

Reaching out to you with...



The Golden Paw

Volume XIII Number 3 August 2021

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DOG DAYS are Here!



See inside
for summer
safety tips



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Safety isn’t just a word, it’s a life!

~ Company motto decal on a Markham truck

This issue of *The Golden Paw* is primarily about safety and appropriate precautions you should take for your pet. We hope you find this issue educational, and that you will make sure your own pets stay as safe as possible so they can have long and healthy lives as your wonderful companions.

Editor’s Note: Any personal opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those held by Arizona Golden Rescue. THE GOLDEN PAW is published quarterly by Arizona Golden Rescue and printed by AZ Correctional Industries, Perryville, AZ. Members receive it automatically, but nonmembers may subscribe for \$16 per year.



Wags and Woofs

By Deb Orwig, President

dorwigaz@cox.net

Exciting News!

As you may know, we have been without a fifth Board member for quite a while. We have made it work, but it will be much simpler for all of us with a fifth. I have filled in where I could, which a lot of the time meant doing double duty and not doing nearly everything that really should be done. Debbie Ball and I have been discussing the possibility of her taking on a Board position for over a year. So, after Debbie offered to accept the challenge of being a Board member, the four current Board members voted to add Debbie Ball to our Board Team. She will assume the title of Director of Operations. The previous title of the fifth Board position was Director of Dog Care. Many thought that was a misnomer – if anyone directs dog care, it is our Health Care Manager!

We are so excited to have Debbie's help officially now – she has been doing a lot of this job for months. Since January, she has been working with our new database and making it more user-friendly. She's developed procedures for the teams as to how to do what they need to do and she has done some in-person training with several Managers and Team members, as well as making herself available to help other Team members. Due to experience from working as the Regional Manager of Financial Operations for Sherwin-Williams Company, Debbie is intimately familiar with spreadsheets, databases (usage, not creation), and overseeing various departments and management teams.

The new Board title is how Debbie views this position – she will oversee the operations of all the dog-related teams of Rescue – Health Care, Home Evaluations, Intake, Placement and Transport, as well as help our Microchip Manager and Social Media Manager. She will assist where needed with other duties. Anyone need help using the database? Debbie is our go-to person for assistance and usage training. She is eminently qualified for this position; we are so fortunate to have someone with her talent and skills to do the job we've needed for some time. Our thanks to Debbie Ball for taking on this job – Welcome to the Board!

As of mid-July, I will not be able to handle all that I've been doing because I am going to have total knee replacement surgery on July 14. I have already passed along some of the email-answering duties to our Social Media Manager, Kathy Blue. She is going to respond to all inquiries about dogs (Petfinder, Adopt-a-Pet, etc) and adopting, because almost always these messages are from non-members and people who have never adopted from us before. Most I have contacted in the past do not follow through with sub-

mitting an application. Kathy is also going to respond by e-mail to other information-requesting messages. Thank you, Kathy, for taking on this extra work.

Sharon Flores already does a superb job answering our telephone. Having been doing this job for several years, Sharon can address just about any inquiry. She used to call me with questions up to several times a day, but she knows so much about the organization and our procedures now that I rarely get a call. Thank you, Sharon, for doing such a wonderful job dealing with the myriad of inquiries that come in by phone.

Facemasks

I would like to thank all of you who have purchased facemasks from **AGR** since last summer. Many of you ordered just one, many ordered several, two ordered 10, and one person asked my sewing team to custom-make 12. When we did promotions for the holiday season and Valentine's Day, many who had purchased masks earlier bought more, and many said they really like the style we are now making with the inset nosepiece and elastic ear pieces. Because we donated the fabrics, the entire cost of the mask – \$10 each at first, \$12 each more recently – helped us raise over \$3,050 to help the dogs and keep people safe.

Although mask mandates have been lifted in most places now – with the exceptions of a some select businesses, government buildings and public transportation – you may still feel the need to wear a mask when you go shopping or to some public event where there are more than just a handful of people. It's a smart precaution, even if you have been fully vaccinated, especially considering the increased prevalence of the Delta Covid-19 variant that is apparently much more easily transmitted and could be just as deadly as the original. I repeat, a smart precaution. We have quite a few facemasks still available that were made from paw and/or bone design fabric; a few that were made larger for men are in camouflage, flame or other fabrics that appeal more to men. We can make either the standard size, which most women can wear comfortably, or the man-size, from any fabric in my large collection. There are a few sports-team fabrics that have been requested that we just cannot get because they are not sold anywhere, but otherwise just about any color or print design is probably available. If you would like to support our facemask project, just e-mail me, give me an idea of what you want, and I will send you photos of the masks we have already made or fabric that could be used.





**Director of Operations
By Debbie Ball**

rlbdlb@cox.net

On June 28, 2021 after Debbie Ball was unanimously voted by the Board to assume the fifth Board position, Deb Orwig sent out a message to all **AGR** Board and Team members congratulating her on the appointment. Debbie responded as follows:

Thank you all for the congratulatory wishes! I intend to do my best to support and work with each of you as needed. Please do not hesitate to contact me!

Debbie can be reached by e-mail at rlbdlb@cox.net or by text or phone at 602-885-8837.

An important task Debbie has helped Deb with for several years is the Annual Survey required by the **National Rescue Committee** of the **Golden Retriever Club of America** in order to remain eligible for funding from the **Golden Retriever Foundation**. The **NRC** was disbanded some months ago. However, since we wanted to continue to be able to receive grant money from the **GRF**, we prepared a Fact Sheet based on the old Survey questions. We thought you might be interested in the results.

**ARIZONA GOLDEN RESCUE
Rescue Facts for 2020**

Program Name: Arizona Golden Rescue
 Incorporated? Yes, in 2009
 501 (c) 3)? Yes, in 2009
 Address: 5350 W Bell Road, Ste. C122-158, Glendale, AZ 85308
 Program President: Deb Orwig
 E-mail Address: dorwigaz@cox.net
 Phone: 623-693-0589

- 1) AGR is a full-service rescue that accepts purebred Golden Retrievers and mostly-Golden mixes; non-Goldens are accepted only if one is surrendered as a bonded pair with a Golden
- 2) AGR carries liability insurance, a \$2 million umbrella policy with several additional insured such as PACC911, City of Scottsdale, City of Glendale, and Maricopa County Animal Care & Control; AGR does not carry any additional insurance such as Directors-and-Officers or individual vehicle insurance
- 3) In 2020, AGR rescued a total of 37 dogs:
 - 31 were purebred Goldens
 - 6 were Golden mixes (5 Goldendoodles and 1 Golden plus Aussie)
 - 3 had to be euthanized before adoption due to a medical

condition that was not fixable

One was a young puppy that had eaten a pair of women's thong panties; the owner had allowed the obstruction to persist until the puppy's intestines had died

Two had cancer that was too far developed and could not be excised

3 that were adopted had to be euthanized shortly after adoption, all due to cancer

Sources of dogs:

2 were rescued from local shelters – one had to be euthanized right away; the other was in bad shape but we saved her

1 had difficult behavior that needed professional intervention

34 were owner surrenders:

4 had owners that were ill

6 had no time for the dog

4 had owners who had lost their jobs and their homes

19 had medical needs the owner could not handle emotionally and/or financially

1 was surrendered by his breeder – he was a family pet but was a rock-eater and the breeder was not able to keep the dog safe

4) Medical information on rescued dogs

AGR treated 4 for valley fever and 4 for other tick-borne diseases

15 females had to be spayed after rescue and 11 males had to be neutered

Ages of rescued dogs:

11 were 0-2 years old

11 were 3-5 years old

6 were 6-8 years old

9 were 9-11 years old

AGR had only one dog in permanent foster care at year's end

5) Financial: AGR spent \$138,822 on veterinary services and \$636 on boarding; all expenditures totaled \$161,700

6) In 2020, we were contacted by the owners of 6 Golden Retrievers that turned out to be aggressive, so we did not accept these dogs into our Rescue

7) In 2020, we were contacted by the owners of 19 dogs that were not Golden Retrievers or even Golden mixes, so we refused acceptance into our Rescue

8) Currently, we have far more qualified applicants to adopt than we have Golden Retrievers for adoption

9) In 2020, we rescued only domestic dogs; no dogs were imported from out of country

Jolene Schlichter, our **GRF** Grants Writer, sent in this Fact Sheet with grant applications for two of our Golden Retrievers. We just received a check for \$1,200!



Goldens on the Go!

By Carolyn Brown, Director of Activities

AZGoldenlady@gmail.com

Fall is a wonderful time of the year! And the AGR calendar is starting to fill up with some great events! With lockdowns, forest fires and the hot summer soon to be in the rearview mirror, it's time to look ahead and start planning to get out and be with your AGR friends again. And if you think it has been tough on you not seeing friends... take pity on our pooches who have lost countless opportunities to socialize with their friends, too.

On SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3rd, Paws at the Park will bring us back together for our annual picnic. Great fun for two and four-legged's alike. Everyone is welcome - AGR members, friends, family ... all ages, with or without dogs. A fun afternoon of great food, games, raffles, silent auction, and beautiful hand-crafted merchandise for sale - not too early to think of holiday shopping! All proceeds go to benefit AGR.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW for Paws at the Park

- DATE: Sunday, October 3, 2021
TIME: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
LOCATION: Eldorado Park, West Ramada, 2311 N. Miller Rd, Scottsdale 85257
COST: \$15 per adult and \$7 for children under 10 - includes a full meal of grilled hamburgers or veggie burgers, hot dogs, Deb Orwig's famous potato salad, coleslaw, pasta salad, fruit salad, dessert, soft drinks and water - basically all you can eat!
REGISTRATION: Must be received no later than Saturday, September 25th to ensure proper meal count - no walk-ins. Use the form included in this newsletter and make your checks payable to AGR.
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR:
Set-up 9 AM to 11 AM
Pack-up 3 PM to 4 PM
Grilling 11 AM to 2 PM
Coverage at the merchandise sales tables 11 AM to 3 PM
Selling raffle tickets 11 AM to 2 PM
Monitoring silent auction 11 AM to 2 PM

Many hands make for light work

Please contact me (Carolyn Brown) at 602-781-1001 or email me at AZgoldenlady@gmail.com to become part of the team.

There is seating under the ramada and there are plenty of close-in areas where you could bring your own lawn chairs or lawn blankets and spread out for a fun Sunday picnic. Pop-up tents or beach

umbrellas are also allowed. The restrooms are just steps away, and the big trees and pond make for the perfect setting. All dogs need to remain on leash during the event.

All that is missing is YOU! So, mark your calendar now and get your registration in the mail today.

Up next on the AGR Calendar will be our annual Dine Out with the Dogs.

Last year's format proved to be a big success. Paulie's Little Bite of Italy in Sun City is excited to have us back. Order from the menu to get the exact dinner you desire. Everything is homemade from delicious Italian family recipes. From salads to desserts and a full service bar, 20% of the cost of what you order will be donated to AGR, dine-in or carry-out. The phone number is 623-526-0801. Just be sure to tell your server you are ordering for Arizona Golden Rescue. Inside and outside dining allow for Goldens to bring their owners out for an afternoon or evening of fun and great food. We will have a silent auction, raffle baskets and our spectacular assortment of custom-crafted gift items for you and your pets. Bring your Christmas list along... there will be something for everyone. Make sure you bring your family and friends for this fun event. Mark your calendars now. Let's make this year even better than last year! It's one of our biggest fund-raising events this year.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW for Dine Out With the Dogs

- DATE: Sunday, November 7, 2021
TIME: Noon until 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Paulie's Little Bite of Italy, 15456 N. 99th Ave, Sun City; located about 3 miles west of Hwy 101 off Bell Road
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR:
Set-up 10 AM to Noon
Pack-up 7 PM to 8:30 PM
Coverage at the merchandise sales tables Noon to 7 PM
Selling raffle tickets Noon to 6 PM
Monitoring silent auction Noon to 6 PM

Many hands make for light work

Please contact me (Carolyn Brown) at 602-781-1001 or email me at AZgoldenlady@gmail.com and pick the time range and the area you think best suits your talents.

Also Confirmed:

Phoenix Metro Chamber of Commerce Winter Adoption Event

These events have always been a fun time to get together in a relaxed fashion, showcase what we do, and also raise money through our dog donation vests and, of course, selling our beautiful assortment of custom-crafted gifts.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW
for *PMCC Winter Adoption Event*

DATE: Saturday, December 18, 2021

TIME: 9 AM to 3 PM

LOCATION: **Floor & Décor**, 5880 West Bell Rd, Glendale

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR:

Set-up 7:30 AM. to 9 AM

Coverage at the merchandise sales tables 9 AM to 3 PM

Golden ambassadogs and handlers 9 AM – 3 PM

Pack-up 3 PM to 4 PM

Please contact Carolyn Brown 602-781-1001 or email me at AZ-goldenlady@gmail.com for volunteer information.

As fall gets closer, we will be getting confirmed dates for many more events: *Petco* and *PetSmart* Meet-and-Greets, *PACC911* Adoption Events, multiple Craft Sales and perhaps even a Garage Sale, to name a few. Our favorites will come into view like the *Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade* and holiday gift-wrapping. All these events add to the income we need to provide for the Golden and Golden mixes that come into *AGR*. We have survived the 18 months of lockdowns and cancelled events but need to rebuild our reserves. These events are important to our mission. They are also a great way to share your talents with our great organization.

We cannot do it without you. The opportunities are many and nothing is a long-term commitment... just a few hours at a single event per year by each member would greatly lessen the load on the “regulars” who show up for every event. Come on and dip your toe in the pool... you will never know how much fun you can have if you don’t try. Explore the opportunities!

So, here is to a safe and enjoyable summer. Stay cool, be cool and don’t drool ... well at least until you get to see the great food at *Paws at the Park* and *Dine Out with the Dogs*. See you there!



The Information Highway

By Adam Cardinal,
Director of Information Management

arcardinal@hotmail.com

Back in 2018 Deb Orwig asked me about cryptocurrency. I was surprised. Those of you who know Deb would be comfortable with me saying that Deb has a great deal of knowledge and experience in many areas, but she would not describe herself as a techie. So I was surprised – and intrigued.

I’ll explain why, but first come and listen to a story ‘bout a coin called “crypto”.

Working in technology, with an emphasis on computer security, I have been aware of cryptocurrency for several years. Cryptocurrency went mainstream in 2017 as the price of Bitcoin, the most popular cryptocurrency, soared over 13-fold during the year.

I performed my first Bitcoin transaction in early 2018 in order to better understand the process to purchase Bitcoin using US Dollars and then exchange Bitcoin for a physical good via mail order. It was not the easiest thing to do – but I also realize that much of what we take for granted as US citizens isn’t readily available in other countries – especially in new economic players, often referred to as “emerging markets”.

Hopefully reviewing some key components of this new currency will highlight why Bitcoin is so revolutionary – and frightening – both to users and to gatekeepers in our current financial system.

What is Cryptocurrency?

It’s sometimes referred to as “digital gold,” as some of the characteristics of Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies are similar to the ways precious metals like gold, silver and platinum are valued on a global price exchange. Most countries print their own currency in order to conduct commerce and use a central bank that is responsible for managing the country’s financial presence in the world. Much of that commerce takes place inside the country issuing the currency. Once currency must be exchanged, cross-border challenges begin to surface.

Central banks are not just economic but political institutions. They issue currency that is backed by the presumption of “good faith” that the country of issuance will honor the currency. An independent arbiter known as the Bank of International Settlements is tasked with calculating the relative value of currencies issued by major economic powers (normally G-6 nations) relative to each other. Once these “banking standard” currencies are valued, the value of less common currencies can, in theory, be valued based on the market’s faith in the issuing country and in the frequency with which currency exchanges are made.

