



Reaching out to you with...

The Golden Paw



Volume XVII Number 4

November 2025

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**READY.
SET.
GO!**



Gift Wrap

**Fore! Paws
Golf Tournament**

Parada del Sol

**Santa Pics
and Pints**

**Glendale
Hometown Christmas
Parade**

**Chopsticks
With The Dogs**

**PACC911
Adoptathon**

**Santa Paws
Adoption Event**



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Masthead photo of **24-055 Indi** by Connie McCabe
 Cover design featuring **25-054 Walter** by Connie McCabe

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Do You Need Any of the Following?

If so, don't buy it. We have it in our storeroom or the Orwigs' house just taking up space.

Will be happy to give you whatever you need for a donation to AGR.

Puppy Pads -- large bag of size XL

Nine 30-piece packs of Earthbath Ultra-Mild Puppy Wipes

Nine 30-piece packs of Earthbath Tushy Wipes

Wire Crates -- we have many in all sizes from puppy to L

Raised Dual Feeding/Water Stands with stainless steel bowls

Closeable Container for Dog Food -- would hold at least 35 lbs

Carpet-padded 2-step stairs for helping dog get into vehicle (photo at left)

Ramps -- we have four; two are fold-in-half, two are fold-in-thirds



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

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This column affords me the opportunity to toot the horns of some members who quietly do work for *Arizona Golden Rescue*, but whose work – or the extent of it – is often not seen by many.

The Wine Tasting event in September was outstanding! Please read Denise's wrap-up article on pages 19-23. Although we had a larger attendance than we did last year, it is too bad so many of you missed it. Denise Padavano and Jeanne Wegener produced a really wonderful Sunday activity. Last year, we had only desserts to sample along with wine. This year, acting on some suggestions from last year, we added several non-sugar items that could be used to create your own charcuterie cup – cheeses, crackers, rolled meats and fruits – and even supplied the champagne cups.

We will not be sponsoring a wine-tasting event at *Pavilion Fine Arts Gallery* again, because the owners, Jon Wendell and Alicia Furner, are not renewing their lease this month (October) and are moving to Sedona. Jon's photography will still be available for viewing and purchase online (<https://pavilionfinearts.com/>). Alicia's beautiful and interesting variety of crafts, jewelry, clothing and gift-type items will be in her new store in Sedona called *Pink Lotus Boutique* (<https://sedonapinklotus.com/>), located at 181 State Route 179. There is a companion store, *Blue Lotus Boutique* (<https://sedonabluelotus.com/>), owned by Alicia's daughter, so visit that store, too (671 State Route 179), if you make a trip to Sedona. Our sincere thanks to Jon and Alicia for hosting our wine tasting event for two years. By opening the *Gallery* for our event and not charging us a use fee, they helped us make a total of **\$18,244!**

I cannot sing the praises of the Board of Directors members enough – all of them do so much for *AGR*. Debbie Ball's many hours of work on the database and website have been invaluable. When the *Policies & Procedures Manual* is finally finished, it will be an incredible tool, especially for anyone new who wants to volunteer on the Board or on a Team in our organization.

Denise Padavano continually comes up with new ideas for fun activities which earn us money. She is one of the most organized people I know, and successfully encourages both new and continuing members to help with the production of all events. Denise's assistant, Jeanne Wegener, does a lot of phone calling to help set up events like the upcoming gift wrapping, and she also sends out to the membership all the email notices, which is no small feat considering that there are well over 600 emails that need to be sent to each time.

Connie McCabe not only prepares beautiful graphic signage whenever we need such for raffles or silent auctions, she is hard at work on creating our annual calendar. The 2026 calendar will be available for purchase in November (Calendar Order Form enclosed with this newsletter). Even if you don't actually use a hard-copy calendar, you should consider buying one, not only to help *AGR* financially, but also to read through it, as Connie presents interesting little stories about some of our rescued dogs, as well as information about who we are and what we do. Plus, the photos in the calendar, most of which were taken by Connie, are really outstanding. In addition to all this, Connie does home evaluations when a prospective adopter has a resident dog. Each of the home visits takes at least an hour, plus the time driving to and from, plus an hour or so to write up the home evaluation report. Connie also does transports. Fortunately, she now has help from Darlene Kaminski, but she moves a lot of dogs from surrendering owners to *Academy West Animal Hospital* for vetting, then from *AWAH* to the dog's new adopters. And she often has a foster dog to care for. Sometimes, I don't know how she fits it all in!

