

Reaching out to you with...

The Golden Paw

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for
lending
a hand.



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Masthead photo of **25-012 Bailey** by Connie McCabe
 Cover design with **24-045 Spam** by Connie McCabe

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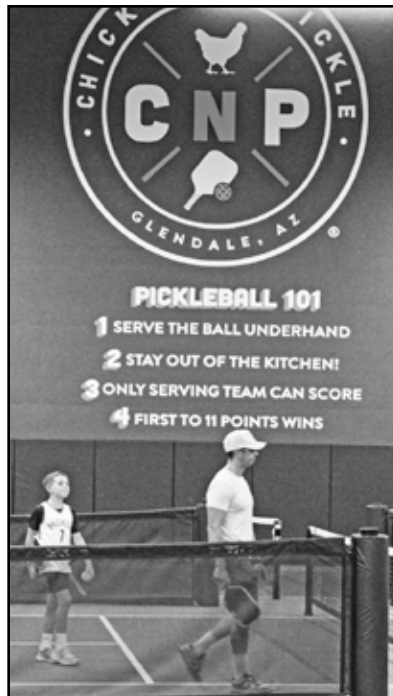
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Pickleball Rules are posted on the wall in *Chicken N Pickle's "Coop"*



Action shots of JZ Holmes (above) and Samuel Heddings (left) – the boys won AGR's Pickleball Tournament!

NOTE: We WILL be doing a Pickleball Tournament again in 2026, most likely on a Sunday in August. Check our website for a confirmed date.

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 is, indeed, fortunate to have some very generous supporters – many from within the organization and some from the community. I specifically want to thank those who have set up a monthly donation, either with their bank's bill-pay option, or with PayPal or Zelle. These folks are listed on page 27. Their donations range from \$5 per month (for a total of \$60 per year – adds up, doesn't it? Would you miss \$5 per month? How about \$10 per month? How about \$25, etc?) – to \$200 per month (\$2,400 per year!). It is comforting to know that every month, no matter what other sporadic donations come in, we are sure to receive \$796.

A few members donate monthly through a payroll plan at their workplace. These donations come to us via *American Online Giving Foundation* (Benevity Causes Portal), *Charities Aid Foundation*, and *Nationwide* and the *Nationwide Foundation*. One *AGR* member who works for *JP Morgan Chase* bank takes advantage of semi-regular offerings of matching funds from the bank for their donation to a charity (*AGR*). Does your workplace offer an automatic payroll-deduction and/or a matching funds program? Please ask the human resources person at your workplace.

Everyone shops for groceries, and many of us regularly shop at a *Fry's (Kroger) Food Store* or *Fry's Marketplace*. If you do, and you do not currently have a *Fry's* VIP account, please go to Customer Service the next time you're in the store and get one set up with *AGR* as your beneficiary. Not only will you be contributing a small percentage of your grocery bill to *Arizona Golden Rescue* (at no extra charge to you), you will also be the recipient of weekly digital deals (coupons available online) that are automatically applied to your total charge. Depending on what you buy, the savings can really add up – you and *AGR* both win in the process. We get a quarterly check from *Fry's Community Partners* program which is usually around \$455.

In the market for a new house or car? If you have your mortgage or title handled by *Great American Title Company*, we will get a donation through their *Community Outreach* program.

One other business I want to thank is *Baldwin Moffitt Behm LLC*, 8399 E Indian School Road #201, Scottsdale, AZ 85251 480-736-9200. For the past two years, this company has graciously donated their service in preparing our tax return for the IRS. We do not pay tax, but we must file a tax return in order to maintain our 501 (c) (3) status. All non-profits are now required to file electronically, so we have to hire someone who is licensed to file, as we cannot

get such a license. The filing fee is \$250. Cindy Tigges (primarily) and I prepare a preliminary return and we have our Quickbooks account that Cindy has kept up for many years. But the final return (the long 990 form, no less) has been done *pro bono* by Travis Nelson at *BMB*. We sincerely thank this company for their generosity, as their service would probably cost well over \$1,000.

We are often the beneficiary of grants from *Colorado Animal Rescue Express (C.A.R.E.)*, *The Golden Retriever Foundation* and *PACC911*. Quite a few years ago, Rebecca Mackerman made the contact with *C.A.R.E.* when she was sleuthing grant-giving organizations online (there aren't many that will donate to a relatively small single-breed-with-Golden-mixes Rescue). *C.A.R.E.* has been enhancing the animal welfare community for over 18 years. We have been fortunate to be the recipients of grants from their *Jake's Fund*, most recently to help with expenses for **24-045 Spam**, **24-088 Mac** and **25-005 Katana**. *C.A.R.E.* cares!

Jolene Schlichter is our liaison with *The Golden Retriever Foundation*. She prepares grant applications, which need to include vet invoices and photos of the dog, for rescued purebred Goldens that have had extraordinary medical expenses. The *GRF* will donate \$800 per dog. Recently, we received such help for **24-045 Spam**, **24-075 Bear**, **24-088 Mac** and **25-006 Chloe**.

Our local *PACC911* will help financially with "ordinary" expenses such as spays/neuters, standard veterinary exams and some treatments, as well as with behavior assessments and modification training, and also with extraordinary expenses for rescued dogs such as surgeries and emergency room visits. There are currently almost 150 local animal rescue organizations that are under the umbrella of *PACC911*. In the May issue of *The Golden Paw* (now available on our website's NEWS tab), I reviewed the various ways *PACC911* helps community Rescue organizations. This organization does some incredible fundraising. Their major fundraiser, "Glimmer of Hope", is coming up in November. Valley Toyota dealers have donated a Toyota 4runner SR5 for *PACC911* to raffle off. Tickets are \$100 each or three for \$250. If you would like to take a chance on winning this vehicle, go to <https://pacc911.org/glimmer-of-hope-car-raffle>. Since only 2000 tickets have been printed, you have a 1:2000 chance to win the car (or \$25,000 in cash), which is a far better chance than with any available lottery!

Community Business Partners.

In June, we had over 60 members and friends join us for a very fun *Bingo Night* at *Charley's Place* in Glendale. We have already been asked to come again, and we will – in June 2026. Although it was a no-dog event, it was a really fun indoor activity. Our thanks to Denise Padavano and Jeanne Wegener for making the contact with *Charley's Place* and organizing our participation.

As a result of a contact made by Jeanne Wegener in the summer of 2024, we have recently partnered with **Chicken N Pickle**, Glendale, and had a very successful fun-and fundraiser there. Please read Denise's article on pages 20-25.

Last year for the first time, we partnered with **Pavilion Art Gallery** in Scottsdale, and had an exceptional *Wine Tasting and Desert* event. We will be doing a similar event this year on September 21st, but this time, we will have appetizers as well as desserts, along with some very excellent wine for attendees to try. Registration must be done on our website. Please plan to come!

AGR has a connection with two restaurants that donate a percentage of food sales if we have an event at the restaurant: **Paulie's Little Bite of Italy** in Sun City, where we host *Dine Out With The Dogs* on the last Sunday of October, and **P. F. Chang's** on Happy Valley Road in Phoenix. Denise and Jeanne made the original contact for a donation when they were "eating their way across the Valley." Cody Lewien, the Senior Managing Partner of **P. F. Chang's**, took a liking to **AGR** and has been incredibly supportive ever since. This year, we will be hosting *Chopsticks With The Dogs* at the Happy Valley restaurant on November 21st; we will have our Dog Ornament Christmas Tree up in their lobby by then.

Veterinary Partners.

AGR uses several veterinary practices in locations around the Valley, as well as some vets in outlying areas like Flagstaff, Lake Havasu, Prescott, Tucson, Sierra Vista and others. The vets we use all give Rescue a discount on their services (only for dogs whose adoption is not yet finalized), without which we would not be able to care for as many dogs as well as we do. We thank all of them for their generosity and encourage you to use these vets.

These are the veterinary practices in the Valley that we use most often for standard care:

Academy West Animal Hospital, 6231 W Bell Road, Glendale, AZ 85308 602-938-8650

Crosswinds Animal Clinic, 67 S Higley Road, Ste 108, Gilbert, AZ 85296 480-497-6617

Four-Legged Friends Animal Hospital, 3131 E Thunderbird Road, Ste 59, Phoenix 602-787-0015

Kennel Care, 6277 W Chandler Blvd, Chandler, AZ 85226 480-940-0066

Phoenix Mountain Animal Hospital, 10685 N 69th Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85254 602-595-6116

Stetson Hills Animal Hospital, 3780 W Happy Valley Road, Ste 126, Glendale, AZ 85310 623-889-7090

If your dog ever needs a specialty vet for diagnosis and treatment for a particular health condition, please don't hesitate to contact us for a recommendation.



What's Up, DOC?

By Debbie Ball, Director of Operations

debbie.ball@arizonagoldenrescue.org

AGR lost a very special volunteer, Rick Rogers, who passed away on May 29, 2025, after several months of battling health conditions. I don't intend this to be melancholy, but I want to pay tribute to what Rick did for us and how special he was to me. Rick and his wife, Jeanine, and son, Cameron, joined **AGR** just a year earlier in May 2024. Soon thereafter, they became fosters for a special needs dog, **24-033 Fozzi**. When **Fozzi** was delivered to them on 7/12/2024 by transporter Connie McCabe, Deb Orwig and I rode along with Connie, as we all wanted to meet this family. When their home evaluation was done in early June, Rick mentioned he was eager to help with our website due to his experience, and I was thrilled and thankful to meet and work with him! In the weeks and months that followed, Rick was a huge help to me and to **AGR** with countless improvements to our website, including: menu improvements, added various new pages for News, Rainbow Bridge dogs, Pending Adoption dogs, Board of Directors, a Newsletter Index page to link specific past articles, ensured all older *Golden Paw* newsletters were available, a Volunteer Opportunities page, and a Foster Process page. In October 2024, Rick worked diligently to develop our Home Evaluation process as an online form within our database. Rick was an absolute joy to work with, always so calm and pleasant, and he personally taught me a lot about how to maintain the website. I am grateful to have known this man for the short one-year period he was with **AGR**, and I will truly miss him! Thankfully, Jeanine has become an increasingly active volunteer with **AGR**, as she helps with events, home evaluations, and recently agreed to join the Intake team. And, **Fozzi's** adoption (read his story on page 11) has been finalized with Jeanine and Cameron!

Here are some general statistics of **AGR** operations for the first six months of 2025 through 6/30/2025:

44 total Intake dogs (17 males, 27 females)

26 under two years old

11 are 3-5 years old

6 are 6-8 years old

1 is over 12 years old

Breed: 22 are purebred Goldens, 22 are Golden mixes

Status:

23 have been adopted and finalized

7 are with a FWITA pending adoption

2 were euthanized for medical reasons

4 are available for adoption

4 are with fosters under observation

4 are in veterinary boarding awaiting medical

Submitted forms for first six months 2025 through 6/30/2025:

- 425 total forms submitted:
 - 164 Adoption applications
 - 115 Home Evaluations completed
 - 75 Membership applications
 - 9 Pickleball registrations
 - 53 Surrender Inquiries (from people wanting to surrender dogs)
 - 9 Contact Us forms (from people wanting general information)

All of these online forms necessitate responses, and we have a team of volunteers who do them. Deb Orwig processes Adoption and Membership Applications until the fee is paid. After fee payment is received, she sends Adoption Applications to Sheila Joyce, our Home Evaluations Coordinator, who assigns the HE to a Team member. Once the HE is completed, Sheila makes the decision to approve the applicant, require some fix-ups, or deny the applicant. Deb sends paid Membership Applications to Membership Manager Sandra Hansen, who updates the membership section of our database.

