



GRRIN NEWS













Third Quarter 2023 | Happy Tails, Golden Hearts



JOIN US FOR GOLD RUSH

Gold Rush is right around the corner! This free annual festival will be held, rain or shine, on Sunday, October 1st from 12pm - 3pm at SumTur Amphitheater in Papillion. All well behaved and leashed dogs are welcome. Here are some of the event highlights for this year:



-  **Games** - The usual games are back! We have the Shell Game, Spin and Win, Plinko, the Bean Bag Toss, and Bobbing for Tennis Balls.
-  **Treats** - Join the cake walk to win human treats and dog treats.
-  **Puppy Paintings** - We have added a new booth this year! Turn your doggy into a Dali with a canvas, some paint, a plastic bag, and a little help from some peanut butter. Then, come back when the painting is dry to pick it up.
-  **Streetside Foods Food Truck** - Feeling hungry? Streetside Foods will be there with phillies, burgers, chicken tenders, nachos, fries, cannoli, and fried oreos.
-  **Drinks** - The SumTur concessions stand will be open and serving a variety of beverages, including sodas and local beer.
-  **Main Stage** - If you're looking for demonstrations or information, there will be presentations on the main stage throughout the event.
-  **Parade of Dogs** - The name says it all.
-  **Caricatures** - Kirk's Works will be in attendance to do caricatures of your furry friends.
-  **Blowouts & Nail Trims** - Hydrodog will be there to provide grooming services.
-  **Vendors** - Learn more about local services and purchase a mix of pet-related goods.
-  **GRRIN Store** - Pick up your 2024 GRRIN calendar, along with new long-sleeve tshirts, other clothing, dog toys, and other doggie goods.
-  **Goodie Bags** - And don't forget to get your goodie bag on the way in!



We look forward to seeing you at SumTur!

TAGG - YOU'RE IT

We've mentioned TAGG in this newsletter before, but if you're not yet raising money for GRRIN through the TAGG site just by snapping photos of your receipts, then this interview is for you. Want to learn how easy it is? Well, we asked GRRIN board Vice President Emily Meador what it is like to use TAGG and how she got started.



1. How did you learn about TAGG?

I learned about TAGG from my friend while we were at Papio Fun Park. She's the art teacher for St. Wenceslaus and they do TAGG. I asked her how it works and if it helps. I then sent the info to our Resource Chair Warren and he did the legwork to get us set up!

2. What is your favorite thing about TAGG?

I enjoy seeing how much each business I TAGG donates and I enjoy watching the total go up!

3. Where do you use TAGG?

My husband and the shop guys eat at Union every Wednesday, so they always make sure to TAGG and give the funds to GRRIN. I told them golden retrievers keep us sane and if they want to keep the mechanic around, then TAGG for the Golden! I also LOVE that Hy-Vee donates. I use them nonstop. I recently just realized Manglesen's TAGGs. I already LOVE Manglesen's (I spend too much there), so I really like that they donate and are doggy friendly.

4. How do you use TAGG? What process do you go through?

I use my phone & the website. I TAGG so much it's saved as one of my frequently used websites.

5. What is the setup process like?

You'll first need to create a login for Tagg on their website. Then, to submit your first receipt, take a picture of it or screenshot it if the receipt is online. After that, select the business of the receipt (ex: Hy-Vee) and type in GRRIN for who to support. Once you've done that, it will save GRRIN as your organization so you won't need to select GRRIN when submitting future receipts. All-in-all, it took me less than 5 minutes to get my account set up and tag my first receipt.

6. How much time does it take to TAGG?

It depends on how many receipts you have. Don't let them build up! But, on average, I would say it takes under 1.5 minutes to do one receipt. It's easy peasy.

7. Why should other people use TAGG?

It's an easy way to raise money for GRRIN - no hard work involved! You just have to look for the places that partake in TAGG. For a full list of the more than 400 businesses that participate in TAGG, check out their website at <https://togetheragreatergood.com/wheretotagg/>

8. How long have you been TAGGing for GRRIN?

I've been tagging since 11/23/2022. I'm up to \$91.97 and just submitted more receipts!

HEATHER WRENN JOINS BOARD

Heather Wrenn was recently voted onto the board as the Goldline Chair and we are thrilled to have her. For those of you who aren't already familiar with Heather, we asked her to put the below bio together to introduce herself to the membership. Welcome, Heather!

