



Golden Retriever
Rescue of Illinois

Golden Tales

The Latest News from As Good as Gold

Volume 14, Issue 3

November 29 – A Day of Giving

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During the holiday season, we have one day for Giving Thanks, and a whole lot of shopping frenzy! Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, Cyber Monday, pre-Friday Black Friday starting next Friday....

BUT on November 29, 2016, you have the opportunity to join people from all around the world who come together to celebrate generosity on #GivingTuesday.

What is #GivingTuesday?

In the same way that Black Friday and Cyber Monday kick off the shopping season, #GivingTuesday kicks off the giving season. It was created in 2012 as a global day of giving back and doing good for others. It has grown dramatically each year, with a total of almost \$117 million raised in 2015, over twice as much as 2014.

What does this mean for our rescued golden?

As Good as Gold is participating in the #GivingTuesday campaign and you can make a difference in the lives of our rescued dogs! Our goal is to raise \$7,500 on November 29 to care for rescued golden until their forever homes are found, and to add 10 families to our Golden Guardians monthly giving program.

#GivingTuesday is just one of many ways you can help. Whether you volunteer your time; become an AGaG Golden Guardian; purchase our 2017 calendar, wine, or candles; or make a year-end donation, you give the gift of love.

This year alone, you've helped rescue more than 160 golden!

There were Sadie and Kemper, who sadly developed cancer and whose owners could not afford their long-term care. As Good as Gold will make sure they receive everything they need for the rest of their lives.

Jake and Angel with severe anxiety and emotional issues, whose foster families gave them the time, patience, and support needed to work through them.

And Goldie and Penny, seniors who lost their homes but were given a second chance with their new adoptive families.

These six dogs, and every dog in between, were given the gift of a loving, happy, healthy life because of you.

As Good as Gold is grateful to its members, adopters, donors, and supporters. Your efforts have improved the lives of more than 2,300 dogs since May 2003, and we thank each and every one of you!

Be sure to watch AGaG's website, and Facebook and Instagram pages for future updates!

AND if your employer does matching funds, your #GivingTuesday gift can do even more. Please contact Tamara Roush, AGaG's Fundraising Volunteer, at 208.530.1794. We always love to hear from you.



#GIVINGTUESDAY™

11.29.2016

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As Good as Gold has had a very busy year so far, and we are anticipating that we will take in almost 200 dogs by year's end! Rescuing is just the beginning ... then comes the expense of caring for all of the dogs and meeting their medical and behavioral needs which will definitely result in a rise in our medical costs from previous years.

We are proud to be able to help so many dogs ultimately live a life they never could have imagined! You have time and again stepped up to help our dogs in need, and we could not have met our goals without all of you. Thanks to you, dogs like Simba were able to receive the hip surgery needed to live a pain free life. Dogs like Spirit, Polly, Angel, Cheyenne and Montana, who came from commercial breeders, received the help from our veterinary behaviorist and some very patient foster homes to realize what it is like to be "normal dogs". Sweet puppies like Daisy were able to have life changing surgery to correct an ectopic utera. Countless dogs received lifesaving heartworm treatments. The list goes on and on.

I have always been proud to say "As Good as Gold never turns down a dog because of medical conditions or lack of socialization". We continue to learn so much to help all of the dogs that come into As Good as Gold. Our members continue to step up and face the challenges these dogs present. Whether you foster a special needs dog or contribute to our financial needs, you are making a difference for that dog. Looking at all of the dogs at our recent annual picnic and dog walk, I was overcome with how far some of these dogs have progressed; their lives, and the lives of their foster and adoptive families, have been enriched beyond measure!

As we approach the holiday season, I hope you will continue your generous support of As Good as Gold's mission ... because without you we could not change the lives of so many deserving goldens and golden mixes. Thank you as always for being there when needed!

-Robin Sweeney

Have You Purchased Your 2017 AGaG Rescue Calendar?

- You'll find more photos and stories than ever before!
- The holidays are just around the corner...it's the perfect gift choice for all on your list!
- You're busy...order now while you have the chance!
- Want to see all of the gorgeous photos and stories? Check out our online preview!



Now that you've seen it, order yours now: <https://shopasgoodasgold.com/merchandise-c-2/2017-rescue-calendar-p-229>

As always, we thank you for supporting our mission...2100 rescues and counting! It really is all about the dogs!



Golden Retriever Rescue
of Illinois

**As Good as Gold -
Golden Retriever Rescue of Illinois
P.O. Box 533, Wheeling, IL 60090
630-588-0115
www.asgoodasgold.org**

As Good as Gold - Golden Retriever Rescue of Illinois is a membership based, volunteer-supported, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the rescue, care, and adoption of abandoned, mistreated, or unwanted Golden Retrievers.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Transport, Marlene Pedone
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AGAG FUNDRAISING

Enjoy 70 Flavors of Popcorn While Helping to Save Golden Retrievers!

