal Hospital, he was started on new medications to help with his continuing ear infection. But his ear infection just didn't seem to be getting any better. His foster family tried for four months to get his ear infection under control, but medications just weren't working. Eventually, the family took a 3-hour winter drive to Mission, Kansas on February 25th so that Dr. Eric Wilson of Mission Veterinary Emergency and Specialty could perform a total ear canal ablation and bulla osteotomy, which involved the complete removal of the ear canal and middle ear. This surgery was necessary because of the severity and duration of the infection, and also because the infection was resistant to most antibiotics.

Marley is now deaf in his right ear, but he's happier than they've ever seen him and is finally pain free. He is recovering nicely at home with his foster family with no serious adverse effects.

His foster family (now his forever family) shared, "We are so grateful for the generosity of GRRIN and the skill and caring that all of the veterinarians and their staff demonstrated while taking care of our awesome dog."



*Marley at Midlands Humane Society*



*Marley with Dr. Wilson following surgery*



*Marley en route to Kansas*



*Marley shaved after surgery*



*Marley napping the day after surgery*

# ANNUAL VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Thank you to everyone who attended the annual GRRIN volunteer meeting on January 22nd. We were excited to be back in person this year and back in the wonderful auditorium at the Nebraska Humane Society. The meeting started with a catered lunch of sub sandwiches, chips, and cookies and some social time. After the attendees gathered food and chatted, GRRIN officers and volunteers presented information about different volunteer opportunities available in the organization. The highlight of the meeting, though, were the demonstrations given by two long-time GRRIN volunteers on how to perform two very important jobs: transportation and assessment.

One volunteer, Dennis, demonstrated what it might be like to pick up a dog from a surrendering owner. He modeled how to interact with the owner, mentioned the importance of getting the necessary paperwork, and discussed how to transport the new foster dog to a vet checkup and then to the foster home.

Another volunteer, Cathi, walked through what it is like to go to a surrendering owner's home and do a preliminary assessment on an incoming dog. Millie, one of our blind puppies (and a puppy no longer!) was brought up to help with the demonstration. Cathi introduced the attendees to the checklist she uses, and she showed everyone her assessment bag and all of the useful items she keeps in it to make her assessments run smoothly. She then demonstrated aspects of the assessment, such as brushing Millie, testing Millie for food aggression with treats, and asking Millie's owner Pam about her personality and behavior.

Seeing both Dennis and Cathi in action made it easy for those in attendance to imagine exactly what it would be like to volunteer in those positions and made the work seem less intimidating.

If you were unable to attend our annual volunteer meeting but are interested in learning more, please reach out to [volunteer@grrin.org](mailto:volunteer@grrin.org).



# GOLDEN RETRIEVER MEET UP

On Saturday, March 4th, GRRIN hosted a meet & greet at the Omaha Dog Bar during the golden retriever meet up. There were so many goldens there! GRRIN volunteers and foster dogs got to meet fun people and other golden retrievers while the humans ordered snacks and drinks and played with all of the puppies. Keep your eyes on the GRRIN facebook page for more meet & greet events around town!

Special thanks to Omaha Dog Bar for hosting and to the PetFriendly pet wellness company for dropping off a personalized wellness box just for GRRIN foster dogs.





# DONATIONS

DONATIONS BELOW ARE FROM OCT - JAN  
THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR ANNUAL MEMBERS!