Sudden spikes in exchanges of currency from a small issuer’s currency to that of a banking standard currency indicate a “flight to safety” by banks, merchants and investors and can cause currency values to fluctuate – sometimes wildly – based on the economic policies of the issuing country. In 2017, Venezuela experienced an inflation rate of 653% from the previous year – meaning you would need 6.5 times the amount of Venezuelan bolivars to purchase a loaf of bread this year than what was needed last year.

Currency exchanges also provide global networks for the electronic exchange of value from one currency to another. They charge a fee for that service and establish a set of rules the banks, financial institutions and central banks must follow. When those rules are not followed, a currency can be suspended from trading

and rendered essentially null and void on a global exchange

Cryptocurrency is an electronic cash system that doesn't rely on central banks or trusted third parties to verify transactions and create new units. Instead, it uses cryptography to confirm transactions on a publicly distributed ledger called the blockchain, enabling direct peer-to-peer payments.

That definition might seem downright cryptographic right now, but bear with me – I'll try to break it down.

The Early History of Cryptocurrency

In 2009, a programmer using the pseudonym Satoshi Nakamoto created Bitcoin, the first ever cryptocurrency. Satoshi also created the blockchain technology, which makes all decentralized cryptocurrencies possible.

The blockchain was created as a solution to the "double-spending problem," which arises in virtual currencies because it's easy to duplicate digital information. A person could make a copy of his or her digital currency information and send both the original and the copy to separate parties.

Blockchain was also developed to eliminate the need for trusted third parties to prevent double spending, adding cost and complexity to currency exchange processes. The goal of cryptocurrency was to develop a decentralized currency, which meant finding a way for the network of Bitcoin users to verify transactions.

By using a network of timestamp transactions, digital certificates and a hashing function, (which I'll describe momentarily) anyone in the exchange process can validate all the original elements – creating a tamper-proof attestation that the values recorded are accurate – also known as a "proof of work".

Why is it Called a Blockchain?

A block is a collection of transaction data on the cryptocurrency network. It basically says Person A sent this much to Person B, and Person X sent this much to Person Y.

It also includes important information that allows the rest of the network to verify the validity of the block – such as the solution to a complex math problem – called a proof-of-work. While the math problem is hard to solve, it's very easy for others to verify a valid solution. New blocks cannot be amended to the blockchain without a valid solution.

A block also includes a reference to the block that immediately precedes it. Thus, the blocks create a chain linking one to another through those references.

The reference to the preceding block is accomplished through something called a cryptographic hash function. A hash function

takes a set of data and maps it to a string of letters and numbers called a digest. If anything in the data changes, the resulting hash digest will change as well.

Chaining blocks together by using a hash function to reference the preceding block adds a great level of security to the system. To change a block in the ledger, a hacker would have to reproduce the entire chain of blocks following it, since it would create a chain of invalid hash values referencing the previous block.

As more computing power joins the network, the blockchain grows longer, and as the amount of calculation required to solve the math problem and add a block increases, it becomes increasingly difficult to change data in the blockchain. A hacker would require a majority of computing power on the network to effectively alter transactions.

How Does a Cryptocurrency Transaction Work?

Cryptocurrency is used for direct peer-to-peer payments anywhere in the world. The speed of transactions varies based on currency and confirmation requirements, but it's generally very fast compared with traditional banking systems. Where banks can take days to transfer money, cryptocurrency transfers happen in minutes.

In general, cryptocurrency transactions go through the following steps before they get added to the blockchain.

1. A person requests a transaction, and the request is sent to the entire network.
2. Each computer on the network collects all concurrent transactions into a block, along with a timestamp for each transaction.
3. Each computer works on solving the difficult math problem to add the block to the blockchain. This process is called "mining."
4. Once a computer finds a valid solution, it broadcasts the block to the rest of the network.
5. The network checks the solution as well as compares transactions in the block against the current blockchain to prevent double spending.
6. The block is added to the chain, showing the transaction was completed.
7. Once a block is added to the chain, that block gets hashed and is used to create the next block. The process continually repeats itself.

As such, transactions are practically irreversible, much the same way as if you give someone cash (hence calling it an electronic cash system). As mentioned, the chaining of one block to another means someone would have to edit the entire chain of blocks to change a transaction.

Since blocks are continually added to a chain, it's extremely un-

likely someone will be able to propagate an updated chain of blocks to the network before the rest of the network produces the next block and extends the chain further.

Every Transaction Needs a Signature

Just as credit cards use your signature to verify you authorized a purchase, cryptocurrency uses a signature as well, a digital signature.

Transactions are secured through a cryptography system public key encryption. Each user has both a public key and a private key associated with his or her account.

To authorize a transaction, users must prove they know their private key by using it as an input into a cryptographic hash function similar to the one used to link blocks together in the blockchain. That's called signing the digest. The private key is used to write that "digital signature," so it's very important that the private key remains private.

The public key, which is available to all computers on the network, is used to decrypt the data and confirm that the private key associated with the account requesting the transaction was used to encrypt it. The public key, however, cannot be used to determine the private key, ensuring the security of one's cryptocurrency holdings.

How to Buy Cryptocurrency

Most individuals purchase cryptocurrency by buying it through a cryptocurrency exchange. A cryptocurrency exchange allows consumers to change their fiat currency, like U.S. dollars, into cryptocurrency like Bitcoin. Current exchange rate for Bitcoin is 1 Bitcoin is equal to \$6,829 – meaning that for most of us (myself included) we hold a fractional number of Bitcoins.

A cryptocurrency exchange works just like any other exchange, such as a stock exchange. It matches buyers and sellers based on a book of orders. As orders are added to the book, the exchange matches buyers willing to pay the same amount (or more) than sellers are requesting.

The price of cryptocurrency is determined solely by what people are willing to buy it for. As such, the price quoted by one cryptocurrency exchange with one book of buy orders can be drastically different from the price of another exchange with another book of buy orders. Theoretically, exchanges with the highest volume of buyers and sellers will produce the most accurate price.

What Does This Mean?

Operating independently of central banks – and their associated governmental oversight – cryptocurrency allows users to move money independently of those laws. If you had family members in

Iran or North Korea, you might find it next to impossible to transfer money due to the embargo on financial transactions to those countries announced by the federal government and implemented by the Federal Reserve Bank.

The U.S. Treasury Department, in conjunction with the Federal Reserve, maintains a list of individuals and institutions that it does not permit financial transactions with as a result of economic and trade sanctions in support of U.S. national security and financial policy objectives. Depending on your political views, or your economic interests, you may find these restrictions unfair or they may prevent you from conducting business as usual. Cryptocurrency allows transactions to operate without such governmental interference.

Cryptocurrency is also completely transparent. Countries throughout the world have had leaders who have used central banks to obscure the degree to which country assets have been transferred to the personal holdings of the ruler – think of Ferdinand Marcos in the Philippines or the Duvalier family in Haiti. The use of Cryptocurrency makes it impossible for these world leaders – and the financial institutions that they rely upon – to obscure the transactions they are conducting from the larger, connected exchange.

So, What About Deb?

Deb had read an article about the rapid growth of assets in cryptocurrency and how that has created opportunities for nonprofits. For donors who have assets in digital coin there are costs involved in moving coin and in converting coin into a commonly exchanged and denominated currency – what is known as a world currency. A charity that can accept donations in cryptocurrency and then either use them natively or inexpensively convert them can be very attractive to a donor with extensive crypto holdings. *AGR* is not well placed to be a market creator in CryptoWorld, but very cool of Deb to be thinking of new and innovative ways to keep generating the operating revenue we need to do what we do: give our rescue dogs the care and support they need to find forever homes.

Should Our Non-Profit Accept Bitcoin Donations?

Right now, accepting or not accepting Bitcoin donations is not likely to be a make-or-break decision for most small to medium sized nonprofits. If a nonprofit's donors tend to skew younger or are generally tech-savvy or "early adopters," accepting Bitcoin for donations could appeal to the donor base and lead to more and larger donations.

If the nonprofit is one that receives donations from outside the United States – or disburses financial gifts to individuals or institutions with a country that does not have a strong financial exchange relationship with the United States – it might be advantageous to support a currency like Bitcoin.

There also comes a question of record keeping. How would the nonprofit account for transactions using Bitcoin? Some institutions have chosen to track the donations as cash, thus obscuring the identity of the counter party of the financial transaction based on the privacy and security concerns of donors and the board of directors of the charity in question.

It's an unfortunate political reality that financial donations to political parties, charitable organizations, and trade associations have been used to identify individuals as members of one or more ideological, sociopolitical or "activist" groups. Historical examination of controversial events in American history such as the House Un-American Activities Committee have established precedent that donation information obtained from banking and taxation records can be used punitively, especially against high profile individuals.

In order to address privacy concerns, some charitable organizations seen as political actors, not just social services organizations (Greenpeace, National Rifle Association, Sierra Club), are implementing services to accept donations in cryptocurrency. For large-dollar donations or for high donor volume / high political visibility, there can be a compelling business driver to accept payments that are not traceable through the federal banking or taxation system. Thank goodness Golden's tend to be apolitical – as a cause and as a companion animal.

Oh, and my initial purchase of Bitcoin? I purchased approximately \$225 in Bitcoin and then wasn't able to use it for the purpose I'd obtained it. So I let it sit, figuring I'd use it in the coming months, and forgot about it. So I went and checked my balance in May. To my surprise my account is now worth \$2,748.

Let's face it: this was plain dumb luck, not some amazing insight or wisdom on my part. This is not a new investment avenue for me to explore. So I took the original seed amount, bought a little something for my partner, and left the rest there until I need it. But if you're someone attracted to the new emerging crypto currencies my #1 recommendation would be set aside some to buy Dramamine. Unless you can set it aside and forget it – intentionally, not just being forgetful at times like I am – be prepared for lots of twists, turns, peaks and troughs.

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The Human Connection

By Connie McCabe,
Human Resources Director

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"It's all about the dogs."

We say that a lot, because that is why we are all part of this wonderful group. You would not be reading this if it were not for your love for the dogs. But as much as that is true, it takes a lot of hard work from a lot of people to keep this organization, and therefore the dogs, alive and thriving.

So, since this is the "Human Connection" column, in every issue I am going to continue to mention a few interesting facts and stories about some of the people you think you know. Hopefully you will learn something new about them and gain more insight into how they got here. I have generally been going in order of membership number, beginning at "one" and featuring several members every column. You may notice that there are some missing member numbers. I know there are a lot of people who really just wanted to adopt a dog and have no interest in participating in *AGR* activities. I will respect the privacy of those who prefer not to be active and just concentrate on those who are, or have been, most active in the organization.

If you would like to view previously-featured members and do not have access to the printed newsletters, you can download them from the Information tab on our website once our new one is functional.

Hopefully by now you will have noticed how very many of our members have stayed to be part of the organization long after their first year membership has expired. And, many times, even after the *AGR* dog(s) they have adopted have gone to the Bridge. There are many members who have never even adopted a dog from us and some who don't even have a dog at all! We are very grateful to those who have continued to renew their memberships year after year and who contribute their time, money and hearts to the group, whether or not they are interested in adopting a Golden.

Let's start off with Dawn and Dave Barnett, adopters of 17-020 **Cooper**, who have been great volunteers and contributors to many of our events.

Dawn and Dave Barnett met when their 8-year-old sons, Matt and Nick, were on the same Little League Team in 1996. They married in October 1999, in Prescott, Arizona and raised three children



together in Chandler, including their daughter, Jennafer (yes, correct spelling). Shortly after their wedding, they adopted their first four-legged child named **Jake**, a beautiful Yellow Lab, and were blessed with 14 years of his companionship. When **Jake** was 5, they added a wonderful Olde English Bulldog named **Gunnar** who spent the next 12 years entertaining them with his quirky personality and stubborn ways. About a year after **Gunnar** crossed over, they knew it was time to add to their family once again.

After meeting with **AGR**, they decided a mixed-breed female Golden would be a good fit. Like with many things in life, God laughed at their plans. In March of 2017, **AGR** called and had the perfect 3-year-old purebred male with separation anxiety who needed a home where his parents would be with him most of the time. Enter **Cooper**, formerly known as **Red Prince**. **Cooper** quickly stole the hearts of Dawn and Dave. He is funny, playful, and most of all, loving to everyone he comes in contact with. And on the rare nights they go out without him, they have a great pet sitter so he's never home alone.



When Dave is not working as a real estate appraiser and Dawn takes time away from her job as a nurse, they like to travel with friends. Whether it's a long weekend in Pinetop, their annual vacation in San Diego, visiting Nashville for their 20th anniversary, or getting ready for a new adventure in the Gulf Shores, traveling together is one of their favorite pastime activities. Individually, Dawn has enjoyed time as a Prayer Chaplain at Unity of Phoenix, Pilates, kayaking and day trips with her son Matt, and **Cooper** of course! Dave is a huge sports fan and has visited many stadiums and ball parks throughout the USA. When he's not walking **Cooper**, he can be found building forts and playing swords with their 9-year-old grandson, Deacon, who still refers to "Grampy" as his best friend. Life is good and they both feel very blessed for the people in their lives and to **AGR** for adding one of the best additions to their family!



Now let's meet Cindy and Rick Brown, fosters and adopters for **AGR**. Cindy writes: *30 years ago, Rick and I decided it was time for a dog. Rick always had Irish Setters and I was set on a Golden Retriever. There was something about them that always brought a smile to my face and a feeling of pure joy. We found a breeder in CA that had a litter of purebred Golden puppies, so we drove out to see them from our home in Los Gatos. Although we instantly fell in love with all of them, one male particularly stood out and captured our heart. He was very red, and the breeder said he would be a big boy. Perfect! Rick got the color of the Irish and I got the Golden! His paws were easily twice as big as all the others. He wasn't quite ready to come home with*

*us, so we spent the next few weeks preparing our home and yard. We named him **Jake** (after John Wayne's "Big Jake" – one of my favorite movies). What an incredible boy he was. Throughout his puppy obedience training, the joke in the group was "how much did **Jake** grow this week?" He looked like a bear cub with thick deep-red hair and had the personality to match. **Jake** grew to a massive 120 lbs and we couldn't have loved him more. He was our first introduction to Golden Retrievers. Soon after, we gave **Jake** a sister, then a little brother – all three beautiful and full of individual character, and our fur family was complete. We lost **Jake** about a year before we moved to Arizona in 2007 – he was almost 13. We were devastated. **Tedi** and **Harley's** bond grew even stronger – **Tedi** was **Harley's** "security blanket" a surrogate mother, and after she crossed the Rainbow Bridge at 13, he was never the same. We weren't sure how to lift his spirits but knew we needed to do something. He was heartbroken too. Realizing that **Harley** would probably be joining **Jake** and **Tedi** too soon – losing our baby would be another devastation – we weren't up to adopting another one. We heard about fostering and thought that it might be the perfect solution – we could give **Harley** some companionship, hopefully bringing him out of his depression, and we could help a Golden in transition to his/her forever family (**Harley** crossed within a year after **Tedi** at 12). We joined **AZGRC** then **AGR**, and for a brief time the **AZ Humane Society**, fostering many dogs (19) over the years and falling in love with every one of them. We've learned so much over the years about Rescue and the millions of animals each year that desperately need homes – we would commit to never buy another dog again.*

***Rocky** was a forever foster – another big boy! He came to us as a rehab after ACL surgery and he had some personality quirks that made it difficult to place him. We learned how to adjust to them. Besides, his great other personality quirks far outweighed the challenging ones. We had to take a break from fostering because **Rocky** insisted on being an only child for five years. A happy, swimming-filled, spoiled and thriving five years.*