Since I was taught by Rick Rogers how to create online registration forms for events, I have done that for the *Pickleball Tournament* and for our upcoming *Wine Tasting* event. Deb Orwig keeps track of payments for registrations and sends the registrations to Jeanne Wegener, who then acts as Registrar for the event.

Surrender Inquiries are dealt with by Intake Co-Manager, Sharon Flores. She calls the owner of the dog, does an initial interview to determine if the dog is aggressive and requests that photos of the dog be sent. Sometimes she consults with an **AGR** Board member for their opinion, especially if the dog is a mix. Once a surrender is approved, the Intake Team member "on duty" for the week takes over and does an extensive interview (Intake Profile). The Intake Team member then notifies the Transport Team that a dog needs to be picked up and the Placement Manager, Keri Marchant, that a new dog will need a home.

Deb Orwig addresses the Contact Us forms and determines who needs to respond – usually herself, sometimes Kathy Blue, sometimes Sharon Flores.

SAVE THE DATE!

Fore! Paws Golf Tournament coming in 2026!

Friday, May 1, 2026

Papago Golf Course

5595 E Karsten Way, Phoenix, AZ 85008

Dinner will be served

Raffles and Silent Auctions Available

Stay tuned for more details.



Golden Adventures!

By Denise Padavano, Director of Activities

agrgoldenevents@gmail.com

The summer heat slows people and our pups down and is usually a slow time for fundraising activities for **AGR**. However, we did manage to have two indoor events this summer! You may be wondering how these events materialized. Magically, Jeanne Wegener and I used our magic wands that Deb Orwig gave us and sprinkled Golden glitter on the people we encountered!

Actually, there are many dog lovers in the Valley of the Sun who approach and contact us about upcoming events. For example, Deb Orwig received an email from Arissa, the Community Outreach Coordinator at *Charley's Place* and *Cheers*, in Glendale. Jeanne Wegener and I took a field trip to both locations to investigate the feasibility of a possible fundraiser. After deciding on *Charley's Place*, we went back with Deb Orwig to discuss "Bingo Night" and details with the coordinator. Next, Jean Klink, Deb, Jeanne and I went to eat and play "BINGO" on a Sunday night to see how the process worked. Our new event took place in June 2025 with 62 family, friends and **AGR** members in attendance (read about it on page 19)!

Our other summer event, an indoor pickleball tournament, "Score for the Goldens," took place at *Chicken N Pickle* in Glendale on August 3, 2025. This event came about by Jeanne Wegener asking for a donation in the summer of 2024. Hosting many fundraisers and being a dog lover, the facility's coordinator offered to hold a tournament at *Chicken N Pickle* for **AGR**, with no charge for four courts. How could we resist trying something new and different?

Wanting to give back to the community, business owners and managers have offered their venues for no charge to **AGR**. In 2024, the owner of the *Pavilion Art Gallery* in Scottsdale, Jon Wendell, approached **AGR's** booth during the *Parada de Sol and Trail's End Festival*, wanting to do something for the community. He offered to host an event at his gallery. We were very excited to present a new event in Scottsdale in the fall of 2024, "Celebrate Fine Art, Wine & Dessert". The event was fun and successful, and the owner has agreed to host another one this September 21, 2025!

In 2023, when approached about donating for our upcoming fundraising events, Cody Lewien, the Managing Sr Partner at *P. F. Chang's*, gave **AGR** two hundred dollars' worth of gift cards, and then asked, "What else can I do for **AGR**?" WOW! As a representative for *P. F. Chang's*, he went on to sponsor a Tee for our *Fore! Paws Golf Tournament* that took place in September 2023. Since then, **AGR** has had "Dine Out with the Dogs #2" at *P. F. Chang's*, Phoenix, that transpired in November of 2024, and we put up a

Christmas tree featuring our special needs dogs with a donation box. At the time, Cody said **AGR** could hold an event at any of the **P. F. Chang's** locations, free of charge. Wanting to make sure the location would accommodate our merchandise, have easy access, an outdoor patio and safe location for our dogs, Jeanne and I drove around the valley to Scottsdale, Peoria and Phoenix to find the best location to fulfill these requirements. Continuing to be supportive, we will be holding another event at the same **P. F. Chang's** location in Phoenix this November, with another Christmas tree for our beautiful dogs!

Finding a place to hold our annual meeting, "Paws At The Park" is always a challenge! Scheduling our event must occur in September if we want to reserve a spot for a March date. Then, determining a March date can also be a little tricky with the unpredictable weather! Another challenge is finding a place that doesn't charge an exorbitant price, allows a large group to be there most of the day, and enables us to sell merchandise and accommodate our dogs. Many different suggestions have come our way as far as location. Jeanne and I have called and researched many locations, with an occasional trip to check out the layout. We are trying to make everyone feel welcome and appreciated!

Realizing our **AGR** members are spread throughout the valley, we try and schedule events at different locations because we would like to see our members attend and feel welcome to join us!

My youngster **Winnie's** perspective... *My mom says: "I'm off on another field trip with Jeanne to check out a place for an event!" I don't understand why I can't go with her! However, she did spend a lot of time at home in June taking care of a puppy at our house. What fun that was! Although we couldn't play with each other because she had something "contagious," I would put my face close to her crate and stare at her. Then we would "talk" to each other. After a while, my mom would tell us, "No barking!" When puppy left, I went looking for her but wasn't sure where she had gone. My mom said she was only a "foster," whatever that means. Puppy was fun to have at the house. I hope we get another "foster" soon – this time, a dog that can play with me! I hope I get to see my "foster" sister at some of our upcoming events! I would sure love to see her again and give her kisses!*

UPCOMING EVENTS

"Raise A Glass to the Goldens"

Celebrate Fine Art, Wine & Tasty Tidbits

Sunday September 21, 2025 1:00 PM until 04:00 PM

Location: **Pavillion Fine Arts Gallery**

7034 E Main St, Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Treat yourself! Come experience the wonderful world of exquisite photography and brilliant fine art creations in an intimate setting while supporting **Arizona Golden Rescue**. A special selection of wine, appetizers and dessert will be served, silent auction items

will be available, and more! Registration form is on our website.

Dine Out With the Dogs

Sunday October 26, 2025; 12:00 PM until 7:00 PM

Location: **Paulie's Little Bite of Italy**

15456 N 99th Ave, Sun City, AZ 85351

Bring your Golden dressed in a Halloween costume, your family, your appetite and some cash to **Paulie's Little Bite of Italy** in Sun City. Raffles, silent auction baskets, and merchandise will be available to help you complete your holiday shopping all in one place!

Chopsticks With The Dogs

Saturday, November 22, 2025; 2:00 PM until 7:00 PM

Location: **P. F. Chang's**

2420 W Happy Valley Rd, Phoenix AZ85085

AGR has been invited back this year to enjoy a fun day out at **P. F. Chang's**. **AGR** will receive a percentage of food and beverage sales by diners who indicate they are there to support **AGR**. There is an outdoor patio area where you can sit with your dog(s) and enjoy delicious Chinese cuisine with family and friends. If you choose to eat inside the restaurant, check out our Christmas tree featuring our beautiful special needs dogs and **AGR's** donation box on display! Looking to shop for the holidays? You've come to the right place! We will have an array of items for purchase that were created by our skilled and talented members and include beautifully sewn cozies, holiday runners, place mats, pot holders, bandannas, Advent tree calendars for your dogs, and much more!

NEW EVENT!

Santa Paws Holiday Pet Adoption Event

Hosted by **Phoenix Legacy Foundation**

Saturday December 6, 2025; 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM

Location: **Sam's Club**

18501 North 83rd Ave, Glendale AZ 85308

Presented by **Sam's Club** and **Cut the Crap Pet Services**. **AGR** will have a booth for meet-and-greet, adoption information and merchandise sales. Come join the fun and socialize with fellow dog lovers!

Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade

Saturday December 13, 2025; 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM

51st Avenue and Glendale Ave, Glendale AZ 85308

Come with your Golden and join other **AGR** members and dogs strolling in this wonderful parade – a relaxed mile through downtown Glendale, seeing thousands of smiling faces and hearing children's squeals when they see the **AGR** dogs coming! Dress yourself and your dog in holiday decor and join in the fun with some exercise, too!

Gift Wrapping

Location: **Floor & Decor**, Prasada
13230 N Prasada Pkwy, Surprise, AZ 85388

Once again, we will do gift wrapping at **Floor & Decor**. Join us from **11 AM to 3 PM** on one or more of the following dates:

Friday, December 12th
Sunday, December 14th
Saturday, December 20th
Sunday, December 21st
Monday, December 22nd
Tuesday, December 23rd

Enjoy meeting the public, socialize with **AGR** members, wrap some gifts, and learn to make beautiful bows! Don't forget to bring your own gifts to be beautifully wrapped for the holidays! Snacks provided for volunteers. Hope to see you there!

All events are on the calendar on the **AGR** website (arizonagoldenrescue.org). Giving your time as a volunteer is the core of our wonderful Rescue organization. We are grateful for any time you can help, whether it be for an hour or two a month or even one day a year. Every hour of a volunteer's time is treasured!

Interested in VOLUNTEERING, please contact Denise Padavano or Jeanne Wegener at (agrgoldenevents@gmail.com). Looking forward to hearing from you soon!

Health Management

By Julie and Garrett Wheadon
Co-Directors of Health Care

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garrettwheadon@hotmail.com



*Meet our new Co-Directors for Health Care:
ensuring the well-being of our beloved Golden*

We are thrilled to be a part of the Health Care Team of **Arizona Golden Rescue**! As Co-Directors, we are partnering with Liz Tataseo to learn our duties and benefit from her years of experience! Amazing! We are excited to continue **AGR's** mission to provide the best care and health management to ensure our furry friends live long, happy, and healthy lives, as well as providing support and information for our adoptive families.

While you might think that as Co-Directors for health care we have a wealth of knowledge, we must admit our experience comes just from being long-term Golden owners. Our first Golden, **Rio**, was the alpha in our household and remained healthy until he passed with an enlarged heart. **Mesa** succumbed to leukemia, **Co-**

rona to a twisted intestine, and **Rodeo** lived to the age of sixteen.

We now have **Makena, Cruz**, and our adopted pup, **Kai**. The first two have had the typical ear infections, Giardia, piece of wood stuck in his mouth and crazy over the top energy, but **Kai** – well this is where **AGR** comes in.

Constantly looking for an addition to our family, we needed a low-key pup that could behave while visiting our elderly mother, as well as handle two big dogs as "siblings." Researching **AGR's** website, we came across **Kai's** photo and description outlining his need for both hips to be replaced. Since the siblings were still in Washington with Garrett, we decided to submit an application knowing our home was able to accommodate **Kai's** recovery time and needs. What a love! When Connie brought him to our home, he was a bit shy but settled right in. It was difficult to tell that his hips were so bad the way he ran the yard and would swim in the pool. And then the work began!

Liz Tataseo, Connie McCabe, and Teri Guilbault (her pup was having her second hip done at the same time as **Kai's** first) were instrumental through the entire process. (Both times – 6 months for the first hip and 6 months later for the second hip.) The **AGR** team not only wanted to make sure **Kai** had the best care, but also wanted to be sure we were comfortable, informed and an integral part of the entire process. This type of support is what led us to volunteer for the Rescue group. Not only do we have an amazing, sweet, fully-recovered Golden, we have a support team that has incredible knowledge and cares for all our dogs.

So, here we are today – our role is to ensure that the dogs that come into the Rescue are properly vetted and their medical needs are understood before they are placed into foster care and eventually adopted. We will work with Intake, Placement and Transport teams, as well as Vet Team Liaisons to help the foster/FWITA families determine affiliated vets and needed care. And once a dog is adopted, the new owners will have the support and access to continue to meet their new canine family member's needs to live a full, happy, healthy life.

