



Reaching out to you with...

The Golden Paw



Volume XVII Number 2

May 2025

Published by Arizona Golden Rescue

Coming Soon - August 3, 2025!

PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

NEW!



Keep cool inside and

**SCORE
FOR THE
GOLDENS!**

Tournament details and
registration form inside

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 Masthead photo of **24-072 Duke** by Connie McCabe

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We have a new writer for the Magic Moments section of the newsletter: Sharon Wozny! We are so happy she offered to author this section!

From Sharon: *I am excited to begin writing **Magic Moments** for AGR. When I taught elementary school for 30 years, writing was my most favorite subject to teach. It was always a joy to watch the children use their imaginations to create stories that were their own. I have had the privilege of working for **Children’s Cancer Network** after I retired from teaching. One of my responsibilities was to write the staff members’ bios for the website. In addition, I had the honor of writing the bios for the models, who were the cancer fighters, and their siblings, for our Annual Inspirations Fashion Show and Luncheon. As each child walked the runway, our host would read the bios. Through **Children’s Cancer Network**, I met many siblings of cancer fighters, who inspired me to write a book for just the siblings. **Jamie’s Journey – Cancer from the Voice of a Sibling** was published in 2016. The book opens the dialogue for siblings to understand that they are not alone; many siblings feel those exact same emotions. The book is part story and part journal – the journal sections allow them the space to express their emotions while feeling safe. I am looking forward to being a contributor to **AGR** through my love of writing.*

Cover design by Connie McCabe

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



Arizona Golden Rescue has had a busy winter/early spring season with lots of activities and many volunteer opportunities. Our Director of Activities, Denise Padavano, and her assistant, Jeanne Wegener, work very diligently to plan and prepare for a variety of events. The variety keeps us from getting bored doing the same thing again and again. We meet new people at each type of event. The new events, especially, enable us to spread the word about *AGR* – who we are, what we do, and how we do it – to different groups of people. Even at the *PACC911* events where there may be 60 or more different rescue groups, we have had success at encouraging people to apply for adoption and/or become members.

Preparing for events can sometimes seem like an endless job, and definitely a worrisome one, especially new events because it is hard to anticipate problems that might arise. Denise and Jeanne are both superbly well-organized and make every effort to ensure things “go right.” To those who do not see everything that goes on behind the scenes (most of you), it may seem like these ladies just wave a magic wand and an event materializes in its full-blown and wonderful form, and we make a lot of money. However, a lot of anxiety and sleepless nights accompany the preparation of new events in particular.

The wine-tasting event last year in September is a great example. We had never done such an event, did not know the owners of *Pavilion Art Gallery* when we met them at *Trail's End* after the *Parada Del Sol* and they invited us to use their facility. We did not have any idea where to get the wine donated or what to serve with it or where to get the food donated, did not have a clue about possible silent auction items, and could not judge how this event would be received by our members – did enough of them enjoy drinking wine to make it worth the time to organize such an event? Were those who did not drink wine willing to attend anyway (we had water, soda and non-alcoholic wine available) just to socialize and to possibly bid on whatever silent auction items we put together? Turns out we had just about the maximum number of guests attend that the facility could accommodate comfortably, and we made \$45 shy of \$9,000. It was a thrill that this new event produced such great results, and these were directly attributed to all the planning and preparation by Denise and Jeanne that had gone into producing the event.

We hope to have a similar result with our new *Pickleball Tournament* on August 3, 2025. For those of you who know nothing about this sport, I have done some research on it and have included in this newsletter a “Primer on Pickleball” (pages 6-7). Perhaps

you would like to learn to participate in this sport? Perhaps you already play and enjoy it. Perhaps you know, like I do about myself, that your body would not allow you to play and you'll attend just as an observer, maybe come to indulge in the very nice brunch buffet that will be available, and come to watch others enjoy playing. The tournament will be held indoors, very important if we want to do anything in August in Arizona! Dogs that are people and dog-friendly will be welcome at *Chicken N Pickle*, too. If you are interested in helping with the planning and preparation, contact Denise. At the least, please consider joining us in some way for this new and exciting event. A registration form is included with this newsletter. Registration opens on May 15 and closes on July 15, 2025. See Tournament Details on page 8.

What is PACC911?

At a recent meeting of volunteers, most of whom had helped in one way or another at more than one of our activities, I was asked, “What is *PACC911*?” Since some readers do not get past page 3 in the newsletter, I want to describe here this terrific organization that helps us in so many ways.



PACC911 is an acronym for “*Phoenix Animal Care Coalition*, call us if you need emergency funds (that's what the 911 refers to).” *PACC911* is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to raise money to help Rescue groups rescue animals in need. We use the “partner symbol” at left whenever we describe a *PACC911* event.

Their website, PACC911.org, states: “*PACC911* brings together over 140 animal welfare organizations throughout Arizona to create a potent animal rescue community that works together under a unified umbrella.” This organization was founded by Bari Mears in 1999 with just a few rescue groups; *AGR* has been a “rescue partner” since 2009 when we incorporated.

There are various “funds” that rescue groups can tap for financial assistance. For example, I recently submitted a grant request for \$100 per adult animal for five dogs over 1 year of age for help with spay and neuter expenses for a maximum of \$500. We got the grant for just a morning's work on my part – well worth my effort. *PACC911* will also offer anywhere from \$500 to \$1,500 or more for one animal's rescue, especially if the animal is in critical health and needs emergency attention. During 2024, we actually received a total of \$7,000 in grants from *PACC911*, and to date have already been granted \$1,100. We are very grateful for these funds.

Adoptathons

Several times per year, *PACC911* offers Rescue groups the opportunity to interact with the public at the Adoptathons they sponsor in various parts of the Phoenix Metro area. Rescue groups are encouraged to attend at least one Adoptathon during the year – attending more is usually beneficial to the Rescue. *AGR* has already

had a booth at three; we will usually attend four or five during the year. We always attend the event held in Anthem and one at **Toyota of Surprise**. This year, we also had a presence at **Berge Toyota** in Mesa and are planning to go to the Adoptathon at **Pet Supplies North Scottsdale** on Sunday, December 7 and maybe at least one other – the fall/winter Adoptathon schedule was just released, but no attendance decisions have been made yet. **PACC911** advertises each event and hundreds of people attend, many of whom are looking to adopt a new family member or at least talk to a group that rescues the breed they are looking for. Some of the organizations that attend the Adoptathons do onsite adoptions, but many are like **AGR** – we talk to people interested in adopting a Golden Retriever, Goldendoodle or other Golden mix and explain our adoption process. We bring already-adopted dogs that have come through our program, so that people can see the type of dog they might get if they apply. Those adopters who come with their dogs are usually so proud of the dog(s) they have rescued from **AGR** that they want to show them off to the public. The dogs enjoy the attention, too.

At the Adoptathons, our dogs wear attractive donation vests we supply and usually collect more money in the vest pockets than the amount that ends up in the donation jars we keep on our booth tables. We are allowed to sell our merchandise and make a significant amount of money from sales of our unique, high-quality handmade items. Please read the articles on pages 24 and 27-29.

Rescued Treasures Charity Boutique

In addition to Adoptathons at which **PACC911** offers raffles, they raise money in several other ways. They run **Rescued Treasures Charity Boutique**, located at 3841 E Thunderbird Road, Ste 103, Phoenix, AZ. This very excellent thrift store has a terrific, artfully-arranged selection of ladies' clothing, accessories, home furnishings and accents, animal-related books, animal boutique items, and much more. The arrangement of items is especially attractive during the holiday season. The store is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM. Go visit!

Glimmer of Hope

A major source of funding is the **Glimmer of Hope Gala** that **PACC911** sponsors every year in November. They have many wonderful silent auction items available for bid and many individual and corporate sponsors. There is also a special raffle for a new Toyota 4-Runner SR5 sponsored by **Valley Toyota Dealers**. In 2024, **Glimmer of Hope** raised almost \$400,000! Donating to **PACC911** at any time is tax deductible.

Chuck Waggin' Pet Food Pantry

One other very worthwhile activity that **PACC911** sponsors is the **Chuck Waggin' Pet Food Pantry**. Volunteers collect and distribute unwanted pet food to families in need, feeding pets during financial difficulties. This innovative program helps keep beloved family pets home where they belong, as opposed to being surren-

dered to a shelter or Rescue. The program will take dog food, cat food, kitty litter, bowls, leashes and collars, and toys. Yes, opened food bags and pet food up to a year past its expiration date will be accepted. So, if you purchase a food your dog refuses to eat or to which the dog has an adverse reaction, or maybe your dog's dietary needs change and you need to use a different food, why not donate the unused food to the **Chuck Waggin' Pet Food Pantry**? Call 602-730-5044 to arrange for pick-up or to schedule a drop-off at one of the six locations shown on the website: <https://pacc911.org/chuck-waggin>



AGR now has an Instagram presence! The page was created in early February of 2025 by one of our volunteers, Hayley, and can be found by searching “arizonagoldenrescue” on Instagram. The goal of the Instagram page is to create another method in which **AGR** can reach more people, mostly a younger demographic who do not use Facebook, and more dogs can find loving homes. The page posts dogs available for adoption and updates when they are adopted, as well as success stories and information on upcoming events! So far, the page has garnered 84 followers and counting! Tagging “arizonagoldenrescue” in any personal Instagram stories/posts and encouraging your friends and family to follow and spread the word are all great ways to get more attention and get more dogs adopted! So far, multiple posts have been sent from followers to their friends/family, and several direct messages have been answered regarding questions about the dogs and how to move forward with the process of adoption. The Instagram page allows those who are interested in a specific dog to DM (direct message) Hayley with questions to which she can quickly answer and direct them through the proper channels to help them foster and, hopefully, eventually adopt a dog.

Here are some general statistics of **AGR** operations for first quarter 2025, 1/1/25 through 3/31/2025:

- 26 total Intake dogs (10 males, 16 females)
 - 13 under two years old
 - 7 are 3-5 years old
 - 5 are 6-8 years old
 - 1 over 12 years old
- Breed: 14 are mixes, 12 are purebred Golden Retrievers
- Status: 5 have been adopted and finalized
 - 7 are with FWITA families pending adoption
 - 2 were euthanized for medical reasons
 - 7 are available for adoption
 - 5 are at veterinary boarding awaiting medical clearance

Submitted Forms for first quarter 2025, 1/1/25 through 3/31/2025:
222 total forms submitted:

- 92 Adoption applications
- 65 Home Evaluations completed
- 39 Membership applications
- 20 Surrender Inquiries (from people wanting to surrender dogs)
- 6 Contact Us forms (from people wanting general information)

Golden Adventures!

Denise Padavano
Director of Activities

agrgoldenevents@gmail.com



The weather is beginning to warm up and summer is just around the corner! Many people are preparing to take vacations, getting their pools ready for swimming, and planning their Fourth of July festivities! Summer is a time for barbecues, picnics, and time with family and friends!

Gathering and socializing with people is always a fun adventure! Sharing stories and getting to know people better, making new friends and nurturing old friendships is important. So here is your opportunity! We have many new **AGR** members that have joined us this past year and have also adopted new dogs. We would love to meet you and your furry friends. So why not join us for some upcoming events, get to know each other, and volunteer a few hours of your time. We help educate the public about **AGR** and how we service our rescued dogs. Not only will volunteering your time benefit our beautiful dogs, but you will also feel invigorated knowing you are donating your time and energy to a great organization! The rewards are endless! You will have many opportunities to pet and receive the love of our dogs, which is therapeutic and very rewarding! So why not step out of your daily routine, enjoy some Golden adventures and have some fun with us! The experience will leave you all warm and fuzzy inside (and probably fuzzy outside, too)!

My youngster **Winnie's** perspective... *I joined my mom at my first **PACC911** event! First, I had a lot of fun walking by the basketball courts and playground area to the event! When I saw a ball bounce, I was jumping up and down getting ready to play ball! I couldn't help myself! I was acting all goofy, as 2-year-olds often do! However, my mom tugged on me to move along and wouldn't let me join the fun because we needed to get to our booth... maybe she'll let me play next time! I was very excited when I got to where we were going because I saw my friends **Asher, Vin, CaliGirl, Rosie** and **Sugar** again! Friends are so much fun to be around! We greeted each other with wagging tails and wiggly bodies!*

*Then, I got to meet new friends and new human volunteers which made me very happy! My mom is always looking for new members to volunteer and join us at our **FUN**raising events! The next thing I know, I was busy kissing all these kids' faces, getting petted and gathering donations in my vest, while my mom was busy talking to people about how to adopt a Golden like me! Now, I'm looking forward to the next **Golden Adventure!** Hopefully, I will see you there to give you some kisses too!*

New adventures and new memories await all of us in our Upcoming Activities! NOW is the time to plan your summer and fall Golden Adventures! Be sure to mark your calendars with the following dates!

All events are on the calendar on the **AGR** website (arizonagoldenrescue.org). Giving your time as a volunteer is at the core of our wonderful Rescue organization. **AGR** would not be able to do all these **FUN**raising events without the support of our dedicated and **EXTRA**ordinary volunteers. Please come join us and be a part of this wonderful group! Interested in **VOLUNTEERING**, please contact Denise Padavano or Jeanne Wegener at (agrgoldenevents@gmail.com). Looking forward to hearing from you soon!

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

NEW EVENT!

Score for the Goldens Pickle Ball Tournament

Sunday, August 3, 2025

1 PM to 4 PM with Brunch 10 AM to 2 PM

Location: **Chicken N Pickle**

Westgate Entertainment District

9330 W Hanna Lane, Glendale, AZ 85305

Prizes for 1st and 2nd place

Raffles and Silent Auction Items available

Dogs are welcome to hang out inside the COOP!

Registration form included in this issue of *The Golden Paw*

SAVE THE DATE!

Celebrate Fine Art, Wine & Tasty Tidbits

Sunday, September 21, 2025

1 PM to 4 PM

Location: **Pavilion Fine Arts Gallery**

7034 East Main Street, Scottsdale AZ 85251

"Raise a glass to Goldens!"

Wine, appetizers, and desserts will be available. There will be silent auction baskets and beautiful displays of framed photography, fine art and handmade jewelry to view and/or purchase. Look for details and registration form in the August issue of *The Golden Paw!*

A Pickleball Primer

By Deb Orwig, President
dorwigaz@cox.net

There is an extensive article about pickleball in Wikipedia online. I will summarize it here, but if you are interested in learning about pickleball, I suggest you read the entire article and some of the many (117) references it cites. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pickleball>.

History

The sport of pickleball was invented in 1965 as a children's backyard game! It has enjoyed a recent upsurge in popularity, though – by 1990, the sport was being played in all 50 states. Pickleball was invented on Bainbridge Island, Washington by three dads – Joel Pritchard, Bill Bell, and Barney McCallum – who worked together to develop an activity to keep their bored kids busy on a rainy day.