*Thanks to **AGR**, we now have **Scully**! The love of our life and pure joy - every minute of every day! He came to us as a Foster with Intent to Adopt and the minute we met him, there was no question. He was home to stay. **Scully** isn't like any other Golden we've ever had - doesn't like to swim, doesn't like to eat. But like all other Golden, he just wants to be with his family, in the middle of everything... blocking every doorway... being everywhere we are (no boundaries!)... sleeping with one eye open and not letting us out of his sight. We wouldn't have it any other way. What a blessing to have been touched by so many of these beautiful Golden souls!*



Joni Cipollone has been a very busy volunteer, especially since joining the **AGR** Placement Team. She writes a little bit about herself and her husband, Woody Scoutten: *I grew up in Buffalo,*

New York and at the age of 25 made my way out to Phoenix after the big blizzard of 1978. Being stranded at the law firm I was working at for two days away from my young son was not the way I wanted to spend my winters. I had been here eight



*years, a single mom, and had not really dated until friends introduced me to Woody. After two dates with Woody, my dad passed away unexpectedly and needless to say, I was devastated. Woody stepped up and offered to stay with Michael, my son, while I went home, and the rest is history. Mom told me if I didn't marry Woody I'd be sorry, so on November 1, 1986 we did just that. My love of dogs was present even on our wedding day when **Cindy**, the resident Airedale, acted as our ring bearer.*

*For our first Mother's Day 34 years ago, Woody gave me **Abby**, a beautiful Golden Retriever. Golden retrievers have been a part of our lives ever since. We've had a total of eight, with **Gracie** and **Ray** being our current loves. We have had and loved three Rescues, all of which have passed away. My comment on that is that cancer is evil. Woody and I have enjoyed numerous boating and camping trips with our dogs. Most memorable would be summers we spent boating and camping at Lake Powell, wild horses sniffing our tent while trying to keep the dogs quiet, camping in Colorado, our fun times in Coronado, CA at dog beach, just to name a few. Nothing beats watching Golden retrievers living their best life in the ocean. Woody and I do travel without dogs, too. We've done cycling trips in Canada, explored the interior of Mexico, enjoyed a fabulous private tour of Egypt, hiked Machu Picchu, sailed in the Galapagos, and cruised Alaska.*

*I've always volunteered both while working and once I retired. **Gracie**, our older Golden, has been a therapy dog for six years, giving both of us so much joy and love. We loved our hospice patients, children at the library every Wednesday, or visiting patients at the Memory Care Unit at Brookdale. When asked about doing placement for **AGR** I was a bit curious and perhaps nervous, but I've never looked back. The joy of placing a dog in their forever home is what makes my heart happy. I've made many new friends along the way. As long as there are Golden retrievers needing homes for whatever the reason, I hope to be able to help.*



Health and Safety

By Liz Tataseo, Health Care Manager

e.tataseo@yahoo.com

Goldens and Hip Replacement

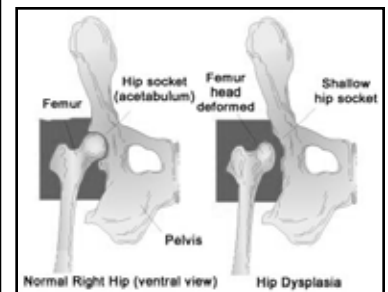
In the past three years we have had 3 young dogs that have needed Total Hip Replacement (THR) surgery. One dog, **Odie**, needed only one hip replaced to achieve physical health. Two others whose hips were very bad needed both hips replaced. **Rudder** has had both hips completed and is living a pain-free and active life. **Raya** has recently had her first hip replaced and is in recovery. Her second will be months later.

Unfortunately, many dogs are born with congenital hip issues that start to show up anywhere from age 5 months to a year or two. Older dogs usually get hip issues from accidents, arthritis or they were never diagnosed early in their life. Previously, the usual surgical method for young dogs was either an FHO or TPO.

FHO: Femoral Head Osteotomy – An FHO restores mobility to the hip by removing the head of the femur. This removes the ball of the ball-and-socket joint, leaving just an empty socket. The muscles of the leg will initially hold the femur in place and, over time, scar tissue will form between the acetabulum and the femur to provide cushioning that is referred to as a 'false joint'. Although this joint is anatomically very different from a normal hip joint, it provides pain-free mobility in most patients.¹

TPO: Triple pelvic osteotomy – A TPO involves bone cuts in the pelvis so that the socket (acetabulum) portion of the joint can be rotated over the ball (femoral head); the bones are then stabilized with a bone plate². These were usually highly successful, but often the TPO resulted in later issues with decline of function and further fixes were needed.

³Canine hip dysplasia is a developmental disorder in which the hip joint is abnormally shaped. Because of the altered biomechanics of the hip joint, osteoarthritis develops early, causing significant pain and disability.



Older dogs would do fine with THR (Total hip replacement) but younger dogs did not because of growth factors and the implant materials used several years ago. However new technology, primarily both cemented and non-cemented hip replacement sys-

tems, means young dogs, 10-24 months, can have a successful THR.

THR surgery usually involves a pre-surgical workup with X-rays and blood work, with surgery to be done after the replacement prosthesis size can be determined and sterilized. Also, the skeleton of the dog must be mature and has to have finished growing.

The hip joint is a ball and socket joint. The ball is at the top of the thigh bone (femur), and the socket (acetabulum) is in the pelvis. Total hip replacement surgery removes and replaces both the ball and socket with prostheses. Most canine hip replacement prostheses have a metal ball at the top of the femur that fits into a dense plastic socket. The prostheses are generally held in place using special bone cement. Some surgeons place hip prostheses that use no bone cement. These are referred to as 'cementless' implants. Currently, there appears to be no distinct advantage between cemented versus cementless implants for the total hip replacement.



non-cemented hip

Usually, dogs go home the next day after surgery. Great care must be taken to ensure the incision is left alone to prevent compromising the stitches/staples or cause infection. Strict activity restriction and crate/pen confinement are necessary. In 10-14 days the surgeon will want to examine the incision site. If external stitches/staples were used, they would be removed at this time. The surgeon will give specific instructions on when and how to begin physical rehabilitation on the dog. Usually, dogs should not run, jump or play for the first two months after surgery. Full activity would probably be reached by 3 months. In some cases, only one hip needs to be replaced, but if the second hip needs replacing, that would not happen until the first hip is totally rehabilitated.

“Over 90% of dogs experience dramatic improvements in their overall function after THR. While the prognosis is typically excellent following THR, peak recovery (progressive resolution of lameness, muscle development, etc.) is generally not achieved until 4-6 months postoperatively.

As with any surgery, THRs have their own set of potential complications. All surgeries carry some risk of unsuccessful outcomes, complications, injury or even death, from both known and unforeseen causes. The most described THR complications include:

- Hip joint dislocation
- Incision-related issues
- Surgical site infections (short and long-term)
- Loosening of the implants over time
- Sciatic nerve injury
- Femur (thigh bone) fracture during and after implantation

While the occurrences of THR complications are the exception, they are thoroughly reviewed during the initial pre-surgical visit.³ Because of advancements in veterinary surgical procedures, our Golden Retrievers will enjoy a life without pain or physical impairments.

¹www.vcahospitals.com/know-your-pet/femoral-head-ostectomy-fho-in-dogs

²www.vcahospitals.com/know-your-pet/femoral-head-ostectomy-fho-in-dog

³www.medvetforpets.com/canine-total-hip-replacement

⁴www.mspca.org/angell_services/total-hip-replacement-in-young-dogs

The Financial Picture

By Deb Orwig

Summer Fundraiser for Special Needs Dogs

If you are an **AGR** adopter, you have already received a mailing about our *Summer Fundraiser*. In July, all **AGR** adopters received a mailing with a plea for donations to support our 2020-21 Special Needs Dogs, including many of those mentioned in *Diamonds in the Ruff* columns in the last year. Years ago when **AGR** co-founder Debbe Begley passed away, we established the *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*. The money in this account has been used for dogs coming into Rescue with cancer (we have had several) or to help with medical bills that amount to over \$5,000 for any one dog (again, several dogs are always in this category in a given year). In years past when we hosted *Paws & Pasta* or *Dine Out With The Dogs*, we deposited that revenue in the *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*. We have also occasionally received individual donations to this fund outside of dedicated events.

During the summer, we usually take in more dogs than in any other 3-month period, but we have no significant fundraisers between April and September, and this year we will not have any until October, since the *Fore! Paws Golf Tournament* has been cancelled again. Even the Meet-and-Greets are cancelled due to the extreme heat and because of the coronavirus. With very few of our rescues, the amount of money we need to spend to ensure that the dog is healthy is less than the dog's adoption fee. However, for the majority of dogs we have placed in new forever homes, our costs have been more than the adoption fee, and in some cases thousands of dollars more.

We do not for a moment begrudge any amount of money we have spent improving the health of our rescued dogs. But the money we have spent above and beyond what was covered by the adoption fees has to be recovered by other means, and those means are our fundraisers.

You do not have to be an adopter of an **AGR** dog to help us raise some needed funds at this time of year when nothing much is coming in. If you can help **AGR** financially, please send your check to **AGR**, 5350 W Bell Rd, Ste C122-158, Glendale, AZ 85308.

Or, you can contact Deb Orwig by e-mail (dorwigaz@cox.net) or phone (623-693-0589) to let her know you want to donate using a credit card – she will send a PayPal invoice to you. Zelle transactions (Chase bank, info@arizonagoldenrescue.org) are also gratefully received as they do not cost the donor or **AGR** anything. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. If you have already sent in a donation by the time you receive this newsletter, we sincerely thank you!



Diamonds in the Ruff

By Debbie Ball

Diamonds in the Ruff are dogs on whom **AGR** has had to spend at least \$2,000. In this column in the May issue of *The Golden Paw*, we featured **20-036 Sam** and **21-002 Dickens**, now called **Charlie**. **Sam** and his adopters completed his requirements at *Partners* and have now enrolled him in agility classes at *Arizona Dog Sports*. They are having a great time! **Charlie** has completely recovered from the debilitated condition we found him in at the Pinal County shelter. His life-saving rescue goes down as one of the most incredible we have ever done.

In the second quarter of 2021, we had three dogs that cost us more than \$2,000 each. Please consider donating to help with the expenses of a specific dog, or just earmark it for *Diamonds in the Ruff*. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law, of course, and will be acknowledged.



21-011 Toyko/Raya is a beautiful 9-month-old female purebred Golden who was an emergency surrender in late March by her owner due to his living arrangements. She was initially boarded at *Kennel Care* in Chandler, and subsequently received initial vetting at *Four Legged Friends* for some tests and medications related to an apparent “bug.” In May after a surgical consult and radiographs were done, it was determined that she would need to have two hip surgeries for hip dysplasia, with the right one being worse than the left. On June 11th, she had her first hip replacement and is recuperating from that. **Toyko** is currently being fostered by Teri and Jeff in Sun City, who plan to adopt her and have renamed her **Raya**. Second quarter expenses cost **AGR \$10,448**.

21-019 Brighton/Brooklyn is a 3-year-old purebred English Cream Golden who had been used as a breeder and had just weaned a litter of puppies. The owner surrendered her after finding she had valley fever and felt she should not be bred again. She received her vetting at *AMSC* in Scottsdale. After intake, she went through bouts of lethargy and loss of appetite, possibly due to the untreated valley fever, and was started on several medications. Radiographs were done a few days later due to a suspected infected uterus. Her adoption is currently pending with



Reporting period: January 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021

Total Assets as of July 10, 2021:

	Income	Expenses
Adoption Application Fee	\$ 2,825.00	\$
Adoption Income	9,002.00	
Bank Charges (PayPal)		198.16
Calendars – Sales & Sponsorships	180.00	
Credit Card Expense		113.97
Donations		
Debbe Begley Memorial Fund	300.00	
General Fund	27,826.15	
Honorary Memorial	6,504.88	
Memorial	2,830.00	
Event Expense		50.00
Grants	1,950.00	
Insurance		627.85
Interest	9.19	
Internet Services		292.08
Legal & Professional Fees		10.00
Memberships	11,985.00	
Merchandise	2,980.45	
Office Expenses		496.45
Postage		615.85
Rent or Lease		1,655.88
Stationery & Printing		2,058.62
Telephone		113.40
Dog-related Expenses		
Behavioral Training	2,315.45	
Boarding	703.50	
Microchip & Heartgard® Expenses	596.77	
Miscellaneous	710.45	
Veterinary Services	47,135.66	
TOTAL	\$66,392.67	\$57,694.09

NET INCOME: \$ 8,698.58

Checking Account on 7-7-21:	\$160,043.65
The Debbe Begley Memorial Fund as of 7-7-21:	\$ 9,141.32
Savings Account as of 7-7-21:	\$ 94,123.83
Outstanding Credit Card Balance on 7-7-21:	\$ 19,261.38

Safety Quotes from The Quote Garden

*Safety saves sickness, suffering, sadness.
Practice “Safety First” today: It may be too late tomorrow.
Do not depend on others for safety – help yourself.
Safety brings first aid to the uninjured.
Carefulness costs you nothing. Carelessness may cost your life.*

Meredith and Ross in Scottsdale, who have renamed her **Brooklyn**. She will still need updated vaccines and needs to be spayed. Second quarter expenses for her have cost **AGR \$2,918**.



21-022 Duke was an estimated 12-year-old Golden mix who was surrendered by his owner after being left outside due to the dog having seizures and a snotty nose. **AGR** rescued **Duke** and rushed him to **AMSC** in Scottsdale for an emergency exam, blood work, fluids, and hospitalization. Tests revealed that he had probable pneumonia in his lungs, an enlarged liver and spleen, and a high white blood count, which was determined to be leukemia. The Board agreed that it was best to put **Duke** out of his misery and he was euthanized to "run free at the Bridge". **Duke's** expenses in the second quarter cost **AGR \$2,829**. **Duke** was adopted by Connie and Nick just before he was sent to the Bridge.

How You Can Help Arizona Golden Rescue

Attend our fundraisers like the one in the box to the right.

Buy one or more of our calendars (Order Form included in this issue).

Check the mailing label on the back cover for the expiration date of your membership and pay your dues promptly.

Give a gift membership to someone special; it is only \$25 per year for a Single, \$40 for a Household.

Purchase gifts from the selection of merchandise we sell (we have lots of great stuff!), or make purchases from one of the many businesses that will give **AGR** a percentage of the sale.

Make a tax-deductible donation to **AGR** to help us rescue more Golden retrievers and mostly-Golden mixes in need.

When raffle or silent auction items are needed, donate something, or send in a check and ask the event Chairman to purchase some needed item(s) for you.

Find out if your employer has a matching gift program – you may be able to double or triple your financial support of **AGR**.

Specify **Arizona Golden Rescue** as the beneficiary of rewards you earn by shopping at **Fry's Grocery/Marketplace** stores and Amazon.com – for the latter, go through smile.amazon.com to register.

Download **ResQWalk** on Android: <http://goo.gl/I8utJI> or on iPhone: <http://goo.gl/OmvG8H>. Choose **AGR** as your beneficiary – you will earn \$\$ for **AGR** every time you take a step!




DINE OUT *with* THE DOGS!

When you order from the regular restaurant menu...

Arizona Golden Rescue receives 20% of the proceeds from food & beverage sales, including bar*

*does not include tax or gratuity

Please be sure to mention
Arizona Golden Rescue
when ordering!

Dine in or Take Out if you prefer

Raffles, silent auction, 50/50 raffle and entire merchandise inventory will be for sale
Dogs welcome if diners eat on the patio
No reservations required

Paulie's
LITTLE BITE OF ITALY

Pizza, Pasta, Sandwiches, Full Bar

15462 N 99th Ave • Sun City, AZ
(corner of 99th Ave & Greenway)

Sunday, November 7th, 2021

Noon - 7:30 p.m.

If you get a new cell phone, save your old one and donate it to **AGR** – we recycle them for \$\$.