I've had one golden in my life and lost him in 2015. I had him since he was a puppy, he was 9 when he passed. Duke was a great dog and attended many GRRIN events with me. He was diagnosed with osteosarcoma (while I was pregnant with my daughter) and lived to see her. I just fell in love with the breed and really enjoyed helping GRRIN at onsite events. We used to do Three Dog Bakery on a regular basis. I've also volunteered at Gold Rush and events at The Omaha Dog Bar. Over the last 17 years I have done many, many home visits. My involvement with GRRIN has been on and off over the years, but I've always thought the organization was incredibly well run by devoted individuals with huge hearts! I would love to adopt a golden again. I have three dogs- Cooper (collie mix rescue), Jack (yorkie) and Kit Kat (shorkie rescue), Marley the cat (NHS alum), daughter Skye and husband Nic. I've worked at PayPal for 19 years and do pet therapy with Cooper at Hillcrest, Laura Beavers and Koda recruited us! Cooper (collie mix) attends GRRIN events with me now. I look forward to working with the board and GRRIN for many years to come!



Q3 DONATIONS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND CONTRIBUTIONS!

Christopher Maroney | **Sid French** | **Kay Lynn Goldner** | **Barb & Larry Zachria** in memory of Alfred Mark Brodkey | **Christi Olsen** in memory of Arlo Olsen | **Julie Jerabek** | **Debra Burkholder** | **Dennis & Linda Larson** in memory of Barrett | **Ron & Ellen Leifeld** in memory of Barbara Grundmayer | **Sober Coaching** with love from the Barnes Family | **Mary Vaughan** in honor of Theresa Houston's (Bella) birthday June 12 | **Bobbi Catron** in memory of Thomas Catron, past GRRIN adoptee Buddy Little, present adoptee Neptune Little | **Patty Carrell & John Binderup** in memory of Daisy & Sydney, and in honor of Beth & Gary Feltus | **Barbara Garrett** | **Charityvest, Inc.** in memory of Anne Waldman

READER TIP

HOW TO TRANSITION DOG FOOD

GRRIN member Carol recently had to transition her dog from one food to a new one. She recieved instructions from her vet on how to do this and thought they would be helpful for other dog lovers. These instructions came from Animal Clinic Suburban. Thanks for sharing, Carol!

To transition a dog from one dog food to a new one, give 25% new food and 75% old food for two days. Then give 50%/50% for two days. On days 5 and 6, give 75% new food and 25% old. On day 7, give only new food, and the transition is done.

RED, WHITE, AND GREEN

For those of you who were able to join GRRIN at Vino Mas on Saturday, July 22nd, thank you so much for attending! It was a fun afternoon filled with wine, beer, snacks, and, most importantly, golden retrievers. Those who chose to do the tasting had five different wines and two beers to sample. Attendees talked with other GRRIN folks as they sipped, and they snagged bowls of popcorn and plates of cookies from the snack table to curb those midafternoon munchies.

After the tasting fees and 10% of bottle purchases were totaled, GRRIN trotted away with \$802! Thanks so much to Warren Narducci, GRRIN's Resource Chair, for putting this fundraiser together. We hope to see everybody at the next one!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE, PARTY ANIMALS!

SUNDAY

01
OCT

GOLD RUSH!

WHEN: 12 pm - 3 pm

WHERE: SumTur Amphitheater, Papillion, NE

Don't miss the most barktacular event of the season! Come for the games and the prizes, and stay for the demonstrations and the parades. All leashed and well behaved dogs are welcome.

SUNDAY

03
DEC

PHOTOS WITH SANTA

WHEN: 1 pm - 3 pm

WHERE: Nature Dog

13366 West Maple Road, Omaha, NE

If you want your holiday photos to be extra special this year, why not stop by Nature Dog on Sunday, December 3rd to get a photo of Fido with Santa? The event will be happening from 1 pm - 3 pm with a real, live Santa! Photos are \$10 per dog. Cash only please.

SUNDAY

28
JAN

ANNUAL VOLUNTEER TRAINING

WHEN: noon - 2 pm

WHERE: Nebraska Humane Society Auditorium
8929 Fort Street, Omaha, NE

Whether you're a new volunteer or a seasoned one, there's always something to learn. Join GRRIN for an overview of our available volunteer opportunities.