The Name's the Game

Although there are at least two other etymologies of the name "pickleball", the most-accepted version is that it was derived from the name of the Pritchards' family dog, **Pickles**. People who have adopted this sport are known as "pickleheads." Check out this site: www.pickleheads.com



A pickleball paddle with an indoor (left) and outdoor pickleball

The game combines aspects of badminton, tennis and ping pong. It requires the use of a court (like a badminton court, which is smaller than a tennis court) with a net (about the height of a tennis court net); a flat, solid paddle (usually a rectangular shape with a smooth surface); and a light-weight plastic ball with holes on the surface like a wiffle ball only smaller. There are standard accepted sizes and weights for paddles and balls. This publication lists all the specifications: <https://usapickleball.org/what-is-pickleball/official-rules/>

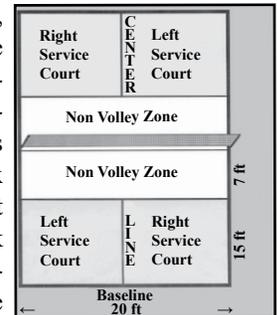
Equipment

Most sporting goods stores and even Walmart, Target and, of course, Amazon.com, carry a variety of paddles (so many, it's hard to choose!) and balls. Paddles range in price from about \$10 each to as much as \$280; there are many available in a reasonable price range of \$30-\$60. 3-packs of balls range from \$3 to \$9, 6-packs, 12-packs and even 48-packs are also available. Balls with smaller holes are generally used for outdoor play to minimize the effects of wind, but any sanctioned ball can be used for either indoor or outdoor play. If you're a beginner, it might be advisable to rent a

paddle at an indoor facility and play a few games until you get the "feel" of the paddle before you invest money in buying one.

The Court

Rules regarding court and equipment, order of play, and manner of play, are based on the *USA Pickleball 2025 Official Rulebook* or the *Equipment Standards Manual*. The size of the court is the same as for a badminton court, 20' x 44'. The net is 34" high in center, 38" at the edges. On each side of the net back 7 feet is a non-volley zone; the area beyond the non-volley line to the baseline (back 22 feet) and bounded by the side-lines is the service court, which is divided into left and right sides. Unofficially, the non-volley zone is commonly referred to as "The Kitchen."



Game Play

Games are fast-paced, usually lasting only 15-20 minutes. Games are generally played to a score of 11; a winning team must lead by two points, otherwise the play continues past 11 points until a team leads by two points. The cumulative score must be announced before each serve. The server alternates between the right and left service courts until their team commits a fault. A serve must land in the diagonally opposite service court on the opponent's side of the net. The serve receiver must allow the ball to bounce once before returning the ball to the server's side of the net. Once the receiver has returned the ball over the net, the serving side must also allow the ball to bounce once before returning the ball to the non-serving side. This is known as the two-bounce rule.

After the first two returns, either side may volley the ball – that is, return it before it bounces. The ball can never bounce more than once before it is returned. No player may volley the ball while standing in the non-volley zone or touching any of the lines around the non-volley zone. Pickleball utilizes side-out scoring, meaning only the serving side may score a point. The serving team earns one point each time the non-serving team commits a fault. Neither team earns a point when the serving team commits a fault.

The server may use a Volley-serve: underarm serve strokes are required, and there must not be any spin imparted to the ball. Or, a Drop-serve may be used: the ball is dropped to the ground and allowed to bounce before the server's paddle strikes it; the ball cannot be tossed or impelled by the server in any way. The ball can bounce more than once before being hit, and unlike the volley serve, there are no restrictions on how the player must hit the ball.

Faults include:

- either of the server's feet touches the baseline, the court, or the area outside the imaginary extensions of the cen-

terline or sideline prior to striking the ball

- not hitting the serve into the opponent's diagonally opposite service court
- volleying the ball when returning a serve
- volleying the ball when returning the first service return
- not hitting the ball beyond the net
- not hitting the ball before it bounces twice on one side of the net
- hitting the ball so it lands out of bounds (outside the court lines)
- stepping into the non-volley zone, or touching any of lines around the non-volley zone, in the act of volleying the ball
- touching the net with any part of the body, clothing, paddle, or assistance device
- crossing the plane of the net, if not in the process of striking the ball

Pickleball in Arizona

Arizona has been active in the development of the enthusiasm over pickleball. In 2001, pickleball was included as a demonstration sport in the Arizona Senior Olympics (ASO) with 100 participants. The pickleball tournament was held at the *Happy Trails RV Resort* in Surprise, Arizona (yes, we will be advertising our tournament at this place) and within five years included 275 participants. USA Pickleball held its first U.S. Pickleball National Championships in Buckeye, Arizona, November 2009! There are at least 400 pickleball locations with at least 2,386 courts in Arizona. Arizona has the 10th-most pickleball courts in the United States. Some courts are indoor; some are outdoor. Some courts are lighted, some are not. Some are free to play on, some are not.

If you are a beginner and you want to learn to play, we suggest taking a lesson or two in a pickleball facility near you. Many of the indoor facilities offer lessons. Check out your city here: <https://www.pickleheads.com/courts/us/arizona>.

At our tournament, play will be administered by a professional referee. The game can be played by beginners or experienced players. Anyone who can't or won't play is encouraged to attend to watch and cheer on the players. There is no charge for just being there, unless you want to indulge in the excellent brunch buffet.

Score for the Goldens! Pickleball Tournament Sponsored by Arizona Golden Rescue

Sunday, August 3, 2025

1 PM to 4 PM; brunch available from 10 AM to 2 PM

Chicken N Pickle

9330 W Hanna Lane, Glendale, AZ 85305

Registration opens May 15, closes July 15
Registration form included with this newsletter

VOLUNTEERING

AGR's success is largely due to the heart and soul of our volunteers. We have many volunteer opportunities available. Below are a few ways you can help:

FOSTER CARE

Foster homes are critical to our organization in the care and nurturing of newly rescued Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes. We need fosters who are willing to open their hearts and homes to offer loving support to these wonderful dogs while waiting for that new special family to call their own. Please visit the FOSTER PROCESS page from the website menu (arizonagoldenrescue.org) for more information.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Volunteers are needed to represent AGR at various events to share our mission and speak to the public about our adoption process. In addition, volunteers are needed to help transport, set up and pack up merchandise, tables and tents, and help monitor merchandise sales.

SOLICITATION

AGR is always in need of individuals to contact businesses to ask for gift cards, and items for our raffles and silent auctions. This can be a time-consuming effort with repeated visits or phone calls to different establishments, but the reward is in acquiring items for our fundraisers which help to offset AGR's veterinary expenses.

HEALTH CARE

Volunteers are needed to arrange veterinary care for all AGR dogs - both routine care and treatment of illness and injuries, and then release them for adoption. Requires database work with entry of notes and reminder dates, also good organizational skills and communication skills.

HOME EVALUATIONS

Volunteers are needed to conduct on-site home visits for prospective adoptive families to ensure safety and soundness for an AGR dog's placement. You will use an outline template to ask questions and record answers, make observations and a recommendation, then use our database to type in the answers to the online form.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Join our Membership team, which is responsible for coordinating all new and renewal AGR memberships. This generally involves data entry into our database, also usage of Word and Excel doing a "mail merge" to produce letters for renewals, and follow-up emails or phone contacts to former members that have not responded.

PLACEMENT

We can always use volunteers to help identify potential adoptive families for our new intake dogs, matching the dog's characteristics with the best possible approved family, entering notes in the database on all contacts, generating emails and text messages, and requesting transports. Good communication skills are needed, along with familiarity with Excel usage, and comfort in doing data entry into our database.

TRANSPORT

Do you love to drive? Compassionate volunteers are needed to transport dogs all over the Valley (and sometimes to outlying areas) from surrendering owners or shelters to veterinarians or foster homes, also to potential adopters, and to and from vet visits. A larger vehicle that can accommodate a crate (such as an SUV, minivan, or wagon) is helpful, along with being comfortable handling unknown dogs.





BINGO for our GOLDEN BUDDIES!

DATE: Sunday, June 22, 2025
TIME: 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM
LOCATION: Charley's Place
 4324 W Thunderbird Road
 Glendale, AZ 85306

Come have some fun and help us raise a little money to pay some vet bills!

Charley's Place will donate 10% to AGR for all food and beverage purchases. Eating/drinking is not mandatory, but check out their great menu at <https://www.restaurantji.com/az/glendale/charleys-place-/gallery/menu/#id=9pVBbAQyJq.jpg>

Bingo sheets with multiple cards per sheet:
\$10 donation suggested; play as many games as you want

Prizes will be available

AGR merchandise will be available for purchase

No registration fee, but if you intend to participate, please RSVP by Saturday, June 14 to agrgoldenevents@gmail.com necessary so that the bar and grill can gear up for more than the usual number of guests on a Sunday



**INDOOR PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT
SCORE FOR THE GOLDENS!**

DATE: Sunday, August 3
TIME: 1 PM to 4 PM
LOCATION: Chicken N Pickle
 9330 W Hanna Lane
 (east side of Westgate Mall)
 Glendale, AZ 85305

To Play: \$35 per person; \$70 per team
Brunch: \$35 per person

NOTE: Brunch buffet will be open from 10 AM to 2 PM; anyone purchasing brunch will be given a wristband and will get unlimited access to the buffet during these hours

Brunch and Play: \$65 per person
 \$125 per team of two

Children 10 and under 50% of adult price

NOTE: Chicken N Pickle is a cashless establishment; if you want to purchase food or beverage there, you'll need to bring a credit card

Raffles and Silent Auction

Prizes will be awarded to 1st and 2nd Place Teams

Dogs welcome on leash except in restaurant

MUST PRE-REGISTER: May 15 - July 15, 2025

Registration form included in this newsletter:
 Send form with check to AGR, 5350 W Bell Rd,
 Ste C122-258, Glendale, AZ 85308

OR scan Registration Form,
 send to info@arizonagoldenrescue.org and send Zelle
 payment to info@arizonagoldenrescue.org

SAVE THE DATE!

Fore! Paws Golf Tournament coming in 2026!

Friday, May 1, 2026

Papago Golf Course

5595 E Karsten Wy, Phoenix, AZ 85008

Dinner will be served

Raffles and Silent Auctions Available

Stay tuned for more details.



Health Care: Rare Diseases

By Liz Tataseo
Director of Health Care

e.tataseo@yahoo.com

Editor's Notes: For much more information on health conditions we have seen in rescued dogs, please refer to the Healthy Dogs Issue of The Golden Paw newsletter that we published in August 2024. It is available on our website: <https://www.arizonagoldenrescue.org/info/file?file=31148.pdf> In our 16+ years of Rescue, we thought we had seen most, if not all, "rare" diseases and conditions. 24-088 Mac proved us wrong. Read on...

Some Rare disorders/diseases in dogs that AGR has treated

Ectopic Ureter



18-037 Kona had surgery that failed to correct her dribbling problem

We have had three dogs that were diagnosed with ectopic ureter issues. One had surgery before she was surrendered and had her ureters placed in the correct position. One had surgery that didn't work, so we had to have another surgery done. Another one came in before surgery and **AGR** had one of the ureters moved to the correct position in the bladder. All three in our experience have been Goldendoodles.

When a dog is dribbling or suspected of urinary tract infection and that is ruled out, the possibility of an ectopic ureter should be considered. Ureters are the tubes that carry urine from the kidneys to the bladder. A relatively rare canine birth defect sometimes results in one or both of these tubes emptying away from their normal location in the bladder. And that was what happened with the first two dogs and with a recent small Goldendoodle that had one of her ureters placed back in the correct position. Surgery is the most effective way to treat ectopic ureters in dogs, but sometimes medications are still needed to prevent dribbling. Estrogen or synthetic estrogen can help with any leakage.

Von Willebrand's Disease

Von Willebrand's Disease, a genetic disorder, impairs a dog's ability to clot blood. Dogs with this condition lack a sufficient amount of von Willibrand factor, a crucial component in blood clotting. The disease can lead to excessive bleeding, even from minor injuries, posing significant risks during surgeries or injuries. Certain breeds are predisposed to this condition, emphasizing the need for genetic awareness and testing. Dobermans, German Shepherd Dogs and Labradors are most afflicted. We have rescued one Golden Retriever that we discovered had von Willebrand's. In order to do the needed surgery on the dog, a clotting factor for the blood had to be given during surgery to make sure his blood clotted. Most people are unaware of the various disorders that cause lack of clotting, and it is usually safest to do a clotting factor test on a dog before any surgery.



24-088 Mac, the only dog out of 1434 rescues that has had von Willebrand's Disease

Addison's Disease

Addison's disease, or hypoadrenocorticism, is a condition where the adrenal glands fail to produce enough essential hormones like cortisol and aldosterone. This disease can be challenging to diagnose due to its non-specific symptoms, which can mimic other conditions. It's more commonly seen in young to middle-aged dogs, and early detection and treatment can significantly improve the prognosis.



We knew 24-057 Maggie had Addison's Disease when she was surrendered to us - her condition was stable on low-dose prednisone. We never turn away a dog due to medical reasons.

Symptoms of Addison's Disease are often vague, including lethargy, vomiting, diarrhea, and sometimes severe episodes of collapse in stressful situations. Because of its elusive nature, Addison's Disease is often diagnosed through exclusion and confirmed with specific blood tests. Understanding these symptoms and the importance of regular veterinary check-ups can aid in early detection, greatly impacting the management and quality of life for dogs with this condition.



In our rescue experience, 15-096 Ford is the only dog who suffered from Myasthenia Gravis - he passed away at age 19 months. None of the puppies he sired (Vin Orwig is one of them) have, to our knowledge, ever developed the symptoms Ford had.

Myasthenia Gravis

This disease attacks the link between a dog's nerves and muscles. MG is one of the autoimmune diseases; the main cause might be that a puppy's immune system is

harming its neuromuscular junction. However, cancer, failure of the thyroid gland, birth defects, and other conditions could be an explanation, but an autoimmune disease is difficult to treat, as the body attacks itself.

The first symptom of Myasthenia Gravis is muscle weakness. In some isolated cases, it seemed that only a few muscles were affected, but in other circumstances, the whole body was suffering. We've had one known dog that was affected with this at a very young age: **15-096 Ford**. He became progressively worse, developed megaesophagus and eventually had to be euthanized. Supportive care and medications can sometimes help a young dog get through the crisis period, and doing so will give the necessary support to a puppy in order to live a normal life.

Megaesophagus

Megaesophagus in dogs is a disorder in which the esophagus gets larger in size and consequently loses its ability to transport food. When your dog eats food, the presence of food sends signals to the brain's swallowing center. The swallowing center then sends a signal to the swallow reflex. If the esophagus is enlarged, the muscles that squeeze the food down to the stomach do not work and food either remains in the esophagus or the dog regurgitates the food.



Liz's girl, 17-075 McKayla was born with megaesophagus; she sits up in a chair at feeding time

Dogs are either born with a congenital megaesophagus condition or can acquire it later in life from some other neurological issue such as Myasthenia Gravis or issues such as: blockage in the esophagus by scar tissue, tumor, or a foreign body; damage to the muscles and nerves of the esophagus, inflammation in the esophagus, exposure to toxins, or hormonal diseases.

Regurgitation is not vomiting, and food comes out usually right after eating or can happen later on but will not look digested. Food can be aspirated into the lungs when this happens, and pneumonia can result very quickly. If the condition is diagnosed in the early puppy stage, Sildenafil medication can help the esophagus muscles. Determining if food needs to be solid or liquid or mush can help. Dogs also do best when eating standing up so the food can drop directly into the stomach. Sometimes surgery can be helpful. Most dogs that acquire Mega E in old age have a more difficult time with treatment for the condition.