Donate Forever postage stamps, a ream of copy paper, a box of #9 or #10 envelopes, or a box of 9" x 12" envelopes.

Donate a small amount monthly to **AGR**; you may not miss \$5, \$10 or even \$20, and it will add up over the course of the year. You can set up an automatic donation with your bank or via PayPal.

Include **AGR** in your estate plans and your will.

Ask anyone who normally gives you a gift for a birthday, anniversary or holiday occasion to donate to **AGR** the amount of money they would have spent on a present for you.

Talk about **AGR**, our goals, efforts and activities to anyone and everyone.

Tell us how we are doing – we constantly strive to improve, and we value your comments.

MAGIC MOMENTS

By Deb Orwig

Magic Moments... when a stray Golden Retriever or Golden mix is spotted in a shelter kennel and does a happy dance when taken out; when a neglected backyard dog is surrendered by its owner to a member of our Transport Team and is delivered to a foster family that shows the dog love, comfort, toys and good-quality food for, perhaps, the first time in the dog's life; and the most magical of all... when a rescued dog meets his or her forever family and we see the dog's excitement and the sparkle in the family's eyes. As rescuers, we are privileged to share in these Magic Moments. Below are stories of Arizona Golden Rescue's Magic Moments from April 11, 2021 through June 30, 2021. All adoptions finalized after June 30th will be in the next issue.



20-033 Danny Boy is a gorgeous, nice-tempered, 3-year-old male English Cream Golden who was surrendered by the owner due to his medical needs being too demanding. Connie and Nick fostered this special needs dog who was brought into Rescue on November 15 – **AGR** members Fred and Jill Prose drove to California to pick him up from a

breeder from whom we have gotten dogs before. **Danny Boy** has a condition called pica (rock-eating behavior) – this is a compulsion, not a habit that can usually be trained out of a dog. We advertised **Danny Boy** on our Facebook page and some Internet sites like Petfinder and Adopt-a-Pet, specifically stating that for his own safety – and success as an adoptee – **Danny Boy** had to be placed in a home whose yard has nothing but concrete, grouted pavers, and/or artificial turf – no real grass, no garden areas where any size rocks could exist (no mulched plants either) and no gravel or rocks of any kind. If he is taken outside the yard, he needs to wear a box muzzle or the OutFox Field Guard[®] mesh headpiece that Connie purchased for him. We got applications from all over the country for this boy, from Washington State to New Jersey, as well as many from Arizona. Most applicants had not paid attention to the environmental restrictions nor the fact that we don't adopt out of state, or they felt they could train the habit out of the dog. After reviewing over 100 applications and personally speaking with most of the applicants, Connie and Nick decided the best place for **Danny Boy** was with them. Connie said: *After interviewing many applicants and realizing that we weren't comfortable with any of them, and seeing how much **Danny** and our dogs bonded, we caved and decided he needed to stay with us. We have our procedures in place to keep him safe in our grass yard. When he is anywhere rocks are present, we are sure he is muzzled or "OutFoxed."* We didn't really want that fourth dog, but it is such a joy to see him playing with the other three, that we just couldn't split them up. It used to be that **Riley** and **Bowie** would gang up on poor **Jackson**, but now they split up into pairs when playing and everyone has a great time. **AGR** thanks you for taking such diligent care of **Danny Boy**.



20-036 Sam is a Canadian-born purebred Golden from a kennel that breeds dog for field work (hunting, retrieving birds, etc.). He was the runt of his litter, so the breeder decided he could not be used successfully for this activity and sold him as a family companion animal to a Prescott couple. The husband passed away not long after **Sam** arrived,

and the wife could not handle this high-energy, untrained puppy. By the time **Sam** was a year old, the wife realized she needed to surrender him to Rescue. Fortunately, **Sam** was up to date on all his vaccines, including bordetella, so after having him tested for valley fever and heartworm, we immediately enrolled him in a 3-week intensive training program at **Partners Dog Training School** in Cave Creek, our go-to place for behavior modification of unmanageable dogs. When we have a dog trained at **Partners**, we require the potential adopter(s) to follow through with 8 weekly personal and group-class sessions. Two reasons: one, so that the dog does not forget what he has learned, and two, so that the adopter learns the training techniques and can then enforce them. Because of these requirements, it is necessary for the potential adopter to live within a reasonable driving distance of **Partners**. Anne and Nick who live in Phoenix were up to the challenge of learning how to work with **Sam**. They have been a terrific match for this fabulous dog. Anne wrote: ***Sam** is doing great and we are so glad he is part of our family! We just finished the sixth beginner agility class and will probably sign up for more. He learns really quickly and enjoys the mental and physical activity. We even set up a jump in our backyard so he can practice. Our neighbors have a small husky named **Loki**– he and **Sam** are best friends and play almost daily. **Sam** also enjoys trips to the dog park and to Joni's pool – he is quite the swimmer! **Sam** wakes me up every day about 5:30 and we go for a 2-mile walk to start the day before it gets too hot. He loves seeing the other people, dogs, and birds that are out. **Sam** loves ice cubes and watermelon in addition to his dog treats. **Sam** loves to devour his chews, ropes, and stuffed toys – he's earned the nickname "**Sam** the Destroyer."* We are going to San Diego for a week over the 4th and can't wait to

introduce **Sam** to the ocean! Most of our friends and family have dogs, so he will make lots of new friends. Happy new life, **Sam**!



21-002 Dickens was one of the most incredible saves our Rescue has ever done. When Connie picked up this 6-year-old Golden mix from the **Pinal County Shelter**, he was very close to

death. He was emaciated, could not get up or walk without assistance, and one of his testicles was red and swollen. Connie drove him to **AMSC** where he spent several days under intensive care. Many tests (MRI, spinal tap and others) were done, including some by the resident neurologist. **Dickens** tested positive for tick fever and, as it turned out, that was the root cause of all his symptoms. He was started on doxycycline and had to take it for months before the vet said the med could be stopped. About the third day at **AMSC**, **Dickens** started to rally. His fever was down and he began to eat small amounts several times a day. He was able to get up and stagger around on his own, although we had a harness for him to ensure he wouldn't fall. A wonderful couple, Kristi and Brian in Scottsdale, offered to take on the challenge of rehabbing



Dickens, with the thought of eventually adopting him. They renamed him **Charlie**. Recovery was a slow process, but little by little **Charlie** gained weight and stability. He now looks and acts like a normal Golden with a chinchilla-soft coat that covers well-padded ribs. Here is what Kristi and Brian told us: *Bringing **Charlie** into our home brought all the love a beautiful Golden mix could*

*bring. He has such a sweet personality, talks to us regularly and is excited for his daily walks. Knowing how far he has come from a stray found in Pinal County, to the treatment at **Arizona Medical & Surgical Center**, and the team at **Arizona Golden Rescue** who helped us get him settled in while we were working on healing from pain, starvation recovery, and a horrible case of tick fever helped us settle this boy into our home. When he first came home, he could barely walk or eat on his own and was taking 8 different medications. He is now (6 months later) happy, healthy and medication free. He is the perfect weight for his size and gives cuddles daily by leaning up against us to encourage us to pet him (typical Golden behavior). He is getting more comfortable each day, and we can't imagine life without him. Thank you to **AGR** for helping us complete our family. **Charlie** is a very lucky boy that Kristi and Brian were on our list of approved-to-adopt families!*

In early March, **AGR** was contacted by a Goldendoodle breed-

er who had a litter of 7-week-old puppies she wanted to surrender. One of the puppies obviously had megaesophagus, so she suspected that his four siblings, who were asymptomatic, had this condition, too, and knew she could not sell the puppies. A previous litter of 9 puppies by the same



Blondes left to right: Keely, Charm and Aiden;
Black pups: top, Kiera and bottom Guinness

Golden and Poodle parents all had megaesophagus and 8 of them had to be sent to the Bridge. The breeder had had X-rays done on the current four that showed no symptoms but the results were inconclusive. So, we took the entire litter knowing we would have some significant vet expenses (we might have to have all of them go through extensive testing to have megaesophagus confirmed) – but that's what Rescue does a lot of the time. The five puppies all needed deworming (twice), a full set of DHPP vaccines (every three weeks for three doses), leptospirosis (two doses), bordetella and rabies vaccines and will eventually be spayed or neutered. An exam was done on four of them and a full diagnostic work-up was done on **Guinness**, the one who obviously has megaesophagus (he would regurgitate food or water if he did not ingest it in a fully upright position). Connie and Nick drove to Camp Verde to pick up the puppies. There were two black ones (one male and one female) and three gold ones (one male and two females). Connie reported: *the puppies rode very quietly to our house, but once I arrived and opened up the lift gate they suddenly came alive and noisy. The carrier that had **Keely** and **Guinness** had a lot of regurgitated or vomited food, and they both had residue all over their mouths. **Guinness** also had a lot on his head, so I gave the two of them a mini bath in the yard. We took them to the pen I had set up so that we could get some photos. I put little collars on them because it was difficult to tell them apart when they are in action. After looking at the photos, I was glad I did. **Keely** and **Charm** were sometimes hard to identify. They were all panting and hot, and went through two bowls of water, after which **Guinness** promptly regurgitated the water and some more food. They were eager to get out and played a little, but were understandably not as active or as adventurous as they are now. After we got some photos, we took them to Liz's where she had a play yard set up for them. For names, I went with the Irish theme for St Paddy's Day:*

Keely - "Beautiful" red and green collar

Kiera - "Black-haired girl" red collar

Aiden - "Fiery One" dark blue collar

Charm - "Lucky Charm" black collar

Guinness - I just like the name and it's Irish; light blue collar

All the puppies met their prospective families at Liz's house before they were moved to their forever homes.



21-004 Keely, now **Kona**, is one of the three blond Goldendoodles from the litter of five. She has been adopted by Tammy and Patrick in Gilbert. Connie reported: *The ride from Liz's was pretty loud – Keely was in good voice and did not hesitate to show her displeasure at being in the travel crate by herself. When I got to the [adoptive home] and opened the lift*

gate, she looked like Cujo with all the drool! She did not, however, regurgitate or vomit. A first! The family was thrilled with her and she was remarkably self-assured about exploring her new digs. It looks as if she will have a wonderful life! She will get to spend time in her new summer home in Flagstaff. Tammy wrote: Kona has started her life as a mountain dog. She loves to go for walks in the woods, ride on the mountain trails in the Polaris Ranger and look at, and sometimes bark at, the wildlife. Her favorite game is fetch, although tug of war is a close second. She gets so excited when it's time to play. She enjoys daily belly rubs, lots of hugs and kisses, training treats, spa music when she goes to bed or if she just needs a little relaxing time. She likes to be with mommy, especially in the kitchen, as she is hopeful something will drop on the floor. She is a great guard dog, as she will alert to let you know something is out of the normal. However, she loves and adores everyone she meets. So, she might tell us a robber is in the house by barking, but then she will make them a cup of tea and show them the silver! (Joking, of course.) She has a beautiful, gentle temperament and always wants to be a good girl. She likes to play with other dogs, children, and adults. When we are not living in the mountains, Kona gets to be a city girl. Hanging out by the pool, having BBQs, going for walks in the neighborhood, and she likes to watch Netflix. Her favorite show is pup academy. She is a silly girl!! She brings joy to our elderly parents, grandchildren, and friends. We are so thrilled to have such an exceptional dog who brings so much happiness and love to our family. Our Kona girl!



Her favorite show is pup academy. She is a silly girl!! She brings joy to our elderly parents, grandchildren, and friends. We are so thrilled to have such an exceptional dog who brings so much happiness and love to our family. Our Kona girl!

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21-005 Kiera went to Becky and Mark in Phoenix. This puppy was the black female and was the largest puppy in the litter. Arriving at the adopters' home, **Kiera** was met by the whole family: mom, dad and two young boys. The boys had even made a cute Welcome sign for her. This was to be their first dog. They renamed her **Winni**. Becky wrote: *Winni has*



*already brought so much joy to our family. She is a sweet and playful girl and is having fun with her two human brothers. She loves early morning walks, daytime naps outside mama's office, and her favorite activity is playing in the sprinkler in our backyard. She loves to run and play in the water and has even tried swimming a few times with us in the pool! She enjoys belly rubs and napping on the cool tile floor. She's learned a few commands such as sit, down, off and come, and we're working on "shake" because the boys want her to be able to shake hands/paws. We are so happy to have **Winni** as part of our family!*



21-006 Charm, now called **Maple**, is one of the three blond Golden-doodles. A family with active but well-behaved children is often a good family for an active puppy and that is what this puppy got with Marie and Isaac's family in Mesa. Marie said: *She loves the kids she plays with them, lies on their feet when she's tired and my son says she's his best*

*friend. Our kids have a new sibling. She fits in perfectly with our little family – I have another child in the house! We had a baby shower for her and she got lots of toys! She is our little girl and we love her so much! She is fun, playful, tolerant, loving and a cuddle bug. **Maple's** nickname is Peppa Pig because when she is very happy she grunts like a pig and you can't help but love her even more when you hear her so happy. **Maple** loves ice, as soon as she hears that ice machine she runs and sits nice and patiently waiting for her piece of ice. **Maple** loves playing catch and has mastered bringing the ball back and dropping it. She loves running as fast as she can in the park – we often say she is more Golden than Poodle. **Maple** enjoys watching TV. She has all of these wonderful attributes, but don't be fooled, this little girl talks back if she doesn't agree with you, even if she is walking away she will turn around and argue as she walks. **Maple** gets the zoomies and she will run, run, run inside the house crashing into everything and just keeps going as if she didn't realize she was knocking over everything in her path – it is hilarious! She is huge, but she thinks she's one of those teacup Doodles. She gives hugs, lays her body on you when you're sitting down and if you move one inch she is sure to notice and will move an inch also. It does not matter where you go, you can always look back and know that **Maple** is there right behind you. We love our girl and are so grateful to AGR for giving us the opportunity to adopt her.*





21-007 Aiden, the blond male of the litter, went to Karen and Chet in Waddell. Connie did the transport and reported: *Aiden was the second puppy of the St. Paddy's day litter to go to his new home. Just like his sister, Keely, he was not happy about riding in a crate, alone, in the back of my van – he let me know it by crying loudly off and on and also*

managing to poop and throw up several times. But once we arrived and took him out of the crate, he was happy as could be to meet his new big brother, Sunny. Karen was so happy to see him she cried with joy. The meeting with Sunny, who is 12 years old, was heartwarming. They immediately commenced to playing and Sunny really enjoyed having a younger sibling. Aiden couldn't make up his mind whether to play with Sunny or his new family, so he did it all. He also explored and tasted everything. Placement spoke to Karen a couple days later and was told: Oh my goodness..he is doing really well. ..2 nights he has slept all the way through to 5 AM. He is definitely a smart boy. Sits for chow time and treats. Plays hard and sleeps hard. It's fun to watch when he gets the zoomies all over the yard and Sunny is at the lead. Working on "no bite" and "drop it." He retrieves balls too. I am really amazed how smart he is. He also loves the elevated bed. In response to my request for information from the adopter, Karen wrote: We call him A.J. Aiden loves to play catching the water out of a garden hose in our grassy yard. He chases, gets wet, then chases it some more. It is cooling while playing, which is great at this time of year. His eyes can melt your heart in a New York second! He also has a side eye while running past you and out the doggy door with something in his mouth he probably shouldn't have. The first daytime flood irrigation on the yard was a paradise for Aiden and Sunny. It was his first time to experience water just



floating in the grass. He ran, he sloshed, and at the end of it he was a very happy mud ball who washed off very quickly with a hose. He loved it all! Aiden's favorite activity is to chase and retrieve a tennis ball. One other habit he is now forming, is when I am out doing morning chores feeding the chickens and horses he sits patiently in his yard watching everything. I am always greeted back with a ton of happy

Golden joy. Aiden is also naturally on alert at night even in his crate. If he hears something unusual he quickly lets us know. This pup is an exceptional dog. We are lucky to have him. He truly has been an added blessing to our lives and all who come to visit our ranch. We cannot thank you enough – Connie for home visit and recommendations and transportation and help with my crazy questions; Liz for excellent pre-adoption care, helping with all my post-adoption questions, and loving this special one; Patty for her Placement call; forever grateful for the rest of your amazing

AGR team for this new addition, Aiden. Can't imagine our life without him in it.