We are pleased to have Liz leading the way and staying part of our team as our Vet Records Manager and guide! We are lucky to have Amy Maynard and Teri Guilbault as our Vet Liaisons to FWITAs and collaborating with veterinarians. Plus, our Microchip Manager Sandra Hansen helps track our fosters. We are excited to be working with a Board of Directors that has the best intentions to help provide the best care for our rescues.

In a nutshell – now that you know who we are, know we are here to help!

More → → →

As **AGR** Health Care Co-Directors we will:

- Oversee all health-related aspects, from initial vetting and routine check-ups to specialized treatments, prior to final adoption, with support from the Vet Liaisons and adopters, of course!
- Finalize adoptions and provide records for the dog.
- Always be available to answer questions, and if we do not have the immediate answer, we will use our resources and tap the wealth of knowledge of those that have been doing this for an extraordinarily long time!

Thank you for your support and dedication to **AGR**, and for allowing us this opportunity to be a part of this organization. We look forward to sharing more updates and success stories with you in the coming months.



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 one or more of the people you should know. Hopefully you will learn something 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 remained as 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.

Let's welcome a new member and volunteer, Teri Mapes.



In Teri's words: *"I grew up in Tucson, one of four kids. As far back as I can remember, we always had a German Shepherd. Those dogs would run with us all summer as we rode our bikes from friends' houses to friends' houses. They were such great companions."*

When I married and had two daughters, we decided to adopt a long-haired Dachshund named Alex. He was a good companion to my girls but was such a mama's boy! I used to take him to my friend's home to spend the day with his dog, a Golden Retriever named Xerox – my first experience with a Golden. They were the best of buddies and when my friend moved, he asked me to keep her for him. I was so in love with that dog that when she passed, I promised myself I would have another."

My husband and I moved to the Kansas City area. With both of us working, we decided the time was not right to adopt, since neither of us was home much at the time. My husband got very sick and subsequently passed away in 2016. In 2018, I adopted a Flat-coated Retriever named Lexi. They say you rescue them, but really, she rescued me. I had to help her cross the Rainbow Bridge in October 2024 and decided to wait another year before adopting again."

*In the meantime, I found the **AGR** website and decided to become a member in the hopes of adopting one day. I adopted in January 2025 through a breeder return - Teddy is an Aussiepoo, and I just love him! I will fulfill my promise to myself to adopt a Golden one of these days! I have just become a volunteer with the Intake team and love every minute of learning the process of what it takes for an owner to surrender to **AGR**. There are a lot of volunteers involved on all different levels. This is a great opportunity for me to be able to get involved in the community."*

We are happy to have you as an active volunteer, Teri!

I would like to take this opportunity to commend our Activity Director, Denise Padavano, and her very talented assistant, Jeanne Wegener, on being proactive in researching and securing so many new and interesting events. But they can't do it alone – please consider helping with some of the events that they have arranged. All events are announced ahead of time in the newsletter, on our website and on our Facebook page.

As a reminder – we are always looking for home evaluators and transporters, in addition to a few more volunteers for the Placement and Intake teams. Home evaluators and transporters spend time out-and-about working directly with people and hands-on with dogs. Both jobs require driving and will require some training with an experienced person before going out on your own. Home evaluators will preferably have a dog-friendly dog they can take with them to home visits. Transporters will need a suitable vehicle

to transport dog(s) and crates, preferably a mid-to-large SUV or van. Placement and Intake volunteers are able to do their assignments at home and require being very comfortable communicating with people via phone and text. They also will be entering information into the database and will receive training for that.

If you are interested in any of these activities, please send an email to info@arizonagoldenrescue.org. All volunteers need to be members in good standing.

The Financial Picture

By Deb Orwig, President

Due to circumstances beyond her control and to some family emergencies, our Organization Accountant, Cindy Tigges, has not been available to bring our Quickbook account up to date since the end of April. Consequently, I do not have a table of income and expenses to present through second quarter. We will catch up by printing the financial table through third quarter (i.e. through end of September) in the next issue (November).

For income and expense figures from our *Bingo Night* and from our *Pickleball Tournament*, please see the articles about these activities on pages 19 - 24.

Summer Fundraiser for Special Needs Dogs

In most previous summers, I have done a mailing to all adopters in which I made a plea to "pay it forward." **AGR** paid \$\$\$, and in some cases, \$\$\$\$\$, to ensure your dog was as healthy as possible before we placed the dog with you. Now it is time for you to consider making a donation to help **AGR** help more dogs to the best and healthiest life possible. Due to my involvement with four fundraisers – one in June and the three coming up in August, September, and October – I have not had time to prepare the mailing this year. So, I want to say to all of you adopters: **PLEASE SEND A DONATION!** All donations that come in during August and September will be considered as supporting our Special Needs Dogs – these are all the dogs that have been featured in the *Diamonds In The Ruff* column in the November 2024, February 2025, May 2025 and this current issue, August 2025. If you have not kept your hard copy of these issues, you can review them on our website under the NEWS tab. We have spent almost \$130,000 on these 23 dogs! We recently rescued a pair that both needed gastrointestinal surgery because they had ingested rocks. Both will need hip replacement surgery – the male will need both hips done; the female may need just one. The last dog we had one hip replacement done on cost us almost \$12,000. Do the math – please send a donation!

Come give us a second look!



Belle, a young Pyrenees/Golden mix, is playful, affectionate and friendly with people and dogs. She will chase cats, although she has not hurt them. She gets along with older children, but she is so tall and boisterous that she could accidentally knock over a small child. She does need obedience training but walks pretty well on a leash. Belle loves to dig and bury her bones and toys in the backyard, so a dog door or unsupervised yard access is not a good idea.

Belle does not like to be crated, so a home where people are not gone all day is best for her. She requires a 6 ft wall and good-sized yard. Belle needs exercise to work off some of that puppy enthusiasm - leash walking will not be enough. She loves to play with other dogs, but is protective of her food and treats, so supervision will be needed and she would be happy living as a single dog.

Ruff is a small, neutered Golden mix that was found as a stray. He was thin and had some skin wounds, but allowed the finder to give him a bath. He didn't like being handled at first, and the finder noticed Ruff was fearful of shoes or raised hands. While he has been in boarding he has learned to happily play and roughhouse with the kennel staff. He is crate-trained (with some coaxing), leash-trained, and loves his walks. We were told he was house-trained, but he might need some positive reinforcement with that.



Ruff is friendly and gets along well with other dogs. Because he plays rough and may be reactive to being touched in certain areas, we will not adopt Ruff to a home with small children.



Indi is a beautiful four-year-old spayed Goldendoodle. She is very athletic and needs room to run and play. She is leash-trained, crate-trained, and house-trained. In addition to having worked with a behaviorist, Indi has been on meds to help her be calm around other dogs and they have been very effective. Although she can coexist with other dogs, Indi doesn't really need the companionship and could easily be an only dog. She is very affectionate and is looking forward to a new home.

Indi comes with several pre-paid training sessions with the behaviorist/trainer who knows her well.

<https://arizonagoldenrescue.rescuegroups.org/animals/browse>



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. In the second quarter for 2025, we had five 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.



Spam at Intake

24-045 Spam was rescued in early July 2024 as a then 14-week-old purebred female puppy in need of medical attention. **Veterinary Emergency Group** in Chandler contacted **AGR** as they had this puppy with neurological symptoms which the original owner surrendered to the ER vet. After evaluation by **AMSC** in Scottsdale with a CT of her abdomen, echocardiogram, and ammonia test, it was discovered she has an internal liver shunt, a vascular anomaly which is congenital. The abnormal vessels allow normal blood, which drains from the digestive system, to bypass the liver (where it would usually be detoxified) and flow directly into the systemic circulation. This condition results in an underdeveloped liver, a deficient protein supply, and abnormal fat and protein metabolism. **Spam** was too young at the time and her vessels were still growing, so surgery to repair this could not be done until she was approximately 5-6 months old. In mid-December 2024, **Spam** had a procedure called intrahepatic coil embolization, which essentially meant they inserted various coils as a "stent cave" to open up the vessels, hoping her liver will work properly. She was faithfully fostered for 11 months by **AGR** volunteer Sharon, who ensured **Spam** got all her meds on schedule with food and increasing dosages as **Spam** matured. Amazingly, in April 2025, the veterinarian who started **Spam** on her medical journey last July, saw **Spam** at **VEG** for a urinary tract infection, so she applied with a request to adopt her. In early June 2025, **Spam** was welcomed into her new home with Kelsey and Michael in Tempe. **Spam's** vet expenses for 2024 cost **AGR** \$19,861, and second quarter 2025 totaled \$2,813. **Spam's** total expenses so far have amounted to \$24,565, but she still needs to be spayed. She is now doing well.



Beautiful Spam all grown up



24-055 Indi is a 4½-year-old spayed female Goldendoodle who is now placed (see ad on page 9)! She was originally rescued by **AGR** in 2023 but then returned to **AGR** in late July 2024 due to some behavior issues, plus the adopters made frequent travels. In the past many months, **Indi** has been in boarding and on fluoxetine, which has helped to keep her quite calm. **Indi** has also spent time

in training with behaviorist Sharon, who reports that **Indi** is very motivated by human attention, is well-mannered, and would be fine in a home with another dog that is generally calm and perhaps older, though **Indi** does not need that companionship. She is a sweet girl and good size at only 50 lbs. Let's find this girl a forever home! **Indi's** second-quarter expenses were \$2,217, and total expenses since her July 2024 intake are \$5,152.



After spending some time working with behaviorist Sharon, Indi, second from left, is well-behaved and no longer reactive towards other dogs



25-011 Oliver came into **AGR** in late January 2025 as a 6½-year-old unneutered male purebred Golden Retriever. He was surrendered by his prior family with young children due to time and financial constraints. **Oliver** is loving and sweet but suffers from chronic ear and skin infections. He had all his initial vetting done in February, was brought up to date on vaccinations, and

placed on meds for low thyroid and a slightly-inflamed valley fever titer. In early April, **Oliver** found his forever home with adopters Mike and Lew in Scottsdale, who had just lost their beloved older Golden and fell in love with sweet **Oliver** immediately. **Ollie**, as he is now known, was neutered in mid-April and all is going quite well! His expenses for second quarter were \$2,252.

25-034 Sol and **25-035 Luna** are a male/female pair of purebred 1½-year-old neutered/spayed Golden Retrievers surrendered by their prior owner due to lack of time for them. When our transporter picked them up, she noted they were the dirtiest, stinkiest, most severely-matted dogs she had seen in many years. Both dogs' coats needed to be shaved down due to the matting.



Sol's and Luna's coats were awful when they came into Rescue



25-034 Sol

Also, it was discovered both dogs had ingested rocks in their digestive system, and both dogs will require future hip surgery due to shallow hip sockets. **Sol** and **Luna** both had surgery on June 3rd for foreign body removal of the ingested rocks; **Luna** was able to be placed in a foster home on June 11th. **Sol** had to remain in boarding at the vet due to some infection with his incision; he was released on June 27th. **Sol** and **Luna** are again together in the same home, being lovingly fostered by De-wayne and Dori in Sun City West, who hopefully will see them through their upcoming hip surgeries whenever those might be scheduled. Total 2025 costs for **Sol** so far have been **\$3,700**, and **Luna's** expense is **\$2,789**. Note that their expenses will rise dramatically when they have the hip surgeries they require.