If your dog starts having ANY unusual activity or sudden unusual issues, take your dog to your vet.



The Human Connection

By Connie McCabe,
Human Resources Director

photocraf@aol.com

"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 the some of the people you might know. Hopefully you will learn something new about them and gain more insight into how they got here. I know there are a lot of people who 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.

Hopefully by now you will have noticed that 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 adopted a dog from us and some who don't even have a dog at all! We are 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.

Now let's welcome long-time members and volunteers, Rand and Wendy Drake.



Rand, Wendy and Garrett with Trixie

In Rand's words: *I grew up in an Air Force family and I spent 20 years in the Navy traveling all over the world, mostly as a deep-sea diver. Phoenix is the 22nd city in which I have lived. I spent another 26 years in civilian operations management roles, primarily in Virginia. Amazon moved us to the Valley in 2008, where I was part of the team that opened the second distribution center here.*

*I first became involved with **AGR** when **Bos'n** (formerly **Marfil**) joined our family in 2012. My previous experience with dogs as an adult was with Akitas when I lived in Virginia. The combination of the desert climate and having a six-year-old boy made Akitas not the best choice and we fortunately stumbled upon Golden*

and **AGR**. After adopting **Bos'n**, I volunteered as a member of the Home Evaluation Team for a couple of years until my work situation made that difficult. I recently retired from full-time work and have joined the Placement Team.

Bos'n went to the Bridge earlier this year and the Drake family has recently adopted **25-014 Honey**, now **Trixie**.

Meet Hayley and Kyle Urban, recent adopters who have brought the long-awaited presence of **AGR** to Instagram.



Kyle and Hayley with Penny

*Hi! We are Hayley and Kyle Urban and currently live in Mesa, AZ with our **AGR** Rescue, **Penny**! Hayley works as a nurse and Kyle works as a flight test engineer. We adopted **Penny** in December of 2023, and she has been the best thing to happen to us.*

*Kyle's family always fostered multiple dogs at a time and Kyle grew up with two Golden; getting a Golden was always our plan since our Husky passed in August of 2023. It was important to us that we rescue, and after multiple hours searching for local Rescues, we sat in our car defeated. That's when our luck changed, and we found **AGR** online. Hayley went to the website and saw **Penny** was up for adoption and we fell in love with her dopey face. When we got the call to foster with plans to adopt, we were thrilled. It took about 2 seconds for us to fall in love with her, and she has been the best addition to our furry family, alongside our elderly Yorkie, **Bentley**.*

*We have loved taking **Penny** to training classes and learning more about how to train her. She now knows multiple commands, walks great off-leash, and is well-behaved when meeting new people and dogs. We wanted to get more involved with volunteering, and we thought about who better than **AGR**, who has given us our best friend. We have attended the past two **AGR** events and have loved getting to meet all the incredible members.*

*Hayley noticed that **AGR** didn't have an Instagram account and thought this would be a great way for her to get involved and reach more people to help more dogs find their loving forever homes. Follow **AGR** on Instagram at 'arizonagoldenrescue'!*

FROZEN TREATS for DOGS and PEOPLE

Best one is **Frosty Paws**: Melt 1 heaping Tbsp honey and 1 heaping Tbsp peanut butter together in microwave. Add to 1 large container of vanilla yogurt and mix well. Add 2 large jars of baby food fruits (peaches, bananas, applesauce, etc) OR 2 mashed-up fresh bananas. Spoon into paper cups and freeze.

DO NOT USE GRAPES – GRAPES ARE TOXIC TO DOGS!

The Financial Picture

By Deb Orwig

Arizona Gives Day 2025

Arizona Gives Day was on April 1, 2025. It was NOT April Fool's Day, but rather a very good day for **Arizona Golden Rescue**. As the administrator of **AGR's** page on AZGives.com, I had to set a financial goal when I registered our participation for 2025. Last year's goal was \$8,000; we made it and a little more due to a special one-time and very generous donation of \$2,500 from **Fiesta Bowl Charities (FBC)**.

This year, even though I knew we would not be getting another sizable donation from **FBC**, I thought, "What the heck, let's go for it!" and set the goal at \$9,000 – shoot for the stars and you might get to the moon. Pick a star, any star, and we're on our way! I did not do much publicity this year. I mentioned *Arizona Gives Day* as a "commercial" during my presentation at *Paws At The Park* on March 23rd and sent out only one email to the membership with a reminder the day before *Gives Day*. Well, we did it – and with little advertising or pleas from me. We reached our goal of \$9,000 when the last donation came in offline! These donations will definitely help us get through the summer with vet expenses! The 64 donors are listed below and on page 12.

Anonymous (2)	Adrienne and Chris Farrell
Teddi and Delwin Axne	Sharon Flores
Debbie Ball	Kay Hale
Daisy Barsetti-Nerland and Blake Wach	Reidun Halpert
Stephanie Beard	Stephanie Harding
Ann Bogle	Joanne Henning
Jana Bradshaw	Linda Hester
Betsy and Fred Brown	Krista Hill
Tracy and Gary Buffington	Allison Jewell
Patty Burbridge	Sally and Wendell Jones
Jeffrey Campbell	Marti Joyce
Joni Cipollone	Gracia and Jeffrey Kany
Lisa Clinchy	Jean Klink
Colorado Animal Rescue Express (C.A.R.E.)	Karie and Jake Lurie
Karen Davis	Keri and Rich Marchant
Andrea and Colin Decker	Joan and Keith Mast
Fred and Jerri Dogan	Amy Maynard
Kathleen Donahue, DO	Anne and John McGill
George Douvas	Cathy McIntyre
Patrick Doyle	Mike Mitchell
Emilie Duncan	Pat Morgan
Cheryl Duter	Trishia Murphy
Mary and Bert Engstrom	Wendy Nelson
	Jeffrey and Kelli Nowak
	Deb and Larry Orwig

Stacy Owsley
Denish Padavano
Patrick Parker
Jocelyn Raught
Michael Rousculp
Diane Rousseau
Josephine Sala
Viki and Russell Snedden

Christine Spiel
Barbara and Victor Tolin
Jane Triplett
Noemi Vazquez
Jeanne Wegener
Mary Whitmer
Terri and Bob Witte
Shotzie Workman

I thank every one of you for your generosity! I hope you all kept the receipt you were sent by *AZGives*, because I do not generally acknowledge these donations in my end-of-year-donations letters.

Most of the *AZGives Day* donations are not included in the table below, since most came in after March 31st.

Reporting period: January 1, 2025 - March 31, 2025

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Adoption Application Fees	\$ 1,875.00	\$
Adoption Income	11,113.50	
Calendars		
Sales of 2025 Calendars	320.00	
Donations		
General Fund	12,337.44	
Honorary	3,420.00	
Memorial	1,569.00	
Gift Wrap	393.00	
Grants	30,050.00	
Membership Income	7,344.00	
Merchandise Sales	3,848.48	
Pre-paid Shipping	13.50	
Paws At The Park	1,866.00	
Auction	2,060.00	
Donations	1,367.74	
Prizes	1,190.00	
Adoption Fee Refunds		950.00
Credit Card Expense		119.26
Event Expense		237.82
Paws At The Park Expense		348.58
Internet Services		401.64
Legal & Professional Fees		10.00
Merchandise Purchases		1,593.53
Office Expenses		462.35
PayPal Charges		139.55
Postage		660.15
Rent or Lease (storage facility)		869.00
Stationery & Printing		1,801.67
Telephone		68.47
Dog-related Expenses		
Behavioral Training		2,600.00
Boarding		3,935.60
Collars, Leashes & Collar Tags		1,096.15
Dog Food		681.89
Veterinary Services		63,677.95
Total Income through 3/31/25	\$78,767.66	
Total Expenses through 3/31/25		\$79,653.61
Net Operating Income	- \$ 885.95	



Diamonds in the Ruff

By Debbie Ball
Director of Operations

debbie.ball@arizonagoldenrescue.org

Diamonds in the Ruff are dogs on which **AGR** has incurred at least \$2,000 in expenses. For the first quarter of 2025, we had seven dogs that met this benchmark. 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 as such.

23-025 Charlie was originally surrendered in May 2023 as a 2-year-old neutered Golden Retriever mix whom the owner could no longer care for, as she was moving. He received all the usual veterinary updates and in June 2023 was evaluated by *Eyecare for Animals* for eye issues. In July 2023, **Charlie** was adopted by Kim and Eduardo in Chandler.



Charlie had a very unique appearance in what seemed to be a swollen and wrinkled face – he looked like he was part Shar Pei mix. In November 2024, the adopters had **Charlie** evaluated and he was found to have food allergies and hypothyroidism; treatment for both were prescribed. Since his once-chronic swollen face was then lessened, it was found that **Charlie's** eyelids were folding inward in a major and unhealthy way. Since **AGR** had originally offered eye surgery which was declined, the Board determined to cover the expense of **Charlie's** entropion eyelids surgery, which was done in late January 2025. This eye surgery in 2025 totaled **\$3,580**.

24-075 Bear was rescued by **AGR** in early November 2024 as a then 10-month-old unneutered male pure-bred Golden Retriever whose prior family had young children and no time for **Bear**. He received all his initial vetting in November and was placed with Ben and Kara in Gilbert.



In mid-January, **Bear** was seen at one of our partner veterinarians for an emergency exam and X-rays due to vomiting and lethargy, which was diagnosed as pneumonia. Unfortunately, this placement did not work out for various reasons, and **Bear** was returned to **AGR** in mid-February. In mid-March, **Bear** was placed with Doug and Leslie in Scottsdale pending finalization. He was finally neutered on March 31st. **Bear's** first-quarter 2025 expenses were **\$2,192**.

24-080 Juno came into **AGR** in November 2024 as a 4-year-old



male Golden mix transferred from a Rescue in Mexico. He was already neutered. He is a sweet, passive and gentle boy, good with other dogs, too. He had had an unfortunate accident resulting in one of his eyes needing removal. Upon medical evaluation with one of our partner veterinarians, **Juno** was found to have ear infection issues and also a missing right ear

drum, so he is probably deaf in that ear. In early January 2025, **Juno** was adopted by Lisa and Joe in Sun City. *AGR* agreed to pay for **Juno's** needed dental work, which required a dental enamel hypoplasia treatment to smooth rough edges, plus a bonding agent. **Juno's** expenses for first quarter 2025 were **\$3,980**.

24-082 Deegan is an adorable purebred male Golden Retriever surrendered in late November 2024 as an 11-week-old puppy when his prior owners realized they were "in over their heads" trying to manage a puppy while working full-time. He received all the usual vaccinations and a needed ear cleaning in February. While **Deegan** was in foster care, he accidentally ate the squeaker from a toy, requiring an emergency enterotomy for removal. **Deegan** has been adopted by his foster mom, Judy in Phoenix, and is doing well. Total 2025 costs for **Deegan** so far have been **\$7,284** (that was one expensive toy squeaker!), which will increase when he is old enough to be neutered at *AGR's* expense.



24-088 Mac is our last rescued dog from 2024, coming in on 12/31/24 as an 8-month-old purebred male Golden Retriever puppy. He had a chronically-injured right front paw, and his owners could no longer afford the medical expenses for him. **Mac** was fostered by Connie and Nick, who said he was a very sweet and playful guy, got along well with their pack of dogs, but was

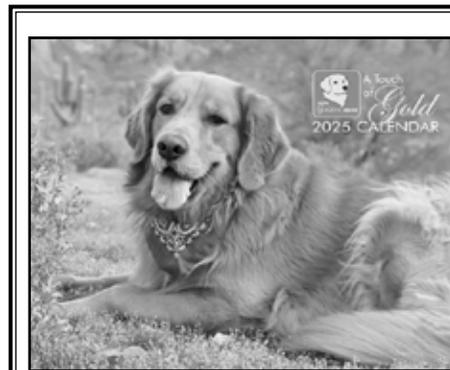
constantly bothered by the bandaged paw which required frequent bandage changes. During emergency services at *VetMed*, it was discovered **Mac** had von Willebrand disease (see Liz's article on page 9), which is a genetic, lifelong bleeding disorder causing the blood to not clot properly. In late January, **Mac** had toe amputation surgery and was neutered. Amazingly, the surgeon that worked on **Mac**, Dr Lynn in Scottsdale, wanted to adopt him (his adoption is not yet finalized). After the amputated toe pathology was returned, **Mac** was found to have cutaneous/subcutaneous hemangiosarcoma. Upon consult with two oncologists, it was determined that electrochemotherapy treatments were the best sug-

gested treatment due to **Mac's** bleeding disorder. **Mac's** expenses so far in 2025 have cost *AGR* **\$12,274**. We remain hopeful that these treatments will arrest the cancer, and we are thankful that **Mac** is in good hands with a veterinarian who wants to adopt him. We are also very grateful for financial assistance for **Mac** donated by Jeannette and David Morrocco, the *Golden Retriever Foundation* and *PACC911*.



25-005 Katana was a 13-year-old purebred Golden Retriever originally rescued in 2017. In early January 2025, his adopter found she could no longer care for him and so he was returned to *AGR*. After medical evaluation by one of our partner veterinarians, **Katana** was found to have metastatic cancer and was anorexic, so the Board determined it best to have him peacefully euthanized. Expenses for **Katana's** evaluation and euthanasia cost *AGR* **\$3,957**.

25-006 Chloe was a 2-year-old spayed female purebred Golden Retriever who came into Rescue in mid-January with her bonded littermate sister **25-006 Frida**. Their owners had young children and no time or space for the dogs any longer. **Chloe** had all the usual tests and vaccines updated, and both girls were placed together with an adoptive family in Chandler. Sadly, a very freak accident occurred in late February: while the two dogs were playing they ran head-on into each other. **Chloe** could not get up, was rushed to veterinary emergency where she was found to have a compressed spinal cord and vertebrae at an abnormal angle (i.e., her neck was broken). Late-night consults with several Board members determined the best solution was to have **Chloe** euthanized to alleviate any further pain. (Thankfully, her sister, **Frida**, seems to be fine.) Expenses for **Chloe** were **\$3,036**.



*Do you have yours?
We still have some left – they are now FREE and will just cost you \$3.00 for postage. Order yours today – there are still 8 months of gorgeous photos to enjoy!*

MAGIC MOMENTS

By Sharon Wozny

*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 January 16, 2025 through April 15, 2025. All adoptions finalized after April 15th will be in the next issue.*

Our sincere thanks to Sharon Wozny for taking over the writing of this section of the newsletter. Please read Sharon's bio on page 2.



24-032 Bailey is a neutered male, 4-year-old Golden Retriever with a reddish coat; he is healthy and active. He was surrendered due to a divorce situation. After their hearts were broken with the loss of their dog of 16 years, Fred and Barbara were ready to invite a new four-legged friend into their family. **Bailey** stole their hearts from the first moment they saw him.

Fred said: *When we met this beautiful Golden, he was so gentle that Barbara had no trouble walking him around the grounds of the boarding facility.* Fred and Barbara were excited to help **Bailey** become the best version of himself. Through the help of Sharon M, a trainer, **Bailey** has made incredible strides with being around other dogs. He is a smart dog who has become happy and content in his new home because of the constant love and encouragement from Fred and Barbara. They want everyone to know that *he is the most talented and fun-loving dog.* Fred related: *He is my Velcro dog! He is constantly at my side. Plus, he is a GREAT friend to both of us! Thank you to all the dedicated people at AGR that allowed us to adopt him and bring so much joy to our lives.* What a lucky dog to have found his perfect forever home!



