

GRRIN NEWS



Second Quarter 2023 | Happy Tails, Golden Hearts



SAVE THE DATE!

Date: Sunday, October 1st

Time: 12 pm to 3 pm

Location: SumTur Amphitheater
South of Highway 370 on 108th St.

GOLD RUSH

Save the date! Gold Rush, GRRIN's annual golden retriever (and human) festival, will be held on Sunday, October 1st.. It will once again be held at SumTur Amphitheater in Papillion where there is plenty of room for games and booths, plenty of seating for the demonstrations, and plenty of parking. GRRIN has been hosting this event for decades and it is always a good time for two-legged and four-legged attendees alike.

The usual games and activities will be present. You can play plinko, join the cake walk, enter your dog into the wet T-shirt race, or visit all of the vendor booths. There will also be presentations on the stage as well as a foster dog parade. If you get bored of all that, stop by the food truck for a snack, buy a beverage at the concession stand, or visit the GRRIN store to buy shirts, dog toys, or a 2024 GRRIN calendar featuring dogs from GRRIN members.

Hopefully the weather will be perfect, but, rain or shine, hot or cold, Gold Rush will be held on Sunday, October 1st from 12 pm – 3 pm at SumTur Amphitheater. All leashed, well behaved dogs are welcome. Make sure to watch Facebook and the GRRIN website for the most up-to-date information on this free event.

Want to donate or volunteer? Send an email to goldrush@grrin.org!



EXTRA! EXTRA!

THE LATEST NEWS + RECENT HAPPENINGS

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



ANNUAL MEETING

Every April, GRRIN members gather at the annual meeting to vote for board members, learn about the financial health of the organization, hear about how rescue operations went during the previous year, and, most importantly, socialize and eat! This year's meeting was held on Sunday, April 23rd from 12pm-2pm and was once again held in the Nebraska Humane Society Auditorium. We had the largest attendance in recent history - 51 people and 16 dogs!

GRRIN President Barbara Garrett opened the meeting with a few words of welcome and then invited everyone to start lunch. The food was catered by Mangia Italiana. On offer was lasagna, tortellini alfredo, salad, rolls, cookies, and a cake thanking GRRIN volunteers. While people ate and chatted, the votes from the board election were tallied. All board members on the ballot were reelected and will serve additional two-year terms.

After lunch, Resource Chair Warren Narducci introduced Marley, whose medical journey was featured in GRRIN's last newsletter. He talked about how Marley is a great example of the expensive medical care that GRRIN is called on to provide to foster dogs in its care. After Warren, Treasurer Chris Fletcher informed everyone that GRRIN is a financially healthy organization. Then, Rescue Chair Judy Davis shared the 2022 end-of-year rescue report and communicated that 2023 so far has been a busy year. Barb then returned to the podium to thank all of the people who foster and adopt. Without foster homes and adoptive families, GRRIN wouldn't be able to fulfill its mission of rescuing golden retrievers.

After the board reports, Barb invited up Dr. Cris Macke from the Macke Institute of Canine Therapy. Dr. Macke is a physical therapist for both dogs and people. Her presentation was entitled "The Golden Age: Senior Support" and focused on how to care for senior dogs to help them live happy, pain-free lives. In her presentation, Dr. Macke shared her seven steps to senior success. These included environmental modifications, activity modifications, therapeutic exercises, adaptive devices, massage, supplements, and medication. Dr. Macke's presentation gave examples for each of these steps and how they can be used to help improve the lives of our dogs. She finished out her presentation with a few minutes of Q&A.

Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting. Members and volunteers are how we accomplish our work and we couldn't do it without you.



BOARD ELECTIONS

The GRRIN Board of Directors plays a crucial role in the success of our organization. Together the members ensure that resources are used responsibly, our policies continue to be sound, and our actions fulfill our mission.

During our Annual Meeting every April, GRRIN members cast their votes for those positions up for re-election. Congrats and thank you to the following individuals.