**Aaron Barnes** in memory of Brody & Chase | **Amy Pirolo** | **Amy Vifquain** | **Angela Sumter** | **Annette McClellen** | **Babs & Mike Weinberg** | **Barbara Garrett** in memory of Ken Vetter, Thad Tinder & Karen Sedoris | **Becky Bass** | **Bonnie & Paul Seaquist** in memory of Daisy, Shiloh & Bo | **Brent & Brenda Klanderud** | **Brian & Leah Anderson** | **Bruce & Bobbie Moore** | **Chet & Louise Bressman** | **Chris Christensen** | **Chris Fletcher** in honor of Barb & Dennis Garrett | **Christopher Maroney** | **Cindy Jones** in memory of Sandy | **Consortia Consulting** GRRIN identified by employee Ryan Massey for charitable giving program for 2022 | **Corky & Doris Buell** in honor of Cider | **Dane Montgomery** on behalf of Sarah Clark | **Danielle Pedersen** | **Daryl Kats** | **Dave and Sharyn Marreel** | **David & Cindy Buechler** | **David & Julie Churilla** in memory of Barney | **Debra Burkholder** | **Dennis Larson** | **Diane Mumford** | **Dick & Vickie Sklenar** | **Donna Mindrup** | **Dorothy Wright** | **Emily & Zack Meador** | **Ernest Yount & Wendy Benigno** in memory of Frosty | **Fred Susgin** | **Gary & Connie Roberts** in memory of Nala | **Gavin & Grace Smith** | **GayLynn & Gaylen Baker** in honor of Chelsea | **Grant & Sara Guikema** | **Greg & Kelly Klein** | **Gregg Christensen** in memory of Sheyenne | **Harry Quinlan** | **Heather Wrenn** in memory of Duke | **Helen Moore** | **J.K. Barker Foundation** | **Jack and Pat Bell** in memory of Mozart | **Jacque Rank & Jane Wiederspan** in memory of all the dogs we've loved | **James Thele** | **Jan Little** in memory of Buddy | **JE Dunn Construction Co. Charitable Fund** | **Jeff & Sarah Young** | **Jeff & Tori Ryan** | **Jeff Weier** | **Jennifer Houston** | **Jeremy Kaliff** | **Jim & Jeri Regan** | **JoAnn MacDonald** | **Jodi Flores** | **Joe & Rhonda Zugmire** in memory of Sadie | **Joe & Rita Kean** | **John M. Weston** in honor of Maycee | **Jon & Sue Sprinkel** | **Joni Jones** in memory of Roger Campbell | **Judy & Dick Davis** in memory of Sadie, Brody & Duke | **Julie Jerabek** | **Kaeleigh Furan** | **Karen & Dana Throener** | **Karen Stevens** in honor of Keagan & Finnegan | **Kathrine Creighton** | **Ken & Debbie Elson** | **Kevin & Dora Klein** in honor of Nelly | **Kevin & Joni Werth** in memory of Roger Campbell | **Kevin Conlon & Robyn Rudloff** | **Kim & Jim Walsworth** | **Kristi Zerr** | **Kyle & Colleen Cochran** in memory of Roxie | **Laddie Lastoka** | **Lavina Goracke** | **Lee & Sherralyn Peacock** in honor of Snoopy, Bella & Mack | **Linda Kneiff** in memory of Brandy Lou, Maverik, Leslie Cabela, Ice and Sienna | **Lisa Guill** | **Lisa McElhose** in memory of Dexter, Buddy & Einstein | **Marsha Peal & Mike Awsiekiewicz** in memory of Shonie, Scotter & Shelby | **Martha Gilchrist** in memory of Jazz | **Mary Jane & Jim Fitch** | **Mary Jo Parys** | **Matthew Tondl** in honor of JoJo | **Merry & Ken Hinton** in memory of Flash, Maybea, Cheeto | **Michele & Charlie Klingler** | **Michelle Wright** in memory of all of her GRRIN dogs | **Midwest Marketing** | **Nathan Stewart** | **Olivia Wetzal** in the name of a wonderful Golden named Reese who showed love to everyone she met | **Oodles of Poodles** | **Owen Henderson** in memory of Matthew Henderson | **Patricia Newman** in memory of Oscar & Bear | **Patty Carrell & John Binderup** in memory of Maddie, Sam & Jake | **Paul & Lori Synhorst** | **Regan Pufall** | **Rita Vetter** in memory of Ken Vetter | **Rob and Renee Ford** | **Sally Ludrick** | **Sara & Alan Oleson** | **Sarah & Matt Wickencamp** | **Sarah Birdwell** in memory of Harley Birdwell | **Scott Smith** | **Sherrie & Jeff Chester** | **Sid French** | **Stephen Schroer** | **Ted & Judy Brass** in honor of Ginger; In memory of Missy & Casey | **Thomas Nipper** in memory of Shirley Nipper | **Tracey & Mike Ellis** in memory of Duke | **Vern & Karen Wirka** in memory of Charlie, Champ, Hera & Arthur | **Warren & Susan Narducci** | **William & Eric Andres** in memory of Micki Andres

## GIVING TUESDAY

**Keegan Taylor** | **John Marousek** | **Darrica Hollis** | **Shelley West** | **Michael Royce** | **Catherine Kennedy** | **Theresa Houston** | **Colorado Animal Rescue Express C.A.R.E.** | **Tami Prentis** | **Lisa Miers** | **Community Foundation of Western Iowa**

## IN MEMORY OF ANNE WALDMAN

**Denise Moore** | **Alice Kang** | **Alex VanZee** | **Kerri Stover** | **Warren Narducci** | **Wendy Hamilton** | **Jennifer Coughlin** | **Richard Fitz & Kathy Spiegel** | **Annie's Community on Ever Loved, Inc.** | **Cheryl & Douglas Roth** | **Gayle Norris** | **Mark & Elizabeth Dietz** | **Brian & Caren Lierz** | **Eric & Julie Keen**