GRRIN'S INTERNATIONAL ADVENTURE

Back in the spring of 2016, GRRIN did something new. Something adventurous. Something scary. Something awesome.

GRRIN decided to rescue dogs from Turkey.

In early 2016, GRRIN noticed a decrease in incoming dogs. Around this same time, GRRIN's president, Joe Mueller, saw an article about how Atlanta's golden retriever rescue organization was bringing dogs into the US from Turkey and working with other rescues to place those dogs in permanent homes. Joe brought the idea to the board for discussion. The board did not take the decision lightly and the vote was not initially unanimous. There were legitimate concerns brought up about cost, about taking in foreign strays, and about potential health issues. But, in the end, the board decided to reach out to the Atlanta rescue group and give it a try.

There were a few reasons the board made this decision. Firstly, GRRIN felt they were strong enough financially to take on such an endeavor. Secondly, it was an opportunity to bring more dogs into the organization and get them adopted into approved homes on GRRIN's waiting list. And thirdly, it was something big and exciting. The board members and volunteers got to be part of a larger-than-life rescue that was impacting lives both here and abroad.

The Atlanta rescue had already completed a few Turkey dog operations and had figured out the most economical way to bring the dogs in. When GRRIN reached out, they pointed us to RAGOM (Retrieve a Golden of the Midwest), who was working with them to coordinate a group of dogs from Turkey. Two other rescue groups from Ohio and Kentucky also joined the effort and when the dogs came in, RAGOM took three, the Ohio group took seven, the Kentucky group took three, and GRRIN took five.

The Atlanta rescue took care of the logistics to get the dogs into Chicago, but when that plane landed, a large group of volunteers from RAGOM, Ohio, Kentucky, and GRRIN had to be there to handle the rest.

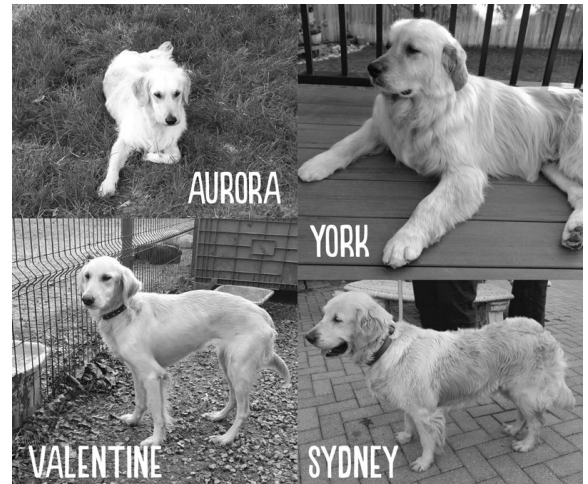
A group of GRRIN volunteers drove up to Chicago in a caravan of cars to pick up the dogs. A shipping company was handling the plane travel, but we needed vehicles to drive the dogs back to Nebraska. We didn't know exactly when the planes were going to land, so all of the volunteers had to be there early in case the planes arrived ahead of schedule.

When the dogs arrived, they had to go through customs, but luckily they had already been quarantined in Turkey, so they didn't have to also be quarantined in the US.

Before taking off, the dogs were allowed time to move around and take care of business. Then they were loaded up into the volunteers' cars and taken by the different organizations. The GRRIN volunteers drove part way home and stayed in motels in Iowa overnight. Needless to say, that first day of the Turkey operation was a long one. The next morning, they packed up again and finished the drive to Omaha.

When the dogs arrived in Omaha, they were taken to Joe's house where the foster families met them for the first time. For the foster families, this was the first time learning about the dogs they had offered to foster. Because of how the rescue operation in Turkey was structured, they were not able to send information about the dogs or any pictures ahead of time. It was a real leap of faith for the rescue organizations, volunteers, and foster families involved. But for those who were there at Joe's that day, it was like a golden retriever party. There were five dogs and a bunch of GRRIN volunteers and kids all together, celebrating the new life that these strays from across the globe were being given.

Over seven years later, GRRIN would like to celebrate the volunteers and organizations who made this operation possible. A lot of risks were taken - by the Atlanta rescue, by RAGOM, by GRRIN, by the foster families - but a lot of good came out of this venture. To celebrate, in this and the next newsletter, we'll be featuring dogs who were rescued seven years ago and the forever homes who adopted them.