21-008 Guinness was the smallest pup in the litter, one of the two black ones, and the one who had overt symptoms of megaesophagus. We had a full work-up done on him with barium X-rays to determine the severity of the condition. **AGR** also started him on a medication called Sildenafil (Viagra), which increases the ability of esophageal muscles

to work and relaxes the esophageal sphincter into the stomach so food can get into the stomach more easily. None of the other puppies needed this medication. Liz, our Health Care Manager, had adopted an **AGR** dog with megaesophagus, **McKayla**, several years ago. She found the condition manageable with a little extra effort at feeding time and with providing water in a large upright container that looks like a giant Hamster water bottle. Liz, who has adopted **Guinness**, has adapted **AGR's** Bailey chair for his use at meal time. He props himself up in it and Liz feeds him with a large spoon, which helps him keep his head up so that the food just slides down his esophagus. It's a neat and efficient arrangement! Liz wrote: *When Guinness arrived with his littermates at 7 weeks of age, I could pick him up with one hand at a mere 10 lbs. His regurgitation due to megaesophagus didn't allow much growth or weight on him after weaning.*



Now at 20 weeks, he weighs 40 lbs, and I wouldn't even try to pick him up! He is very smart, potty trained, listens well and knows several commands. He also has had his first few swim lessons and he is fearless. He and his two sisters, Reba and McKayla, are the ones he plays with the most, and he also loves to play with toys on his own. He eats standing up like his sister McKayla and along with taking Sildenafil, he rarely regurgitates. He is a happy, healthy boy and even his Doodle big brother and sister, Watson and Emma, deign to play with him once in a while. It's quite a colorful and interesting family, with two black Goldendoodles (Emma and Guinness), a large cream-colored Doodle (Watson), a Gold Bloodhound-Golden mix (Reba) and a small Golden female (McKayla).

21-010 Missy is a gorgeous 1½-year-old English Cream Golden, who was surrendered because she sheds (owner said they have to vacuum once a week) and will dig in the yard. Oh my, this owner did not understand Golden's! **Missy's** adopters certainly do, though



– they have had many over the years. **Missy** was reported to be good with everybody and every animal. Although she had never met a cat, she just loves the ones at her new home with Carrie and Greg and their other two dogs in Tucson. **Missy** needed **AGR**'s standard intake vet work with exam, vaccine update, heartworm test and valley fever test; she was already spayed. Connie drove this beautiful girl to Tucson. She reported: *Imagine my surprise when I thought I was picking up a scared, overweight Golden girl and instead they brought out this white, fit and very well-adjusted beauty! She is gorgeous and totally playful and a hoot. She rode well to Tucson (a little spit up, but not much). Met Greg, Carrie and the 2 dogs, **Lola** and **Bennie**, with no issues. **Lola** was initially a little put out but quickly got over it. Our big fear was the cats, because she had never met any. Not to worry ... she met 5 of them right away and they were very interested in her. She was great, no hesitation or aggression and Greg and Carrie were very pleased!* Sometime later Carrie wrote: *When **Libby** (formerly **Missy**) arrived Sunday afternoon, March 14th, Connie asked if we thought she was a good fit, if we wanted to make her part of our family. We said, "she's a keeper." We almost named her "Keeper", but it didn't roll off the tongue, and she didn't respond to it. We tried a lot of names before trying "Libby", which she responded to immediately, so "Libby" it is. **Libby** settled in quickly. **Lola** is slowly warming up to her. Our permanent foster, **Ben** the Basset, who **Libby** towers over, plays with her, and our cats adore her. In the few months she's been with us she...*

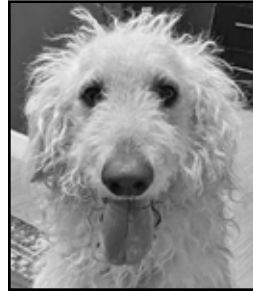
Gets in the shower with Carrie. SHE'S PERFECT
Is mouthy when she plays. SHE'S PERFECT
Pulls potted plants out of the pots. SHE'S PERFECT
Destroys reading glasses. SHE'S PERFECT
Pulls when walking on leash. SHE'S PERFECT
Shreds everything she can find. SHE'S PERFECT



"Helps" with watering the plants by catching all the water from the hose before it can reach the plants. SHE'S PERFECT

*And, every night around 9 PM, **Libby** puts herself to bed, exhausted after a long day of play and perfection. We in **AGR** understand completely just how perfect Golden's are!*

21-013 Coco, now **Roger**, is one among 13 Goldendoodles we have rescued in 2021 so far. These mixed-breed dogs sell for a couple thousand dollars if purchased from a breeder! But the adoption fee for a 2 ½-year old like **Roger** is \$375, so getting a Doodle from Rescue is a smoking deal, especially considering we cover the cost of all necessary vetting. In **Roger's** case, that included heartworm and valley fever tests and neutering; all his vaccines were up to date. **Roger's** family told us they had to move to an apartment where they could not have dogs. An apartment,



Coco before being groomed



Now called Roger, he has a new haircut

even one that did not have a dog restriction, would not have been a good place for this very energetic boy – he's a big, tall dog who doesn't know the meaning of slow! Good thing his adopters, Rose and Dan in Phoenix, have three teen-aged boys, a pool and two other Goldendoodles – **Roger** is getting plenty of exercise! Rose wrote: ***Roger** is a gem! He is full of energy and loves his fellow Doodles at our house (**Martha** age 2 and **Sully** age 7). He is thrilled with his human brothers (17, 15 and 13). He is very interested in **Pearl**, the cat, but **Pearl** is not interested in him! **Roger** is very athletic. He is an excellent swimmer and is a good companion runner. **Roger** has taken a series of beginner obedience classes and has started on 'scent work' classes. Scent work is great mental exercise for him, it gets him thinking and using his big nose. We are so happy that **Roger** has joined our family. **AGR** is pleased that **Roger** has found his forever home with the best possible family!*

21-014 Joy is an 11-year-old Golden/Lab mix surrendered by an owner who was being evicted. The owner had **Joy** since she was a puppy, so it was a sad surrender. She asked us to find an adopter who is a senior and home most of the time, and that is who we found with Pat in Surprise. **Joy** needed all vaccines updated, a heartworm test and a valley fever test, but she was already spayed. In her original home, she was free-fed OI' Roy as well as rice, pinto beans and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, potatoes and carrots. As she was overweight, she will now be on Nutro Senior and green beans and on a regular twice-a-day feeding schedule. We were warned that **Joy** is an escape artist, that she panics and acts like a feral dog if scared – Connie and Nick found that out the hard way. When they first arrived at **Academy West Animal Hospital**, **Joy** slipped the choker and took off running, crossed Bell Road which, fortunately, had little traffic right then, and then ran into the parking lot of a medical facility where she was finally cornered by two young and agile guys who herded her to a spot where they literally tackled her. Nick stayed with her while Connie got the three other dogs that had also been surrendered by the same owner checked in and then went back with the van to collect Nick and Joy. Once there, **Joy** was wildly fighting the leash, flailing all over and would not walk, so she had to be carried back into the kennels. What an ordeal! Now that she



is with Pat, she gets walked on a harness AND a choke chain attached to a leash. Pat wrote: *Since May 6th, Joy has brought a lot of it (joy) into our home. At first, she was very skittish and she paced around a lot, growled at Lucy (my other dog), for the first couple of days. However, she and I made an instant connection,*



Joy happy in her "best spot" on the couch

and she shadows me everywhere. I love it! She has relaxed a lot and is so much more at home now (because it's hers now). Lucy and Joy are good buddies now. I found a squeaky toy at PetSmart and Joy has adopted it as her "baby." She takes it everywhere! Inside, outside, wherever she happens to be. She tosses it, shakes it, pounces on it, and my, does that baby squeak! She entertains me endlessly with her

"baby." I had a doggy door installed and at first she wanted me to open the main door before she would go in or out. Well, that got old after a while, and we (Joy and I) decided she better learn how to use it, and, of course, she did! Thank you so much (again) for the chance to bring your beautiful rescue babies into my home and to truly make it a HOME.

21-015 Pastora came from the same owner as Joy. She is an 11-year old Golden mix who was in such poor shape that AGR decided to put her in our *Gentle Paws Hospice Adoption* program, whereby we will pay for all her medical until she passes away. She was evaluated at *Academy West Animal Hospital*.



The vet observed that Pastora has difficulty walking, her abdomen was hanging and tense, heart rate was very rapid, mucus membranes were pale and cyanotic. X-rays were sent out and confirmed that Pastora has heart disease with an enlarged left atrium. She was started on meds to help her heart pump more efficiently. She is a lovely, if quite overweight, sweet girl whose adopters, Mike and Lew in Scottsdale, adore her. Heeding our advice, they are regulating her food intake (no more free-feeding!) and giving her quality kibble with green beans. We gave them a really nice orthopedic bed for her, which she likes. After being at her forever home for a few weeks, Mike noticed that Pastora was having more trouble walking than usual. So, we had her evaluated at AMSC and the diagnosis was osteoarthritis, so they added two meds that will help her with pain control and mobility. When I recently asked for information on how Pastora was doing, Mike encouraged Pastora to answer: *My name is Miss Pastora. I have settled in very nicely to my new home and life. Mike and Lew are providing me with lots of love and attention, even if they are a bit miserly with the treats. I know they are trying to help me lose a little of that middle-aged (11½ is middle*

age, right?) spread, but would a cookie every now and then hurt? Just sayin', guys. I really do love it here. Miss Kitty and I have become good friends, exchanging nose nudges as we go about our daily business. Miss Kitty allows me to share in watching KTV out the front door screen. We see such interesting things all the time, but when the neighbor dogs are in the courtyard, watch out, Miss Kitty – I get very excited about seeing them. I wish Dad would let me go



play with them. I used to live with four or five other dogs (I don't count so well) and I do miss their company. The dads say they are working on setting up a playdate with a family friend, Prince Ber Boo, a Golden/Chocolate Lab mix. We live at the edge of a park with a lake. There are geese living on the island in the lake, and they stroll by our door from time to time. I bark at them because they have a funny walk. It's also quiet here. My last home was quite busy and loud with 7 dogs and 11 cats! I enjoy the peace and quiet, befitting a woman of my gentle age and stature. Thank you for reading my story. I am so very grateful to the very kind folks at AGR who helped me to find this wonderful home. I think I am going to like it here a lot.

21-016 Rambo is another 11-year-old who was surrendered with Joy and Pastora. He had the rabies vaccine but needed everything else that we provide in our standard vet work-up. His bloodwork was good for an old dog, but he had an eye infection that was treated. Although Rambo was used to being around other dogs, he wasn't too sure about the Pug,



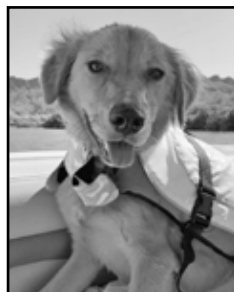
Rosco, who was a resident at his new home with Thomas and Lindsay in Chandler. During the first few days, Rambo let Rosco know to keep his distance. Over the next few weeks, Rambo and Rosco coexisted with no issues. Unfortunately, Rosco passed away recently, so now Rambo gets all the attention. Thomas wrote: *Rambo adjusted quickly to our family. We can tell that he is very smart. He figured out the dog door in a few minutes, and figured out his favorite spot to hang out with us is between the coffee table and couch. His older brother Rosco fell in our pool about a week after we adopted him. He saw it happen and alerted me right away with those deep golden barks. He also knows when it's time for me to go to work in the morning, by when I put on my shoes. He'll usually stomp his feet, and tries to follow me outside. Once I'm gone for work, it's time to protect mom working from home. I can't recall a day since we've had him that I haven't come home to him by her side. Whenever I get home, he gets so excited. He'll be wagging his tail and behind as much as those old hips will let him! He also does a submissive snarl. I call it the*

Rambo smile. He gets so excited he crinkles his nose, squints his eyes and shows his front teeth. I haven't caught a good picture of it yet, but it looks a lot like this (photo at right)! He follows us around wherever we go. We now have to get all our things set up to settle in, because I don't want him to have to get up every few minutes just because I forgot something from the fridge! If we're outside, and it's a little too hot for him, he'll check in on us every 20 minutes or so, by peeking his head out of the dog door to make sure we're OK. He loves lying in our grass and basking in the sun. It's also a good place for him to roll around to scratch those hard to reach areas. He does not like car rides. I think he may associate it with going to not-so-fun places, but I told him that he's going to be with us forever, so I think he understands car rides aren't that bad anymore. We love him so much! Happy new life, **Rambo**!



21-018 Daisy is an 8-month-old Golden/Great Dane mix. She was already spayed, microchipped and up to date on vaccines. We did do heartworm and valley fever tests; both came back negative. The surrendering owner (SO) reported that **Daisy** had problems with submissive peeing even though she was housetrained. The SO, with two

small children and financial difficulties, could not afford a trainer and could not deal with the peeing, the kids and her own health issues. **Daisy** was placed with Angelo and his adult daughter, Jessica, in Glendale. They had once had a Great Dane and were looking to accept a very large dog, but **Daisy** favors her Golden parent and is rather small. The first thing she did when arriving at her new home was to run zoomies around the back yard and roll in the grass. The day after the transport, Jessica texted: **Daisy** is an angel! We're both loving on her; she's definitely a little baby, but we're going to give her all the attention we can – she is so sweet! A while later, Jessica wrote: We love **Daisy**. Once she warmed up to our house, she made herself at home. She loves sleeping on our beds and on her own bed, wants to play fetch 24/7! She's been introduced to the water and likes riding with us on the boat! She likes going to **PetSmart** and getting pup cups from **Starbucks**! So happy she joined our family. **Daisy** is happy, too, and so is **AGR**!



Daisy riding in the boat – notice that the smart adopters put a life jacket on her!

21-020 Sophie is a 3-year-old spayed Golden/Cattle Dog mix.

The owner was in the hospital receiving radiation and chemo treatments, so he gave his adult daughter permission to surrender **Sophie** to **AGR**. She had all her vetting done before we transported her to what we thought would be her forever home. However, she and the first family we placed her with did not bond, so we tried again and this time **Sophie** hit the jackpot with Sherra and her two dogs, **Rocky** (a Chi mix) and **Ayden** (a Golden) who live in Payson. **Ayden** is not much of a player, but soon after transport **Sophie** and **Rocky** were exchanging play bows and wagging tails. Sherra let us know everything was great: I am honored **Sophie** chose us! **Sophie** has made our home now her home too! She made sure to let the 2 boys of the house, both rescues, Golden **Ayden** and Chihuahua/Jack Russell **Rocky**, know that she is up for anything, and full of adventure and fun. **Sophie** is so very affectionate with everyone and every dog! She jumps up to give hugs and kisses, which I adore. She nibbles on **Ayden's** neck to try get him to wrestle or chase her. She chases **Rocky**, but he likes to be the chaser and she is learning that can be fun, too. She gets the boys excited about running about and long



Sophie feeling relaxed in her new home

walks! She has an infectious energy that is rubbing off on the boys. **Sophie** adores car rides and doesn't want to get out when we arrive at our destination. If you open a car door, she will jump in and bark, "Let's go!" We go on 3-4 walks a day depending on the summer heat and it's even helping me lose some weight. **Sophie** is learning to be OK around horses. She did go nose to nose with a pig, and both their tails were wagging. **Sophie** befriends all the "friendly" dogs in our little horse ranch area here in Star Valley. She loves to cuddle and at bedtime she has to have some part of her touching me. **Sophie** is like finding the missing puzzle piece – she fits perfectly and beautifies our lives.