24-047 Apillow is a 15-year-old beautiful, well-groomed and spayed Goldendoodle, who loves meeting people. She was chosen from 23 other puppies by the original owner's young son because, as he said, *she was as soft as a pillow.* Hence, her adorable name! When **Apillow's** owner realized, for personal reasons, he was no longer able to care for her, he made the tough decision to surrender her to **AGR**. For a 15-year-old Goldendoodle, she was in relatively good health; upon meeting her, many people think **Apillow** is much younger. She was fostered and eventually adopted by Tiara and Paul, who have been there, along with the

AGR team, through all the medical changes that a senior dog experiences such as arthritis, leaking urine, high protein in her urine and dental issues. They knew that **Apillow** needed a family who would be able to be at home and manage her medical issues. Tiara and Paul have provided the best care for her to continue with a life of ease and comfort. Tiara said: *When Apillow came to us, she was battling kennel cough and we had moments where we feared we might have to let her go with dignity. Thankfully, with the incredible support from AGR and the love and care we provided, she made it through those tough nights, even when she struggled to walk or control her bladder. We all rallied around her and our persistence paid off.* **Apillow** likes car rides and is friendly, active, leash trained, obedient, affectionate and gentle. Plus, she loves a good go at Tug-of-War! She carries herself with grace and dignity as only a senior can do! Her demeanor of gentleness and playfulness makes her a great companion for cats and other dogs. Guess what her favorite snack is? Cheerios! A family cabin in Flagstaff is a frequent destination; she enjoys the cooler weather in the summer as she lounges in the cabin. Tiara related: *Apillow has blossomed into a joyful presence in our lives. She prances around our home with the spirit of a puppy after playing with our son more than Bo and Maxx do. It's heartwarming to see her energy and enthusiasm for life. And let's not forget her mischievous side – she's a master at stealing food, clearly a pro at counter surfing in her younger days! She has brought so much joy and laughter into our lives, filling our days with love and lazy afternoons together. We feel truly blessed to have her with us. When the time comes for her to leave us, I find comfort in believing she will run straight into the arms of my Grandmother Shirley, who passed away on March 20, 2025. My Grandma adored dogs and all animals, and I know Apillow will be right with her, sharing the love they both deserve.* With the constant care and love of Tiara and Paul, **Apillow** will continue to live her best life!

24-059 River has the most incredible story of resilience and determination. A beautiful 2-year-old Golden/Lab mix, **River** just showed up in the finder's yard one day. Unable to bring the dog into the house because of cats, the finder made **River** comfort-

able in the backyard with misters, water and food. She was placed on stray hold with **AGR**. Through her journey, **River** had developed her own coping strategies to survive. Being cautious, skittish and tentative, she needed to learn that she could trust humans once again. It was important to find the right family that would enable **River** to feel confident and unafraid.



Wow, did she hit the jackpot with Tammy, John and Sean! Showing compassion and patience, they allowed **River** the space and time for her to feel safe and secure. With many hours of training to ensure **River's** success, it is a great pleasure to announce that **River** is now living her best life. Read these heartfelt sentiments from Tammy: *Ah, **River**... we got **River** in November 2024 and we loved her right away. At first, she was a bit leery, not knowing what was what. But boy, she sure settled in quite nicely. We always call her a beautiful girl, and sometimes I think she knows it. She loves her belly rubs. She really likes her nice big yard to do zoomies. She still is a little wary of some of our family members, but she is coming along. She certainly knows when it is time for breakfast and dinner! We love that she is a part of our family, and I am pretty sure she likes being part of the family too!* Such a joyous ending for **River**, Tammy, Sean and John.



24-068 Lennox is a playful 11-month-old female Goldendoodle with a Golden Retriever-type coat. Her surrendering owners had her since she was a puppy. Unfortunately, they were experiencing some critical health issues that would prohibit them from caring for her. She had lived with two mini-Schnauzers and had ex-

perience around older children. She was fostered by Diane, who discovered that **Lennox** loves chew toys and stuffed animals. Playing with other dogs helps to exhaust her boundless energy. Finding the perfect forever home that will meet **Lennox's** needs, as well as the family's, is always a top priority for **AGR**. Ray was that home for **Lennox**! Now she is known as **Lucy**. Well **Miss Lucy** is a dog who loves to be outdoors. And that is a wonderful thing, as Ray and Olivia are avid hikers and campers. **Lucy** has experienced the trails at South Mountain and the Arboretum. She has also become an expert fishing dog, relishing looking for fish in the creeks of Sedona. Not only does she treasure the outdoor scenic desert areas of Arizona, she simply adores her backyard. As Ray wants you to know: *She will sit next to the sliding glass door and give puppy eyes until I let her out for the day; she hunts for bugs and employs her slow precise technique to stalk the birds and bunnies. Before she starts in on her zoomies, she rolls around in the grass. You might even catch her sunbathing!* After all this

boundless enjoyment, **Lucy** snuggles and makes sure she has direct contact with you so that you will never stop petting her! That's a definite requirement for **Lucy**, as Ray says with a smile. *She will get my attention by jamming her head into my hand to continue the pets. I bet you have never heard of "the feather duster" – a sweet, quirky move of **Lucy's**! One of the cutest things she does is what Olivia and I call "the feather duster." When she's really comfy and lying on her back, she will wiggle her tail in between her hind legs just like a feather duster!* You can feel Ray's unconditional love in his next sentiment: *I cannot express how HAPPY I am to have been placed with her. She has been such a light in my life from the day she arrived. I am looking forward to all the adventures ahead with **Lucy** girl. And I guarantee **Lucy** shares the same exact sentiments!*



24-072 Walker, a 1-year-old Golden mix, was a stray that was found by a woman in Phoenix. She found him by the side of a busy road with water and a bag of food. Understandably so, he was a bit scared of riding in the van when **AGR** went to retrieve him from the finder, but he became more relaxed once he was settled. **Walker** was lucky enough to be fostered by Christina.

She noticed that he was smart and interacted well with people and other dogs. His interactions were adorable to watch as they would run, play and do the "bowing" move. What is the bowing move? It is a friendly, non-threatening communication technique dogs use to say "I want to be your friend. Let's go play!" With all these wonderful qualities, Brenda, Peter and Jonathan were excited to adopt him. He is now called **Duke**! You can feel their love for **Duke** in these sentiments: ***Duke** is a great addition to our family. He enjoys getting us to walk and hike. He's made friends at daycare with staff and other young dogs. He especially enjoys the daycare's special events that involve treats. He's a cuddler in the evening and loves to be between us until it gets a bit too warm!* **Duke** is certainly fortunate to be with this wonderful family!



24-073 Oakley is a 4-year-old energetic and playful female Goldendoodle with more of a Poodle coat. Unfortunately, **Oakley** needed to be surrendered because of a divorce situation – neither adult would be able to provide the type of home **Oakley** deserved. She has found her forever home with Ryan and Amy. Ryan commented: ***Oakley** is the missing link to our family, and we are so excited to have her. In fact, we are so excited that we were just approved for another Goldendoodle from **AGR**. We cannot imagine our household without her! What are some of her favorite things? She is crazy for bully sticks, loves to play ball, is a water*

enthusiast as well as a bed hogger, taking up half of it! You can find **Oakley** hanging with the neighborhood dogs; in addition, it is her mission to say Hi to everyone she encounters! She ends up with immense amounts of attention. She is an avid car rider, but is just learning to enjoy the breeze as she puts her nose out the window. Adopting her was the best decision we have made! She is happy and living her best life with lots of love! Amy and Ryan have provided **Oakley** with a variety of opportunities to flourish!



24-075 Bear is a stunningly handsome 2-year-old male Golden Retriever with a luxurious red coat. The surrendering owners' work schedules had changed; therefore, they were unable to put in the time necessary to train and work diligently with **Bear**. Ultimately, they wanted **Bear** to be with a family that would devote the time and extra attention needed for training, as he is quite an active, enthusiastic

and playful dog! In addition, **Bear** had been suffering with dietary issues that required detailed attention to his food. He needed the ideal home that would help him reach his full potential! He most definitely found that forever place with Doug, Leslie and their other dog **Lucas**. Open paws welcomed **Jethro** into his new residence. Because of the monitoring and loving care provided by Leslie and Doug, **Jethro** is flourishing and gaining weight. This is such an inspiring narrative of how **Bear** became **Jethro**! Doug related: *When we started our journey with **Bear**, he weighed 47 pounds instead of 70! So, we wanted him to be able to have a new and better life, thus **Jethro**. Here are two amazing coincidences involving his new name. First, I use my phone for music every day. But for some odd reason, the ear phones wouldn't work. On to Plan B, which I hardly, if ever, use. I tee up my old iPod. Guess what the first song is? "Aqualung" by Jethro Tull! Then a few days later, Leslie goes to church and the first lesson of the day? It's about Moses (way in over my head) and his father-in-law, Jethro! In summary, our first rescue, **Lucas McCain** (The Rifleman) has been one of the great joys in our lives. Due to life's circumstances, we recently lost our two Goldens, **Blake** and **Charlie** and we were without dogs. Now, we hope **Lucas** and **Jethro** can become best friends like their predecessors. When you see **Lucas** and **Jethro** together, you might think they were littermates! I think we all can agree that **Jethro** is right where he should be with his new name and family!*

24-076 Cooper is a neutered male 3-year-old Goldendoodle who sports Poodle-type hair rather than a Golden's coat. For personal family reasons, **Cooper** was surrendered to **AGR**, but, luckily, he found his forever home with Cheryl. Before coming to live with Cheryl, **Cooper** lived in harmony



with a cat and another dog. **Cooper** now has the adventure of living in Prescott! Cheryl related: *Last April I lost my beloved 70-pound 9-year-old Labradoodle also named **Cooper**. Losing your best friend is something where no words can really express such a deep loss. Sometimes getting another pet can help in the healing process and open your heart again. You won't believe what happened as Cheryl was looking at rescues: **Cooper** was available at **AGR**. Some might say this was meant to be, because **Cooper** was adopted by Cheryl and is affectionately now known as **Mini Cooper**. There is no other way to describe **Cooper** other than sweet, cuddly, smart and a good listener. Months of fostering and continued guidance, along with support for behavioral issues, we, **AGR** and myself, were able to get him back on track. With a solid routine, good nutrition and lots of love, this dog has really blossomed into more than you could ever imagine. Cheryl is a disabled veteran – we thank you for your service! **Mini Cooper** has become her emotional-support dog who always knows when she is struggling. She relates what he does to lift her spirits: ***Mini Cooper** gives me nudges and makes me laugh when we play. We will have many camping adventures this summer. I am very grateful to **AGR**, especially to Liz [Health Care Director], who has been there through every phone call and email. Her patience, knowledge, and kindness helped me so much getting adjusted to working with a Rescue dog. I do think we are the perfect match. Thank you **AGR** for making a difference in **Mini Cooper's** life and mine. I think we can all agree that Cheryl and **Mini Cooper** were meant to be, and maybe, just maybe, **Cooper** was making sure that they found each other.**



24-080 Juno has a beautifully-tragic story to tell with the HAPPIEST ENDING. **Juno** is a Sheltie-sized Golden mix with a beautiful, fluffy, multi-hued blond coat. A stray found in Mexico, **Juno** was a shelter surrender to **AGR**. Being that he was a stray, there was no background information on him. He endured a surgery to remove his damaged eye. Sadly, there were other

medical issues to contend with for **Juno**. Elizabeth (Lisa), Joe and Charles felt their heartstrings being tugged when they heard about **Juno**; they knew he was the dog for their family. *It was love at first sight when we saw our one-eyed **Juno's** photo online, and we were so excited when we were told he was a possible match for our family!* As he was transitioning with his forever home, he would only eat intermittently, crouch down as though he would be scolded and was afraid to be touched because he was so anxious. *We could only imagine what **Juno** went through before he was rescued by **AGR**, and we were inspired to love him more. With the help, guidance and encouragement of Liz and others for countless conversations, trial and error, vet and dental visits, we are so happy to say that **Juno** is now relaxed and is really enjoying his new home. He now loves pets, enjoys boat rides on the lake, our*

morning walks and always sits beside us on his spot on the couch. We are very impressed with the **AGR** adoption process and grateful to everyone for all the support! An incredible new beginning has been granted to **Juno** because of all the love and dedication that Lisa, Charles and Joe have passionately bestowed on **Juno**.

24-081 Ghost is a healthy 8-week-old male puppy who is described as goofy, happy and excited. Because he was taken from his dog mom at a very young age, **Ghost** experienced a bit of separation anxiety. He was surrendered by his owners when they realized they didn't have the stamina or time it would take to raise a puppy. Sheryl fostered **Ghost** and discovered



he was entertained by frolicking in leaves and grass. Plus, **Ghost** had no fear playing rough-and-tumble games with her older dogs and held his own in those games! **Ghost**, now known as **Louie**, found his forever noble and stately home with Adam. Continue reading to understand why **Louie** is living in an "aristocratic majestic world." As Adam declares: *I, Adam, his humble servant, chauffeur and guardian, do my best to get him where he wants, when he wants. Louie is known as His Royal Highness (HRH), King Louie the first of his name, King of the Canines, the Dog Park, our home, Retriever of the Ball, Protector of the Chuck-It that throws it! HRH has an extremely busy life. King Louie savors his trips to Starbucks for pup cups, as well as trips to The Home Depot. I'm positive he is their favorite customer!* Adam makes it a priority for **King Louie** to have play dates with his **AGR** foster brother. This royal Golden Retriever engages in regular trainings, walks and doggy daycare. His daycare just had an *Alice in Wonderland* photo shoot! Wouldn't it be a treat to see those pictures? Adam wants everyone to know: *It has been exciting to see Louie grow into a confident or, more accurately, stubborn, canine. Long may he reign! Louie* is showered with love and Adam is showered with just as much or more!



24-084 Piper is a 6-month-old light golden-and-chestnut-colored female Golden Retriever. Unable to supply the attention and exercise that **Piper** required, her original owners had to surrender her. It was not a decision that was made lightly and came with immense sadness. **Piper** found her forever home with Heidi and Steve, who had the perfect place for this

sweet and lovable puppy. Now she has a yard in which to run and play ball. But don't let all this cuteness fool you! She certainly has a mischievous side that involves finding socks to eat. But no worries... that all turned out just fine! Let's hear from Heidi and Steve: *Piper seemed to know we were her new family from the*

moment she met us in the front yard. She greeted each member of our family with enthusiasm and joy, seamlessly joining the family. She and our other Golden, Zane, are the best of friends and have become attached. They snuggle for naps and play, and Zane has become much more energetic and playful. Piper loves to play fetch, hike and does zoomies like an expert. She is the sweetest puppy and we all adore her. Thank you, AGR, for all you do! A tremendous shout-out to Heidi and Steve for providing a welcoming and loving home.



Westley before grooming...



After grooming with the ever-present ball in his mouth!