Potty break at O'Hare airport in Chicago

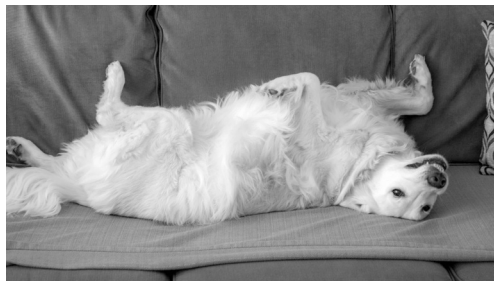
WHERE ARE THE TURKEY DOGS NOW?

MOLLIE (PREVIOUSLY SYDNEY) 16-11

Our vet "guesstimates" that Mollie is around 12 years old.

She is our only pet but she has many pet friends in the neighborhood: Lucy the Scottie, Blaze the Corgi, and Novi, another elderly Golden.

Mollie has some health issues. She has mild seizures that are successfully controlled with medication. She also has an ACL problem she acquired from her habit of chasing squirrels, so her walks around the neighborhood are slower now but she still enjoys them.



Her favorite activity is riding in the van to go for her morning walk around the lake.

Mollie loves people and stops often on her walks to wait for her friends to come out and pet her. She is very calm and gentle and children love to pet her. Our neighbor makes her sweet potato treats, which are Mollie's absolute favorite.

We were lucky to find this sweet girl (thanks GRRIN) and truly believe she is right where she was always meant to be.



YORK 16-13

Our York ---

Hard to believe that York has been with us for 7 years already! Time has sure gone by so fast and we have loved every minute and count it a blessing to have York be a part of our family.

We think York is 10 years old and still can chase a bunny out of our yard - although he'd rather just lay in the grass and take a nice nap! Taking naps and getting belly rubs are his favorite things to do. He used to love to wrestle with his furry golden "sister" Rosie, but we lost her very suddenly to cancer in February. He misses her so very much. He has a younger furry brother named Harrington, but he doesn't play with him as much as he did his Rosie.

He has this favorite toy that he received from some special friends the first day he came to us. He has carried that around for many years - especially trying to find a hiding place so that the other dogs will not find it. We had to buy a new set of the same toy for him to play with but he still loves to carry around the first one.

The one challenge we have had since the beginning is that York doesn't like being around other dogs out in the "open," especially if a dog is walking towards him. We think this may have something to do with being on the streets of Istanbul when he was younger. A dark dog is especially "threatening" to him. Makes us wonder if he had something happen to him. Having another dog in our home and yard is fine, it's just one of those quirks that we will never know why.

One other thing that amazed us for quite a while is how agile he was - he could jump to the top of our 6 foot fence from a sitting position and also jump to the top of the retaining wall in the blink of an eye! He used to try and jump up to catch the geese in the sky and also try to climb one of our trees to catch the squirrels. Now he just scampers across the yard in his own slow motion and will just look up into the sky at the geese and ducks.

He is such a sweetheart and we are so very thankful for the rescue team for bringing him over to the US and for letting us adopt him into our lives and home.

Opening up your home and hearts to rescue a dog, whether it is one that was surrendered for a specific reason or whether it was a stray... is a blessing to receive and cherish. The love and affection they will give you is beyond description!!



York and Rosie





DELTA 22-17

ADOPTED BY:

Kevin & Catherine

Exciting news...I have found my furever home. Yes, you can say Delta is having a wonderful and busy time in my new home. I have three human brothers and one Golden fur-sister, Penny. She is very sweet and I think she likes me because I keep her young!

My human siblings are keeping me really busy: playing ball, running around, and going for walks. And, when they caught a cold last month, I made sure I stayed by them and gave them a lot of comfort and love. Sometimes I get to go to their soccer games where everyone thinks I am just terrific and very handsome. Some days my dad takes me to the dog park and to run errands with him. It's so much fun! I love car rides and tolerate his poor taste in music because he takes the top off his Jeep and it's a blast.

And, more good news - just like my human siblings, I am going to school. I have heard humans say how smart I am, so I know I will be the "teacher's pet" and excel in every area and pass the class with flying treats!