25-035 Luna

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



24-033 Fozzi is a 4-year-old male Golden mix who was found wandering in the desert. Being a stray, there was no background information on **Fozzi**; one thing for certain was that he was terribly frightened. He would need time to adjust to new surroundings for him to feel secure and safe. Through every step of the process, from intaking a dog to finding a for-

ever home, **AGR** with its village of passionate and caring people, has provided this for **Fozzi**. Now in his new home, **Fozzi** is becoming himself! He is finding joy each day as he knows he has the unconditional love of Jeanine and Cameron. **Fozzi's** story is one of triumph-over-struggle! Let Jeanine be the storyteller of how **Fozzi** wagged his tale into their hearts! Wow! It has been almost a year since we first met our **Fozzi Bear**! Time has gone by so quickly! From what we know, **Fozzi** was abandoned at the Salt River



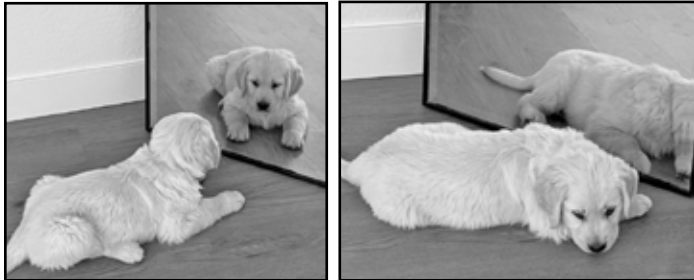
and had been on his own for a while. Many people reported him and the **H.A.R.T.T. Team** finally was able to trap him; they connected **Fozzi** with **Arizona Golden Rescue**. Once trapped, **Fozzi** was transported to **AW** for evaluation and decompression. **Fozzi** had a burst eardrum, a damaged eye, was full of foxtails, and was

beyond terrified of everyone and everything. When we agreed to

foster **Fozzi**, we knew we had a long road ahead of us. Since he was so scared, we couldn't get near him, and we worried he would get away from us even though we were being super careful. I decided that the best way to get him more comfortable with us, was to tether him to myself, 24/7! I started with three leashes so he felt a bit safer not having to be too close to me; eventually I removed a leash so he had to be closer and I could touch him. It took about four days, of constantly being tethered, before he allowed more pets, got used to the household noise and activity, and started to be less ready to flee. Notice I didn't say he got comfortable! He wasn't! He was just a tad less terrified. Those first few weeks were challenging, and that is when Rick, Cameron and I decided that we needed to adopt **Fozzi**; we felt that he just wouldn't be able to handle moving from home to home. Now, almost a year later, **Fozzi** is actually happier and brighter! When we got him, he didn't play with anything, and would barely take a treat. Now he gets his pile of toys together and takes a nap on them! He loves to pounce and bounce! He is still anxious about many things, like when we open the microwave or put on the kitchen fan, but we feel that he will slowly come to understand that he is truly safe and loved. Are you crying tears of joy, because I know I am! **Fozzi** says: You gave me more than a home...you gave me your heart and unconditional love.

24-082 Deegan, at intake, was an 11-week-old purebred Golden Retriever who was feisty and full of spunk. His surrendering owners didn't have the time that a puppy required and felt **Deegan** would have a happier life in a home where he could receive all the attention. Judy was ready for a new adventure; she found it with

Deegan. It only took a beat for Judy to have her heart stolen. As she states, *He had me at Hello!* He is a bundle of energy and is as powerful as a full-grown dog. Judy describes him as very smart, lovable, and energetic. He absolutely LOVES car rides, food and, of course, treats. Unfortunately, his dietary habits are not limited to food. There is the time he ingested the squeaker from a toy he was chewing non-stop plus some other non-edible items! This tale is one you don't want to miss. Let's set the scene: it is **Deegan's** 1st Christmas with Judy. Excitement filled the air as the Christmas tree was decorated, Santa would be arriving soon, and gifts were under the tree waiting to be opened. **Deegan** just couldn't wait! His enthusiasm got the better of him as he dragged the gift bags out from under the Christmas tree. As Judy sweetly puts it: *He is a single child but has a huge extended family of four-legged friends.* Judy's children have three Golden Retrievers and a Ger-



Many dogs actually bark at the image when they see themselves in a mirror. Deegan, who got no reaction from his reflection, just got bored.

man Shepherd who visit often. A friend's 16-year-old Chihuahua, **Halo**, stays for extended periods of time. Judy would like to let you in on this secret. *The funny part is that Deegan absolutely loves Halo, but is unaware that Halo does NOT like him at all!* Even with his energetic personality, **Deegan** is very gentle with the toddler grandchildren. What follows is a heartwarming moment! **Deegan** was fostered with **Louie**; they continue to have playdates and sleepovers where they play tirelessly all day. Judy affectionately observed that as Deegan gets older, she can see slight evidence that he is calming some, but he is a force to be reckoned with! **Deegan** would like you to know: *Life's paws-itive perfect with you. Thanks for making me yours.*



24-088 Mac, now over a year, was an 8-month-old male Golden Retriever at intake. Due to a variety of medical issues, his surrendering owners were unable to meet the financial burdens. He was loved by his foster family who said: *It was hard to see him go.* His perfect forever home was waiting for him with Lynn and her family, which includes **Amelia** the resident

Golden Retriever and a cat named **Matilda!** **Mac** hit the jackpot with Lynn as she is a veterinarian! With his medical issues, Lynn's expertise will guarantee the best medical care that **Mac** deserves.



Of course, the toy at the bottom of the toy bin is the best!

Mac has endured a toe amputation along with cancer; his treatment is ongoing, but with his fighting spirit and care being showered upon him, **Mac** is living his best life. **Mac** was adopted through our Rescue after facing a few medical hurdles including a cancer diagnosis, hip dysplasia and food allergies. But none of that has dimmed his joyful spirit. This sweet boy has a heart of gold and a playful streak that keeps everyone smiling. **Mac** has many skills, but this one is quite adorable. Here is how Lynn describes him being a burglar: *Mac has a talent for stealing and hoarding every dog toy in the house, proudly collecting them like treasures.* When he's not playing, you'll find him snuggled up for a cuddle or sleeping in and catching some extra morning ZZZs. With a chuckle Lynn says: *He's recently taken up swimming and is making a splash as he learns the ropes.* If you like whipped cream and cheese, then you and **Mac** will be best friends, as those are his favorite treats! As Lynn states: *Why not have a dollop of whipped cream occasionally!* **Mac** finds pleasure in his daily walks as he soaks in the sights and smells. What follows are thoughts Lynn would like to share with our readers: *Despite his medical needs, Mac is living life fully, reminding us that love, fun, and a few squeaky toys can go a long way. Mac wants you to know: You gave me a place in your life and forever in your heart.*



25-004 Curly is a 7-year-old female Goldendoodle who found her forever home with Vincent and Kayley. The surrendering owners' children were allergic to **Curly**. Now for something unexpectedly thoughtful: the surrendering owners wrote a letter to Vincent and Kayley letting them know all about **Curly**. After adopting her, Vincent and Kayley shared these heartfelt

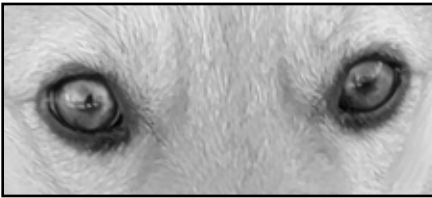
remarks: *Adopting Curly from Arizona Golden Rescue was one of the best decisions we've ever made; she's filled our home with so much love, laughter, and warmth that we truly can't imagine life without her now. From the moment she arrived, she fit right in, like she was always meant to be part of our family. Curly's day is complete when she has her morning snuggles, daily walks, and mealtime with her favorite Farmer's Dog food. Her oversized stuffed carrot is never far; she proudly carries it from room to room and cuddles it like a best friend. Guess what truly melts their hearts: Curly's chin scratches and belly rubs – She'll gently nuz-*

zle your hand until you give in, and once you do, she'll look at you with the most content, grateful eyes. **Curly** is a social butterfly! Her owners share: *She's happiest when she's close to her people! In addition, she lights up when company comes over, ready to share her love with everyone. We're beyond grateful to Arizona Golden Rescue for bringing Curly into our lives... she's our sunshine. Curly wants you to know: Every wag, lick and cuddle, is my way of saying I love you!*



25-008 Carly is a 2-year-old Golden Retriever mix that most likely includes German Shepherd. A caring person found **Carly** on the streets and brought her home. Unfortunately, she was unable to keep her and surrendered her to **Arizona Golden Rescue**. Joe and Sharon had recently lost **Dixie** of 12 years, another **AGR** rescue, and decided to foster. But as many of us know that quickly changed

to adopting her! With a fresh start came a new name, **Sophie**! Her most distinctive feature, besides being a cutie, is her eyes. Picture a teenager who has



outlined her entire eye in black kohl eyeliner and you have **Sophie's** eyes! Initially, **Sophie** displayed some reactive behaviors to other dogs.

They began training with Sharon. A retired teacher must always do the homework! Lo and behold, **Sophie** began to feel confident, safe and secure. Even the neighbors commented on the change in her demeanor. The latest report is that **Sophie** has flourished, and with a spark in her eyes, she romps and wrestles with other dogs in the neighborhood. At her core she is a human-loving dog, who most of the time would like to have the owner's attention with pets and treats. As Sharon and Joe say: *We are beyond thrilled with her progress and transformation! Sophie had her first boat ride on Canyon Lake. More than anything, she loved the wind blowing her Golden ears back with her face towards the sun. Dog beds are of no interest to her; mind you there are three in the house. What she has claimed as her own is the queen-size bed in the spare room, partly because she can look out the window and see all the comings and goings of the neighbors! She's a Mrs. Kravitz! Sophie has numerous quirky postures; she can be on her hind legs and just flop into your lap, stretch with froggy legs, and magically can crawl her way to be under your chin and stretch herself out to the longest possible length to cuddle! She is industrial strength Velcro! In no uncertain terms, she has captured our hearts! Thanks to AGR for being patient with us and letting Sophie be a part of our family. As Sophie would say: Wags and cuddles for providing me with the best home where I am unconditionally loved!*

25-009 Jake was a 4-month-old male Golden Retriever puppy

at intake. That says it all, doesn't it? I know what scenarios play out in my mind when I hear "Golden Retriever puppy!" His original owner needed a service dog, so he got **Jake**. Then he discovered he could receive a service dog that was fully trained, so he surrendered **Jake** to **AGR**. As you can only imagine there was a tremendous amount of interest in **Jake**. But the perfect home is with



Melisa and Anthony. An energetic, loving and smart boy, he has become the love of their lives. I bet you are interested in why they chose **Snitch** for his name— it is a delightful story. *My fiancé and I first connected over our love of Harry Potter, so when we met our sweet boy, originally named Jake,*

we knew right away he needed a magical name. After our meet and greet, we couldn't stop laughing about how tiny, yet lightning-fast he was, zooming around the yard like a blur. It didn't take long to name him Snitch just like the Golden Snitch from Harry Potter! In the wizarding world, the Golden Snitch is quick, precious, and a symbol of destiny and choice, just like our boy. He officially joined the family on February 28th, which also happens to be the anniversary of their very first date. Speaking from their hearts: It felt meant to be! When Snitch came home, he was underweight and had a severe skin condition. Thanks to AGR and their amazing vet, he's now a healthy, happy, 42-pound bundle of energy who nearly reaches his dog-mom's height when he stands up! One of their proudest moments was watching him graduate from his Beginner Training Class! He even had a little ceremony with a cap and a walk to Pomp & Circumstance! Now, he's in Intermediate class and doing exceptionally well. Melisa and Anthony trained him with an emergency recall. As shared by Melisa: His cue word, which must always stay unique and special, is "butterbeer", another Harry Potter nod; his reward is his favorite treat, a banana. With Harry Potter smiles on their faces, they enchantingly want you to know: Snitch truly lives up to his name: quick, clever, and the sweetest prize we could have ever hoped for our family. I think Snitch might say in the word uttered by Severus Snape of his enduring love for Lily Potter, "Always" to his new family!