24-085 Westley is a 4-year-old male Goldendoodle who has a coat like a teddy bear. Having a child with severe health issues, the owners reluctantly had to surrender

Westley. There was much interest in **Westley**; Diane fostered him until his forever home was found. Not too long after **Westley** was surrendered, Ben and April fell in love and added him to their family. Upon arriving at his new home, their children played with **Westley**, trying to make him sit. It was quite a delightful scenario to behold. April said: *We love him! He settled in easily with the family and our routine. He is a great dog and we are grateful to have him. The boys keep him busy playing ball to work off his extra energy and probably the boys' energy as well! Westley has completely blended in with our family and is doing great. We love him so much and are very grateful to be providing his forever home. He is the perfect mix of active energy to play A LOT with our kids, but then knows when it is time to relax. He will even put himself to bed, of course not in a dog bed, but in our bed when he is ready. A compliant, gentle and calm dog, it is easy for him to have made new friends with other dogs in the neighborhood. He loves tennis balls, well maybe fetching them, but he is learning about returning them!* Here is a funny story about **Westley**: *We introduced him to snow on a trip to Flagstaff. He bounded around like a deer and had a ball! He is a wonderful dog!* Congratulations to **Westley** and his new family!

24-086 Ava is a Goldendoodle puppy who is 10 weeks old; her white coat is tinged with tan, yellow and fawn patches. The original owners had been given **Ava** as a Christmas gift from their daughter. Unfortunately, they were too elderly to care for a puppy who is highly active. Trenton and Patrick had been looking for a Golden-



doodle puppy and agreed to Foster-with-Intent-to-Adopt. **Ava** is smart, playful and affectionate, as well as being crate trained. What else does she like to do? She is a fetcher, plays with toys and guess what? She is a fan of cats! Trenton and Patrick fell in love at first sight! As Trenton and Patrick had never raised a puppy, they were inquisitive about how to make her the best Goldendoodle and had many questions for the transporter, who answered them happily. To help **Ava**, now known as **Summer**, to be confident and successful, they contacted a trainer to help with walking, jumping, digging and leash training! Why did they pick such a pretty name for her? What do you think of when you think of the summer season? *This season brings warmth, joy and energy, and that is exactly what **Summer** brings to our lives with her brightness lighting up every space she encounters. **Summer** greets everyone with an outgoing spirit and wagging tail. She has a quirky habit of proudly parading around the house with socks, never chewing them, just gently carrying them in her mouth like a prized treasure. She delivers them with an eager glint in her eye, like she's offering a gift, expecting praise or maybe just a laugh. It is her signature move. **Summer** is thriving in her new home, thanks to the diligence and passion of her new owners, Trenton and Patrick.*



Ivy before grooming

24-087 Ivy is a 1-year-old spayed black Goldendoodle with a sweet and loving nature. You can be sure that her energy is boundless! When the surrendering owners were evicted from their home, their intention was to send her to the pound. But their neighbor saved **Ivy** from that fate. Unfortunately, she lived in a small apartment; it was not a viable relationship for either of them. Reluctantly she surrendered **Ivy** to **AGR**. Medically, **Ivy** was

in good condition: she just needed a visit to the groomer to let her beautiful Goldendoodle coat shine brightly. As with many Doodles, it's all in the haircut! Some training was involved for **Ivy** to be successful, as she was barking incessantly and was a bit anxious and uneasy around other dogs. Cindy answered the call to foster her. **Ivy** was a bit unsure and a bit scared at first, but Cindy employed a variety of strategies to help **Ivy** feel safe and confident. **Ivy** has an intuitiveness about her; she senses other people's emotions. Also, she thinks she is the "mom" to the cats in the family. Barbara and Stephen, her new forever parents, were taken with **Ivy** the moment they met her. As proactive and loving dog parents, they were vigilant to **Ivy's** adjustment needs and enlisted training for **Ivy** to fully grow into herself. As they related, *She has been such a joy and gets along with the cat!*" These sentiments from



Ivy After grooming

Barbara and Stephen will melt your heart. ***Ivy** is the sweetest girl. She loves playing with her toys and cuddling. She is the ultimate Velcro dog – she sits underneath the desk while we are working and is always by our side. Off leash she loves playing with other dogs. Trainer Kitra is giving her special training to help calm the puppy energy. She met her Grandparents and showed so much care as to not jump on her 87-year-old Grandpa. Her intelligence to learn commands is wonderful, but she is also smart enough to choose when she listens and when she does not. It frustrates us at times, but also makes us proud that she has her own opinions. We can't imagine life without her and are so thrilled to have received the support from **AGR** to match us with **Ivy!***



25-002 Dexter (photo at left) is an adult 6-year-old neutered Golden Retriever who sports a beautiful chestnut coat. **Dexter** was surrendered with his sister **25-003 Pretzel** (photo below), a 3-year-old spayed Golden Retriever. They are a bonded pair and the original owners wanted them



to be adopted together. Being parents of a 16-month-old child did not allow them to give the dogs the attention they deserved. With only good wishes and intentions, they wanted **Dexter** and **Pretzel** to be with a family that could



Pretzel and Dexter
AGR makes every effort to keep bonded pairs together; fortunately, we were able to do so with this pair

provide these things for them. These dogs were from a home filled with love and exceptional care. Then along came Wayne and Deborah, dog savvy and proactive owners, who wanted to Foster-with-Intent-to-Adopt **BOTH!** After losing their Golden, they were ready to foster. Wayne wanted a golden-colored Golden, while Deborah wanted a cream-colored Golden; now they have one of each. **Pretzel** is an expert in zoomies, while chasing balls is a specialty for **Dexter**. **Pretzel** is full of energy and loves to bark at the

big black birds. **Dexter** just watches and laughs. **Dexter** is known for his calm and obedient manner, as well as for his kisses and cuddles. They keep their counters clear and anything chewable up high so Pretzel doesn't have the time to show off these behaviors. Both dogs are fabulous with children. As Wayne and Deborah enthusiastically state: ***Dexter and Pretzel** are two new great family members. As bonded brother and sister, they play Tug-of-War with their rope toys. Deborah spoils them with her homemade dog treats, which they immensely enjoy! They mind very well and are a joy to have. Thank you **AGR!** Both dogs are thriving in their home*

due to the extensive love and attention of Wayne and Deborah.



25-007 Frida is a 2-year-old Golden Retriever who found her forever home with Skip and his teenage daughter and son. Her surrendering owner just didn't have the time to care for her. Upon arriving at Skip's place, **Frida** found the grassy area and began to just roll around, running and being entertained by Skip's teenagers. A happy, playful yet calm dog, some of

her favorite activities include riding in the car and sitting on the couch with you! She has the cutest "smarl." What is a smarl you might ask? When **Frida** smiles, her teeth show which makes it look like a snarl, but it's really her showing off her pearly whites. Lo and behold, it's her way of being friendly! Enjoy this anecdote from Frida's owner: *OK, so on the first day when **Frida** was brought to our house, **Frida** showed active interest in the pool in the backyard. At first, we were afraid she would jump in, but she has yet to do that. Instead, she just walks up to it and looks at the water. It is almost as if she knows how fun it could be. But nobody was going in the pool, so she would just stand there and look. My daughter has begun going to the pool and sticking her feet into it. **Frida** loves that, because then she can sit next to my daughter and stick her nose in the pool. We expect it will be great fun when we are in the pool and **Frida** sees that.* How much do we want to bet that when the temperature rises above 100 degrees, they won't be able to get **Frida** out of the pool! **Frida's** ideal home is here with Skip and his children!

25-010 Penny is a 10-month-old Goldendoodle. Her surrendering owner was distraught to let her go, but knew that she was unable to provide the exercise and training **Penny** needed to be a happy and adjusted dog. Her new family, Sarah and Tom, plus their children, ages 3-13, absolutely adore her. In addition to **Penny**, there is a cat. They all are living in harmony with each other. **Penny** goes on long walks and hikes every day, which helps with her puppy energy. **Penny** had been trained in a clever way to let her family know she needed to go outside – she uses bells! Her surrendering owner taught her that system, and Sarah and Tom are continuing with this technique. **Penny** is comfortable and happy in her new home, even finding delight when having a bath in the walk-in shower! Here is what Tom and Sarah have to say about **Penny**: *It took no time at all for **Penny** to fill both our hearts and home. Quite literally, she makes it her mission to redecorate her new house with all her toys. She has two new playmates who love to chase her around the house and play a game they enthusiastically call "run away from **Penny**"! She has become accustomed to long walks*



*and hikes in the morning and loves to accompany her playmates to school. She has made it her mission to befriend the resident cat and has not yet taken it personally that the cat wants nothing to do with her. **Penny** follows Sarah around all day and offers endless kisses and love. We are so grateful to have her as the newest member of our family. **Penny** has learned a new game with the children. It's a Tug-of-War game called "Who is Stronger?" Don't let it surprise you who wins every time – the dog!" Maybe one day, **Penny** will let the kids win! Thanks to all the members of this family, **Penny** has all the love and attention, she needs to continue to be forever happy!*

25-013 Sake is a handsome, well-mannered 3-year-old male Goldendoodle who is described as a sweet, playful and affectionate dog with the most expressive eyes. It was a very emotional surrender for the owner. His new job with long hours, along with his move to an apartment, would not allow him the time to walk and play with **Sake**. He felt **Sake** needed a home with a yard and more attention than he would



be able to provide. **Sake** was fostered by Diane and Todd, who noted that **Sake** was great with other dogs, initiated play and had a gentle spirit. Upon arriving at his forever home with Janice, she exclaimed: *I am soooooo excited!* **Sake** seemed to remember her from their Meet-and-Greet, as he went straight to her! Curiosity got the better of him! He began exploring, sniffing and making himself right at home. The transport team, along with Janice, wanted to determine if the wooden furniture crate would be the right size for **Sake**. Here was the plan! They threw a treat into the crate as motivation for **Sake** to enter. Well, **Sake** was having none of that. He knew what they were trying to do and just wanted to continue enjoying his new yard. But here is how intelligent he is! As soon as everyone went into the house, they watched him enter the crate to retrieve the treat! Talk about a dog who will not be easily tricked! Janice remarked with a smile on her face: ***Sake** is a bed hog and I am a cliff hanger!* You can hear Janice's joy and love for **Sake** in this next sentiment. ***Sake** is the perfect dog for me. He is SO affectionate and is my shadow. His favorite thing in the morning, when he sees me waking up, is to jump into bed and put his head on my chest and gaze at me with those wonderful brown Golden Retriever eyes followed by lots of licks in the face. There's nothing quite like dog breath in the morning! I need a coffee mug with that on it!* An active 77-year-old, Janice realized with the energy of 3-year-old **Sake**, she wanted a training session with Sharon M to refresh the basic commands. Sharon gave **Sake** the highest marks in intelligence and following directions. Janice is improving quite nicely handling the commands. The feral cats in the neighborhood know there is a new sheriff in town, so they are staying clear of Janice's yard. Plus, **Sake** has proven to be Janice's knight in shining armor as he valiantly protects her from the wall lizards. *What a GUY!* There could not have been a better

match than **Sake** and Janice!



25-014 Honey is a gorgeous sweet 5-month-old female Golden Retriever/Lab mix with a deep red coloring and white chest, surrendered because she was too energetic and jumped on the owner's kids. When she arrived at Wendy and Rand's, everyone felt the vibe that she was NOW at her forever home. She immediately stole Wendy and Rand's hearts. What a Valentine's

gift for all of them! They decided to give her the name **Trixie**. Rand and Wendy made it easy for her to become happy and comfortable in her new home. With that kind of love, how could you not feel safe and that you belonged! She easily adjusted and as you can imagine was extremely curious with all the new surroundings. What words would you use to describe a puppy? Do playful, sweet, energetic and a bit stubborn come to mind? If they did, then that is **Trixie**. Here is how **Trixie** came to be in this amazing home. *"After losing our Golden of 13.5 years, we hadn't planned on getting a new dog right away. Well, that lasted a week! Recently retired and volunteering again with AGR, we fell in love with Trixie. We had not had a puppy in 20 years! She is all the fun and challenges that we expected with a puppy. She is a nice mix of Golden, Lab and the other part is Velociraptor or Land Shark. We are having a great time together, exploring the world and learning the manners of a proper lady. This is all coming along great."* How lucky is **Lady Trixie**!

25-015 Jessie is an 8-year-old female Golden Retriever that was surrendered from a breeder in California. During her time with the breeder, **Jessie** had produced several litters. After her last litter, **Jessie** had been retired and adopted by someone who later had to relinquish her. And that is where **AGR** got involved. Fred was **Jessie's** chauffeur from California along with 2 other dogs. He and his wife, Jill, decided to Foster-with-Intent-to-Adopt, which quickly turned into an adoption. I will bet this may have been just one of the reasons: *She was an ideal guest!* As they lovingly state: *Having recently lost Gracie at 13.5 years old, we decided we would like to provide this senior with a forever home fitting her age.* How lucky is **Jessie** to not only be with Fred and Jill, but their 2 other dogs, **Levi** and **Windy**, too, who welcomed **Jessie** with open paws. Wasting no time at all, **Jessie** claimed her spot on the couch! And that was that! She will need a bit of exercise to trim down and that started with a walk with Jill which **Jessie** seemed to enjoy! As an older dog, **Jessie** still wants to do things she did as a younger pup! Fred and Jill will no doubt need to rein her in when she goes overboard with her playfulness and athleti-



cism. A favorite activity for **Levi**, **Windy**, and **Jessie** is to hunt rabbits, lizards, and beg for treats as a pack. What a wonderful retirement life for **Jessie**!



25-017 Hazel is a 3-year-old spayed Goldendoodle with the most unique coat. She has captivating amber eyes which accentuate her soft gray and silver, along with splashes of salt-and-pepper, coloring. One may see other colors emerge or recede as her coloring changes with the light. Her surrendering owner passed away. Tera, Abby and Michael were ready for a dog after being a dog-free home for 6 years.

There was one thing they had to make certain of before a decision could be made about adopting a dog. Abby, their daughter, suffers from allergies. They needed to find a dog who would not trigger them. When they visited Tera's dad in Florida, Abby's allergies were not activated by his two Goldendoodles. It was then that Tera was determined to find the family a Goldendoodle. Tera says: *The first time I saw her picture, I had a feeling she would be our dog, even though I was looking at another on the website. Abby and I went to meet her and we immediately fell in love. An outgoing, happy and playful dog, Hazel warms up to people quite easily. Tera mentioned: She is quite a bit bigger than the dogs in Florida, but what a sweet gentle giant she is. Hazel and the cats are living in harmony after a brief period of adjustment. Here is something that will give you a chuckle: The funny thing about Hazel is when she gets the zoomies, she's so big I just say "get out of the way" and we laugh. She also likes to carry her bone in her mouth and launch onto the big dog bed I got her. She seems to be happy. I'm sure she misses her previous owner that passed. With her training and gentleness, I can tell she was well loved. We were truly given a gift of sweet Hazel and we have been blessed. What a heartwarming adoption for Hazel with Tera, Abby and Michael.*

DANGER! Xylitol in Peanut Butter

People who use peanut butter in Kongs® or for giving their dogs medications should be careful not to buy peanut butter that contains xylitol. Xylitol is a sweetener that is used in many sugarless gums and some other sugar-free products, and it is **highly toxic to dogs**. Jif®, Skippy®, Peter Pan®, and the Kroger® brand itself, as well as several others available at **Fry's Grocery Stores**, are all fine. If you have peanut butter in your pantry, check the label for xylitol. If it contains that chemical, do not use that brand with your dog. Be especially aware of the following brands that are known to contain xylitol: *Nutty By Nature*, *P28*, and *Nuts 'N More*. We do not know where these brands can be purchased, but you should avoid them.