This cool fall weather is the perfect time to snuggle up with your favorite dog on the couch while watching a good movie and munching on one of 70 incredible popcorn flavors!

Go to: www.supportyours.org/asgoodasgold to order. Best of all, 40% of the popcorn purchase price is donated to As Good as Gold to help us find forever homes for Golden Retrievers and golden mixes in need!!!



Keep Walkin'?

By walking with your dog, you trigger donations to As Good as Gold! Go to www.wooftrax.com and sign-up today. Download this application to your Android or Apple smartphone and turn it on when walking your dog.

As Good as Gold Wine and Candles Now On Sale!

Wine - <http://www.benefitwines.com/agag>

This year's selection of delicious wines includes Addison & Wrigley's Malbec, Lacey's Carmenere, Kane's Merlot, Gracie & Finn's Chardonnay, Oakley's Cabernet Sauvignon and Jesse's Sauvignon Blanc.



You can purchase all six for \$117.94 with \$34 of that amount being donated to AGaG, a four pack for \$78.96 with \$23 going to AGaG, or individual bottles for \$19.99 with \$6 going to AGaG.

Candles - <http://www.charitywicks.com/agag>

AS GOOD AS GOLD CANDLE CO.



www.CharityWicks.com/AGAG

POWERED BY CHARITY WICKS MAKE THE LEAST

Our six aromatic candles include Brody's Cranberry Harvest, Destiny's Fire Pink Petals, Lola's Lavender, Tyler's Hot Apple Pie, Annie's Cotton Fields and Phoebe's Balsam Fir.

You can purchase a six pack for \$114.94 with \$31 going to AGaG, a four pack for \$74.96 with \$19 going to AGaG, or individual candles for \$19.99 with \$6 going to AGaG.

As Good as Gold Holiday Gift Catalog

Purchase wonderful gifts for you, your family, your friends and, of course, your treasured golden in the 2015 As Good as Gold Holiday Catalog. EVERY PURCHASE generates a donation to help AGaG save more Golden Retrievers and golden mixes! Buy your gifts here and make a real difference for canines in need!

Check out the catalog <http://www.asgoodasgold.org/good-gold-holiday-gift-catalog-2016/> and begin shopping!!!

Year End Appeal - Wrigley

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your continued dedication to As Good as Gold – Golden Retriever Rescue of Illinois. You have changed the lives of countless goldens.

As you know, caring for an average of 200 dogs every year is incredibly rewarding. But it's also very expensive. We take our commitment to saving golden retrievers and golden mixes very seriously, but we can only do it with your support. Will you please consider a donation this holiday season?

You'll be able to help goldens like Wrigley, who had such a rough start. For the first 6 years of her life, she was owned by 3 different breeders, sold on eBay, almost euthanized, and transported across the country crated in the back of a pick-up truck.

Not surprisingly, Wrigley developed an extreme fear of noises including thunder, panicked when crated or confined, and car rides terrified her. After finally settling in a loving home, her world changed again at 10 years old, when she came to As Good as Gold because her owner was moving and was unable to keep her.

As you know, As Good as Gold never turns away a dog with the potential of great quality of life. Wrigley was treated by a veterinary behaviorist. She got the stability she needed in her foster home to build her self-confidence and reduce her anxiety. And in August, 2016 this sweet, gentle girl was adopted by her forever family. We could not do this without our supporters, and again, I thank you.



Here's how your gift will make a difference:

- Your donation of **\$30** helps prevent heartworm infection and the need for painful treatment of this disease
- **\$50** will reduce the number of homeless pets through a spay or neuter surgery
- **\$100** helps pay for a consultation with a veterinary behaviorist to improve emotional health

Our rescued goldens dream of loving, happy and safe homes, and you can make it happen. Will you make a donation today? Simply use the envelope or go online to <http://www.asgoodasgold.org/>.

With your help, we know we can continue to provide the crucial medical care for the goldens we rescue. Thank you!
Warm regards and happy holidays!

Cyndi Raine-Dentinger
President



P.S. If you have any questions, please contact Tamara Roush at (208) 530-1794. Will you make a donation today to help even more rescued goldens? Thank you again!