25-011 Oliver is a 6-year-old male Golden Retriever. The surrendering owners were unable to cover the cost of medical care that **Oliver** needed. Luckily, Mike and Lew were ready to welcome a dog into their home; **Ollie**, as they call him, found his forever home with them. **Ollie** came to them in early April through the kind people at **AGR**. Described by Lew and Mike as *a bundle of energy and joy – Ollie has livened up the household.* As soon as



he arrived at his new home, he made himself quite comfortable by the back door where he could observe all the happenings in the backyard. He made instant friends with **Miss Kitty**, their silver short-haired domestic cat. Miss Kitty is the Empress of the Household; she has the final say-so on bringing a new dog into the house. According to Mike and Lew: *She gave an enthusiastic, well, as much as a cat deigns to show enthusiasm, thumbs-up for their new resident. Ollie is a lover... of people, food, and long walks in Chaparral Park. Just picture this scenario as described by Mike and Lew! He wants to bustle up to every person on the path to say "Hi! Hello! I'm Ollie! Damn glad to meet you!" His loving enthusiasm is infectious and people come over to say hi to him and give him a pet or ear scratch. Try not to laugh too much as Mike and Lew give you a view into his walks! He is quite the strong one. When he starts pulling you in this direction and then that direction, it takes two hands and a strong back and legs to keep him reigned in. Ollie seems to be enthusiastically barking, "This blade of grass here. No, this one over there. Nope! Back to the other one over there. OOOH! Look a lamp post. Time to check my pee-mail."* In their house they call plush toys, "woobies." As they say: *Ollie is a master at the art of Woobie-cide! He is overjoyed whenever he gets a new woobie, but the woobie's demise is not far off. Within minutes, there are cotton fluff balls everywhere. And he's always quite proud of the quick and thorough job he's done.* The love in their sentiments about **Ollie** will melt your hearts. *Ollie is an absolute joy who has brought so much happiness to our house. God bless AGR for bringing him into our now-richer lives. And Ollie would like Mike and Lew to know: I may be furry, but I feel all your love!*



on the walls. When she's not on the lookout for birds and flies, you can find her cozied up by the front window, watching neighborhood antics. A bit of a picky eater, she still knows how to enjoy her meals. But her absolute favorite is cuddling time! Hear the love and happiness from Greg and Melinda: *We're beyond happy to have Bailey in our forever home and are incredibly grateful to Arizona Golden Rescue for their loving care. We can only assume that Bailey would say: Thanks for loving me like nobody else could.*



25-016 Theodore is a 2-year-old male Goldendoodle. He was surrendered due to family members being allergic. In June, Mark, Michelle, and their children and, lest we forget their 8-year-old Lhasa Apso, **Apollo**, became **Theodore's** new family. **Theodore** is now known as **Winslow**. In addition to learning how to swim, he is working on leash training. Mark and Michelle are excited to take **Winslow** to

training classes in order to become more knowledgeable in helping him become the happiest version of himself. An intuitive dog, **Winslow** is very receptive when someone is sad. He will come and cuddle, put his big furry head in your lap, and give you love and kisses. Daily walks, chew toys, and playing in the pool with his human siblings are on his top three favorite ideas of a great day! **Winslow** can retrieve a tennis ball with the best of them. He is also adept at lunging at quail and rabbits! Better keep your shoes and socks on a high shelf or behind closed doors or you may be short a sock or two! The love they feel for **Winslow** is evident in these sentiments: *He's been such an amazing addition to our family. He's been a great play mate for our older Lhasa Apso; his young energy keeps Apollo on his toes! He's also our social butterfly as he loves meeting new people and will instantly be your best friend. Our whole extended family loves him. Paws down, your family has given Winslow a wonderful home! As Winslow barks: Your hugs are the best treats! Thank you for loving me!*

, now

25-018 Milo, at intake, was a 6-month-old male Golden Retriever mix. **Milo** was found by a gentleman, but due to his dog not getting along with **Milo**, he needed to surrender him. Vince and Eileen were ready for **Milo** to become a part of their family. **Milo** needed time to acclimate to his new surroundings; with unwavering care and gentle devotion, **Milo** is thriving! Being very smart, he takes instructions like a pro as his training continues consistently throughout the day. His boundless energy has him thinking he can be a surfer. Mind you not in the ocean! Instead ...you guessed it... the counters! His parents are on to him and have been helping **Milo** to overcome this habit! While out walk-



25-012 Bailey is a 1-year-old female Golden/Lab mix. Due to the owner's personal reasons, she was surrendered to **AGR**. Along come Greg and Melinda who have welcomed **Bailey** into their home with joy and love. **Bailey** is intuitive with people's feelings; she will be there to comfort you in sad times. Instead of asking her to shake, you say, *How are you doing?*

and she offers her paw. Here are a few things that make **Bailey** special: *Bailey is a quirky, happy-go-lucky dog that is observant and an explorer, as well as confident, agile and strong! She has done some training with Sharon on greeting people with no jumping. Sometimes she's just so excited to see someone new! Tremendous progress has been made by Bailey with the extra care and attention of Greg and Melinda. They would like to share some of the simple pleasures that bring Bailey pure joy: She adores sprinting after toys, splashing in the pool, and hunting for tiny lizards*

ing, he greets new neighbors and four-legged friends with happiness and tail-a-wagging! In the words of Eileen and Vince: ***Milo** has stolen our hearts. Basically, he is taking over our house and our hearts! Do you want to see more of **Milo**? Check out his Instagram. @MisterMo42025* Shout out to Vince and Eileen for opening their hearts and home to **Milo**! **Milo** would like to say: *I'm so lucky to be a part of this family. Thank you for choosing me!*



25-019 Crystal was surrendered by a breeder in California that **AGR** has worked closely with over the years. She is a 5-year-old white English Cream female Golden Retriever who has had a few litters. **Crystal** is affectionate, great with other dogs, as well as being strong. Erin and Evan were smitten the minute they saw her. Being spoiled with toys galore and tons

of affection, **Crystal** was instantly in love as well. Erin and Evan are overjoyed to share what they love about **Crystal**: ***Crystal** is so laid back. She's a very mellow and sleepy girl. Walks are not on the top of her list; she's just excited to go home and lie down!* This story is worth hearing and will make you laugh out loud! *After **Crystal** is done eating, she always goes over to the person who fed her to say thank you and gives them a burp!* One thing that does get **Crystal** excited is BALLS! She LOVES ALL her balls. In fact, whenever she is excited, it's a must for her to pick up a ball and bring it to you! But she will only play fetch 3 to 4 times and then it's time to lie down. She owns her laid back nature. She happily greets visitors with a toy. Her smiles and her tail wagging, lets everyone know she is a very happy dog! According to Evan and Erin, her favorite snack is carrots—she LOVE LOVE LOVES them! *She's such a sweet angel and wouldn't hurt a fly.* A huge shout-out to Erin and Evan for showering **Crystal** with attention, pets and endless cuddles. **Crystal** happily barks: *My tail wags every day because you made me part of your home.*

25-020 Reilly is a handsome 6-year-old male Golden Retriever. His surrendering owner is a breeder in California that works closely with **AGR**. **Reilly's** forever home is with Cara and Garret. There is so much to tell about **Reilly**. Continue reading to see what joy they have for **Reilly**: *Thank you for the opportunity to love him and give him his forever home. He's a sweetheart. The moment I saw **Reilly's** picture on the **AGR***



Facebook page, I was immediately smitten with him; I just knew he had to join our family. Get ready for some of **Reilly's** delightfully silly habits as shared by Cara: *He is beyond loving and has become quite attached to me. He follows me around everywhere and even lies under my desk while I'm working. He likes to lie on top of me and cuddle while trying to sleep. This can be a bit*

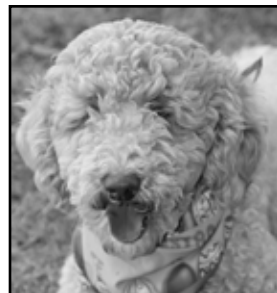
challenging, but he is very adamant about always being right next to me. The only thing he likes more than Cara is food! The grand pups, **Bentley** and **Payson**, visit quite often; it brings **Reilly** great joy to carry the balls and tease them! What fun that would be to see! Favorite pastimes for **Reilly** are his walks and looking for bunnies. I wonder how many he has caught and how many have escaped?! Read on to feel their heartfelt love for **Reilly**. *We lost our yellow lab last summer at the age of 14 and **Reilly** has helped to mend our hearts. We are so thankful to have **Reilly** as our newest fur baby. **Reilly** barks excitedly: I may not speak your words, but every tail wag says thank you for loving me!*

25-021 Churro is a 2-year-old female Goldendoodle. Sadly, the owners were moving and unable to take her. They wanted her new home to be loving and stable. **Churro** was adopted by the right owners. David and Lori were thrilled to become **Churro's** forever home. Who likes Rod Stewart? It's been noted that **Churro** has Rod Stewart hair!



Churro quickly adapted to her new life! Within days she became a part of their family, even cuddling with the resident yellow Tabby, **Noodle**. In addition, **Churro** has daily play sessions with **Lucas**, a Labradoodle! **Lucas**, in Lori's words: *is a couch-potato dog; maybe the energy of **Churro** will change that.* David and Lori affectionately wanted to take a moment to share their joy about their newest family member: *Our adorable 2-year-old Goldendoodle named **Churro** is charming, quirky, incredibly loving and has quickly stolen all our hearts! We adore her playful nature and how she hops with excitement when anticipating walks, treats, and visits from our adult children! Top on **Churro's** list are the early morning walks together.* As swimming isn't a favorite sport of **Churro's**, maybe that will change when it's over 110 degrees – they are working on getting her to sit on the first step of the pool. Speaking from their hearts, David and Lori wish to say: *Thank you to everyone at your organization who supported our adoption journey. We truly love her.* As **Churro** enthusiastically barks: *I am the luckiest dog to have you as my family.*

25-022 Lola is a 2-year-old mini-Goldendoodle. Her mom is a Bernedoodle, while her dad is a Goldendoodle. **Lola** is cuteness overload. Due to chronic medical conditions that require a financial commitment, the surrendering owners felt it was best to have **AGR** find **Lola** a home where the owners could pay special attention to her medical needs. Rachel, Zach and Tanner were the perfect match for **Lola**. She made an instant connection with **Bailey**, the resident Doodle; they are enjoying their life to-



gether. Rachel and Zach lovingly say: *Lola has brought so much joy into our home in a short time.* Each morning, **Lola** and **Bailey** go for a walk! Not only is this exercise, the walks are helping **Lola** improve her leash training. Besides their walks, **Bailey** and **Lola** have fun chasing each other in the backyard. Check out this delightfully quirky, crazy talent of **Lola's**. As Rachel describes it: *Lola walks on two paws! She can walk on just her two back paws for a long time.* And now for a silly anecdote from her owners: *Lola loves to play fetch with her squeaky ball. Every time we throw it, Lola will chase the ball and Bailey will chase Lola. Lola and Bailey are becoming the best of friends – they have learned to play together, rest together, and not steal each other's food!* As the adopters sweetly convey: *We are thankful Lola fits in so well!* Thank you to Rachel, Zach and **Bailey** for making room in your hearts and home for **Lola**! As **Lola** walks on her 2 paws she barks: *Thank you for the squeaky balls, walks and most of all the love!*