21-022 Duke – please see **Duke's** story in *Diamonds in the Ruff* on page 14.

You don't need to know the whole alphabet of Safety.
The a, b, c of it will save you if you follow it:
Always **Be Careful**.
~ Colorado School of Mines Magazine, August 1918

Do not think because an accident hasn't happened to you
that it can't happen.

OVER THE RAINBOW

We honor the memory of our human and animal companions who have passed on...

11-014 Bear Hall-Goodwin



11-017 Bela Barktok Selznick

12-118 Nash Spiel



13-026 Nessa Long

14-011 Molly Myrick



16-041 Stella Gorski

17-031 Ginger Parton



18-027 Dodger Robinson

19-046 Red Trevino



The Rainbow Bridge

There is a bridge connecting Heaven and Earth. It is called the Rainbow Bridge because of its many colors.

Just this side of the Rainbow Bridge there is a land of meadows, hills and valleys with lush green grass.

When a beloved pet dies, the pet goes to this place. There is always food and water and warm spring weather. The old and frail animals are young again. Those who are maimed are made whole again. They play all day with each other.

There is only one thing missing. They are not with their special person who loved them on Earth.

So each day they run and play until the day comes when one suddenly stops playing and looks up! The nose twitches! The ears are up! The eyes are staring! And this one suddenly runs from the group!

You have been seen, and when you and your special friend meet, you take him or her in your arms and embrace.

Your face is kissed again and again and again, and you look once more into the eyes of your trusting pet.

Then you cross the Rainbow Bridge together, never again to be separated.

21-022 Duke McCabe / Dodson



Rosco Glenn



Kahuna Slagowski



And...

Alan Klink
AGR Member and beloved husband of Jean Klink

Marilyn Tigges
Beloved Mother of AGR Member Gary Tigges

Safety - First and Foremost

By Deb Orwig

Many of you who are reading this newsletter are adopters of **AGR** dogs. Consequently, you are somewhat familiar with our adoption process. But do you know the one thing that is paramount for us in every aspect of an adoption? **Safety**. In everything we do and how we do it, we try to ensure maximum safety for the dogs that come into our Rescue. Safety is our primary concern from intake through adoption and beyond.

Intake

Here is how the process works. Someone who wants to surrender a dog calls our WAGSline phone number, 623-566-WAGS (9247), or sends an e-mail to info@arizonagoldenrescue.org. The phone is answered by Sharon Flores between 8 AM – 8 PM M-F, and she monitors the voice-mails when she personally does not answer. If a call seems like it needs the attention of Intake right away, she will call whoever is on duty and they will contact the caller immediately. If it is not a “911” call, she will send an e-mail to the Intake Team. If a request for surrendering a dog comes into info@arizonagoldenrescue.org, I forward the message to the entire Intake Team and whoever is on duty responds to the person.



AGR does not often get purebred Golden Retrievers from one of the Shelters, but we do take in some nice-looking Golden mixes like 16-046 Harley

Shelter Dogs. With shelter dogs, Judy Pettito, now Co-Manager of the Intake Team, reviews the dailies sent out by e-mail from Maricopa, Pima and Pinal Counties. If any shelter advertises a Golden or Golden mix, she monitors the dog until we have confirmation that it is a dog **AGR** would accept. She then tracks the dog to its “due out day” and sends a request for transport to the Transport Team. Right now, we have only six **AGR** members who are authorized by the county shelters to pick up a dog under their New Hope program – we would like to have more! Their requirement is that the potential New

Hoper must go through their training program. We attempt to bring in a shelter dog as soon as possible after it is released for adoption so that the dog is not exposed to kennel cough and other diseases any longer than is absolutely necessary (3 days for an unknown-owner stray, 7 days for a known-owner stray). Sometimes our diligence doesn’t work, though. Two cases in point recently: first, we had our name on a 10-year-old purebred Golden, but he was euthanized at the shelter because he started having seizures and was rapidly going downhill; second, I went to pick up a dog, actually got the dog, and had driven back towards home about 10 miles when I got a call to return the dog to the shelter – he had supposedly been

Saving one dog will not change the world, but surely for that one dog, the world will change forever.

~ Karen Davison

committed to a member of the public before the shelter handed him over to me, which they should not have done. On a dog’s release day, the public is allowed to adopt between 11 AM and noon; if a dog has not been chosen by noon, then a Rescue can New Hope the dog. (Of course, the shelter wants dogs to be adopted by the public, because the public has to pay for them and Rescue gets them for free under the New Hope program.) So, I took the dog back and handed him over. It was a good thing, though – the lady told me her family had been to visit the dog every day he had been incarcerated, had played with him in the play yard, and had decided they really wanted him. Good for them – one dog that will most likely have a good forever home.

Owner Surrenders. What happens with an owner-surrender? The Intake Team does an in-depth phone interview with the owner to learn as much as possible about the dog. The dog’s profile is then sent to Placement and stored in our database. Our Intake or Placement Team sends out a Request for transport to Transport Team members. Whoever accepts the transport then contacts the owner to make pick-up arrangements. Sometimes it is what Intake deems a “911” situation – either the dog is in danger or the owner is leaving town and will abandon the dog if it is not picked up “right now!” Fortunately, we have a couple of transporters who are willing to drop everything to go get a dog. And fortunately, we work with three veterinarians who have boarding facilities and are usually willing to accept dogs from **AGR**.



AGR’s Placement Team diligently attempts to place dogs that come in as pairs, like 20-025 Doug and 20-026 Russell, together; obviously bonded, these boys share everything – bed, toys, their love of swimming and each other. How could we not place them together?



The safest way to transport a new intake like 16-039 Kenna, a pretty purebred we picked up at the shelter, is in a crate. The transport volunteer gets the privilege of naming a shelter dog.

Once we have a dog, it is usually transported to one of our participating veterinarians. Many owner-surrendered dogs are not up to date on vaccinations and some have not been spayed or neutered. Few of them have been microchipped. Some are sick and need to be evaluated. Shelter dogs are at least vaccinated before they leave the shelter. However, we also test our intakes for valley fever and heartworm, and, if they come from a shelter, we have a fecal test

done, too. Our vets also will treat anything that is treatable, like ear infections or open wounds. Other tests may need to be done, as well. If the dog is 8 years or older, we have a senior blood panel done to determine how well all the dog's bodily functions are performing. All these tests are done to ensure that the dog is as healthy as possible when we transfer the dog to a new home.

Placement

Placement has the task of finding the best approved-to-adopt family for the dogs that come into our Rescue. For the safety and well-being of the dog, we match the family to the dog, not the other way around.

Adoption Application

How does a family get approved to adopt? First, anyone interested in adopting must submit an Adoption Application from our website. A nonrefundable \$25 application fee must also be paid. An invoice for payment will be sent from PayPal. After we receive payment, either via PayPal or by a check sent in the mail, the Adoption Application is forwarded to our Home Evaluation Coordinator, Sheila Joyce. To help us match a dog with the best possible family, the Adoption Application is designed to find out as much as possible about the applicant and his/her home environment.

Home Evaluation

Sheila reviews the application, checks her list of trained evaluators, and contacts the one living closest to the applicant to ask that the evaluator make arrangements to go to the applicant's home or to conduct the visit via Facetime or Skype. **We could use some more home evaluators!** To become a home evaluator for *AGR*,

you must do a ride-along with a trained evaluator at least twice, as well as review the appropriate section of our Policies and Procedures Handbook. Using a 6-page form as a guide, the Home Evaluator thoroughly inspects the grounds and the home, noting anything that might pose a hazard to a Golden or Golden mix. The

In Arizona, many homeowners landscape their yards with various species of Cacti, Lantana, Oleander or Sago Palm, all of which are dangerous to dogs; our Home Evaluators tell applicants such plants must be removed or a hardware cloth barrier installed a foot deep, a foot higher than and a foot away from all such plants.



All parts of beautiful Oleanders are extremely toxic; they have lush dark-green foliage and lovely white, light pink or dark pink flowers that bloom year round in AZ

Evaluator then enters the information into our database. If there are any "red flags", such as dangerous (e.g., cacti, yucca, aloe, etc.) or toxic plants (refer to the list we published in the May issue of this news-

We could use more trained Transport volunteers!



Decorative landscape plants common in Arizona back yards are Beavertail Cactus and Barrel Cactus; both have sharp spines that can hurt a dog

letter) accessible to a dog, or if there are extensive dirt areas or piles of debris in the yard or holes in the perimeter fence, notes are made. The Coordinator will inform the applicant that these items need to be removed, fenced off or fixed before issuing an approval to adopt. If the visit is done in person, the evaluator takes photos. If Facetime or Skype is used, the applicant is asked to send photos of the back yard. Photos are stored in SmugMug so our Placement Team can view them.



A Sago Palm, which looks like a dwarf palm tree but is in fact a cycad, is deadly to dogs if any part is ingested

Bottom line is our home evaluators are charged with making sure an applicant's home and yard are a safe environment for an *AGR* dog.

Transport

After a placement has been made, Transport again goes into action and arrangements are made to take the dog to its new home – or what we hope will be its new home. As with Home Evaluators, Transport volunteers must do a ride-along at least twice with someone who is already trained. There are actually six different transport scenarios, and if you really want proper training, you should attend one of each type before you do any on your own. If there are resident animals in the home, great care is taken by the transporter in introducing the new dog. Most of the time, a placement is successful, even in homes that have resident animals. However, sometimes situations arise that we cannot anticipate, and the Transporter decides for the dog's safety or for the safety of the residents,



Most Golden retrievers, like 21-010 Missy (who had never seen a cat but loves them), will get along fine with cats, as cats usually let the dog know quickly who is boss – and it isn't the dog! Sometimes a new rescue dog will not get along with resident pets – or vice versa – and will have to be moved to another home; being compatible with resident pets is something Placement cannot predict.

the dog cannot be left at the home. So, Placement has to try again to find an appropriate and safe home.

Settling-In Period

Usually three weeks are allowed for the dog to settle into its new home. We have found that sometimes it takes that long for the



We think 21-016 Rambo, 20-007 and Honey (above), 21-009 Olivia (at right) and 15-091 Sunny (below) settled into their new homes quite well!



dog to relax and for its true personality to manifest, and sometimes that “true personality” is an unpleasant surprise! We have had potential adoptive families demand that we finalize the adoption after 24 hours, but we usually make them wait the three weeks anyway. For the safety of both the dog and the family, we want to be sure the dog is going to work out. Depending on health or behavior issues that must be resolved, we may not finalize an adoption for a much longer period of time. We view behavior issues the same way we view health problems – if an undesirable behavior is fixable, we will find help to fix it. Sometimes we can assist by providing tips to modify behavior. Sometimes, fixing a dog’s behavior is beyond any of our skills, so we will hire a trainer or place the dog at a training facility – there are a couple of good ones in the Valley.

Beyond Adoption

Beyond adoption, we are still concerned with the dog’s safety. We check in with adoptive families periodically to be sure everything is going well. For the safety of the dog, we encourage adoptive families to do the following:

- take the dog to a veterinarian for an annual check-up
- renew the dog’s vaccinations when these are due
- annually test the dog for valley fever and heartworm
- give the dog monthly heartworm preventative
- have the dog’s teeth checked annually and have a dental done if there is significant tartar buildup or cracked/broken teeth

- use a proper leash and collar with an ID tag (the **AGR** red heart tag if you have an **AGR** dog)
- train the dog how to walk nicely on leash
- license the dog
- bring the dog to **AGR** events to help with socialization
- get the dog snake-avoidance trained if there are plans to hike with the dog
- purchase booties to protect the dog’s feet
- play with and exercise the dog (but avoid outdoor exercise on hot days)
- feed the dog a good-quality food
- never leave the dog in a vehicle at any time of year
- integrate the dog into the household (i.e. not keep the dog outside)

Providing for Your Dog if Something Happens to You

Do you have provisions for your dog(s) or other pets in your will? Upon your demise, the executor of your will must know what to do with your animals and, obviously, get the animals out of your home before the one-year probate period is up! Someone has to be informed about

your pets. If you have an **AGR** dog and something happens to you to render you un-

*If you adopt an **AGR** dog and something happens to you – serious and/or chronic illness, physical impairment or death –so that you are unable to care for the dog, the dog must be returned to **AGR**!*

able to care for the dog, the dog must come back to **AGR** – this stipulation is in the Adoption Contract you signed. Please be sure a family member or a lawyer who handles your estate knows that the dog must be returned to **AGR**. If your dog is not an **AGR** dog, please have a plan in place that someone else knows about, so that your dogs are cared for (and not turned over to a shelter) in case of your incapacity or death.

Does someone among your family or friends or in your neighborhood have a key to your home? Suppose you were seriously hurt or killed in a car accident or had to go to the hospital for a medical emergency, would anyone know you have dogs at home and how to get to them? Have you left written instructions regarding the care and feeding of your dog(s) someplace in your home where someone could find them? I recently had to pick up a Golden that belongs to a friend who had to go to the hospital for emergency surgery. I had never been to her home, but she left a key with a neighbor and had thorough instructions regarding the dog typed on a paper folded up to fit in an empty pill bottle and labeled **K-9 Vial of Life**. This pill bottle, which she had gotten from **Best Friends Dog Club** in Sun City, was inside the door of the refrigerator. On the paper folded up and enclosed in the pill bottle, she had filled in all the information shown in the box on the next page (26). It took me only a short time to collect the dog and all her necessities. Do yourself and your dog a favor and make a **K-9 Vial of Life**. Put a copy in your vehicle’s glove box, too.

K-9 VIAL OF LIFE

Dog's Name

Dog's Birth Date or Approx. Age

License No.

Microchip No.

Brief instructions for disposition of dog in case of owner's incapacity or death

Veterinarian's Name and Contact Information

Practice Name

Veterinarian's Name

Address

Phone

Hours Open

Vaccination Expiration Dates

Rabies

DHPP

Bordatella

Food, Supplements and Medications

Location(s)

Brand(s)

Quantity and Frequency of Feeding

Supplements – type, quantity and frequency

Medications -- name, dosage and frequency

Supplies with specific location

Medical Records

Food and Water Dishes

Crate or kennel

Dog Bed

Leash

Collar if not already on dog

Grooming tools and shampoo

Toys -- favorite one?

Habits

Potty breaks

How often?

On leash or off?

Uses a dog door?

Prefers grass, gravel, other?

Feeding Time(s)

Walks -- how many and what time of day?

Likes to swim?

Other forms of exercise?

Vehicle Safety

Suppose your dog is riding with you in your vehicle and you are in an accident. You are hurt and are unable to get to your dog; the dog may or may not be hurt. Are there instructions regarding your dog in your vehicle's glove box? That is most likely where First Responders would look. If you are going on a trip with your dog, make a copy of the form included with this newsletter on page 33, fill it out and put a copy in your glove box, in your wallet, and with the bag of your dog's food, or tape the form some place obvious.

Never leave your dog alone in your vehicle even for a minute and not even with the windows down or the air conditioning on. On a 90-degree day, the interior temperature can reach as high as 160 degrees in ten minutes. Animals can acquire brain damage or even die from heatstroke in as little as fifteen minutes. If you see a dog left alone in a hot car, write down the car's color, model, make, license plate number and specific location. Have the owner paged in the nearest buildings; call local humane authorities or police. Have someone keep an eye on the dog. In Arizona, it is legal to break a car window in order to remove a dog or a child left inside. However, it would be better if a police officer would do the breaking! Don't leave the scene until the situation has been resolved.