OUR COOPERATING VETS

We are grateful for the wonderful medical care given to our rescued golden retrievers by the following veterinarians:

<p>All Creatures Animal Hospital Lake Zurich, IL (847)726-0050</p> <p>All Pets Animal Hospital Lockport, IL (815)838-0505</p> <p>Alvi Veterinary Hospital Summit, IL (708)496-0511</p> <p>Amberleaf Animal Hosp. Winfield, IL (630)231-7640</p> <p>Animal Ark Chicago, IL (773)442-6500</p> <p>Animal Care Center Plainfield, IL (630)378-0880</p> <p>Animal Care Clinic - Algonquin Algonquin, IL (847)854-8387</p> <p>Animal Care Clinic - South Elgin South Elgin, IL (847)742-5700</p> <p>Animal Care Clinic of Geneva Geneva, IL (331)248-0113</p> <p>Animal Care Clinic - Homer Glen Homer Glen, IL (708)301-1661</p> <p>Animal Clinic at New Lenox New Lenox, IL (815)485-4477</p> <p>Animal Eye Consultants Crestwood, IL (708)388-3793</p> <p>Animal Eye Consultants Chicago, IL (312)985-9233</p> <p>Animal Eye Consultants Elgin, IL (630)883-0094</p> <p>Animal Eye Consultants Naperville, IL (630)985-9233</p> <p>Animal House Vet. Hospital St. Charles, IL (630)443-1472</p> <p>Animal Medical Center 16200 S. LaGrange Rd., Orland Park, IL(708)460-6000</p> <p>Animal Medical Center Skokie, IL (847)673-2616</p> <p>Animal Medical Clinic of St. Charles St. Charles, IL (630)208-0380</p> <p>Antioch Animal Hospital Antioch, IL (847)395-0636</p> <p>Ashton Veterinary Clinic Ashton, IL (815)453-2171</p> <p>Barrington Square Animal Hosp. Hoffman Estates, IL (847)843-2226</p> <p>Beaumont Animal Clinic Urbana, IL (217)367-1187</p> <p>Becker Animal Hospital Northfield, IL (847)446-8010</p> <p>Best Friends Animal Hospital Grayslake, IL (847)548-2626</p> <p>BluePearl Specialty & Emergency Northfield, IL (847)564-5775</p> <p>Bradley Animal Hospital Bradley, IL (815)932-5011</p> <p>Broadhead Vet. Medical Center Broadhead, WI (608)897-8632</p>	<p>Canine Physical Rehab Montgomery, IL (630)264-9840</p> <p>Care Animal Hospital of Libertyville Libertyville, IL (847)549-8500</p> <p>Chicago Animal Medical Center Chicago, IL (773)525-3353</p> <p>Chicago Animal Rehab Chicago Ridge, IL (708)576-2801</p> <p>Chicagoland Veterinary Behavior Consultants Bensenville, IL (630)231-1544</p> <p>Chicago Veterinary Emergency & Speciality Chicago, IL (773)281-7110</p> <p>Chicago Vet. Speciality Group Northbrook, IL (847)786-3030</p> <p>Clinica Veterinaria Villamar Villamar Carolina, PR (787)728-8825</p> <p>Companion Animal Speciality & Emergency Crystal Lake, IL (815)479-9119</p> <p>Countryside Veterinary Center Countryside, IL (708)469-6050</p> <p>Deer Run Animal Hospital Schererville, IN (219)864-7180</p> <p>DuPage Animal Hospital Villa Park, IL (630)834-8242</p> <p>Edinger Surgical Options Madison, WI (608)845-0002</p> <p>Emergency Veterinary Care South Crestwood, IL (708)388-3771</p> <p>Flossmoor Animal Hospital Flossmoor, IL (708)798-9030</p> <p>Forest South Animal Hospital University Park, IL (708)672-6166</p> <p>Four Paws Animal Clinic Washington, IL (309)444-8474</p> <p>Frankfort Animal Care Center Frankfort, IL (815)469-9300</p> <p>Gateway Veterinary Clinic St. Charles, IL (630)377-6660</p> <p>Geneva Lakes Animal Hospital Walworth, WI (262)275-3303</p> <p>Glencoe Animal Hospital Northbrook, IL (847)835-1302</p> <p>Glendale Animal Hospital Glendale Heights, IL (630)858-3530</p> <p>Greenbay Animal Hospital Wilmette, IL (847)251-5900</p> <p>Hampton Park Animal Hospital Lockport, IL (815)838-0141</p> <p>Hancock