25-024 Shadow is a 1-year-old male, black Golden Flatcoat Retriever whose surrendering owner was moving and unable to take him. **Shadow** says: *People often gush at me and say what a gorgeous pup!* **Shadow**, who is now known as **Buddi**, is living his best life with Rosemary and James. As soon as he arrived at his new home, James called him **Buddi** and that stuck. Rosemary wanted **Buddi's**

name to reflect his uniqueness: therefore, it is an I, not a Y at the end. As he settled into his new home, **Buddi** explored his new backyard, nosed around everywhere and began finding toys to call his own! Guess what? **Buddi** is bilingual; he takes commands in English and Spanish in addition to knowing hand signals. **Buddi's** smartness makes him a quick learner. He has responded to the training from behaviorist Sharon who states: *He truly wants to please. A well-balanced dog, he has shown tremendous growth!* **Buddi** is an amazingly smart dog who has many silly quirky habits, according to his owners. Here are some of his funny antics as told by Rosemary and James: *First he can catch a frisbee on the fly as well as a ball! Buddi will pick up his doggy bed, which, by the way, is a big bed, and carry it around the house until he finds the spot he wants. Then he places it down and gets comfortable. If he gets bored with this spot, the process begins again! Buddi is a counter surfer, but not with his good-night rice cake treat. He knows this routine by heart, but one night it didn't go as expected. Every night before bed, Buddi goes to his crate, gets his rice cake, and his goodnight love. For whatever reason, James didn't put the rice cake in the crate, but, instead, put it on the counter. The next morning, Buddi is out of his crate just sitting in front of the counter staring at the rice cake. Not jumping to retrieve it, just staring it down. I come down, give him the rice cake and he immediately goes to his crate and enjoys his treat!* As Rosemary and James say: *He is a joy, a keeper and we love him so very much!* **Buddi** says: *I am pawsitively the happiest dog now that I live with you!*



25-026 Ruby is a 4-year-old female Golden Retriever who has been described as energetic, sweet, friendly, and loves to be close to people. Her surrendering owner was unable to care for her due to a long-term illness. Upon arriving at her forever home with Amanda, Brent and **Fred** the resident little dog, **Ruby** instinctively knew this is where she was meant to be.

See what Amanda and Brent have to share

about **Ruby**: *Ruby has fit into the family perfectly. She spends her days visiting my husband and me for pets while we are working from home and has been a guest in many video calls/meetings.* Now let's read about what their 13-year-old son's feelings are about **Ruby**. *I have fallen in love with her and spend much of my summer days spoiling her.* **Ruby's** hobbies include playing ball, stealing socks and learning how to swim. Here is a heartfelt moment shared from Amanda: *We have a senior rescue dog named Fred who came from a hoarding situation. He's shy and a bit nervous and didn't learn how to be a carefree dog. Since Ruby has joined us, he has become more outgoing and is learning how to be a dog. Ruby woofs loudly: These humans! Yep, they're my people!*



25-029 Marshall is an 8-month-old Goldendoodle who was surrendered because he was just too big, energetic, an escape artist, and destructive. Well, Noriana, Ed, Penelope and Valintina fell instantly in love with **Marshall**. Do you know a baseball player named Freddie Freeman who plays first base for the Dodgers? He is Penelope and Valintina's favorite baseball player,

and that is how this darling Goldendoodle became **Freddie**! As he arrived at his new home, Penelope and Valintina were waiting eagerly and excitedly for him to arrive! When he exited the vehicle, the girls and **Freddie** played fetch numerous times. I bet you can picture the smiles on the girls' faces! Noriana says: *We love him so much. He is a sweetie; we will continue to work with him so he has the best life!* Paws ahead, there is more joy coming your way! Our sweet **Freddie** came to us just when we needed him. We had lost our sweet **Max** (our family dog) and "Abuelo" (my dad) in April. We ended up getting **Freddie** on the day of **Max's** birthday, May 15th. It was a sign! **Freddie** has already brought so much joy and love to our home; he has helped us heal from two big losses. **Freddie** is a lover; he is officially part of our girls' bedtime routine and comes in to give them goodnight kisses. My oldest daughter and **Freddie** are often snuggled up on the floor, the couch, the bed, really anywhere. When I work from home, **Freddie** follows me everywhere and never leaves my side. We are working with a dog trainer, and **Freddie** has done incredibly well! He just needed a little direction and a chance to show how great a pup he is. **Freddie** is barking enthusiastically: *I wouldn't be able to show*

how great a pup I am without all of you loving me, showering me with praise and affection. Every tail wag and snuggle is my way of saying THANK YOU!



25-030 Jake, now over a year old, was a 9-month-old male Golden Retriever at intake. Do these words pop into your head when you read **Jake** was a puppy? Energetic, non-stop action, curious, and vocal! That is **Jake**! Unfortunately, **Jake** was just too much for the surrendering owner. Fortunately, Denny and Elizabeth, experienced dog owners, were the perfect family for

Jake. He became part of their family in the beginning of June and is now known as **Nico**! Continue reading to hear how his name came to be! Here is a hint to keep you guessing! **Nico's** family has a tradition of naming their dogs after certain famous drivers. Are there any Formula racing fans? Do any of these names ring a bell? Mario Andretti? Sebastian Vettel? Nico Rosberg? **Jake** is now **Nico** as their other 2 dogs were named **Andretti** and **Sebastian**! **Nico's** owners want everyone to know: *He is fun, a bit stubborn and loving, simply a wonderful dog! Learning all his new commands...check! Expert on the leash walking...check!* Since he wakes them up every morning, raring to go, they enjoy their walks before the day becomes too hot. Here's a cute story: *We got him six toy animals and only one has survived!* In **Nico's** words: *All the toys, the walks, early morning wake-ups make me love you more each day! I am a lucky dog to have been adopted by you!*

25-039 Ellie, who just turned three years of age, is a spayed female Goldendoodle that was left at a dogsitter's home for four months. After numerous unsuccessful attempts by the dogsitter to reach the owner during this amount of time, we considered the dog abandoned and brought her into Rescue. The dogsitter's report was that **Ellie** has "too much energy" and she couldn't keep the dog any longer. The dogsitter was very responsible about bringing **Ellie** up to date on all her vaccinations and dealing as she could with **Ellie's** allergies. At our vet, **Ellie** received protection from Bordetella and canine influenza, as well a Cytopoint injection to help with her allergies. She tested negative for heartworm and weak-positive (titer 1:2) for valley fever. She will need a recheck for valley fever in three months. Transporter Connie, who delivered **Ellie** to Mary in Peoria, reported: *Ellie is very pretty with long straight hair that will need lots of combing to keep from tangling. She was nervous and skittish when we arrived at Mary's and she did not trust either of us. I let her off-leash in the yard to relieve herself after the ride and then she ran around and would not come back to us. The dogsitter did mention that might be the case. We*



tried to coax Ellie into the house with cheese, but she bolted every time we got near. So, I went outside and steered her towards the door. She eventually ran back into the house and jumped onto the couch, where she remained the whole time I was there. After only a day, Mary related to Connie that Ellie was less skittish. Recently, Mary sent these comments: She is a sweet young lady. She likes to snuggle on the bed and the couch. I was watching my neighbor's dog and Ellie got along great with him. She did try to block the dog from getting close to me, though – already a little protective. She likes her balls. She bounces when she gets the ball and brings it back to me. The only thing I've been working on with her is her barking. She barks at everything. I have made progress with this. I give her treats when she stops barking. She was barking very early in the morning. I would get up and call her in – she isn't barking early in the morning anymore. Overall, she is a well-behaved, happy young lady, and I already love her. We bet she loves you, too. Thanks for adopting her.

Mind Games Dogs Play with Humans

After your humans give you a bath, don't let them towel you dry! Instead, run to their bed, jump up and dry yourself off on the sheets. This is especially good if it's right before your humans' bedtime.

Act like a convicted criminal. When the humans come home, put your ears back, tail between your legs, chin down and act as if you have done something really bad. Then, watch as the humans frantically search the house for the damage they think you have caused. (Note: This only works when you have done nothing wrong.)

Let the humans teach you a brand new trick. Learn it perfectly. Then, when the humans try to demonstrate it to someone else, stare blankly back at the humans and pretend you have no idea what they're talking about.

Make your humans be patient. When you go outside to go pee, sniff around the entire yard as your humans wait. Act as if the spot you choose to go pee will ultimately decide the fate of the earth.

Draw attention to your humans. When out for a walk always pick the busiest, most visible spot to go "poo". Take your time and make sure everyone watches. This works particularly well if your humans have forgotten to bring a plastic bag or scooper. Bonus points for well manicured lawns, double points if the property owner is sitting on his porch.

Wake up twenty minutes before the alarm clock is set to go off and make the humans take you out for your morning pee. As soon as you get back inside, fall asleep. (Humans can rarely fall back asleep after going outside, this will drive them nuts !)

OVER THE RAINBOW

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



12-106 Boz Hargrave



14-002 Holly Boonstra



14-079 Emmie Felix



15-033 Augie Valente



19-011 Lily Mish



19-056 Cali Wilson



23-030 Harley Johnson

24-012 Gabe Longdon



13-022 Barklay Panosian



14-031 Daisy Jones



15-029 Barkley Watkins



17-089 Bailey Koppinger-
Martinsen



19-056 Cali Wilson



23-030 Harley Johnson

24-012 Gabe Longdon

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.



24-047 Apillow Korpalski

Aislinn Mortimore



Max Nelson



Noah Stephenson



Gus Strock



Simba Rogers



And

Rick Rogers, AGR Member

*HERE and THERE**Events from April 1 through August 3, 2025***Bingo Night!**

By Denise Padavano



Bingo for our Golden Buddies took place on Sunday, June 22, 2025, starting at 4:30 PM and lasting until 7:30 PM. **Charley's Place** at 4324 W Thunderbird Road, Glendale, was filled to the brim with **AGR** members and regular patrons for our first BINGO night! We had eighty-one people sign up to play (there

was no registration fee, but we did ask for RSVP), but 61 people actually attended. The place was packed with people and most of the chairs were filled. Some of the regular customers who came to play Bingo also contributed to **AGR's** fundraising event. How could anyone resist the temptation to win a prize from the display of 31 decorated boxes! We asked for a \$10 donation in order to be eligible for one of these prize boxes, which each held merchandise worth at least \$25.

Our BINGO adventure started when Deb Orwig received an email from Arissa Bernal, the community outreach coordinator for **Charley's Place**. Then, Jeanne Wegener reached out to Arissa Bernal and the owner, Nicolas Tran, inquiring about a possible fundraiser. Next, a field trip was planned to investigate the layout of the location, available space and to determine whether a BINGO night or POKER night would be best for our **AGR** members.

Once **Charley's Place** was identified as the location for our BINGO fundraiser, Jeanne Wegener was responsible for contacting the owner and setting a date for our new adventure! Three weeks before our event, Jean Klink, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, and Jeanne Wegener went there on a Sunday night to play Bingo and see how they ran their games. We enjoyed playing, observing the process, and having something to eat. Jeanne Wegener was the



*Charley's Place is located at
4324 W Thunderbird Road in Glendale*

top winner for the evening and won a \$30 voucher to **Charley's Place**! There were about 35 people there that night.

Since **Charley's Place** gave out only two prize vouchers to the winners, we decided to make it more exciting by adding more prizes. Deb Orwig was responsible for shopping and gathering items, and Denise Padavano helped her wrap 31 prize boxes before the event.



*Each of the 31 "Mystery Boxes" were wrapped in a different wrapping paper – here they are on the Orwig's sofa (no photos from inside **Charley's Place**)*

On the day of the event, Adam Cardinal, Jean Klink, and Jeanne Wegener met at Deb and Larry Orwig's house at 3:30 PM and loaded tables, chairs and prizes. Then, volunteers converged at **Charley's Place** for set-up at 4:00. Unloading and arranging tables and chairs were Jean Klink, Connie McCabe, Deb and Larry Orwig, Denise Padavano, Diane Taylor, and Jeanne Wegener. Unloading prizes and arranging them on the designated tables were Deb and Larry Orwig and Diane Taylor.