OVER THE RAINBOW

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



13-004 Lily Gill



13-103 Dixie Wozny



14-084 Lola Howard



17-051 Stanley Booher



18-046 Lily Marchant

18-059 Apollo Laubitz-Pomykaj



18-072 Sadie Kinchen-Doiron

21-041 Goldie Whitmer



22-010 Finn Watts-Williams

22-021 Trooper Meyer-Earle



24-031 Blue

24-066 Lola Sanner



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.



25-006 Chloe Derra

Katie Connoyer



Ginger Imler-Feight

Luke Korycki-Foust



And

Ellie Cipollone, "Mom" to AGR member Joni

Tom Compise
AGR Member and Adopter

Shirley Moore
Beloved Grandmother of Tiara Korpalski

Summer Fun

By Deb Orwig

It's too hot in summer in Arizona for your dogs to be outside for more than a few minutes to do their "business" unless they are going to go swimming in a pool or a lake somewhere. Even then, you have to be cautious not to allow them to be out in the heat for more than a short time (15-20 minutes), because, like people, dogs can suffer from heat stroke.

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 once knew 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.



23-080 Tyler wearing life jacket

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 absolutely necessary 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 issues 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.

Bored dog? If your dog cannot or will not go swimming during the hot days of summer, what are some fun things you can do with your dog to keep him/her from getting bored?

Take your dog for a ride. In the summer, quite a few of you leave the Valley Metro Area and drive north with your dogs to cooler places like Flagstaff, Munds Park or other northern Arizona cities. Lucky you if you have a house or cabin up there! 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 or debris thrown up by the tires of a vehicle in front of you, and bugs. (What does your car windshield look like after you go on a road trip?) Also, with open car windows...



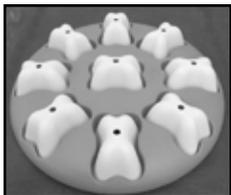
18-074 Riley, 19-083 Bowie and 19-053 Jackson were just posing for the 2021 AGR calendar cover photo; Connie and Nick would not allow them to ride with their heads out of the window like this!

If you have an impact or have to slam on the brakes, the dog can fly out the open window even if it is just sitting in the seat. I 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.

Indoor Games and Enrichment activities. Our dogs show us many ways to have fun and enjoy life. There are lots of games they like to play, some of which they even make up themselves. One thing is for sure... if you help your dog learn to play and have fun, he or she will probably live longer. Just like humans, dogs need mental stimulation. Games provide a way to help your dog in that way. Games also help keep your dog from becoming bored, stay out of trouble, and improve physical fitness.

Toys in general can offer hours of fun for many Golden Retrievers. Be careful to give your dog toys he or she cannot readily chew up, be sure the toys are size-appropriate (i.e. do not give an adult Golden a golf ball-size toy) and always supervise the dog around toys. Do not ever give a dog a toy meant for a human child. Be especially careful to keep away stuffed animals that have button-like eyes; if the dog chews off an eye and swallows it, it could get stuck in the dog's digestive system which will necessitate an expensive visit to an emergency room. If your dog likes to tear into soft toys and pull out the stuffing and the squeaker, try giving the dog a stuffless toy – many are available in the pet supply stores. Some dogs will hoard toys. Others will tease with them. If there is another dog in the household, they may like to play “keep away”. Many dogs just like to carry toys around in their mouths. Sad but true, some dogs that come into Rescue have never had a toy and consequently find them of little interest.

Even better for sharpening mental acuity are toys like the **Nina Ottoson Treat Puzzle Games & Toys**. You can purchase many such “intellectual” find-the-treat games at all the major pet supply stores and even at **Walmart**. Search on “interactive dog toys” on **Amazon** and you'll find many types. **Chewy** also carries a variety of such toys. Many dogs especially like the type where a treat can be hidden under a shape like the one shown above. Best to start out with a Level 1 or 2 and once your dog has mastered that one, progress to Level 3 or 4.



Teach your dog how to play **toy-hide-and-peek**. Start by taking a favorite toy and putting it partially under a cushion or something else. Let the dog watch you, but tell him or her to “wait”. If they try to grab the toy before you tell them to “find it”, correct them and tell them “wait” again. Repeat until the dog actually waits until you say “find it” and then praise the dog when he pulls the toy out and let him play with it for a while. Make this game progressively harder by having the toy less and less visible. Eventually when you say “find it,” the dog will find the toy even if it is completely buried under something. Having found the toy is its own reward, but praise the dog anyway for a job well done.

Another trick you can teach your dog is to **put away her own toys**. Most of us have a bin or a basket in which we store all our dog's toys. Place a toy on the floor and teach your dog the “get it” command by helping the dog lean down and pick up the toy. Praise the dog when she does it. After she has learned “get it” and is carrying the toy in her mouth, walk her over to the toy bin and say, “Put it away” or “drop it” or “leave it”, whichever command you prefer (I use “put it away”). After you give the command, help the dog release the toy by opening the dog's mouth – be careful you don't get nipped! As soon as the toy drops into the bin, praise the dog! Repeat, repeat, repeat. Sooner or later the dog will pick up a toy when you say “get it” and go drop it in the toy bin

when you say “put it away.” Really. It works. Search YouTube.com for “Golden Retriever cleans house.” You will be impressed and maybe even inspired!

Balls are favorite toys of many Golden Retrievers, and there are types that can be played with indoors without wrecking your house. One type of ball I found that even the most ardent ball-ripper-uppers cannot destroy (or at least it takes a while) is the **JW iSqueak Rubber Ball**. **Chewy** sells these. The solid **JW Megalast Ball** is also good. A Golden can grip the large-size ball with his teeth, but it is too large (about half again as big as a tennis ball) for the dog to chow down on. I call these “Jimmy balls,”



because years ago I had a foster dog named **Jimmy** who could chew up just about any toy, but he could not damage the **JW Ball** – it was still in one piece after he had had it for over four months, a long time for any toy to last with toy-loving – i.e., toy-destroying – Golden Retrievers! The **Wobble Wag Giggle Ball** sound scares some dogs, but it is my boy **Vin's** favorite toy! **Amazon** sells these.



Is your dog a **TV** watcher? Some dogs are entranced by the moving pictures on a TV screen, especially if they recognize the movements as belonging to an animal – a dog, a cat, any type of wildlife.



23-070 Dora loves to watch TV, especially shows about animals

There is a hilarious video on YouTube called “Golden retriever loves US Open tennis” – every time a player hits a ball across the net, the Golden jumps up. Boing, boing, boing, boing! **Animal Planet** is often a favorite of canine TV watchers, especially if something like an agility competition is being aired. **Nature** is also a show that entrances many dogs. And when the **Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show** is on in February, I would imagine there may be just as many canines watching the program as there are humans.

There is even a DirectTV choice with programming content for dogs called Dog TV!

Many dogs enjoy learning **agility** routines, and it provides great exercise for both you and your dog. One of the best places to go for agility training in the Valley is **Arizona Dog Sports (AZDS)**, 12639 N. 48th St, Phoenix. The indoor facility offers over 50 classes per week in a 4000-square-foot, air-conditioned dog gym near Central Phoenix. Consider training your dog for therapy work. **AZDS** also offers classes in this discipline and have trainers who are qualified to certify the dog. If you're really ambitious, you could learn how to teach your dog canine freestyle (dancing routine to music). There's an online course available that you can do on your own shedule: <https://karenpryoracademy.com/courses/canine-freestyle/>

HERE and THERE

Events from January 1 through March 31, 2025

Your membership in our organization will be more fulfilling for you if you get involved and join us at our events, especially if you are one of our adopters. Our Meet-and-Greets are a great way to socialize, both for you and for your dog. Our fundraisers are FUNraisers! Please regularly check the events calendar on our website – www.arizonagoldenrescue.org – for dates and times of upcoming events. We would like to include your picture in this section in future issues.



PACC911 Adopt-a-thon at Berge Toyota, Mesa
By Denise Padavano



Set-up crew: Standing – Denise with Winnie, Jean, Blake with Asher, Jeanine, Trishia with Rosie, and Deb; Kneeling – Daisy

Our first Adopt-A-Thon of the New Year took place at the **PACC911 at Berge Toyota** on Sunday, January 12, 2025! Thanks to April Crow for registering **AGR** for this event! Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, and Denise Padavano brought their vehicles to Deb and Larry Orwig's house Saturday afternoon to load up equipment and merchandise for the event. Also helping were Adam Cardinal, Deb Orwig, Fred and Jill Prose, and Michael Roberts. On Sunday, the early-riser crew arrived at 8:15 AM for set-up and included: Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Daisy Barsetti-Nerland, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Jeanine Rogers, and Blake Wach. They were greeted by a group of enthusiastic, **PACC911** volunteers who helped move merchandise and arrange tables into our designated spot! The morning was cold but warmed up nicely into a beautiful day to be outside! We had great volunteers helping throughout the day and seven dogs to greet the public!



Blake and Daisy



Yoyo, Mr Q and Alex



Dean with Sugar and Patrick with morning coffee

The event started at 10 AM with Darlene Kaminski, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, and Jeanine Rogers overseeing the merchandise area. Joining us with their beautiful dogs were Suzie Downs with **Max**, new volunteers Alex and Yoyo Fredericks with **Mr. Q**, Robin Mish and **Lily**, Dean Mortimore and **Sugar**, Trishia Murphy and **Rosie**, Deb Orwig and **Asher**, and Denise Padavano and **Winnie**.

Darlene brought her friend Kathy Flick, who spent most of the day with us! Also stopping by during the day to say "Hi" to everyone were Sheryl Catalano and friend Pam, and Keri and Rich Marchant. So nice to visit with **AGR** members we don't see very often!



Kathy, Darlene and Robin



Winnie and Asher

The morning was slow; however, there was a nice steady crowd after lunchtime. Several people stopped by to find out about **AGR** and our adoption process, while others interacted, loved on the dogs, and moved onto the next rescue group. A **PACC911** member announced throughout the event each pet adoption that took place. The total for the day equaled twenty-seven pets finding a new home, including dogs, cats and rats! Hope they all have a happy new life!



Max



Simone with Winnie

Denise Padavano contributed photos of the day's activities. Jean Klink returned to help with pack-up. Also helping were Suzie Downs, Patrick Doyle, Dean Mortimore, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Jeanine Rogers, and Simone Vaduva. After the event, Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, and Trishia Murphy headed to the Orwigs' to unload their cars. Also meeting at the Orwigs' to help unload were Adam Cardinal, and Michael Roberts.

Our merchandise sales brought in \$423.04 and donations from the heart were \$63, equaling a total of \$486.04! Thanks to everyone who helped in any part of this event! **AGR** volunteers are the greatest – your time and dedication are invaluable!



Parada Del Sol and Trail's End Celebration

By Denise Padavano



AGR attended the 71st annual *Parada Del Sol and Trail's End Celebration* in Scottsdale on Saturday, February 1, 2025. Thanks to April Crow for being the liaison with the Parade coordinator and arranging for us to be part of this wonderful event. The morning was a little chilly at 41 degrees, but as the temperature warmed up everyone enjoyed a comfortable walk in the parade!

Gathering the night before at the Orwigs' house to load vehicles with equipment and merchandise were Nick Dodson, Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Denise Padavano, Jeanne Wegener and Garrett Wheadon. Vehicles were provided by Nick Dodson, Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, and Deb Orwig to transport everything to the event.

Morning set-up started at 7:30 AM with the help of the following people: Nick Dodson, Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Deb and Larry Orwig, Denise Padavano, Jeanne Wegener, and Karen and Mark Wengraf. Due to road construction, Patrick was unable to drive through to our booth on time. Since he had his vehicle full of merchandise, Jeanne Wegener and Mark Wengraf



This is what setting up looks like... Mark, Karen, Jeanne, Denise and Jean helping



Darlene and Rick carried the **AGR** Banner – notice flip-flops and knee-length shorts... after all, it was February 1st!

walked to his location with two wagons to load the merchandise and transported it back to **AGR's** booth! Thank you, Patrick, Jeanne and Mark!

As the hard-working morning crew continued to set up, Nick Dodson, Denise Pada-

vano, Simone Vaduva, and Karen Wengraf loaded dogs into Nick's car around 8:30 AM and headed to the parade staging area. Nick navigated through the busy traffic and came across several police officers that moved road barriers for us, making the ride easier to get to our destination. Thank you, Nick! Darlene Kaminski was at the staging area early to check us in and obtain our display number and location. She communicated **AGR's** location by texting, which made finding our spot so much easier this year! Thank you, Darlene!



Denise and Jeanne both helped with set-up, walked in the parade and stayed most of the afternoon

As we settled in and waited for the parade to start, Denise had many beautiful heart-themed bandanas that Deb Orwig made and distributed them to anyone who didn't already have one for their dog. Before the parade began, Denise Padavano and Mark Wengraf took delightful photos of our group! Since Connie was unable to make it to the parade this year, arranging all twenty-three members and twenty-one dogs into a group for a photo was challenging! We missed you, Connie! Following Connie's example, Denise brought a squeaky toy to gain the attention of all the dogs. Darlene Kaminski also helped to capture photos of the parade, participants and dogs!



The photos above and below were published on AZCentral with the (ironic) caption: The 71st annual Parada del Sol winds its way through downtown Scottsdale, on Feb. 1, 2025. The parade included floats, horse-drawn carriages and marching bands.



Staying at the booth during the parade were Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Dean Mortimore and **Sugar**, Deb and Larry Orwig with **Duffy** and **CaliGirl**, and Jeanne Wegener.

Our group was #42 in the line-up, right behind all the horse entries! We were fortunate there was a great student clean-



Keith and Sue with Happi carried our beautiful *Goldens Are All Heart* banner



Sheryl with Bodie and Stella; Beth with Bodhi; Jamie and Bill with Maxx and Theo



Mark and Michele with Callan & Dora

Simone with Vin; Chris with Lucy; Lauren with Leia

with **Lucy** and Chris's friend Lauren Merri-man with Dean's **Leia**; Cindy Tigges with **Natasha** and **Lucy**; Simone Vaduva with Deb and Larry's **Vin**; new members Hayley and Kyle Urban with **Penny**; Julie Wheadon and **Kai**; Michele Wehry and Mark Hill with

Callan and **Princess Dora**; and Karen and Mark Wengraf with Deb and Larry's **Asher**. During the parade, Deb Orwig came out to join the bystanders, took photos of our group and cheered us on! Nothing like having fans on the sidelines!