Julie and Garrett Wheadon have taken over the Director of Health Care position from Liz Tataseo. They say, "We're a work in progress" and, to be sure, their job is, but they have learned a lot in three months and are doing well with it – they don't hesitate to ask a lot of questions, which is good. Neither has a science background, so they've had to scramble to come up to speed with some of the health concerns we've had with a few dogs.

The Managers of our Home Evaluations, Intake and Placement Teams also carry on their duties quietly but efficiently in the background. Sheila Joyce assigns home evaluations to Team members and takes care of getting Landlord Consent Forms signed by applicants who rent. She also carefully considers each evaluation to determine if the home/environment meets our standards of excellence as a forever home for a rescued dog.

Sharon Flores and Judy Petitto divide up Intake Management, with Sharon handling many phone calls and database inquiries and Judy dealing with the Shelters. Intake Team Members rotate so that they are "on duty" for a week once a month, and that seems to work out well. During their "on" week, each contacts people who tell us they want to surrender their dog; sometimes it takes numerous emails, texts, or phone messages to get through to the person. The Team member then does a full interview regarding the dog, which usually takes at least an hour, then a dog's Profile must be written up and uploaded to the database. They also request the owner to send photos of the dog. Believe me, photos are important, as sometimes people ask us to take something that is not even a dog, let alone a Golden or Golden mix!

Once a dog is in our hands, Placement takes over to try to find an appropriate new home. Julie Wheadon prepares the weekly spreadsheet of approved adoption applicants; much information

is summarized on this spreadsheet, and it is used as the primary tool for Placement. Placement also uses the dog's Profile and information presented in the Transport Report. Placement Manager Keri Marchant assigns each incoming dog to a Team Member, right now to either herself or Katherine Feltmann, and that team member follows the dog until it is actually in its new home. Phone calling, texting and/or emailing is required, as well as some necessary database work (training provided). Another Placement Team member is really needed. Could you do this job? If so, please contact Keri at kerchant@hotmail.com.

Thanks to all these wonderful volunteers for their service, as well as to numerous others who do various jobs, our organization is recognized by many as one of the best-run Rescue groups in the area.



What's Up, DOC?

By Debbie Ball, Director of Operations

debbie.ball@arizonagoldenrescue.org

One of my many duties as Director of Operations is to ensure that our various Policies and Procedures are documented accurately and thoroughly. This function is not new to me, since in my 40-year work career with a major Fortune 200 corporation, I did most of the writing of at least four different Policy and Procedure manuals for the various departments with which I worked. It is my opinion that well-documented Policies and Procedures are not only useful in training new volunteers, but also serve as a ready reference for existing volunteers on our various Teams when questions arise. They are also useful for "disaster recovery" in the event that a key volunteer is disabled or steps down, so that whoever takes on that role will know what to do and how to do it.

It is important to note that our Policies and Procedures are not "cast in stone" nor static. The **AGR** Board of Directors meets quarterly to discuss routine topics and any processes that might need improvement or policies that should be updated. If a decision is made to change a policy or procedure, I will then update the documentation and notify the affected Team volunteers of any changes, along with supplying the updated P&P chapter to them.

This project is a work in progress. Currently, I have over 100 electronic Word or PDF files in our P&P. Some of the files are still in draft format and awaiting review and updates by the Team Manager and/or associated Director. Whenever I can ensure that most processes are accurately documented, my goal is to upload these files to one central repository within our database to provide easy access to our team volunteers, to avoid having to search their personal computers for the latest email or file on the topic.