Secure the dog in the vehicle. If taking your dog for a ride, please be sure your dog is secured in the back part of your vehicle (but not in an open truck bed!). Use a crate if your dog is a nervous pacer – a pacer will distract you, and his/her nervousness may cause you to have an accident. If your dog is a good rider, then secure the leash to a tie-down somewhere in the back or, if you have a sedan, on the back seat with a seat belt harness. Please do not allow the dog to ride in the front passenger seat, or, even worse, to ride in your lap between you and the steering wheel even if the dog is secured with a seat belt harness. If you had to stop suddenly and the air bag deployed, it would probably kill the dog.

Water on trips. On any length trip, carry water and a water bowl in your vehicle to make sure your dog stays hydrated. There are no-spill water bowls available from pet supply stores, or you can order one from smile.amazon.com. A good idea is to fill a large water bottle half full (an empty half-gallon or gallon juice bottle



18-074 Riley, 19-083 Bowie and 19-053 Jackson were just posing for the 2021 AGR calendar cover photo; Connie and Nick would not allow them to ride with their heads out of the window like this!

with a screw-on lid works well) and freeze it overnight, then top it off with cold water. Such water should stay cold for most of a day-long trip.

Windows up, please! When you are on a trip, your car windshield acts as a bug collector, doesn't it? Has your car windshield ever needed to be replaced because it was dinged or cracked by debris thrown

back by vehicles traveling in front of you? Have you ever driven through a dust storm? In Arizona, it is common to have blown stuff damage your windshield. Can you imagine what would happen to your dog's eyes if the same stuff hit them as what hits your windshield and causes it to crack? As much as he/she might enjoy it, please do not allow your dog to ride with his/her head hanging out the window! His/her eyes could be damaged by just about anything in the air, including dust, rocks and bugs.

Also, with open car windows... If you have an impact or slam on the brakes suddenly, the dog can fly out the open window even if it is just sitting in the seat. This happened to Connie McCabe. She had to slam on the brakes and her Golden **Honey** literally flew out the window and rolled down the street. Fortunately, drivers managed to avoid her and she only had mild abrasions, but Connie said the incident gave her quite a scare. I, too, had a dog fall out of an open car window years ago (before I knew better). I was going only about 5 mph in a parking lot when the dog, who was balanced on the window ledge, went over, landed wrong and broke a leg.



A photo op with 09-014 Orion and 15-098 Dakota

More about vehicle safety... Do not ever let your dog ride in the open back of a pick-up truck, not even if the dog is in a crate, or not even if its leash is tied down to something in the truck bed. Also, even though they may enjoy tootling around town in a convertible, please allow them to sit in it only for photos!

Outdoor Safety

Pool Safety. Always be present by your pool and paying attention (no talking or texting on a cell phone or reading a book) when your dog is swimming. I have known a Golden who was a good swimmer but lost her balance and fell into her pool at an angle from which she could not recover. Fortunately, her owner knew CPR, but though the dog did not drown, she ended up with brain damage.

Be careful not to allow your dog to over-do in the length of time they play/swim in the pool – many of them don't know when to quit, so you must make them before they exhaust themselves. If your pool is not fenced, it is imperative that you teach your dogs not to go into the water unless they are invited. The first time they go in without your permission, haul them out as quickly as possible and admonish them with a stern, "NO POOL!" You may have to do this more than once to get the message across. Have some toys that are only for pool use. Bring out these toys and throw them into the pool when you are available to watch the dog in the water. Whenever the dog sees those toys, he/she will know

it is OK to go swimming.



16-009 Vin was introduced to the Orwigs' pool when he was only 5 months old; he learned to swim wearing a life jacket; notice he is carrying a bumper in his mouth – carrying a pool toy in the mouth helps the dog level out in the water and helps prevent trying to "swim up into the sky"

Not all Golden Retrievers are natural-born swimmers. When you introduce your dog to the pool, it is not a bad idea to put a life jacket on the dog, especially if it is a puppy, and get into the pool with the dog. Support the dog under the belly with your arm, gradually lowering your arm until the dog seems to be able to stay afloat and paddle around without assistance. A life jacket for your dog is imperative if you are riding in a boat or on a surfboard or jet ski (not recommending this type of water sports equipment with a dog!)

Exposure and Heat Stroke. Limit your dog's exposure to the outdoors during the summer. If you have to leave the house, close your dog door. Do not leave your dog outside even if there is shade in your yard and you have a mister system on your patio – these are not enough to keep your dog from developing a heat-related condition. The *Humane Society of the United States* cautions dog owners to respect the heat. Dogs do not sweat as humans do. They lose heat only through their paw pads and by panting. Dogs can get heat stroke and/or become dehydrated. Always keep fresh, cool water available for your dog and limit outdoor activity during the hottest part of the day. A dog can even get overheated swimming in a pool if the pool water is quite warm, so be careful with the duration of pool play, also.

Extreme temperatures can cause heatstroke. Some signs of heatstroke are heavy panting, glazed eyes, a rapid heartbeat, difficulty breathing, excessive thirst, lethargy, fever, dizziness, lack of coordination, profuse salivation, vomiting, a deep red or purple tongue, seizure, and unconsciousness. Dogs that are very old, very young, overweight, not conditioned to prolonged exercise, or have heart or respiratory disease are more prone to developing heat stroke. If your dog does develop any of these symptoms, move the dog into an air-conditioned area. Apply ice packs or cold towels to head, neck, and chest or run cool (not cold) water over him/her. Encourage the dog to drink small amounts of cool water or lick ice cubes. Visit a veterinarian as soon as possible.

If Golden Retrievers were meant to be shaved, they would have short fur to begin with!

~ Anonymous

To shave or not to shave? Sometimes a new intake has a coat loaded with ticks or has horrible mats and has to be shaved for



treatment or for its own comfort like our Goldendoodle, **16-036 Zoey**, in the photos here. **Zoey's** coat is like her poodle parent – she has hair instead of fur, and at intake she looked like a “rastafarian sheep dog” according to the transporter, so we had the vet’s groomer shave her down to get rid of all the unsightly, and most likely uncomfortable, mats. Goldendoodles that favor the poodle parent must have their hair trimmed on a regular basis. If you could see the “shaved” photo of **Zoey** in color, you would notice that her skin is very pink, so to prevent the development of skin cancer, it was extremely important for her adopters to limit her

exposure to the sun until her hair grew out some.

Arizona Golden Rescue does not recommend shaving a Golden, especially in the summer. A Golden’s coat actually insulates it from the heat as well as from cold – if you have your Golden shaved, he may get even hotter than if you had left the coat alone. If your dog is constantly in the pool and has a thick coat that never seems to dry out, that is not good either, as the dog can develop fungal infections of the skin. If your dog is an avid swimmer, consider having a reputable groomer give your dog a “summer cut” which will just shorten the fur, not take it down to the skin. In addition to possibly getting overheated, shaved Golden’s are susceptible to sunburn and, therefore, to skin cancer.



13-006 Sammy McCabe / Dodson is a happy boy with his summer cut

Insects and related critters. Bugs can be a problem in the summer. Biting flies, mosquitoes, bees, ticks and fleas are all more abundant at this time of year and can be more than just a nuisance. Good protection against ticks and fleas will be provided by Frontline Plus®; if you’re hiking in the woods with your dog, you might consider using a tick collar as an extra protection.

Mosquitoes and ticks may carry diseases, in particular heartworm or West Nile virus, and tick fever, respectively. Be sure there are no areas on your property where water can collect and stagnate – that is the type of place in which mosquitoes will breed. If you have a lawn, keep the grass cut short to minimize the possibility of ticks and other insects. Do not use fertilizer or pesticides unless these specifically state on the label that they are safe for pets, and then allow your pets on the grass only after the spray has dried.

Thunder and other Loud Noises. In Arizona, our dogs may be exposed to the loud noises of fireworks or occasional thunder-and-lightning storms, especially now during the summer monsoon season. Many dogs are fearful of thunder, lightning cracks and other loud noises. When she first detected the rumbling of thunder, my Golden **Dolly** would climb into the bathtub behind the shower curtain or burrow under some blankets that were on the floor in the back of my closet. I have a *Thundershirt*® which I put on her, too. It fit her snugly and helped her feel secure. As was recommended to me at one time, I tried desensitizing her to the noise of thunder and lightning by playing a CD with nature sounds on it, but that did not help her very much. D.A.P.® (Dog Appeasing Pheromone) diffusers have a reputation of working well to help some dogs calm down. However, unless you have a small room in which you can enclose both the diffuser and the dog, the concentration of the calming chemical in the air will be so low that it most likely won’t have much effect on the dog. If the dog’s behavior is truly terrible during a storm, please speak with your vet about getting some sedative medication. There is one that goes by the common name *Clomicalm*, and it usually works. However, the effect takes a while to develop, so the dog must be started on this drug a month before storm season and then kept on it every day until the season is over. Using a short-acting sedative, such as benedryl, acepromazine or valium might work better for your dog, but be sure to consult with your vet before starting any medication. Just about the worst thing you could do is to cuddle, hug and pet your dog and talk soothingly when he/she acts up during a storm, because those behaviors by you act as positive reinforcement for the undesirable behaviors your dog exhibits, thus encouraging them to continue. Good intentions – trying your best to help the dog calm down – may backfire and actually cause the dog to get worse.

If your dog experiences noise anxiety of any kind, please keep him/her indoors during storms and when fireworks are being used, and please do not take the dog with you to view any outdoor fireworks spectacles.

If you go out, try turning on the TV or a nice CD to provide soothing music or background noise as a buffer to outside noise. If you have a dog door, be sure it is closed when you leave. Dogs who normally don’t jump have been known to clear a 6-foot block wall if they get outside and get scared.

Fire Safety

Pet Fire Safety Day is July 15

We missed acknowledging it this year, but why not resolve now to have all the fire safety tips described here in place by this date next year?

In the event of fire, do you have an evacuation plan and an escape route for yourself and your dogs? The more important question is, *Have you practiced it?* Does your dog have a favorite or safe spot in

your home? That is where he/she is likely to go in case of fire.

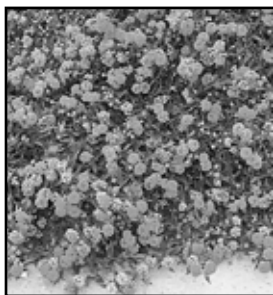
Do you have smoke detectors? If not, get some. When Daylight Saving Time ends (first Sunday in November), be sure to replace the batteries in your smoke alarms. Have a leash in the vicinity of your escape route, so you can grab it to ensure your dog cannot bolt, because the alarms and firetruck sirens can scare him/her. Also, it would be a good idea to put a Pet Safety Alert decal on ground-floor windows at the front and back of the house alerting first responders to look for a dog or other pet in the house. You can purchase a 6-pack of static-cling decals for \$6.99 on smile.amazon.com; you should place one in every window on the ground floor of your house.



Your dog could inadvertently start a fire if left alone in your home. Don't allow the dog to be unattended even for one minute around open flames (BBQ or fireplace), range burners that are on, ovens, or even candles. If you want to use candles, get the kind where the wax and wick are enclosed in a glass container and keep the container high up where the dog cannot accidentally knock it over. Consider covering or removing stove knobs, as the dog could jump up on the stove and knock them into the ON position. Have you seen the commercial on TV where a pizza box containing a slice of pizza is pulled off the stove by a dog, the box catches fire, then the house catches fire? It could happen. Fortunately, the dog in the commercial gets out of the house safely, but your dog might not.

Be sure electrical cords are covered or otherwise secured so your dog cannot chew on them. Also, get plug covers to put in outlets that are not in use.

The **National Fire Prevention Association** has some great information and advice about fire safety on their website: <http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/>



Lantana (a.k.a. Shrub Verbena, Yellow Sage and Red Sage) is very commonly used for decorative landscape in Arizona; there are several color varieties including white, pink, lavender, gold, red and orange. Lantana contains pentacyclic triterpenoids, which cause vomiting, diarrhea, labored breathing and weakness. If you like the looks of lantana, please keep the plants in your front yard where your dog cannot get at them!

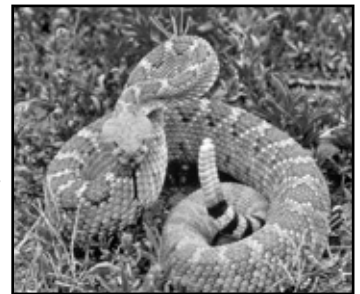
Toxic and Other Dangerous Substances

Plants. In the May issue of *The Golden Paw*, we covered the gamut of plants that are toxic if eaten by dogs – the worst offenders that are commonly planted in Arizona yards are shown on page 24 and 29 of the issue you are reading now. If you did not get the May issue, you can request one or you can pick up a copy at one of our events – we usually have extra copies with us. Most of the information we included came from the ASPCA.org website where they show all the plants in color. Educate yourself and remove or cordon off dangerous plants that are in your yard.

Antifreeze is extremely toxic to pets, and its sweet odor is tempting to dogs and cats. In the summer, if your car overheats, antifreeze may leak out of the radiator and form puddles on the floor of the garage. So check your garage floor often, clean up any spills and get your radiator repaired. When you are walking your dog, pay attention to your neighbors' cars and potential puddles of antifreeze on their driveways or in the street and avoid these at all costs.

Other toxic substances. You should take care to put away behind closed doors pool chemicals, citronella, insect repellents that contain DEET, charcoal-lighter fluid, glow jewelry (in use especially on the 4th of July), and avoid such pests as scorpions, spiders and rattlesnakes.

Venomous snakes. If you live in an area where rattlesnakes are prevalent, please consider getting your dog "snake proofed." Three companies that offer snake avoidance training are **Partners Dog Training School** in Cave Creek (<http://snakeproofing.com/>), **Viper Voidance** (www.vipervoidance.com) in New River, and **Southwest Snake Avoidance Experts** (<http://snake-avoidance.com/>).



Sonoran Desert

Toad. The Sonoran Desert toad, also known as the Colorado River toad, is the largest toad in the United States apart from the non-native cane toad (*Rhinella marina*) – it can grow



up to 7.5 inches in length. It has a smooth, leathery skin and is olive green or mottled brown in color. They are active foragers and feed on invertebrates, lizards, small mammals, and amphibians. Just behind the large golden eye with a horizontal pupil is a bulg-

ing kidney-shaped parotoid gland. Below this is a large circular pale green area which is the tympanum or ear drum. By the corner of the mouth there is a white wart and there are white glands on the legs. All these glands produce secretions which are highly toxic to dogs and cats. Neurotoxins containing 5-MeO-DMT and bufotenin seep from the toad's pores and head. Both of these chemicals belong to the family of hallucinogenic tryptamines. These substances cause dogs and cats to foam at the mouth after licking the frog, suffer seizures, and experience high fever, dilated pupils, and a rapid heartbeat. Sonoran Desert toads are active from late May to September, though principally during the summer rainy season. They are nocturnal during the hot summer months. Toad toxicity may cause any or all of the following:

- Crying or other vocalization
- Pawing at the mouth and/or eyes
- Profuse drooling of saliva from the mouth
- Change in the color of membranes of the mouth – may be inflamed or pale
- Difficulty in breathing
- Unsteady movements
- Seizures
- High temperature
- Collapse

Dogs that have attacked toads have suffered paralysis or even death. Symptoms usually appear within a few seconds of an encounter with the Sonoran Desert toad. A pet owner's quick response is a dog's best chance at survival. If you suspect your dog or cat has come in contact with the Sonoran Desert toad and is suffering from toad toxicity, use a garden hose to flush your pet's mouth running the water from one side of the mouth to the other to allow the toxic rinse water to run out of the mouth and not down your dog's throat. Try to get as much of the poison out as possible. Seek veterinary care immediately. If you live in an area of Arizona where such toads could occur, please check your yard before letting your dogs out in it. You do not want your dog to have a close encounter of the toad kind! While these toads are not a threat to people, you should wash your hands, nose, eyes and mouth with antibacterial soap and warm water as soon as possible, if you touch one. It is not recommended that the legs of these frogs be cooked and served as food for humans.