When we arrived at **Charley's Place**, a painting class was in progress. Fortunately, they were winding down as we were setting up for our event. To accommodate the large crowd that we expected, we needed to rearrange tables and chairs. People who arrived early were able to order and get their food and drinks in a timely manner; those arriving later, had to wait a long time for their food. Once the games began, people excitedly called out "Bingo!" and went to the display table to claim a prize.

Staying for clean-up and loading cars were, Jean Klink, Deb and Larry Orwig, Denise Padavano, and Jeanne Wegener. Then, returning to the Orwig's house after the event to unload tables and chairs were, Jean Klink, Deb and Larry Orwig, and Jeanne Wegener.

Income from the event totaled **\$1,333.50**, which included \$1,103.50 from donations and \$210 from **Charley's Place** to benefit **Arizona Golden Rescue**! Because we brought a large crowd, the owner, Nicolas Tran, generously gave **AGR** 15% of food and beverage purchases instead of 10%! Our sincere thanks to everyone who attended and contributed in any way to the success of this fundraiser! A special thank you to all who volunteered – you are all amazing!

A heartfelt thank you to the owner, Nicolas Tran, and community outreach coordinator, Arissa Bernal, who enabled **AGR** to hold our event at **Charley's Place**! We have been invited back next summer for another Bingo Night for the GOLDENS!

Sunday,
August 3, 2025



Score for the Goldens PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

By Denise Padavano

Chicken N Pickle
9330 W Hanna Drive
Glendale, AZ 85305



Another new summer adventure for *AGR* took place on Sunday, August 3, 2025, at *Chicken N Pickle* in Glendale. Our Pickleball Tournament was planned a year ago when Jeanne Wegener approached *Chicken N Pickle* for a donation. Jenny Hinsley, the Community Impact Coordinator for *Chicken N Pickle*, provided *AGR* with a \$100 voucher to play pickleball with free appetizers. Next, she offered to sponsor a tournament for *AGR* as a community partner, providing four pickleball courts free of charge for three hours – a great opportunity for a fundraiser and a NEW *AGR* activity! How could we resist such an offer?!

Planning started in May 2025. Letters were sent to businesses and veterinarians requesting sponsorship donations. Partnering manager Cody Lewien from *P. F. Chang's* responded enthusiastically with a "YES" to sponsor *AGR's* event. He also contacted other *P. F. Chang's* restaurants to recruit staff to sign up for the event. Cody managed to magically

A Huge THANK YOU! to our Pickleball Tournament Sponsors

Tournament Sponsor

Chicken N Pickle

Court Sponsors

Val Ferguson D.V.M and Tom Erhard
Anne and Rick Gutekunst
Deb and Larry Orwig
P. F. Chang's
Stetson Hills Animal Hospital
Veterinary Emergency Group (VEG)

Table Sponsors

Debbie Ball
Mary and Bert Engstrom
Anne and Mac McCall
Mike Lane and Cynthia Wenström

obtain nineteen staff workers to play in our Pickleball Tournament! All nineteen participants were matching *P. F. Chang's* T-shirts – A FUN sight to see



Some of the *P. F. Chang's* tournament players

We had eleven sponsors for the tournament which included: Debbie Ball, Bert and Mary Engstrom, Dr. Valerie Ferguson and Tom Erhard (Otis Management Co.), Richard and Anne Gutekunst, Anne and Mac McCall, Deb and Larry Orwig, *P. F. Chang's*, *Chicken N Pickle*, *Stetson Hills Animal Hospital*, *Veterinary Emergency Group (VEG, Chandler)*, and Mike and Cynthia Wenström. Thank you for your generosity!



Sponsor banners were hung from the window hinges at the back of courts # 6, 7, and 8

Other businesses that contributed gift cards, vouchers and items to our pickleball event were *The American Museum of Natural History*, *Grimaldi's*, *The Home Depot*, *P. F. Chang's*, *Sprouts*,

Stetson Hills Animal Hospital, Trader Joe's and VEG.

AGR members who donated items we used for the raffle or silent auction were: Emilie Duncan, Regina Fagan, Connie McCabe, Deb and Larry Orwig, Denise Padavano, and Jill and Fred Prose. **Arizona Golden Rescue** also contributed items.



AGR activities core group (always involved with all events): Deb, Jeanne, Denise and Jean

Advertising and recruiting pickleball players for the **Chicken N Pickle** tournament was a bit of a challenge! Many people were involved with advertising for the event by posting on different websites and Facebook, distributing flyers at different locations, and

spreading the information by talking to people! A huge THANK YOU to the following people who helped with this task: Christine Barksdale, Kathy Blue, Robert Crouse, Constance Hackler, Connie McCabe, Cody Lewien (**P. F. Chang's**), Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Nick Pappas, **Chicken N Pickle**, Hayley Urban and Jeanne Wegener. Since we had a huge response and reached our goal of 48 players with others wanting to register, we decided to rent the fifth court to accommodate more players. The week of the tournament, we maxed out at sixty players and had to close registration to other people who wanted to play! We were pleasantly surprised with the number of pickleball enthusiasts! Along with the players, we had 49 registered for the brunch, with an extra two showing up to eat on the day of the event!

Message to Brunch Attendees:

The standard cost for brunch was \$23.99. After tax and the required 20% gratuity were added, AGR made only \$3.28 on each buffet meal. If you ate with us, please consider sending AGR an extra donation.

There were many people behind the scenes working to make this event successful! Jeanne Wegener was the liaison with **Chicken N Pickle's** representatives, Jenny Hinsley and Joshua Readinger. Debbie Ball generated an online registration link, while Deb Orwig and Jeanne Wegener kept track of registrations and payments. Our team of solicitors, Emilie Duncan and Jim Cogan, Jean Klink, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Lauren Rudin and Jeanne Wegener were busy pounding the pavement, getting donations!

Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, and Jeanne Wegener met several times to work out the kinks and plan the raffles, silent auction items, and goodie bags. Deb Orwig created and printed all the delightful name tags and labels for the baskets! Connie Wozniak worked earnestly at home sewing 72 pickleball-theme potholders for

Players' Goodie Bag Contents

**1 Indoor Pickleball
1 Outdoor Pickleball
Microfiber Towel
Pickleball-theme Potholder
Protein Bar
P. F. Chang's Free Appetizer Card
\$5 Gift Card from Grimaldi's Pizzeria
Stetson Hills Animal Hospital Info Card
AGR Brochure and Business Card
Wine Tasting/Upcoming Events Flyer**

the goodie bags (we have some left to sell at future events), and Carolyn Brown spent many hours creating beautiful raffle and silent auction baskets!

A few days before the event with materials spread out on the Orwig's

dining room table, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Jane Triplett, and Jeanne Wegener busily put the goodie bags together.

The following volunteers met at the Orwigs' house Saturday afternoon to load vehicles with tables, sandwich boards, silent auction and raffle items, and other needed materials: Adam Cardinal, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Deb and Larry Orwig, Denise Padavano, Fred Prose, and Jeanne Wegener. Returning the next morning to help Deb and Larry load baskets with perishable items were Adam Cardinal, Jason Sykes, and Jeanne Wegener.



**Set-up crew: standing -- Kelsey, Kati, Jeanne, Trishia, Bill, Patrick, Denise
Seated: Debbie and Deb**

The day of the pickleball event was bustling with activity! The morning started out with unloading items into **Chicken N Pickle's** storage area before the event where the brunch registration was set up. Once noon arrived, registration moved to the "Chicken Coop", and all raffle and silent auction items were moved inside for display. Many volunteers helped with these endeavors and included: Debbie Ball; Kelsey Bradley; Patrick Doyle; Jean Klink; Kati Montgomery; Karie, Jake, Brody and Colby Lurie; Trishia Murphy; Deb and Larry Orwig; Denise Padavano; Bill Richardson; Diane Taylor; Jane Triplett; Jeanne Wegener; and Julie and Garrett Wheadon. Once inside, Brody, Colby, Jake, and Karie Lurie hung the sponsorship banners along the windows in the court area.



Karie and Jake often come to our events to help pack up; for the Tournament, they helped with set-up and came back to help with pack-up at the end, too

Busy with registration check-in for brunch and pickleball players were Debbie Ball, Deb Orwig, and Jeanne Wegener. Next to registration,



P. F. Chang's Reps: Stephanie Otsuka, Sales Coordinator; Marybeth Garrett, Restaurant Manager in Goodyear; Christina Peterson, Restaurant Manager in Peoria; Cody Lewien, Sr Managing Partner

P. F. Chang's representatives set up a display area with advertisement materials, coupons for free appetizers and fortune cookies for snacking (these all disappeared very quickly)!

Once the players were registered, teams

were announced, and the Round Robin portion of the tournament began at 1 PM. The Pickleball Pro, Dylan Colman, observed all the teams play for the first hour and a half to determine levels for the competition portion of the tournament.



1st Place: JZ and Samuel
Before our tournament, they had never played together as a team!



2nd Place: Alonso and Jacob
Alonso was visiting here from Costa Rica – people must enjoy pickleball there, too!

Bystanders watched with excitement and anticipation on which teams would win the tournament! First-place winners were the youngest players, JZ Holmes at 10 years old and Samuel Heddings at 12 years old! They each received a \$75 Amazon gift card with a bag of gifts. Coming in second place were Alonso Mendez and Jacob Cain. They each received a \$50 Amazon gift card with a gift bag. Congratulations to the winners!

While people milled around the raffle baskets, Kati Montgomery and Jane Triplett were actively selling tickets! When 3 o'clock rolled around, Kati, Jane and Stephanie Beard pulled the winning raffle tickets, while Denise Padavano marked all the silent auction winners.



"Want raffle tickets? Look for the lady wearing a yellow apron!"
Kati and Jane standing behind some of our beautifully-packaged items

Collecting money for the silent auction items were Debbie Ball and Deb Orwig.

At the end of the tournament at 3:30 PM, Jamie Deppey, Trishia Murphy, and Penny Mavroudis

gave out goodie bags to all the players.

Our pack-up crew was fantastic, as we needed to be cleaned up and out of the Coop area by 4:00 PM. The following volunteers accomplished this task quickly: Jean Klink; Trishia Murphy; Karie, Jake, Colby, and Brody Lurie; Deb and Larry Orwig; Denise Padavano; Diane Taylor; Barb and Vic Tolin; Jane Triplett; Jeanne Wegener; and Julie and Garrett Wheadon.



"The Coop" was noisy and crowded, especially in the raffle/silent auction area, which is why most **AGR** adopters chose not to bring dogs even though dogs were allowed



Anne Pappas petting service dogs Joie and Dexter – they often attend our events with their people – yes, she asked about petting first!

Returning to the Orwigs' house at the end of the day to unload and store items and materials from the event included Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Denise Padavano, and Jeanne Wegener.



New adoptee 25-018 Milo was brought during the brunch period by his human, Eileen Schmidt, but he had to be taken home due to nervousness from all the commotion



Connie

Capturing the days' event in photographs included Connie McCabe, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, and new member/adopter Vince Schmidt.



Vince

We're sorry we have not been able to include photos in this newsletter article of everyone who attended. There are many more photos in our SmugMug album, so be sure to view them:

<https://arizonagoldenrescuemccabe.smugmug.com/AGR-EVENTS/8325-Pickleball-Tournament>

Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in this FUN new **AGR** activity! Income from the event totaled **\$7734.50**, which included \$3,812.50 from event and brunch registration fees, \$1,807 from sponsorships and donations, and \$2,115 from the silent auction and raffle ticket sales! Our expenses for the sponsorship banners, the brunch buffet and the extra court rental amounted to \$1,947.23, leaving us with a profit of \$5,787.27.