PRESIDENT: Barbara Garrett

VICE PRESIDENT: Emily Meador

RECORDING SECRETARY: Amy Vifquain

TREASURER: Chris Fletcher

CORRESPONDING SEC: Celia Lazar

VOLUNTEER CHAIR: Laura Beavers

RESCUE CHAIR: Judy Davis

PHONE LINE CHAIR: *open*

OUTREACH CHAIR: Pam Nathan

COMMUNICATIONS: Megan Van Alstine

RESOURCE CHAIR: Warren Narducci



DONATIONS

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

Q2 DONATIONS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Amy & Kevin Koehler | Anne's Community on Ever Loved in memory of Anne Waldman | **Audrey Fuller** founder of Gifts for a Girl's Best Friend | **Bob & Mary Feit | Brad Burwell | Catherine Creighton | Cathy Hill | Christopher Maroney | Debra Burkholder | Heather Wrenn | Helen Moore** in memory of Toby & Tuuka, loved by Marie & Dale. Gentle boys from Good as Gold Rescue in Illinois | **Jill Shefte | Jon & Sue Sprinkel | Joseph Lytle** in honor of Joanne Schaffart's 75th Birthday | **Julie Jerabek | Kathy Glenn | Kevin Klein | Lane Gutschow | Lori Gokie** in memory of Paul Galter | **M.C. and D.K. Kentsmith** in memory of Thad Tinder | **Mary Fink** in honor of Joanne Schaffart's 75th Birthday | **Megan Ehlers | Megan Berry Barlow** in memory of Anne Waldman | **Mike King | Owen Henderson, DMV & Julia Tracy** in memory of Matthew Henderson | **Patty Durate** please give all your beautiful goldens a hug for me! | **Rachel Shaffart** in honor of Joanne Schaffart's 75th Birthday | **Robert & Sally Ludrick | Samuel & Kayleigh Snider | Sara Penn** in memory of Diego and his human sister, Samantha | **Sarah Starr | Shirley Doherty | Sid French | Sober Coaching | Susan & Bob Drvol** in memory of Molly | **Woody Bradford** in honor of Chet & Louise Bressman for their excellent care of our dog Homer

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE, PARTY ANIMALS!

SUNDAY

11
JUNE

WINE & HOWL

WHEN: 11 am - 5 pm

WHERE: Deer Springs Winery

16255 Adams Street, Lincoln

Join GRRIN at Deer Springs Winery in Lincoln, NE for the 15th annual Wine & Howl fundraising event for Lincoln Animal Ambassadors. Enjoy wine tasting, food, vendors, and live music. Bring your pup and a blanket or chair.

SAT-SUN

30-31
JULY

PICK-A-POOCH

WHEN: 10 am - 4 pm

WHERE: Baxter Arena

2425 S 67th St, Omaha

Pets in Omaha's Pick-a-Pooch Adoption Days and Pet Expo will include free admission, dozens of rescue groups and shelters, adoptable animals, pet-loving vendors, and free parking.

SUNDAY

01
OCT

GOLD RUSH!

WHEN: 12 pm - 3 pm

WHERE: SumTur Amphitheater, Papillion, NE

Want to volunteer? Many hands make light work at Gold Rush! Send an email to goldrush@grrin.org and let us know you'd like to help.

MEET & GREETs

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.



By John B and Patty C

We have had some great travel experiences with our golden retriever, Shadow, over the past few years. She enjoys rides in the car, wants to please, and likes to share new experiences with her humans. We are lucky she has trained US well. Here are some ideas if you are considering including your dog on vacation:

PRACTICE

Before heading out on a multi-day road trip, we took Shadow to some NE State Park cabins for overnight stays. She learned “the pack” could stay together in other places, and it was fun. We made sure she had her usual bed pads, a couple of favorite toys, water/food bowls, and treats. We stopped every couple of hours on the journey for water and potty breaks and learned to carry extra water in the car for unexpected hikes or a spill.

If you are going to visit a city, you might want to do more walking in downtown urban areas for the new smells, noises, and car/people traffic exposure.

SAFETY

Shadow wears a halter where the front chest ring hooks into a seat belt tether while in the car. That lets her sit up, lay down, and look out the window from the back seat. It also doesn't let her become a 70-pound flying object in an accident! Her short and long leashes were in a back seat pocket for easy retrieval at rest stops.

She loves her kennel at home and sees it as a safe space. The wire crate is too bulky to pack, so we found an easy-fold, soft-sided option with a zipper mesh top that is tall enough for a golden retriever and about 5 ft. wide. A very anxious dog could chew through it. Shadow sleeps in it contentedly at the vacation home and stays there if we go somewhere she isn't allowed (museum, aquarium, restaurant).

We take a plastic bag with Shadow's vaccination information, vet contact, and her monthly flea/tick and heartworm meds. Some people stop those medications during the NE winter months, but your dog may need them in the southern or warmer states.

Learn about your location and what could be dangerous. We don't think about poisonous snakes, scorpions, riptides, cactus, alligators in a lake, or backcountry predators in eastern Nebraska. Talk to the local people and do your research before hiking or swimming.