Toxic Foods. Some foods should never be given to dogs. At the very least the dog will get sick and could die from ingesting even a little. Allow your dog to eat turkey only in small amounts, as their systems do not fare well with the tryptophan.

Speaking of Meds... Some prescription medications for dogs can be purchased from Internet sites. You may think you are saving money by using such sites, but the Internet sale of such drugs is not regulated by the FDA. The FDA has found companies that sell unapproved pet drugs and counterfeit pet products, make fraudulent claims, dispense prescription drugs without re-

DO NOT GIVE THESE FOODS/MEDS TO YOUR DOG

Chocolate, grapes, macadamia nuts, onions, or raisins, and do not allow your dog to have any product containing xylitol (like sugarless gum and some peanut butters) – these all have toxic effects. Also, do not give your dog aspirin, acetaminophen or ibuprofen. These drugs can cause gastrointestinal problems, respiratory difficulties, neurological problems, bleeding disorders and kidney failure. Always check with your vet regarding medications.

quiring a prescription, and sell expired drugs. Even if there is an expiration date on the product, you cannot tell if the medication has been stored properly and is still effective. If you want to order from an Internet pharmacy, check to see that the company is a *Vet-VIPPS* accredited pharmacy, which has strict licensing standards and inspection requirements.

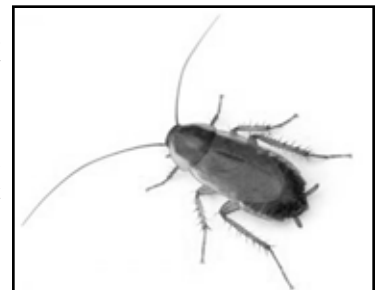
Ice cubes. Many dogs like to eat ice cubes, especially on hot summer days. Limit your dog's intake to only one or two, though, as eating too many can cause harm. Connie McCabe related to me that she once saw a dog start to have tremors after eating too much ice. Also, watch your dog very carefully if he/she is trying to eat an ice cube. I had to do the Heimlich maneuver on a Golden once because he swallowed a piece of ice that was too big to go down his throat – he choked on it and couldn't breathe. Fortunately, I had recently completed a human first aid and CPR course, so I knew how to do perform the Heimlich maneuver, but it scared the living daylight out of me!

Miscellaneous Safety Considerations

Food and Water Dishes Need to be Kept Clean. Do you wash your dog's food and water bowls by hand with soap or put them in the dishwasher? You should do this on a regular basis, preferably every day. Minute food particles that can grow bacteria will remain in bowls that look like they are licked clean; bacteria can develop in water bowls, even if the water is replaced several times a day. Would you eat off a plate or out of a bowl that had been used, or drink out of a used glass? Probably not. So, keep your dog safe and healthy by taking care to wash your dog's food and water bowls.

And so does your yard!

Please "poop patrol" your yard every day. Either pick up the dog feces using the "Five Finger Pickup" method (put your hand in a plastic bag that has been turned inside out, grab the poop, then turn the bag right side out) or use a poop scooper and deposit the poop into a garbage can lined



Wood cockroaches can be up to twice the size shown here; the adults can fly; both immatures and adults can move very fast!

with a plastic bag, so that you can lift the bag out every week to put out for your household trash collection. If you use a poop scooper, it is a good idea to wash it off with the hose after use; consider rinsing it in a bucket of diluted bleach (but don't leave the bleach solution where the dog can get at it!). Dog poop left on the ground in your yard is not only unsightly, it is unsanitary. Some insects, like cockroaches and dung beetles, like to eat or live in dog feces, and flies of many species will lay their eggs in feces, so you would be encouraging populations of all these critters if you leave the poop on the ground. Also, feces harbor bacteria. It is especially important to clean up the feces if your dog is coprophagic like my **Dolly** was – she would eat poop if I didn't pick it up as soon as one of the dogs deposited some, and sometimes it was a challenge to beat her to a pile! Yuck!



Adult dung beetle about life size



shown here with **11-087 Winnie McCabe/Dodson**. Connie and Nick got an unpleasant surprise one day when they left **Winnie** loose in the house and came home to find trash strewn from one end of the house to the other! There may have been something enticingly smelly in the can, or maybe **Winnie** was just bored and decided she wanted to see what was in there!

Trash Cans. Keep household trash cans in a cabinet or closet behind a closed door or get the kind with lids that lock on. A smart dog can get into trash cans with lids that are just set on top and have a movable flap like the one



I made a similar mistake years ago. My own Golden Retrievers never disturbed the trash in the kitchen trash can. However, I had a boarder once who did. We had BBQ ribs and corn on the cob for dinner. I wrapped all the bones and cobs in aluminum foil and without thinking dropped the package into the open kitchen garbage can. The boarder got into it and ate everything, foil and all. He passed blood in his stool for three days! We were lucky – he could have died.

Years ago when Connie and I were members of **RAGofAZ**, we brought in a Golden who had gotten into a bathroom garbage can like the small ones that people often keep by the toilet. When the dog started throwing up blood, the owner, not knowing what the dog had ingested, called the Rescue to surrender the dog, because

he had a suspicion it would cost him a bundle if he took the dog to a vet. So, the rescue had to do it. The vet did a barium series and detected a blockage. The dog needed surgery to open up his gut; the vet removed a large wad of adhesive tape wrapped around gauze. Once he was adopted, the dog had to have gut-opening surgery two more times because he ate some things he shouldn't have (once it was a *TV Guide*). The adopter appropriately named him **Hoover**.

Please take our trash mistakes to heart and purchase some dog-proof trash cans, or put your kitchen and bathroom trash cans in a closed cabinet!

Foot Gear. Should you and your dog do without the beneficial effects of walking during the summer? No! Very early in the morning is the best time to walk. Even after dark, asphalt pavement and concrete sidewalks will retain heat for hours. The rule of paw is if you, yourself, find the ground uncomfortably warm to walk on with bare feet, you should not allow your dog to walk without some foot protection – booties. We suggest that you go into your back yard in the middle of the day, take off your shoes and walk on the area that the dogs use, whether that be rock, artificial turf, patio pavers, or even pool “cool” decking. If it's too hot or rocks are too sharp for you to walk on comfortably, it's too hot and/or sharp for a dog. Please buy some good quality booties for your pooch!

The best booties are available online from any number of websites. Search on “dog booties”. Amazon.com carries an assortment of canine footgear, as does Chewy.com. The Muttluks Official Site, <https://muttluks.com/pages/dog-boots-size-chart>, gives instructions on how to measure your dog's feet. Some dogs have much larger front paws than back paws (or vice versa) and need a different size bootie for front feet than for back ones. *Aussie Boots, Kurgo Step & Strobe Dog Shoes, Muttluks, Summit Trex or Grip Trex Ruffwear*, or other brands with leather or rubber soles are most desirable. Do not buy fleece booties or booties with plastic soles – these will not offer adequate protection.

Most Golden Retrievers will wear size large. If you buy booties, label each one of the four with the foot that will wear it: RF for right front, LR for left rear, etc. Get your dog used to wearing booties by putting them on in the house and only on the front or back



11-055 Mylee happily wearing booties

feet at first. Make the dog walk around by attaching the leash to the dog's collar. The dog will probably balk, so have some treats handy, but don't give in to the balk, just walk. Once the dog has gotten used to the feel of the booties on two feet, then put the other pair on the dog. At first, the dog may walk like he has a spastic disease, but usually he will settle down fairly quickly and walk

normally. If you hike with your dog, booties can be useful for protecting your dog's feet from rocks and cactus spines. Booties can also be used in winter if you visit snow country.

Head Gear – Box Muzzle and Field Guard. If your dog is a rock-eater (pica) or a poop-eater (coprophagia), you might want to invest in either a box muzzle and/or an Out Fox Field Guard. Connie has purchased both for **20-033 Danny Boy** to keep him safe when he is outside. While wearing the OutFox Field Guard®, your dog can



pant, sniff, drink and play as usual! This mesh head-gear was developed to help keep foxtails from getting into the ears of hunting or field dogs. Connie said that the Field Guard mesh can get easily torn or the whole thing can be pulled off of

Danny's head if the other dogs are out in the yard trying to play with **Danny**. If you want to purchase one, go to <https://outfoxfordogs.com/> The disadvantage of the box muzzle is that if you're out walking in public, people will think you have a vicious dog.

Head Gear – Cones. Many of you have had – or will have – a dog that has had to have surgery of one sort or another. The dog comes back from the vet wearing a cone (technically called an Elizabethan collar).



The cone is supposed to keep the dog from licking or chewing on the surgical site so the site can heal. These devices are only effective if (1) the dog wears one day and night for the length of time specified (one to two weeks), and (2) the cone is fitted properly. If the cone is too short, the dog can still get at the incision,

whether that is on the belly or a leg; a smart dog can also paw it off. If your dog needs to wear a cone, be sure the cone is the right size and make the dog wear it until the dog's incision is healed. Make it fun – the dog can still play with the cone on, as shown in the photo above of **Bowie** and **Danny Boy** after **Danny's** surgery to remove some rocks from his stomach. He had no trouble sleeping with the cone on, either! The best kind of cone to get is one the dog can see through.



Be Prepared for a Poison Emergency

In spite of your best efforts to secure your home, your animal may become poisoned, so you need to be prepared. Your animal companion should regularly be seen by a local veterinarian to maintain overall health. Know the veterinarian's procedures for emergency situations, especially ones that occur after usual business hours. Keep the telephone numbers for the veterinarian, the **ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center** (888-426-4435), and a local emergency veterinary service in a convenient location.

Poison Safety Kit

Keep a pet safety kit on hand for emergencies. Such a kit should contain at least:

- ◆ A fresh bottle of hydrogen peroxide 3% (USP)
- ◆ Can of soft dog or cat food, as appropriate
- ◆ Turkey baster, bulb syringe or large medical syringe
- ◆ Saline eye solution to flush out eye contaminants
- ◆ Artificial tear gel to lubricate eyes after flushing
- ◆ Mild grease-cutting dishwashing liquid to wash animal after skin contamination
- ◆ Rubber gloves
- ◆ Forceps to remove stingers or plant thorns/spines
- ◆ Muzzle – an animal that is excited or in pain may unintentionally (or intentionally) try to harm you even if you are trying to help it
- ◆ Pet carrier or crate

Summer Treats for Your Dog

What could be more fun for Fido than chowing down on some delicious, frosty treats on a hot summer's day? Best to serve these treats outdoors!

The Original Frosty Paws

- 12 oz. vanilla yogurt
- 1 mashed banana OR 1 large jar of baby fruit
- 2 Tbsp peanut butter (without xylitol!)
- 1 Tbsp honey

Blend together. Freeze in 3-oz paper cups or in ice cube trays. Microwave a few seconds to thaw slightly before serving.

Chicken Pops

- 2 chicken breasts cooked and chopped
 - 2 cups water or low-sodium chicken broth
 - 1 Tbsp dried parsley
 - 8 or more disposable cups (cupcake holders or small Dixie® cups)
- Divide cooked, chopped chicken into 4 disposable cups, about ¼ cup chicken in each. In small bowl, mix water or broth with dried parsley, and pour about ½ cup over each chicken cup. Freeze for about 8 hours. Briefly dip disposable cup up to rim in warm water, then pop out chicken popsicle.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION SHEET

Everyone who travels with their pets should carry a copy of this sheet in the glove compartment of their vehicle, one in their wallet or purse, and one attached to a crate if your pets travel in such – the latter copy should be laminated and visible to anyone who would have to go into your car/van in case you were in a wreck or have another emergency.

ATTENTION - IN CASE OF EMERGENCY!!!!!!

Owner's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Pet's Name: _____

Breed: _____ Sex: _____ Age: _____ Description: _____

Medical Information:

This animal is current on all vaccines and is of no threat to anyone with whom it may come into contact.

If dog is not wearing a collar when in its crate, this animal's leash is located: _____

and you will be in no danger should you try to open the crate to attach the lead.

This pet has the following medical conditions that must be treated: _____

This pet's regular veterinarian is:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

What you should know about this individual animal:

SHOULD I BE UNABLE TO ATTEND TO MY ANIMAL DUE TO INJURY OR DEATH:

Please contact:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Animal should be boarded in the nearest animal boarding facility or veterinarian. PLEASE do not take my pet to an Animal Shelter or Humane Society. The above person has agreed to pay all fees to retrieve said animal and they have my permission to remove said animal from the boarding facility. Said person also agrees to pay any medical bills for said animal.

Should my first emergency contact be unavailable please contact:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Said individual has also agreed to the above.

Should one of my animals be on the loose following a car/van accident, please contact the above individual who will assist in the search should I be unable to participate. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated. This animal is a member of my family and it is my wish that it receive the best care possible.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Golden Hearts

We are so grateful to everyone who has given us their support! All donations to **AGR** are tax deductible. The donations shown below were made between April 16, 2021 and June 30, 2021. We sincerely apologize if any donors have been omitted. PLEASE NOTE: All donors who make donations during 2021 will receive an acknowledgment letter in January 2022, unless a receipt for taxes is requested sooner.

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In Honor of Connie McCabe's Birthday
A lot of Facebook Donors (see page 35)
Marlene and Dean Mortimore

Memorial Donations

In Loving Memory of All 2nd Quarter Bridge Dogs and people we have lost including:

11-014 Bear Hall-Goodwin
11-017 Bela Barktok Selznick
12-118 Nash Spiel
13-026 Nessa Long
14-011 Molly Myrick
16-041 Stella Gorski
17-031 Ginger Parton
18-027 Dodger Robinson
19-046 Red Trevino
21-022 Duke McCabe / Dodson

Rosco Glenn
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Marilyn Tigges – AGR Member Gary Tigges's Mother

Debbie and Rick Ball
Teri and Jeff Guilbault
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson

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In Loving Memory of 12-118 Nash Spiel

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In Loving Memory of 16-041 Stella Gorski

Kelly and Jeff Gorski

In Loving Memory of 11-017 Bela Barktok Selznick

Hannah Selznick

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Deb and Larry Orwig
Cindy and Gary Tigges

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**Gift Single Membership for Tia Raught
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To Carolyn and Peter Brown for vacation dog care for **Dillon**
and **Shelby**

Debbie and Rick Ball

To Pat Amaral for the beautiful necklace
Joni Cipollone

Second Quarter Facebook Donations

*In Honor of Stephen Ordway's Birthday Fundraiser for
Earth Day*

Jane Dignazio

In Honor of Sydney's Birthday Fundraiser for AGR

DeDe Darnell
Robert Darnell
Nate Williams

In Honor of Connie McCabe's Birthday Fundraiser for AGR

Total \$1,770! Nice Birthday, Connie -- Thanks!

Kathy Blue	Joan Mast
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Special Thanks

To those supporters who have set up a regular monthly donation either through their bank or through PayPal

Stephanie Beard	Judy Petitto
Coralyn Collins	Mary and Ken Richardson
Patrick Doyle	Carrie Stoneburner
Ellen and Jeff France	Mike Watts

*Special Donations**Our thanks to*

Pat Amaral for adding 8 gorgeous dog-theme charm bracelets to our merchandise sale inventory

Conni Eckhardt for a beautiful handmade lap quilt with Christmas theme

Randy Hall, who donated three double-latch X-pens, a whelping box, a stair gate and a professional grooming table

*Janine Mitchell, who donated numerous Golden-theme items before she moved to Costa Rica with her Golden, **Sunny***

Connie Wozniak for sewing up 16 adorable new purses that we have added to our merchandise sale inventory



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