Vet. Clinic Hamilton, IL (217)847-3911</p> <p>Hawthorne Park Animal Hosp. Bloomington, IL (309)664-6320</p>	<p>Healthy Paws Animal Hospital Lake in the Hills, IL (815)322-5400</p> <p>Hoffman Estates Animal Hospital Hoffman Estates, IL (847)310-8668</p> <p>Hononegah Animal Hospital Roscoe, IL (815)624-0606</p> <p>Integrative Pet Care Chicago, IL (773)269-2964</p> <p>Kenosha Animal Hospital Kenosha, WI (262)658-3533</p> <p>Kentland Animal Hospital Kentland, IN (219)474-5163</p> <p>Kruger Animal Hospital Normal, IL (309)452-5111</p> <p>Lake Geneva Animal Hospital Lake Geneva, WI (262)248-4790</p> <p>Lakeland Animal Hospital McHenry, IL (815)385-6925</p> <p>Laketown Animal Hospital Springfield, IL (217)529-4211</p> <p>LePar Animal Hospital Evergreen Park, IL (708)423-3200</p> <p>Libertyville Animal Hospital Libertyville, IL (847)362-3103</p> <p>Midwest Veterinary Dermatology Center Buffalo Grove, IL (847)459-7535</p> <p>Bennett, IL (812)550-1033</p> <p>Morton Grove Animal Hospital Morton Grove, IL (847)965-4010</p> <p>Mundelein Animal Hospital Mundelein, IL (847)566-5750</p> <p>Natural Pet Animal Hospital Bourbonnais, IL (815)929-9393</p> <p>Natural Healing Whole Dog Wellness West Chicago, IL (630)483-9843</p> <p>Oz Animal Hospital Chicago, IL (773)327-5024</p> <p>Palos Animal Hospital Palos Heights, IL (708)448-6600</p> <p>Partner & Paws Veterinary Services Lisle, IL (630)301-2320</p> <p>Paws and Claws Animal Clinic Freeport, IL (815)235-7700</p> <p>Pawsitively Balanced Downers Grove, IL(630)399-5725</p> <p>Perryville Pet Hospital Rockford, IL (815)229-1234</p> <p>Pet Vets Animal Hospital Oak Park, IL (708)445-9988</p> <p>Prairie Oak Veterinary Center Normal, IL (309)454-8606</p> <p>Prairie View Animal Hospital DeKalb, IL (815)756-9976</p> <p>Premier Veterinary Group Elgin, IL (847)695-3652</p>	<p>Premier Veterinary Group Grayslake, IL (847)548-5300</p> <p>Premier Veterinary Group Chicago, IL (773)516-5800</p> <p>Progress Park Veterinary Hospital Peru, IL (815)224-2858</p> <p>Rand Road Animal Hospital Palatine, IL (847)359-7611</p> <p>River Heights Veterinary Clinic Oswego, IL (630)554-3400</p> <p>Roscoe Veterinary Clinic Roscoe, IL (815)623-2143</p> <p>Roselle Animal Hospital Roselle, IL (630)307-2200</p> <p>Shorewood Animal Hospital Shorewood IL, (815)744-2082</p> <p>Streamwood Animal Hospital Streamwood, IL (630)837-4400</p> <p>Sugar Grove Animal Hospital Sugar Grove, IL (630)466-7387</p> <p>The Royal Treatment Chicago, IL (773)267-9966</p> <p>The Whole Pet Bartlett, IL (630)289-2288</p> <p>Town & Country Animal Hospital Normal, IL (309)452-1717</p> <p>UW Veterinary Care Madison, WI (608) 263-7600</p> <p>VCA Arboretum View Animal Hospital Downers Grove, IL (630)963-0424</p> <p>VCA Berwyn Berwyn, IL (708)749-4200</p> <p>VCA Hawthorn Vernon Hills, IL (847)362-0780</p> <p>VCA Heritage Savoy, IL (217)356-2200</p> <p>VCA Joliet Joliet, IL (815)729-0770</p> <p>VCA Noyes Animal Hospital Fox River Grove, IL (847)462-1599</p> <p>Vernon Hills Animal Hospital Mundelein, IL (847)367-4070</p> <p>Veterinary Vision Lisle, IL (630)790-0538</p> <p>Wheatland Animal Hospital Naperville, IL (630)904-2020</p> <p>Whitney Veterinary Hospital Peoria, IL (309)685-4707</p> <p>Winnebago Animal Clinic Winnebago, IL (815)335-2314</p> <p>Winnetka Animal Hospital Winnetka, IL (847)441-7474</p>
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Thank you for caring for our rescue goldens!