Suzie with Max; Dara, DeWitt and Ansley with Buddy; Cindy with Natasha & Lucy



Larry, with Asher, was there from start to finish and stayed in the booth to help during the parade



Karen and Mark were kind enough to walk Asher in the parade

After the parade, many members and their dogs went back to the booth to assist or visit. We had the same wonderful location as last year for setting up our merchandise. The double-space corner spot gave us enough room to display our goods and provided a comfortable area for our members and their dogs to

up crew in front of us taking care of the horse droppings! With most everyone wearing red or white shirts and our beautiful dogs wearing Valentine bandanas, walking in the parade representing **AGR** was thrilling! With wagging tails and cheery faces, the dogs strolled happily in the parade as many bystanders clapped and cheered us on. The attention we received was very heartwarming and inspiring!

Carrying **AGR's** logo banner up front and walking at a steady pace were Darlene Kaminski and Rick Stephens. Bringing up the rear carrying our parade theme "Goldens Are All Heart" banner, created by Connie McCabe and used in other parades, were Sue and Keith Akenhead with **Happi**. Mark Wengraf pulled the wagons in the parade carrying unwanted coats and water.



CaliGirl (almost 13) and Duffy (age 12) both stayed at the booth during the parade; Sugar went to the sidelines with Deb to watch for the **AGR** group



Karina with Colbert; Trishia with Rosie; Anne with Sam; and Julie with Kai

AGR members and dogs walking in the parade included: Sue and Keith Akenhead and **Happi**; Sheryl Catalano with **Bodie** and **Stella**; Beth Chaffee and **Bodhi**; Jamie and Bill Deppey with **Maxx** and **Theo**; Suzie Downs with **Max**; Dewitt, Dara and Ansley Gibson and **Buddy**; Karina Helm and **Colbert**; Trishia Murphy and Rosie; Denise Padavano; Anne Pappas and **Sam**; Chris Spiel



Afternoon crew: Joe, Lisa, Jean, Jane and Deb (seated), who was there all day



Stephanie came in late afternoon to help pack up

spread out. All afternoon we had a steady flow of people stopping by to interact with our dogs, shower them with lots of love and attention, and fill their vests with donations. We also had several people inquire about **AGR's** adoption process! Hopefully, we will get some new applications coming our way! This year

we brought home \$1,243.79 in donations (\$940.52 last year) and \$1,044.48 from merchandise sales (\$1339.42 last year), equaling a total of \$2,300.27 (\$2,291.94 last year). Fantastic!

Volunteering all day at the merchandise tables were Deb Orwig and Jeanne Wegener with help from Jean Klink, Jane Lowery, Denise Padavano, and new members Lisa Ristow and Joe Leschke.



We had a good amount of traffic come by our booth all afternoon

Originally, we were told that *Trail's End* was supposed to officially end at 4 PM. Being very efficient, our volunteers started to pack up everything with plans to load vehicles by 5 PM. To our surprise, *Trail's End* workers came by and told us they were ending the event at 5 PM

this year instead of 4 PM. We had no choice but to sit and wait for another hour until they would let vehicles enter the vendors area! Thanks to the following people helping to pack merchandise and load vehicles: Stephanie Beard, Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Joe Leschke, Deb and Larry Orwig, Denise Padavano, Lisa Ristow, Simone Vaduva, and Jeanne Wegener. The crew managed to get the tents, tables, and merchandise into Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink and the Orwigs' vehicles. Our pack-up crew is outstanding!

Returning on Sunday to the Orwigs' to unload merchandise and equipment from vehicles were Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Denise Padavano, Larry Orwig, and Jeanne Wegener.

A few days after the parade, coordinator Lonny Gibson stopped by Deb Orwig's house to present *AGR* with a Recognition Award for *Best Animal Entry*! This award was in acknowledgement for *AGR's* attendance and many years of participation in the Parada Del Sol Parade. Congratulations *AGR* and all our dedicated members!

We really appreciate everyone who came to walk and/or help in the booth. Thank you to all the EXTRAORDINARY volunteers helping to make this event successful! Hope to see more of you in 2026!

See other photos and a great video taken by Lauren Rudin: <https://arizonagoldenrescuemccabe.smugmug.com/AGR-EVENTS/2125-Parada-Del-Sol-Trails-Inn>



This is *AGR's* special recognition award: *Best Animal Entry*. It is clear acrylic, about 6 inches high, and etched with the Parada Del Sol logo - very nice! Our thanks to Michael Roberts for producing this photo, which was very difficult to make come out well.



**PACC911 Adoptathon at
Toyota of Surprise**

By Deb Orwig



Morning volunteers: Dean with Sugar, Carolyn and Peter holding CaliGirl and Asher, Deb, Jean, Trishia with Rosie, and Patrick

Even though it was only a week after the Parada Del Sol and we were still tired, we capitulated to a plea from Robin Smith, event coordinator for *PACC911*, to participate in their *Toyota of Surprise Adoptathon* on February 8th. Due to our last-minute sign-up, we expected to have a small group, so we ordered only one booth space instead of our usual two, and set up only about half our

usual amount of merchandise.

On Friday afternoon loading up my van and Jean Klink's truck, we had help from Trishia Murphy, Adam Cardinal and Michael Roberts.

We had a nice group of volunteers on Saturday and sold quite a few items, with total revenue (sales and donations) from the event at **\$319.96**.



Early volunteers: CaliGirl, Vin and Asher



Afternoon crew: Jamie with Manda, Rand, and Chris with Lucy

Expecting only a few *AGR* dogs to come, I brought **Asher**, **Vin** and **CaliGirl**. There to help me set up at 8:30 AM were Carolyn and Peter Brown, Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, and Jeanne Wegener. A little later, Constance Hackler (sorry, I forgot to get a photo) came without a dog as did Rand Drake. Dean Mortimore arrived with **Sugar** and Trishia Murphy came with **Rosie**. Jamie Deppey joined us in the afternoon with **Manda**, and so did Chris Spiel with **Lucy**. Arriving at about 2:30 to help with pack-up were Lynn and Kevin Hall and the entire Lurie family (Karie, Jake, Brody and Colby); Jean Klink and Jeanne Wegener also helped pack up.

It was a nice, relaxing day with beautiful weather and a good opportunity to get to know a new member/adopter, Constance Hackler, and to get re-acquainted with a long-time member whom we had not seen in many years, Rand Drake. Those of us who were on site between 12:30 and 1:30 PM enjoyed the sub sandwiches and chips that *PACC911* provided for all the Rescue volunteers.



I had bought this stuffed animal at Walmart thinking it looked like a Goldendoodle puppy – Manda proved me right!



Pack-up helpers: Jake, Karie, Jeanne, Jean (in truck), Kevin, Colby, Brody, Lynn

Two families we spoke with during the day were seemingly quite interested in possibly adopting a dog from **AGR** and stayed to talk with us for quite a while – that evening we actually got an application from one of them!

Thanks, again, to all of you for supporting **AGR** at this event.



**PACC911 Adoptathon at
Anthem Community Center**

By Denise Padavano



It was a beautiful day in the neighborhood – Patrick and Dean out in front of the booth with CaliGirl and Sugar meeting and greeting

Our third **PACC911** event of the year took place in Anthem on Sunday, February 23, 2025. Once again, it proved to be a fun Golden event for all who attended! The day started out chilly in the mid-40's but soon warmed up,

enabling us to shed our coats and enjoy the lovely weather.

Meeting at Deb and Larry Orwig's house Saturday afternoon to load their vehicles were Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, and Fred Prose. We also loaded Deb's van with needed items. Also assisting were Rand Drake and son Garrett, Denise Padavano, Jill Prose, Jane Triplett and Jeanne Wegener. Early to arrive in Anthem the next day at 8 AM to set up were Sue and Keith Akenhead, Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Deb and Larry Orwig, Fred Prose, Jeanne Wegener, and Karen and Mark Wengraf. They



Set-up and morning group:
Standing – Mark, Jean, Sue, Patrick, Fred, Trishia; in front, Deb with CaliGirl and Asher, Karen with Rosie

were greeted by several eager **PACC911** volunteers who helped move merchandise and tables into our designated spot! We were prepared with sandbags to hold down the tents, but the day turned out to be beautiful with only a slight breeze! Some of the dogs had blankets on them in the morning but by 11 AM were lying on top of them!

The event started at 10 AM with Sue and Keith Akenhead, Deb Orwig, and Jeanne Wegener overseeing the merchandise area. Arriving later to help with merchandise sales were Jane Lowery and Denise Padavano. Jim Beattie, Karen Wengraf's dad, spent the morning with us – so nice of him to join us and support **AGR**! Denise's brother Jim and sister-in-law Sue came by to do a little shopping, check out the dogs and visit for a while. Also stopping by during the day to say "Hi" to everyone were Jane Triplett with her foster Greyhound **Cole**, and Andrea and Colin Decker. The Deckers kindly took **Asher Orwig** for a walk while checking out the other Rescue organizations.

Showing up early before the event started with their sweet dogs were Sue and Keith Akenhead with **Happi**, Trishia Murphy and **Rosie**, and Deb Orwig with her pack, **Asher**, **CaliGirl**, and **Vin**. Other **AGR** members and their lovable dogs came as the festivities started. Andrea and Derrick Williams and daughter Ella brought **Loki**; Teri Guilbault came with **Khalee**; Connie McCabe brought **Mickey**; Dean Mortimore came with **Sugar** and **Leia**; Denise Padavano brought **Win-**



Andrea, Ella and Derick with Loki



Clark came with Samir, Denna and Abigail; Asher had to get some pets from the group

nie; and Denna and Abigail Svec with boyfriend Samir Hatter brought **Clark**. Since they hadn't been to one of our events in quite a while, it was great to see how well **Loki** and **Clark** are doing!

The event was well attended and an awesome seventy-one adoptions took place throughout the day! Many people stopped by to find out about **AGR** and our adoption process, while others interacted and loved on the dogs, generously filling their vests with donations!

Contributing photos of the day's activities were Connie McCabe, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Jeanne Wegener, and Mark Wengraf.

Jean Klink went home to Surprise before noon to check on her dog **Ginger** and then returned to help with pack-up. Others who



Afternoon volunteers: Jane, Deb, Linda, Patrick, Dean, Teri, Denise, Trishia and Winnie on the table

helped pack up included Linda Beard, Judy Birt, Patrick Doyle, Kevin Hall, Jane Lowery, Connie McCabe, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Denise Padvano, Andrea, Derrick and Ella Williams, and Karen and Mark Wengraf.



Despite horrible road construction traffic, Judy came up from Phoenix to help with pack-up; she was thrilled to re-unite with CaliGirl, whom she had fostered for 10 weeks, and to meet Asher

After the event, several people headed over to the Orwigs' to unload merchandise, tables and tents. These dedicated vol-



Teri with Khalee and Denise with Winnie

unteers included: Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Connie McCabe, Trishia Murphy, and Deb and Larry Orwig.



Kevin came up from Sun City to help with pack-up

Special thanks to Patrick Doyle, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, and Karen and Mark Wengraf who stayed all day to help at AGR's booth!

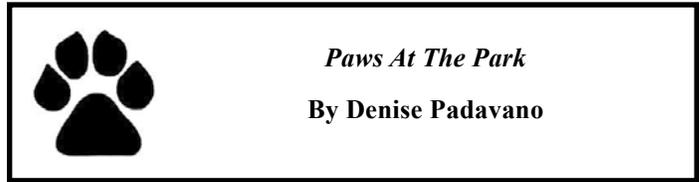
Thanks to everyone who helped for any part of this event! We brought in \$571.76 in merchandise sales, and \$300.97 in donations for a total revenue of \$872.73! We had wonderful volunteers helping throughout the day and 12 dogs to greet the public! Thanks to April Crow for registering us for the event and thank you to everyone who attended, making the day enjoyable!



Handsome Mickey with Connie



One of the many raffle items PACC911 had at this event; no AGR member won this one, but Deb won two others and so did Linda. Does anyone have a basket like this we could use for a raffle?



ED NOTE: 116 people, 20 students and 52 dogs at this event meant Connie McCabe took many photos, far too many to include here – I'm sorry I had to leave some of them out of this article. If you would like to see them all, go to our AGR SmugMug album: <https://arizonagoldenrescueemcabe.smugmug.com/AGR-EVENTS/3232025-Paws-at-the-Park>



This vanilla cake said "1432 Dogs Rescued Since March 2009"; the other cake was chocolate and said "Congratulations, AGR!" The cakes were special-ordered from Costco.

Arizona Golden Rescue's annual meeting, Paws At The Park, was held on Sunday, March 23, 2025, at Eldorado Park's East Ramada in Scottsdale from 11 AM to 3 PM. We celebrated all our valuable members, family and friends with good food and uplifting music! This was the fifteenth year we have held this event (had to skip

2020 and 2021 due to Covid-19 restrictions).

Weather in March can be unpredictable, but fortunately for us, the day turned out to be warm and sunny! As the morning crew arrived, the temperature was a comfortable 62 degrees with the afternoon warming up into the mid 80's.

A total of 121 people pre-registered, but only 116 attended. Many of the attendees brought dogs – there were 52 dogs (208 paws)! Those who didn't come were either sick, or no-shows for unknown reasons. Anyone who paid the registration fee but did not attend can consider



Denise and Jeanne with Winnie are involved in the planning, preparation and implementation of every event and do it all very well



The "re-elected" AGR Board: Connie, Debbie, Deb and Denise; Liz was not able to attend

the \$16 per person registration fee as a tax-deductible donation.

Producing this event takes many hours and the dedication of many volunteers. We serve a delicious

meal (basically an all-you-can-eat buffet), have a great raffle and

silent auction, and sell our merchandise. There is a short business meeting with a vote of confidence for continuing Board members. An important announcement was made regarding the need for a new Health Care Director starting in June 2025, as Liz Tataseo will be stepping down.

As we did last year, we sold “Mystery Eggs” stuffed with a variety of prize coupons. During registration and throughout the day, people had a chance to purchase a “Mystery Egg” for \$5.00. We had a total of 150 eggs this year and sold every one of them! We had an assortment of prizes which included: two \$50 *Chewy* gift cards, four \$25 *Amazon* gift cards, four \$25 *PetSmart* gift cards, four \$25 *Cold Stone Creamery* gift cards, four \$25 *Sprouts* gift cards, a \$25 *Walmart* gift card, six \$20 *Cold Beers & Cheeseburgers*

gift cards, three \$20 *Petco* gift cards, three \$15 *Starbucks* gift cards, three \$10 *AMC Theatres* gift cards, five \$5 *Biscuits* gift cards, an *AGR* T-shirt, *AGR*



hat, *AGR* visor, *AGR* lanyard, sidekick leash, microwave bowl cozy set, table pad, eye glasses case, handmade bag/purse, wine glass coaster set, two drill bit sets, bandannas, paw print key chains, nail files, bag clips, can koozies, bookmarks, tissue pack covers, poop bags, Yankee candles, can lids, dog toys, notepads, name stickers, and dog treats. Every egg had a prize, and everyone seemed to enjoy being a winner! We made \$750 on sales of the eggs. Thank you, everyone for participating in this delightful Adventure!

The behind-the-scenes volunteers started preparing for this event several weeks prior to the festivities! About a month before the event, Deb Orwig received 15 *Heartgard*® gift cards worth \$15 each, totaling \$225! Deb took the time to go shopping and use the gift cards for more “Mystery Eggs”, and items to be included in the raffle and silent auction baskets! Thank you, Deb, for a fun but time-consuming task!