LODGING

We have found excellent lodging for our vacation destinations through Airbnb and VRBO that included dog-friendly houses with fenced yards. (If you can, plan ahead to get the best selection of choices.)

On the road we used our phones to find “dog-friendly motels.” We also used the BringFido.com website to review motels (and restaurants) that are listed as dog-friendly. Several motel chains advertise as pet-friendly, but check the pet size restrictions or fees they may charge. A “good deal” disappears with a large and non-refundable pet deposit. We found the quality of rooms varied. Some rooms were well-maintained, and others had a minimum-security prison décor. As it was only one night, we didn't worry as long as it was clean.



Continued on page 5

Our travel motel criteria included a first floor location with an outside room entrance, nonsmoking, king-sized bed, and near some green space for a quick stroll late at night or early in the morning. An end unit would be great if your dog likes to bark.

For our “one night, just sleep there” motels we didn’t want to unpack the whole car. We had a small travel bag for the human needs and a bag for Shadow with her premeasured and bagged food, treats, toys, any meds, and a king-sized bed sheet. The first person in the room spread the sheet over the people bed. (Shadow is allowed on our bed at home and we didn’t want to risk muddy paws on the motel covers/linens.) We also didn’t want to unpack the crate, so she slept on a corner of the king-sized bed so EVERYONE had space for a good night’s sleep.



RESTAURANTS/MEALS

When traveling we had an accessible, small cooler for drinks, fruit and cheese. We could snack at a rest area or get some food “to go” and eat in a community park. That allowed for a mid-day walk. Eight or nine hours was long enough for us to be in the car. We tried to stop before dark so one person could take Shadow on a long walk and the other person unpacked the car, set up the room and checked on dinner options. We often brought restaurant take-out back to the room to keep it simple during winter travel.

BringFido.com helped us find dog-friendly restaurants to enjoy a more leisurely meal. Several brew-pubs advertised their dog-friendly environments. Most places offered patio-seating as their dog-friendly option. Shadow sat under our table on a pier while we watched surfers in the Atlantic and enjoyed some great seafood. The waiter included a bowl of water for her when setting up our table.



OTHER TRICKS

- Bring some dog towels from home to use. Lots of communities have do-it-yourself dog wash businesses, but it’s nice to have what you need for a simple “muddy paw” clean-up without destroying your host’s towels.
- Make sure your cell phone number is on the collar or harness.
- A bag of small, low calorie treats kept in the car helps focus good behavior. We used them at restaurants to reward good behavior and at other venues to keep her on task.
- A jacket with zipper pockets for your phone, billfold, car keys and poop bags is enough for walks and easy errands/adventures. Put the purse away.
- We didn’t leave Shadow alone at the house for the first week of our stay. After one week, a routine was established and she was more comfortable with the environment. A Kong with some peanut butter and treats also convinced her we could leave for a couple of hours. (Just like home!)
- When traveling, Shadow had a nice walk in the morning before a long day on the road to settle her down and clean out her digestive system. That also allowed the other person to start packing up the car.
- We kept rolls of poop bags in all the car door pockets so they were accessible. We also traveled with multiple, refillable water bottles and a collapsible water bowl.



SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS

You’ve probably seen the GRRIN calendar, with its adorable photos of golden retrieves. Hopefully you’ve purchased a GRRIN calendar so that you can enjoy those photos all year long. But, have you ever had YOUR dog photos featured in the calendar? If not, this year it’s your turn! Photos can either be uploaded to the GRRIN website or mailed to the PO Box.

Check the GRRIN website for all of the pertinent details:

<https://grrin.org/2023/05/grrin-calendar-2024-submit-your-photos/>





LILY 21-22 (Formerly Little Girl)

ADOPTED BY: Terrence & Mary

Hello everyone. My name is Lily and I'm living the good life now that I've found my fur-ever home.

In the beginning I was a little hesitant and shy about everything. You see, before coming to GRRIN and being adopted by my new mom and dad, I had no idea that dogs could live inside where it's warm and cozy. I didn't understand that there are people who want to pet and snuggle a dog like me.

My new mom and dad have given me so many wonderful things that I didn't know existed, like going for walks, playing with toys, and even getting treats. They even gave me my very own bed, which as you can see, I'm very proud of. The best part of my adoption is that I have people that I can call "family."



ATHENA 21-28

ADOPTED BY: Wade & Cory

Hello. My name is Athena and I want to tell everyone how lucky I am. When I came to GRRIN I had to have a very expensive surgery before I could be adopted. GRRIN took great care of me so that I could find my fur-ever home.