Parade Your Pooch and Picnic



Not only did the weather cooperate for the 152 attendees at the As Good as Gold (AGag) Parade Your Pooch All Breed Run Walk and Reunion Picnic, but the initial tally shows we raised a whopping \$9,111.50! *We would especially like to thank our wonderful sponsors: Montenegro Paper; Partners and Paws Veterinary Services (<http://partnersandpaws.com/>); Gary S. Todd, D.D.S., L.L.C. (www.drgarytodd.com); Taylor Plumbing, Inc.; Cindy Pakenas; Barbara Murray; and Joe and Susan Lunn; our two vendors Thomas's Tails and Crystal's Canine Designs, and Dr. Alexis Newman and her staff for providing on-site canine ambulance support. We wouldn't have had such a great event without all of you!*

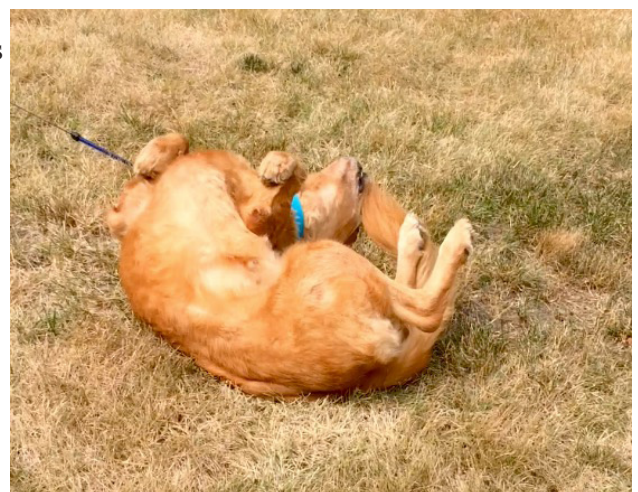


Wondering how you can view or download photos from the 2016 Parade Your Pooch and Picnic event? Any photos from last year's Parade Your Pooch event that you might have missed and want to check out?

Visit the As Good as Gold Flickr.com account at https://www.flickr.com/photos/as_good_as_gold/ to view the 2016 and 2015 photos. More have been added since the event. Select the Albums view from the navigation bar to access either the 2016 PYP and Picnic photo folder or the 2015 PYP photo folder containing folder. You can download an entire album or specific photos. To download a photo, select the photo and click the 'down arrow over a horizontal line' icon on the screen. To print a selected photo, right-click on the photo and click the Print option.

For any questions or problems, please email AGaG Technology/Web Support at support@asgoodasgold.org.

Last but not least, Simba asked us to convey his personal thanks to everyone, especially those who donated to his PYP fundraising page. He couldn't write a personal thank you because he's home recovering from his second, successful hip surgery on September 20. His foster mom reports that he has already started using his leg so his future is looking great. Some of you will remember that this sweet, beautiful came to AGaG with severe hip dysplasia along with ear and skin infections and had his first hip surgery on July 20th. His medical costs alone were around \$5,900! You can still donate to his personal page if you'd like to help. Thanks to all of you Simba and many other rescues past, present, and future will be able to live the golden life they were meant to live!



OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

Donations of \$25 or more received May 1, 2016 through July 31, 2016

Honored by	In Memory of	Honored by	In Memory of
Broucka Sarnoff.....	AJ	Matt & Amy Mahoney.....	Daisy
Aginity.....	Anka	Brian & Susan McAuliffe.....	Sadie
The Agnew Family.....	Charlie	Mary Beth McAvoy.....	Bailey & Caleb
Linda Aitken.....	Bear	Thomas & Diane McNabb.....	Cooper
Jeff & Anne Anderson.....	Cramer	Michael & Tami Meer.....	Yofi, Shai & Tara
Stratos & Sheryl Athanassiades.....	Scarlett & Emmy	Fred, Yvonne & Bob Miller.....	Gayle Bezdek
Sue Battalini.....	Bear	Janet Mollerup.....	Gayle Bezdek
Mary Bayles.....	Gracie, Libby & Sofi	Connie Morrow.....	Sadie
Alan Berman.....	Mac	Karen Novak.....	Bailey & Aunt Judy
John & Rachel Bezdek.....	Gayle Bezdek	Kaye Overfelt.....	Shelby & Katie
Jack Block.....	Murphy	Jim & Cindy Pakenas.....	Corky & Kelsey
Duane & Mary Bolin.....	Gayle Bezdek	Nancy Reese.....	Katy
Carol Brown & Lindsay Pomeroy.....	Kokanee, Sarah & Joey	Neil & Kristan Riordan.....	Brandy, Maggie May and Angie
James & Jennifer Burklow.....	Payton	Steve & Sandy Ruby.....	Lucky Garagiola
Judy Bush.....	Tina Lampe	Jennifer Ruz.....	Cindy Allway
John & Marsha Campbell.....	Mick Sweeney	Gertrud Rutz.....	Tonka
John & Marsha Campbell.....	Murray	Stephanie Santander.....	Stephen Seilheimer
Alex Carlsen.....	Gayle Bezdek	Savant Capital Management.....	Gayle Bezdek
Patrick & Amber Chasco.....	Gordy	Matt Smith & Jacqueline Wickham.....	Paula Silva
Juzer Chinwalla.....	Toby	Sam & Linda Smith.....	Honey & Frosty
Mile Cikara, Alison Gocke, Anja & Vuk.....	Gayle Bezdek	Nancy Strock.....	Paula Silva
Michael & Carrie Cleary.....	Buddy	James & Virginia Swab.....	Dudley & Riley
Jon & Emily Cole.....	Gayle Bezdek	Paul & Susan Tagatz.....	Gayle Bezdek
Susan Craig.....	Deuce	Debra Thomas.....	Paula Silva
Christine Davis.....	Gayle Bezdek	Jeff & Angela Thompson.....	Rocky
Charles & Bryana Deak.....	Gayle Bezdek	The Tragos Family.....	Paula Silva
William & Debra Dedic.....	Ginger, Trixie, Emmy & Meadow	Walter & Nancy Trznadel.....	Payton & Lunar
Rosemarie Donovanich.....	Paula Silva	Heather Henderson & Mark Vandever.....	Sophie Moore
Scott & Julie Downie.....	Fremot	Patrick & Linda Walker.....	
Michael & Linda Dunal.....	Max		Binky, Harry, Rudy, Sadie, Snoops & Zeke
Stephen Fajnor.....	Champ	LaDella Whitaker.....	Paula Silva
Margo Ford & Dave Gustafson.....	Annie & Ginger	Linda Wilson.....	Paula Silva
Nancy Funk.....	Paula Silva	Susan Woods.....	Bear, Cassie, Kelly & Shannon
Laura Garbe.....	Honey		
Debbie Garcia.....	Penny	Honored by	In Honor of
Joy Gibson.....	Kahlua, Ginger, Heather & Cleo	Dorelle Ackermann & Kathleen Kuper.....	Nadine & Suzie
William & Carolyn Gifford.....	Dorothy O'Brien Hackett	Jeff & Anne Anderson.....	Balto & Kennedy
Gnade Insurance.....	Paula Silva	Judith Bartolini & Vickie Kukuls.....	
Anonymous.....	Spenser		Jazz, Marley, Charlie & all who've gone before them
Karen Grandt.....	Boslee & Lacie Lee	Howard & Darlene Brandt.....	All Rescued Golden
Brian & Marion Gross.....	Zack, Zoe & Freddy	Ken Brown.....	Dinga
Karol Hanusiak.....	Denali	Steven Burger.....	Danna Cooper
Linda Hensgen.....	Howard Bucholz	John & Marsha Campbell.....	
Irene Houlihan.....	Lucy		All off AGaG's Puerto Rican Pups
David & Susan Johansen.....	Sam	Alex Carlsen.....	Leo Bezdek
Robert & Sheila Johnson.....	Hamish & Sophie	Michael Conklin & Steven Wilhelm.....	Bella
Sharon Jouzapaitis.....	Mick Sweeney	Conroy Family.....	Romeo William Conroy
Andrea Kasiewicz.....	Paula Silva	John & Laurie Ann Curtin.....	Bella's Birthday
Ron Kline.....	Duke, Lucy & Roscoe	William & Debra Dedic.....	Peaches
Mary Kressin.....	Paula Silva	Dustin DiFil & Melissa Grygiel.....	Tom McNally
David & Tammy Lahey.....	Zoe	Michael & Deborah Doles.....	Jack Doles
Michael & Therese Lampl.....	Paula Silva	Michael & Linda Dunal.....	Max
Doris Lapporte.....	Sky	James Egan & Kathleen Johnson.....	Paris

Island Dog Program

We have posted about the Island Dogs Program but do you really know what it is?

As you may have read in various publications, Puerto Rico has a tremendous amount of homeless animals. Due to the large number of Golden Retrievers in this population a rescue group was formed specifically to help them and they work with a few Golden Retriever rescue groups in the U.S. When they acquire a Golden Retriever in need they do everything possible to get that dog to a safe environment. Similar to As Good As Gold they work with a group of foster homes to care for them until they can be adopted in Puerto Rico or transported to the U.S. Prior to them being transported to the U.S. they are vet checked and vaccinated.

This year alone As Good As Gold has rescued over 67 pups from Puerto Rico. Of those dogs rescued some of them were pregnant with pups. We have had 4 litters of 1, 4, 7 and 8 puppies born here.



One such rescued Island Golden is pictured sweetie Hugo...now named Rico. Much of Rico's story is unknown however we do know he was owned by a young woman who had small children and kept Hugo tied out in the yard for the first 2 years of his life. During that period, he was not provided any medical treatments or vaccinations. Rico is now a happy 3 year old who shares the house with his older sister, Marnie, also an AGAG rescue. Marnie is 11 and absolutely loves her younger brother.

If you have a Golden rescue from Puerto Rico or want to get involved, we would love to hear your story (pr-marketing@asgoodasgold.org). Thank you for supporting As Good as Gold so we can continue to rescue more Island Pups!

GETTING INVOLVED

New to AGaG and not sure how to get involved? Interested in getting involved in a different area of AGaG? Just not clear on what you can do to help AGaG?

Contact AGaG Membership/Volunteer Coordinator, Janet Harrison, and she would be happy to help you get involved! Email: membership@asgoodasgold.org.

OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

Donations of \$25 or more received May 1, 2016 through July 31, 2016

Honored by	In Honor of	Honored by	In Honor of
Linda Furster.....	Hayley Zimet's birthday	Carol Millunchick.....	Callie & Charlie
Laura Garbe.....	Penny	Christine Nitz.....	Suzie & Nadine
Joy Gibson.....	Ben	Susan O'Connor.....	Buddy
Karol Hanusiak.....	Denali	Jim & Cindy Pakenas.....	Mozzie
Joseph & Joann Hermann.....	Jake's Birthday	Sara Paretsky & Courtenay Wright.....	Callie
John & Janis Hilgers.....	Carina	Marlene Pedone.....	Suzie and Nadine
August Hirt.....	Nadine & Suzie	Fritz & Mark Plank.....	Paula Silva
Louis & Sheryl Joseph.....	Tucker	Jim & Diane Richards.....	Bob & Sheila's 50th anniversary
George Kages.....	Quinn	Gertrud Rutz.....	All the Dogs I've Fostered
Jean Karczewski.....	Hugo	Garey Schmidt.....	Fred, Logan & Cagney
Anonymous.....	All my AGaG dogs	Michaeline Spatuzza.....	Nadine & Suzie
Bob & Barb Klaviter.....	Juli & Linus	Kathy Taylor.....	Teddy
Hale & Angelee Landes.....	Jake Dog	Laura Tenerelli.....	Oreilly
Maren Larkin.....	Murray	Jeff & Angela Thompson.....	Casey
Douglas & Darlene Lauzen.....	Stella	Kenneth & Lynne Wielgos.....	Carl & Lynn Sembach
Sally Macnamara.....	Payton	James & Kathy Wilmot.....	All of Our Past Golden
Jim Matthey.....	Ginger	Susan Woods.....	Maddie & Amy
Judy Miller.....	Sandy and Steve Ruby - birthday		

A Message from the President - Cyndi Raine Dentinger

I would like to personally thank Karen Grandt for all her time and dedicated efforts for serving As Good as Gold as its President and Fiscal Coordinator for the last several years. Karen has requested to take some time off for personal reasons since this has been a stressful year filled with personal loss.

As Vice President, I have agreed to step up and fulfil the President's role for our organization going forward (effective 10/1/16). This appointment was approved by the Board at the July meeting. Being a founding member, I am proud to work with so many dedicated individuals who continually give of their time and efforts.



Please join us in thanking Karen for her service and dedication to As Good as Gold!

I would also like to welcome back Laurie McConahay who was appointed by the Board as Karen's successor to become our Fiscal Coordinator, and also welcome new Board member Jim King, who was appointed to a newly created Technology Coordinator position.

There is still one fundraising coordinator position we are looking to fill, and if you are interested in helping, please contact Cyndi or Robin Sweeney, our Executive Director (info@asgoodasgold.org) for more information. We will also be providing more information about these position descriptions in some of our upcoming newsletters.

-Cyndi Raine-Dentinger

Golden Guardians - changing lives one month at a time!

Golden Guardians re golden retriever lovers who make a recurring gift each month to make sure rescued goldens receive everything they need while in foster care. Join today and a monthly donation can be set-up to help pups in need. Each month you will receive an e-mail receipt when your donation is charged and a story with a photo of a rescued golden whose life was changed by your gift.

Please note Tamara Roush (goldenguardians@asgoodasgold.org) is now the contact for the Golden Guardians monthly giving program.



Check out our website for more information or to sign up today: <http://www.asgoodasgold.org/monthly-giving/>

Thank you to those who are already Golden Guardians! We couldn't save goldens in need without you!

Listen to Your Dog

By: Robin Sweeney

Even though our dogs cannot talk, they communicate with us in many ways. Body language is probably the easiest way for our dogs to communicate with us, but most of us have little knowledge in this area ... or we send mixed messages.

With the influx of commercial breeder dogs and strays who have lived on the streets of Puerto Rico, we have had to learn to listen to these dogs in order to understand them. Dogs from commercial breeders have had very little social interaction with people and tend to be fearful of just about everything. When we take in these dogs, we see animals that are frozen with fear. Our natural instinct is to want to hug them and tell them everything will be all right ... wrong! Our intentions are genuine and caring, but in reality we are increasing the dog's fears.

When a dog shows us he is fearful, it is time to back off and let the dog make the decision to approach us ... don't ever force the interaction. If the dog approaches, try the following steps:

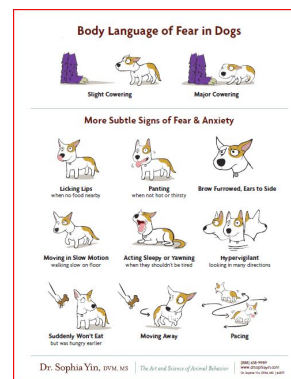
- use the 3 second rule and give a gentle rub under the chin,
- remove your hand
- if the dog comes closer, give another 3 second rub.

If we let the dogs make the decisions about interactions, they will start to trust that we are listening to them.