## IN MEMORY OF KAREN SEDORIS

**Sandra & Howard Friedman** | **Barbara & Dennis Garrett** | **Donn Demaree** | **Brent & Brenda Klanderud** | **Lori Gokie** | **Georgia Nevotti** | **Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Aden** | **Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hankins** | **Beverly Rice** | **Cheryl Yarboro** | **Tanja Shelton** | **Phillip Ring**

## IN MEMORY OF THAD TINDER

**Ronald Olson & Louann Bovy** | **Pamela Nathan** | **Terrence & Kamilla Kruger** | **Jon & Linda Roeder** | **Janet Katz** | **Caroline & Daniel Wiechelman** | **Corby & Shellee Dill** | **Rita Vetter** | **Richard & Mary McIllece** | **Michael & Jean Burggraf** | **Gary & Robin Widhelm** | **Glen & Peggy Evert** | **Robert & Mary Wright** | **Cynthia Jones** | **Patricia Dolezal** | **David & Donna Eneboe** | **Paul & Cindy Lewis** | **PEO Sisterhood International CH BP-NE** | **J.A. McCoy CPA, P.C.** | **Mary Foster** | **Kathy Deal** | **Jeanine Kiefer** | **Ruth Schuck** | **Mr. & Mrs. Ted Stoneburg** | **Lucy Johns** | **Carol Groothuis** | **Mr. & Mrs. Ted Grove** | **Donna Pederson** | **Mark & Jeannine Bruhn** | **Mr. & Mrs. Bill Williams** | **Priscilla Mickey** | **Virginia Hobbs** | **Mary Foster** | **Kathy Deal** | **Jeanine Kiefer** | **Ruth Schuck** | **Lucy Johns** | **Carol Groothuis** | **Mr. & Mrs. Ted Grove** | **Donna Peterson Stoneburg** | **Mark & Jeannie Bruhn** | **Mr. and Mrs. Bill William** | **Janie Tinder** | **Karen Kay Engborg**

Our apologies if we missed you! Please send corrections to [newsletter@grrin.org](mailto:newsletter@grrin.org)



## SASHA 21-15

ADOPTED BY: Craig & Nancy

Hi my name is Sasha. Just a long overdue update on my new life in Lincoln. I came to my new home in Lincoln in July, 2021 and I love my new home, especially my back yard! I spend lots of time there bird watching, sniffing good smells, and (best of all) napping. Old girls like me need our beauty rest.

My new mom and dad give me lots of pets and scratches and let me sleep wherever I like. My vet says I'm in really good shape for a true senior (14 now) like me.

Mom and dad say I'm the sweetest girl ever and I couldn't be happier.



## ODIN 22-10

ADOPTED BY: Joe & Mary Jo

Hi! I am Odin. I consider myself so lucky! My foster parents agreed to foster me at a very busy time in their lives, and I am so happy they did, because I quickly won them over and they decided to adopt me.

I now have a great brother, Leo, also a GRRIN dog, who my family adopted in January. I was not too sure about him when we first met. I didn't think I was going to be able to stay. But after some introduction time, I calmed down and now we are best friends.

Leo is only 4 months older than me, can you imagine two young boys in one house?! We have so much fun together. We like to wrestle with each other and we like to share toys, bones, and sticks. We sometimes get into mischief, but Leo usually starts it. Together we will learn to be good boys.

I am still learning how to walk better on my leash and be friendly when I meet other dogs, but I'm getting better and better with each outing.

I know that my Mom and Dad love me lots. I like that their children, grandchildren, and grand puppies all visit often. I love to play with all of them.

I want to thank all of the GRRIN volunteers who helped me get to my furever home. Thanks, GRRIN! I love it here!



## CLOVER & COPPER

22-06 & 22-06

ADOPTED BY: Steve & Kirsten

My mom, Clover, and I (Copper) are just in AMAZEMENT we found our PERFECT FUR-EVER home. It is totally awesome! We have this HUGE backyard with lots of bushes, trees, and flowers that we sniff all around to see what type of critters have been there – it's usually bunnies. And we have grandkids who get excited to come and visit and play with us. We do have a fur-cat sister...she is still deciding if she likes us. Sometimes mom/Clover does her "growl" noise thing, but everyone is getting used to it (you know how moms are).

But, what makes us the most happy and excited, is when it is time to take our daily walks and meet neighbors and other friendly fur-buddies....it is sooo much fun.

All of this couldn't have happened without all of the wonderful GRRIN volunteers who thought we were special and referred to us as "the Precious Duo." But, especially to our foster mom, who made sure we were well taken care of, playful, and happy, and exposed us to new experiences. We are looking forward to attending some GRRIN events so we can see everyone again.

-Copper and Clover (The Precious Duo)



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](mailto:newsletter@grrin.org) if you prefer to be removed from the list.

2023 Quick Stats: 3 Goldens Adopted | 12 Goldens in Foster Care



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