I'm so happy to tell you that I have found the best home ever. My new family opened their hearts and their home to me despite some physical problems that I was still overcoming. One of my favorite parts about my new family is that they have another golden retriever the same age that I am. The two of us are best friends and are often called the "comedic duo." What one of us doesn't think of the other does. We definitely keep our mom and dad on their toes.

I also have a human brother who is just about my size. We love to cuddle, wrestle and play fun games together. The three of us are the best of buds.



ROCKY 21-30

ADOPTED BY: Conner & Salina

Hi, it's me Rocky!! First off, I have to say I'm so thankful for GRRIN! Although I am a Labrador Retriever, GRRIN agreed to accept me and then gave me the best family I could have ever asked for. My new family even let me sleep in their bed! I know this can be frowned upon but I don't mind snuggling my humans every night.

It's been over a year now since I've been welcomed into this loving home. I have an older brother, Briggs, who is a Golden Retriever. He was the favorite and didn't want to share his love with mom and dad in the beginning, but he warmed up to me. I've taught my brother to love fetch & playing outside together.

I am so thankful for GRRIN for giving me a family I didn't know I deserved. They even think I'm much more grateful than I need to be, but I just want them to know how grateful I am for them giving me the best life a pup can have... I wish I was bragging but I truly mean it.

Love,
Rocky

PS they even kept my original name because it was too late to change it but I'm so thankful to be their Rocky Man now.

PSS. I'm one lucky pup who got a second chance at a loving life because of GRRIN.



LAMBEAU 22-11

ADOPTED BY:
Justin & Stephanie

Hi everyone, this is Lambeau! I've been adopted by Stephanie, Justin, and their kids, and I'm such a happy boy. And, how could I forget? My new family has a resident Golden, Jake, who's the best brother I could hope for. We play and snooze together like we've known each other forever.

I've also been introduced to something called "camping" where you leave home with your family for a few days to enjoy the great outdoors. Fun! I've been known to try to steal food from the littlest kid in my family but he's learning to tell me, "No, Bo Bo!" Darn it! I really adore my kids and can often be found sleeping outside their bedroom...just in case I'm needed.

So, as you can see, life is terrific for me and I'm so grateful GRRIN helped me find my forever home!



CHARLIE 22-12

ADOPTED BY:
Jonathan & Abby

I'm Charlie (left)! I'm a beautiful 4 1/2-year-old golden. After my previous owners had a change in their home life and weren't able to take care of me anymore, I was placed with my new foster family and quickly became BEST FRIENDS with my new sister Piper (right).

I love wrestling with my sister, exploring my backyard, meeting new human and dog friends, walking at the lake, and going on road trips with my family to new places. My foster family fell in love with me immediately and made sure to adopt me as soon as possible.

I'm the sweetest golden you'll ever meet! Before my new family adopted me, they didn't know goldens could be so calm and loving. My sister Piper (right) is always full of energy, but I like to lounge just as much as I like to play.

I cheerfully demand pats and attention at all hours of the day, love to be loved on, and am CERTAIN I'm a lap dog despite weighing 70+ pounds. I shed everywhere and am not ashamed, and I even got to steal a burrito off of the kitchen counter before my family realized they couldn't leave food out around me.

I love my new home and am so thankful to GRRIN for finding me my perfect happy ending!



TOBY 22-13 (Formerly Luke)

ADOPTED BY: Greg & Brooke

Hi, I'm Toby, formerly known as Luke. I've been having so much fun with my new family, Greg, Brooke, Garrett, Avery, and Emmett. As you can see, I'm just a big kid, so I'm learning lots of things with my new family!

I really love kids and want to follow Emmett and his friends everywhere. I'm a very cuddly boy who loves stuffed toys, especially my stuffed giraffe.

My family is impressed with my crazy zoomies in the backyard and we love to go on long walks. We've been going on short car rides to PetSmart and Scooters (for pup cups!).

I've even had a puppy play date and played very nicely with my new friend. I pretty much love to play with anyone and everyone! Life is good!

A special thanks to GRRIN, my foster families, and caseworker for helping me find my forever family.





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 Quick Stats: 13 Goldens Adopted | 22 Goldens Fostered



IN THIS ISSUE:

- page 1 **GOLD RUSH**
- page 2 **ANNUAL MEETING**
- page 3 **BOARD, EVENTS & DONORS**
- page 4 **TRAVELING WITH A DOG**
- page 5 **CALENDAR PHOTOS**
- page 6 **HAPPY TAILS!**
- page 7 **HAPPY TAILS!**