Some body language may be confusing. For instance, a fearful dog may roll over on his back, appearing to be asking for a belly rub. In fact, he is showing submissive behavior as in "please don't hurt me". Dogs are fairly simplistic in thinking that things are either safe or unsafe; we need to help them feel safe not only with us but in new situations. We can be their advocates if we work to understand their body language and react accordingly. The key is to approach things slowly and gently ... and with patience.

As Good as Gold has been lucky enough to work with a veterinary behaviorist who has helped our fosters and adopters learn how to work with fearful dogs. With her help, we have been able to identify the signs of fear and stress in these dogs and how to react accordingly to best reach them.

The following link will take you to Dr. Yin's great hand-outs on body language - <https://drsophiayin.com/blog/entry/free-downloads-posters-handouts-and-more/>



MATCHING GIFTS

DOUBLE YOUR DONATION



**Will Your Company
Match Your Donation?**

Find out instantly! 

Did you know that companies offer a matching gift program to encourage charitable giving by their employees? Most of these programs match donations dollar for dollar, some will make a gift for your volunteer time, and others will even match charitable gifts made by spouses and retirees.

By completing a matching gift form, you may be able to double, or even triple, the impact of your gift! Contributions of any amount help us make sure our dogs receive everything needed while in foster care.

Please go to <http://www.doublethedonation.com/agag> to see if your employer participates in a matching gift program, or contact Tamara Roush at (208) 530-1794.

SUCCESS STORY: Maggie ~ Formerly “Flor”

In December 2015, we lost our sweet 12+ year old AGaG golden, Bella, who had been with us since she was 8 months old. We went through several months of healing and decided to apply to adopt again in July 2016.

A few weeks after we submitted the application, we were having breakfast with our neighbors at an outdoor café, discussing the status of the adoption. While chatting with them, I received an email from Kristen Vesely of AGaG offering us a 3-5 year old golden they rescued in Puerto Rico and had named Flor (“flower” in Spanish). We opened the attached photos and knew this was our little girl. We could not wait to meet her! Kristen was very upfront about her medical condition (she was being treated for heartworms and also needed shots for arthritis), but AGaG would pay for the heartworm treatments as long as we took her to their vet.

An incredible AGaG volunteer and foster mom, Kristina Finney, called and gave us the lowdown on Flor and we decided on a date for a meet and greet. As soon as we saw her in the back seat of Kristina’s car, it was love at first sight. We knew she was coming into her forever home. AGaG has been wonderful about taking care of the heartworm treatment bills, and we just completed the last round of shots. Plus, Kristin and Kristina have offered a wealth of information, links, suggestions, etc. – they made the adoption process extremely smooth! And special thanks to Kristina for being her dog sitter when we had to leave town for a funeral.

We renamed Flor “Maggie” and are so lucky to have her in our lives. She adapted to her new home very quickly. She LOVES lots of loving and is very content having her chin and belly rubbed – with her tail always wagging. Because of the heartworm treatment, we cannot take her on long walks or let her run or get too active. Once we get the okay in November (fingers crossed) that she no longer has heartworms, we look forward to playing with her outside, taking her for walks, and watching our Puerto Rican princess experience her first snow!

Thanks, AGaG!
Michael Conklin and Steven Wilhelm
Chicago, IL



AVAILABLE GOLDEN SPOTLIGHT

Meet Marley!



Is anyone up for a game of tennis? No cumbersome rackets needed to play by my rules. A bucket of green tennis balls and a strong throwing arm are all that is required to keep me occupied. My fur foster sister, Georgia, and I are friendly competitors when chasing the balls. I can even return two at a time carrying them in my big lips! Foster Mom refers to me as a “big oaf” when I try to catch a ball. I can’t seem to get my timing right. I jump into the air and twist too early or too late. I think the Cub’s outfielders’ jobs are secure. We have a swimming pool and I learned to swim this summer. I’m a water dog who would stay afloat forever if allowed! I am also known as a friendly thief. I steal items that don’t belong to me, but I never harm anything I borrow.

I have been able to maintain my sweet outgoing personality in spite of the allergy problems I have endured most of my life. When I arrived at my foster home, I was diagnosed with severe chronic infection of my skin and ears likely caused by sensitivities to certain allergens including something called a mite. Since I started eating a special diet of Royal Canin Ultamio kibble, was prescribed several new medications and enjoy occasional

medicated baths, my itchies are now minimal. If I begin to scratch, Foster Dad makes me wear a cone shaped contraption, so I try to control myself when the urge to rub my skin strikes me. My veterinarian told me that I may have to start some type of immunotherapy sometime in the future if my condition does not remain stabilized. After several months of treatment in my foster home, my handsome self has emerged. My coat has grown in thick and glossy and I now have some feathers on my tail.

I am a snuggler and am willing to take my share of your bed right in the middle to insure sweet dreams of joining a forever family to help me continue my allergy desensitizing and remain prickle free.