Some of the raffles; beautiful packaging and bows were done by Carolyn

Denise Padavano and Jeanne Wegener went to Deb Orwig’s home where they organized items for 15 silent auction items and 27 raffle baskets. Once items were selected, Carolyn Brown spent over 20 hours arranging, packaging, and creating beautiful bows for all the items! Deb Orwig

prepared the paw labels for all the items, and Denise and Jeanne cut out the labels. Going to the storage unit to gather picnic items, ice chests and baskets were Jean Klink, Deb Orwig, and Denise Padavano. Organizing and pricing merchandise were Trishia Murphy and Jeanne Wegener.

Jeanne Wegener prepared the prize labels for the “Mystery Eggs”, and then along with Trishia Murphy and Denise stuffed all the eggs with the labels and candies! Debbie Ball alphabetized and organized the registration sheets. Connie McCabe created the graphic signs for the raffle and silent auction items, in addition to hand-outs for *AGR*’s upcoming events for August and September! Thank you, everyone, for all your time and energy to help make this event run smoothly!

On Saturday afternoon, Nick Dodson and Connie McCabe hooked up the *AGR* trailer, and then Nick drove it to the Orwig’s home where Adam Cardinal, Nick Dodson, Kevin Hall, Jean Klink, Connie McCabe, Deb and Larry Orwig, Denise Padavano, and Jeanne Wegener helped to load the *AGR* tents, tables, service ware, merchandise, X-pens, soda, water, and coolers. Most of the raffle and silent auction items were packed into private vehicles for transport. Deb’s van brought all the food items and four dogs on Sunday.

Volunteers converged on Eldorado Park at the East Ramada at 8 AM to help unload the vehicles, organize all the tents and tables, arrange the raffle baskets, silent auction items and the merchandise display, and set up the “kitchen”.



April Crow took time during the morning to go to a store in the area and buy ice for the coolers, as well as soap for the bathrooms and hand cleaner for the food table! Thank you for taking the time to do these extra tasks!

April helped set up the raffles, then turned her organizational skills into setting up “the kitchen”



Denise and Winnie with Maria, Denise’s friend who used to be her classroom assistant when she was teaching Special Ed

The set-up crew included: April Crow, Nick Dodson, Jean Klink, Keri and Rich Marchant, Maria Meza, Trishia Murphy, Larry Orwig, Denise Padavano, Kyle Urban, Jeanne Wegener, Julie and Garrett Wheadon, and Mike Wilson. After the tents and tables were arranged, Jean Klink, Maria Meza, Trishia Murphy and Jeanne Wegener handled setting up the merchandise area. Keri Marchant, new volunteers from *Just Service* organization – Cynthia Howell and her two daughters Gemma and Mila – Denise Padavano, Kyle Urban, and

Julie Wheadon were responsible for setting up the raffle and silent auction items. The kitchen area was handled by April Crow, Karen and Mark Wengraf, and Lenni Wilson.

We were also very fortunate to have five seniors from *Saguaro High School* and five seniors from *Chaparral High School* volunteering for the morning set-up. These seniors included: Ivy, Khloe, Hayden, Lilyanne, Kasuma, Micaela, Catherine, Maria, Emma, and Henry – they



Lenni and Steve with Dusty



Morning Student volunteers: Catherine, Michaela, Lilyanne, Hayden, Kasuma, Ivy and Khloe

were a tremendous help unloading and carrying tables and merchandise to the ramada from the parking lot! We also had an afternoon group of seniors from *Coronado High School* and *Chaparral High School* to assist with pack-up at the end of the day,

an incredible and welcome help! Jeanne Wegener was responsible in obtaining these young people for the day. Thank you, Jeanne and students!



Afternoon student helpers:
Front: Janet, Venus, Azul, Zoey, Brandon
Back: Henry, Caitlin, Genesis, Mateo, Javille, Diego, Angel

Debbie Ball and Teri Guilbault handled check-in at the registration table. Overseeing the “Mystery Egg” sales and prizes were Tracy and



Viki, Rita and Sarah with Meatloaf (aka Milu)

Gary Buffington, Suzie Downs, Teri Guilbault, and Jeanne Wegener. Those volunteers helping in the merchandise area throughout the day included Jean Klink, Rita Koppinger, Sarah Martin, Kim McVeigh, Maria Meza, Trishia Murphy, Denise Padavano, Viki Snedden, Simone Vaduva and Jeanne Wegener. Sue and Keith Akenhead, Suzie Downs, Darlene Kaminski, Trishia Murphy, and Jane Triplett sold raffle



Sue and Keith are now on their way back to Canada with Happy; they are helpful at almost all our events during the 6 months they live in AZ; we hope they will be able to come back in the fall



Jeff was our grillmaster and Teri (with Khalee) prepared all the condiments and helped in several ways at the event

tickets throughout the day.

The meal we presented consisted of several kinds of salads (carrot-raisin-pineapple, broccoli, coleslaw, fruit mix, pasta, and potato); grilled hamburgers, and hot dogs; baked beans; chips; Danishes, cakes and cookies; and non-alcoholic beverages (water and a selection of soda and juice). Jeff Guilbault was our grill master for the day and has done the grilling for many years! Teri and Jeff Guilbault donated

the charcoal and lighter fluid, in addition to the lettuce, sliced tomatoes, and onions for the burgers. April Crow brought the fruit salad; Connie McCabe made the coleslaw; Denise Padavano made the pasta salad; Deb Orwig made the carrot salad, broccoli salad and her popular potato salad, and donated the soda; Liz Ta-



Jeanne recruited some additional volunteers from an organization called *Just Serve* – Debi stayed most of the day; Cynthia and her daughters helped in the morning



taseo contributed the chips and condiments for the meat; and Jeanne Wegener made the baked beans, and donated the water. Debbie Ball donated money to help with food and ice expenses. Thanks to all who made the delicious food and monetary donations for *AGR's* picnic! NO-WHERE could you get a meal like that for just \$16!

Our food servers for the day were April Crow, Joni Cipollone, Jamie Deppey, Ellen France, Karina Helm, Karen and Mark Wengraf, Lenni Wilson, and Sharon Wozny.



Sharon and Joe both helped oversee the silent auction and raffle area; Sharon also helped with the food service

The day before the event, Deb Orwig, who keeps the *AGR* credit card, Denise Padavano, and Jeanne Wegener headed to *Costco* to shop for the picnic. They loaded two carts with paper goods, hamburgers, hot dogs, cheese, condiments, chips, buns, Danishes, muffins, cookies, and two cakes. There was plenty of delicious food, and we had enough food for everyone to enjoy and have seconds if they so desired! I can't imagine anyone leaving the event hungry!

Once again, music was streamed by way of a smart phone using the Apple Music app, and transmitted through speakers, thanks to Jeanne Wegener. We listened to popular tunes from the 60's, which were enjoyed by most of the crowd that attended!

In the Bridge Ceremony, Deb Orwig recognized **AGR** dogs and non-**AGR** dogs that belonged to **AGR** members and had passed away between March 2024 and the week before this year's **PATP**. She presented each family with a beautiful rainbow rosette. Always difficult to lose our cherished furry friends.

To celebrate and recognize new adopters, Connie and Deb did a photo shoot of new adopters with their dogs. Each dog was given a gold paw medallion.



Rich and Keri worked at Merchandise Sales most of the day but had to leave before the Bridge ceremony, so they were given a rosette in memory of Lily



Daisy and Blake brought Dad, Mom, two out-of-town visitors and, of course, Harley



Fred and Jill brought Jill's sister, Ruth, a visitor from out-of-state, and their 3-pack of Jessie, Windy, and Levi



New adopters Ray and Olivia had to leave early, so Lucy got her paw medallion before the rest of the new adoptees

Deb then invited everyone who had rescued a dog from ANYwhere to follow her in the parade around the park with the song "Who Let The Dogs Out?" playing on the boom box carried by Denita Kaiser. With 52 dogs in attendance, we had a long string of paws in our Parade – a wonderful and delightful sight to experience!

Wozny oversaw the silent auction and raffle baskets during the day. Raffles were drawn and silent auction bidding closed at 2:30 PM. Rose Cheke, Jeanne Wegener, and Mark Wengraf drew the winning tickets for the raffles, and Sharon Wozny closed out the silent auction forms. Debbie Ball and Denise Padavano collected money from the silent auction winners. A lot of people went home with

Anne McGill, Dean Mortimore, Debi Simonson (**Just Serve** volunteer), and Sharon



This gorgeous full-size, full-color quilt handmade by **AGR** member Sheri Rodeffer was the most coveted item in our silent auction; it eventually sold for \$500 after some hot-action bidding. Thank you, Sheri, for your wonderful contribution!



Trishia and Rosie come to almost all our events but we don't often see Sheryl with Stella and Bodie; Bodie is one of the five puppies Rosie whelped at the Orwigs' house on October 4, 2023. It was a thrill to watch Rosie and Bodie get re-acquainted, and we swear they recognized each other.



some very nice prizes!

Paws At The Park is truly a family-and-friends event. It also presents the opportunity for dogs that have come into Rescue and are sepa-



New adopters: Michele and Mark with Dora; Cameron and Skip with Frida; Wendy with Trixie; Julie and Garrett with Kai; Melisa with Snitch; Russell with Mazie; Nick with Mickey; Teri with Khalee



Kyle with Penny; Penny was having such a great time chasing a ball that she missed the adoption-medallion presentation ceremony!



rated for adoption to reunite with their foster families!

Pack-up began at 2:30 PM and continued until 3:35 with the trailer and vehicles loaded.



Also missing the adoption-medallion presentation were Fred with Bailey and Audra and Brent with Ivy and Jim

Last year we didn't finish loading until 4:30, but because we had more pack-up volunteers this year we were done in half the time! Those who stayed to help with this labor-intensive task included Nick Dodson, Jean Klink, new volunteers



These adopters stayed for lunch then had to leave:
Jeryl and Fred with Zoe; Trent and Patrick with Summer



Jerry and Emmery Levin, Connie McCabe, Anne McGill, new volunteer Maria Meza, Trishia Murphy, Larry Orwig, Denise Padavano, Simone Vadura, Jeanne Wegener and Mark Wengraf. We also had help from the following ten high school students: Angel, Venus, Javille, Mateo, Azul Celeste, Genesis, Diego, Janet, Brandon, and Caitlyn. They were instrumental in transporting tent, tables, merchandise, food and unclaimed baskets to the trailer and vehicles! Vehicles were provided by Nick Dodson, Jean Klink, Deb and Larry Orwig, Denise Padavano, and Jeanne Wegener.



Zack, Rose and Dan came late with Roger but still helped with the raffle and silent auction

Returning to the Orwig's the next day to unload the trailer and vehicles were Nick Dodson, Jean Klink, Connie McCabe, Trishia Murphy, Denise Padavano, Fred Prose, and Karen and Mark Wengraf. Then on Tuesday, Garrett Wheadon assisted Nick Dodson with unhooking the trailer at Connie and Nick's house.

The expenses for this event amounted to \$483.76, which included: purchased food and water (\$348.58), \$60.18 in convenience fees, and the Ramada rental fee of \$75 that was paid for in December 2024. Income included \$873.50 in merchandise sales, \$2,060 from the silent auction, \$750 from Mystery Egg sales, \$1,190 from raffle ticket sales, \$1,850 from registration fees, \$100 from Memorial donations, and \$552.68 in other donations. So, our profit from the event was **\$7,087.78** (we made \$570.91 more than last year's total of \$6516.87) – excellent!



Unloading crew at Orwig's house: Mark, Karen, Larry, Jean, Connie, Trishia, Denise and Fred; Nick drove the trailer

Thank you to all the remarkable volunteers who helped before, during and after this event! Your incredible dedication and support helped make this event happen and is greatly appreciated! Thank you to those who attended and contributed to this fun-filled gathering! If you did not come this year, please plan to do so in 2026. This event is definitely worth attending!

A special thank you to Connie McCabe and Deb Orwig for all the behind the scenes work that you ladies do! Connie for the exceptional job of garnering photographs of the days' activities, and for creating the impressive table graphics for the raffle, and silent auction items, and the "Mystery Egg" display! Deb for all the time spent organizing the raffle and silent auction items, creating the Paw labels, shopping to fill in the baskets, and handling the money and banking spreadsheet for the event!



The *Parade of Rescue* is always done at the end of the event so that everyone who participates or watches goes home feeling wonderful. It is such a thrilling sight to see so many rescued dogs, once unwanted, looking gorgeous and healthy. We know they now have the best life we could give them. The sight makes all the work we do worth the time and effort.



Golden Hearts



We are so grateful to everyone who has given us their support! All donations to **AGR**, a 501 (c) (3) organization, are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. The donations shown below were made between January 15 and March 31, 2025; donations that were made after March 31st will be acknowledged in future issues. We sincerely apologize if any donors have been omitted. Donations made after January 1, 2025 will receive an acknowledgment letter in January 2026, unless a receipt for taxes is requested sooner.

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In Loving Memory of 12-093 Diego Decker
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In Loving Memory of 22-021 Trooper Meyer-Earle
Deb and Larry Orwig

In Loving Memory of our employee's dog, Gracie
TCI Wealth Advisors

In Loving Memory of All First-Quarter 2025 Bridge Dogs and People we have lost including:

AGR Dogs:
13-004 Lily Gill
13-103 Dixie Wozny
14-084 Lola Howard
17-051 Stanley Booher
18-046 Lily Marchant
18-059 Apollo Laubitz-Pomykaj
18-072 Sadie Kinchen-Doiron
21-041 Goldie Whitmer
22-010 Finn Watts-Williams
22-021 Trooper Meyer-Earle
24-031 Blue

24-066 Lola Sanner
25-006 Chloe Derra

Non-AGR dogs:
Katie Connoyer
Ginger Imler-Feight
Luke Korycki-Foust

People
 Ellie Cipollone
 Tom Compise
 Shirley Moore

Debbie Ball
 Teri and Jeff Guilbault
 Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson
 Deb and Larry Orwig
 Denise Padavano
 Liz Tataseo

Honor

In Honor of Max (09-003), Jack (10-074) and Sierra (19-019)
Melissa Carter

In Honor of 13-023 Duffy Orwig's 12th Birthday on February 6
Deb and Larry Orwig

In Honor of Dean's girl 21-052 Sugar
Heather Bartels

Thank You Donation

To Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson for vacation care of
Dillon, Levi and Tyler
 Debbie Ball

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

~ Karen Davison

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A person can learn a lot from a dog, even a loopy one like ours. Marley taught me about living each day with unbri-dled exuberance and joy, about seizing the moment and fol-lowing your heart. He taught me to appreciate the simple things – a walk in the woods, a fresh snowfall, a nap in a shaft of winter sunlight. And as he grew old and achy, he taught me about optimism in the face of adversity. Mostly, he taught me about friendship and selflessness and, above all else, unwavering loyalty.

~ John Grogan in

Marley and Me: Life and Love With the World’s Worst Dog

Memberships - First Quarter 2025

50 families purchased or renewed a Single or Household Membership during First Quarter 2025

Memberships - First Quarter 2025

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Debbie Ball
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*Rescuing Dogs will tear your heart out, stomp on it and bury it where you never think you will find it.
Then along comes another dog that needs Rescue who digs it up and gives it back to you.
~ Author Unknown*