I had a great time being a GRRIN foster dog. I met so many wonderful GRRIN volunteers and had fun playing with other GRRIN dogs. Thank you GRRIN! I'll be looking forward to seeing all of you again soon.



MAX 21-29

ADOPTED BY: Amy

Hi, my name is Max. When I came into my foster home, I was a little scared and was having some seizures. My foster mom got me on a regular routine of anti-seizure meds and love. Since coming into my forever home, no seizures!

I have become bonded with the resident golden puppy Bailey and now we love to rough-house together. I am more confident in my surroundings and love to lay on the big dog cushion in the tv room and sleep next to mom. I know my basic commands, like come, outside, sit, shake, and, of course, biscuit time.

I initially was having trouble getting into the car, but with some practice, I can now jump right in.

I love treats but particularly the soft jerky chews. I love going on long walks with mom and sister Bailey. I often visit with the neighbor who, shhh.. has dog biscuits in his shed, so if we time it right, Bailey and I will get biscuits!



POPPY 22-21 (was Kinley Rose)

ADOPTED BY: Kristen

Hi everyone! My name is Poppy (formerly known as Kinley Rose) and on March 22nd, 2023, my mom officially adopted me!

My mom was in a place called Albuquerque when she got the call about me. It was September 22nd (exactly six months before my adoption date) and she was flying home the next day. I had been surrendered to GRRIN because my previous mom and dad could no longer take care of me, and GRRIN knew my mom was looking for a very special pup like me. She had lost her best buddy, Max, in May, so she was hoping another GRRIN dog would be available when she was ready.

Enter me...I am getting ready to celebrate my first birthday but, when I first got to my new home, I was six months old and, as my mom says, 90% sweetest girl, 10% crazy toddler. I still kind of am. I had to go to the doctor a few times before I could officially be adopted, but now I'm happy and healthy! I've been to obedience classes, I go to daycare sometimes, and I love people, other dogs, car rides, and eating ANYTHING (even dirt and sticks!). My mom loves me a lot and always says we're so lucky we found each other. Thanks, GRRIN!

HAPPY TAILS! HAPPY TAILS! HAPPY TAILS!



MAZIE 22-22 **(formerly MACIE)**

ADOPTED BY: Mike & Mandi

Mazie came to GRRIN with no issues other than being a darling Golden. She found her perfect forever home with a young couple who was looking for a companion for their dog Augie. The dogs are perfectly suited for each other. Both are full of fun and spark.

Augie's special talent is being able to carry five frisbees in his mouth at once. Once Mazie saw this, she knew better than to compete with such a skilled retriever, so she chose the stuffed duck as her favorite toy and quickly retrieved it from the farthest corners of her new backyard. These two are going to provide hours of exercise and entertainment for each other and their new family.



OPAL 22-25

ADOPTED BY: Kent & Deb

My name is Opal. I am a sweet and gentle 4 year old golden that thrives on attention. I was looking for a quiet home with humans that would give me attention throughout the day. I am happy to report that I have found the perfect family. My main two humans have older kids who are grown up and have kids of their own. Therefore, I am their main focus. I get lots of cuddles, long walks, and car rides. I get extra attention when the grandkids come over to visit. They play fetch with me in my big backyard and give me lots of kisses. I am one lucky lady.



LADY 22-26 **(formerly JESS)**

ADOPTED BY: Greg & Kelly

It's true - Christmas wishes DO come true for good little girls.

I found my wonderful, furever home AND, I got a new name: LADY! I like it!

My day is so busy living in my new home with my three human brothers and one human sister. We play all the time. I really like to go outside and explore to see what I can find. Sometimes I see a bunny! And, when it snows I like to roll around in the snow and see how many puppy angels I can make.

My favorite thing to do is to go for loooong neighborhood walks and meet new neighbors and visit my fur-buddies. When I'm in the house, I'm always around and chasing my super four human siblings, and I like to steal my sister's small bouncy balls.

Since I'm still a puppy, I get tired from all of my activities, and I have to take several naps. My favorite place to take a nap is in my dad's shoe. It is so comfortable and I feel so loved.

All of this happened because of GRRIN volunteers: especially my FABULOUS foster mom and family who helped me to become a confident and playful Golden. You will always be my #1 GRRIN family. Many puppy paw hugs...LADY (formerly puppy Jess)



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: 21 Goldens Adopted | 31 Goldens Fostered



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