Tournament Sponsor
Chicken N Pickle

Court Sponsors
Ferguson and Erhard
Gutekunst
Orwig
P. F. Chang's
Stetson Hills Animal Hospital
VEG


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GLENDALE
Thanks from Arizona Golden Rescue

Table Sponsors
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SCORE FOR THE GOLDENS!



*Valerie Ferguson, DVM
and
Tom Erhard*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP


SCORE FOR THE GOLDENS!



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veterinaryemergencygroup.com

SCORE FOR THE GOLDENS!



*In Honor of 15-047 Emma
from
Anne and Rick Gutekunst*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP

SCORE FOR THE GOLDENS!



*In Honor of
Tyler, Dillon and Levi
Debbie Ball*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP

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*In Honor of Asher, Cali,
Vin and Duffy
Deb and Larry Orwig*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP

SCORE FOR THE GOLDENS!



*In Memory of
all the Engstrom fur babies
Bert and Mary Engstrom*


THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP

P.F. CHANG'S
SCORE FOR THE GOLDENS

GIRLS' NIGHT | **HALF PRICE**
EVERY WEDNESDAY | WINE & CHAMPAGNE BOTTLES
LIMIT 1 BOTTLE PER RESERVATION

Sponsored by P.F. Chang's Peoria, Goodyear and Happy Valley

SCORE FOR THE GOLDENS!



*In Honor of Ruff
Anne and Mac McCall*

ADOPT ME!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP

SCORE FOR THE GOLDENS!



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THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SPONSORSHIP

SCORE FOR THE GOLDENS!



"This match is going to the Dogs -
and we ♥ it!"

Mike, Cynthia,
Phantom & Humphrey Lane/Wenström

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP



New member and adopter-hopeful Brenda Lippe came as an observer; she said "The event was pleasant, informative and positive – I enjoyed it a lot!"



Charlie and Lisa



Zach, Amanda and Robert



Kelsey above, Tera below

A special thank you to Cody Lewien, Sr Operating Partner of **P. F. Chang's**, for his tremendous and continued support of **AGR**!

A heartfelt thank you to Jenny Hinsley, the Community Impact Coordinator, and Joshua Readinger, Sales Manager, who enabled **AGR** to hold our event at **Chicken N Pickle**!



Pickleball Pro Dylan

Thank you

to everyone who attended and contributed in any way to the success of this fundraiser! A sincere thank you to all the incredible volunteers – we couldn't have done it without all your help!



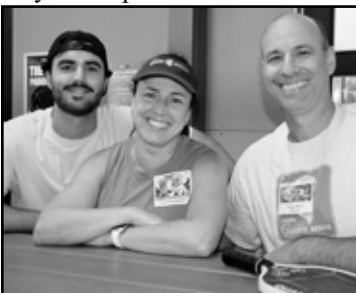
Cynthia



Stephanie



Elizabeth and Richard



Mom Sharon and son Ilan played, while Dad Philip cheered



Mom Libbie and daughter Katrina



Sisters Joan and Chris with Joan's husband Mike



Jamie



Barb and Vic



DINE OUT with THE DOGS!

When you order from the regular menu...
Arizona Golden Rescue receives 20% of the proceeds from food & beverage sales, including bar*
*does not include tax or gratuity

Dine in or Take Out

Raffles and Silent Auction

The entire merchandise inventory, including Christmas gifts, will be for sale

Dogs welcome at the tables on the patio

No reservations required



Please be sure to mention Arizona Golden Rescue when ordering!

Don't forget our 2025 Halloween Dog Costume Contest

Paulie's **LITTLE BITE OF ITALY**

Pizza, Pasta, Sandwiches, Full Bar

15462 N 99th Ave • Sun City, AZ (99th Ave & Greenway)
623-972-3311

Sunday, October 26th, 2025
Noon - 7:00 p.m.



A stunning photo by Connie of handsome **24-046 Mickey**, adopted by Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson, graces the cover of our fabulous 2026 calendar of rescued dogs. Calendars are the same price as last year: \$12 each, plus \$3 postage if you want one mailed, \$4.75 for two. Each of the 12 dogs shown in a feature photo is accompanied by a short story about why the dog needed to be rescued. All the blank boxes you see on the text page of anyone else's calendar are filled with photos of more rescued dogs. The entire calendar is a treasure for your eyes, so even if you don't actually use a hard-copy calendar, you will find ours beautiful and informative and will warm your heart to know that **AGR** is responsible for the great lives these dogs now have.

Remember: if you have a current Amber, Topaz, Pearl or Gold membership, you will get a calendar for free.

Order yours today with the form available on our website.



Please join us for our next fun adventure!

SAVE THE DATE!



WINE TASTING

Raise a Glass to the Goldens

Enjoy Fine Art, Wine and Tasty Tidbits
at the Pavilion Fine Arts Gallery

Hosted by Jon Wendell and Alicia Hidalgo

Fine artwork and photography available for
purchase, along with silent auction items.

Registration form available online at
www.arizonagoldenrescue.org/info/events

Pre-registration \$28 per person or \$45 at the door



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Form

NO CHILDREN OR PETS, PLEASE

PAVILION

— FINE ARTS —

7034 East Main Street, Scottsdale AZ 85251
(602) 675-5732



SCAN for
Registration
Form

Sunday, September 21, 2025 • 1 PM - 4 PM

There were a total of 5 dogs that attended the *Pickleball Tournament*. Besides Milo, Joie and Dexter, there were AGR's stuffed dog (Jessie) and Nico, who comes as an observer when his mom frequently plays at *Chicken N Pickle*.



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 April 1, 2025 and August 4, 2025; donations that were made after August 4th 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.

General Donations from the Heart

Debbie Ball	Marti Joyce
Daisy Barsetti-Nerland	Jean Klink
Stephanie Beard	Rachel Manley
Julie and Jim Bernal	Keri and Rich Marchant
Anne and Steve Bettencourt	Anne and Jack McGill
Carolyn and Peter Brown	Pat Morgan
Patty Burbridge	Joyce and Ron Moser
Cheryl Duter	Valerie and Gene Mylowe
Ellen and Jeff France	Wendy Nelson
Diane Ghezzi	Deb and Larry Orwig
Reidun Halpert	Denise Padavano
Stephanie Harding	Carol and William Rauscher
Krista Hill	Damian Roberts
Douglas Irish	Deydra Stephenson from
Nancy Johnson	Spotty's Doggy Daycare
Victoria Johnson	Judy Thompson
Sally and Wendell Jones	Jane Triplett

Special Matching Funds Donation

JP Morgan Chase Foundation from Employee Engagement & Volunteerism Team – double match for donation from Daisy Barsetti-Nerland

Diamond Donors

Diamond Donor for 22-007 TK
Liz Tataseo

Diamond Donor for 22-067 Reggie
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson

Diamond Donor for 24-045 Spam, 24-088 Mac and 25-005 Katana

Colorado Animal Rescue Express (C.A.R.E.)

Diamond Donor for 25-034 Sol and 25-035 Luna
Golden Retriever Foundation

Diamond Donor for 24-024 Shadow to help with training expenses

Phoenix Animal Care Coalition (PACC911)

Memorial Donations

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

AGR Dogs:

12-106 Boz Hargrave
13-022 Barklay Panosian
14-002 Holly Boonstra
14-031 Daisy Jones
14-079 Emmie Felix
15-029 Barkley Watkins
15-033 Augie Valente
17-089 Bailey Koppinger-Martinsen
19-011 Lily Mish
19-056 Cali Wilson
20-019 Zoe Spriggs
23-030 Harley Johnson
24-012 Gabe Longdon
24-047 Apillow Korpalski

Non-AGR dogs:

Aislinn Mortimore
Max Nelson
Noah Stephenson
Gus Strock
Simba Rogers

People:

Rick Rogers

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

In Loving Memory of Rick Rogers

Caroline Ball	Connie McCabe
Debbie Ball	Deb and Larry Orwig
The Bush Brothers –	Barbara Osborne
Logo Floor Mats	Richard and Kathy Ouwenga
Joshua Kappes	Denise Padavano
Rebecca Lines	Liz Tataseo
Carole and Ron Ellenberger	Jeanne Wegener
Dennis Lydick	Gail Wright

*In Loving Memory of **Bella Pynn**, the sweetest retriever yet encountered. She will be greatly missed by all her people and her big happy pet-stealing shadow Yeti.*
Joel and Elizabeth Willard

*In Loving Memory of 12-093 **Diego** for Bingo Night*
Andrea and Colin Decker

*In Loving Memory of 17-089 **Bailey***
Rita Koppinger and Thomas Martinsen

In Loving Memory of our beloved Golden Gus
Fran and Jan Strock

In Loving Memory of Aislinn Mortimore
Debbie Ball

In Loving Memory of Simba Rogers
Debbie Ball

Corporate Donors and Sponsors

**American Online Giving Foundation –
Benevity Causes Portal**

Charities Aid Foundation CyberGrants LLC

Fry's Grocery (Kroger)
Community Partners Program Activity during 1st Quarter 2025

Great American Title Agency

Nationwide and the Nationwide Foundation

Grants

Golden Retriever Foundation

Phoenix Animal Care Coalition (PACC911)
For 5 adult dog spays or neuters

CALENDAR SPONSORSHIPS

Teddi and Delwin Axne (2)	Amy Maynard
Debbie Ball	Pat Morgan
Rosemary and Daniel Cheke (4)	Trishia Murphy
Joni Cipollone	Deb and Larry Orwig
Karen Davis (2)	Denise Padavano
George Douvas	Jill and Fred Prose
Sharon Flores (2)	Karey Rodeffer (3)
Patty Forte	Jeanine Rogers
Elizabeth and Richard Howell	Cindy and Gary Tigges
Sheila Joyce	Julie and Garrett Wheadon
Jean Klink	Connie and Marshall Wozniak

Thank You Donations

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

*To Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson for vacation care of
Lacey and Winnie*
Denise Padavano

*To Deb and Larry Orwig for vacation care of **Charlie***
Denise Padavano

*To Cindy and Gary Tigges for vacation care for **Summer***
Trent Chavez and Patrick Messenger

Memberships - Second Quarter 2025

57 families purchased or renewed a Single or Household
Membership during Second Quarter 2025

Memberships - Second Quarter 2025 New or Continuing Advanced-Level Supporters

COPPER (\$60)

Lisa and Glenn Bickley	Leslie Morris
Rita Koppinger and Thomas Martinsen	Wendy and David Parton
Rachel Manley	Gina and Greg Shore
	Sharon and Philip Wieser

AMBER (\$100)

Mary Jo Barsetti	Rosie and Jack Mills
Kelsey Bradley and Michael Simeone	Marcie and David Moody
Bonnie and Steve Hargrave	Valerie and Gene Mylowe
Noriana and Ed Hermes	Wendy Nelson
Krista Hill	Eileen and Vince Schmidt
Darlene Kaminski and Rick Stephens	Audra and Brent Stuart
Maria Kelly	William Talmadge and Terry Wilson
Jean Klink	Frank and Nancy Turco
Pamela and David Longbine	Anita and Alan Werner
Keri and Rich Marchant	Carol and JD Wilson
Janet and Andrew McClurg	Terri and Bob Witte

TOPAZ (\$250)

Lyndal and Peter Burns
Machelle Forstrom
Lenni and Steve Wilson

GOLD (\$1,000)

Beth and Jon Chaffee
Kathleen M Donahue, D.O.
Susan Kemper
Dean and Marlene Mortimore

Honor

*In Honor of **25-030 Jake***
Karen Berthune

Special Thanks

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

Stephanie Beard	Jeanine Rogers
Robert D Crouse	Carrie Stoneburner
Patrick Doyle	Timothy Tucker
Judy Petitto	Mike Watts



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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