We also have written Job Descriptions for several of our Team volunteers, such as Intake, Placement, Home Evaluations, and Transport. Whenever someone shows interest in volunteering to

help with one of these Teams, we email them the Job Description, which is a short summary of the position, the expectations, essential duties, physical requirements, potential contacts, etc., as this gives the volunteer a clear idea of what to expect. This avoids any potential confusion on what the volunteer might be asked to do. Also, before beginning training on any of the various Teams, I will supply the new volunteer with both electronic and hard copy files of the various relevant topics they can use for reference and with which to take notes while training.

As with most non-profit organizations, we are always in need of additional volunteers to help. The old English proverb, "Many hands make light work" is certainly still true today. Please consider volunteering YOUR help and contact us with your interests! Right now, we are specifically in need for help on Placement, as one member of that team had to step away due to health issues. Please see the ad on page 5.

Here are some general statistics of **AGR** operations for the first nine months of 2025 through 9/30/2025:

60 total Intake dogs (24 males, 36 females)

33 are under two years old

14 are 3-5 years old

9 are 6-8 years old

1 is 9-11 years old

3 are over 12 years old

Breed: 35 are purebreds, 25 are mixes

Status: 35 have been adopted and finalized

14 are with FWITAs pending adoption

2 were euthanized for medical reasons

4 are available for adoption

3 are with fosters under observation

2 are at veterinary boarding awaiting medical

Submitted Forms for first nine months 2025 through 9/30/2025:

649 total forms submitted

227 Adoption applications

151 Home Evaluations completed

115 Membership applications

31 Pickleball registrations

41 Wine Tasting Event registrations

73 Surrender Inquiries (from people wanting to surrender dogs)

11 Contact Us forms (from people wanting general information)

A Tisket, A Tasket, We Need Your Baskets!

If you have wicker baskets that you don't need, we can use them to package silent auction and raffle items. Email info@arizonagoldenrescue.org to arrange for pick-up.



The Placement Team is looking for a volunteer member to help with the very rewarding position of placing dogs in their forever homes.

When a dog comes in to Rescue, the dog is assigned to a specific Placement Team member. Armed with the Intake Profile and known health conditions, the placement member tries to determine the best home for the dog. The Home Evaluation and Application sections of our database are consulted, and any information on the dog provided by the Transporter also needs to be considered. When an appropriate match is made, the Placement person calls a prospective family and discusses with them everything we know about the dog and what their responsibilities as a foster or FWITA will be. Follow-through after placement is generally done by the Transporter and Health Care Team.

People skills are very important, but you will also need basic Excel, database entry, phone, text and email experience, along with the ability to communicate clearly and thoroughly and be able to pay close attention to details.

Training is very thorough, with established procedures and a written guide.

The Team Manager and Director of Operations are available to help if needed.

If interested, please contact Keri Marchant at kerchant@hotmail.com

Golden Adventures!

By Denise Padavano, Director of Activities

agrgoldenevents@gmail.com



MAGIC is in the air as the holidays approach – the promise of cooler weather is just around the corner, family festivities are being planned, and friends are starting to gather for celebrations! Our beautiful dogs are magical in their own way! They spread their golden glitter wherever they go and draw wonderful people into the **AGR** organization! They have a special charm as they look at you with their kind, loving eyes. Our Goldens bring in new members, new volunteers, and new friends. We all have a commonality and love of dogs, which involves wanting to create a better and safer life for all of them that come into Rescue. I have seen their magic work as I experience new members volunteering to help at our events!

We had a wonderful gathering at our Wine Event in September, and eight new volunteers joined us, helping to make this event successful! Like new wine, new members and volunteers are delightful as we get to know and develop new friendships! Our long-time members and volunteers are like wine that has been aged – cherished and valued! We share past golden adventures that we hope new members can come to experience! Volunteers are the backbone of **AGR** and vital to helping our rescued dogs receive the medical care they need, along with finding a loving and forever home!

AGR would not be able to do all these FUNraising events without the help and dedication of our veteran and incredible NEW volunteers! So please consider helping us out for an hour or two, maybe all day, if you are so inclined! We would sure love to have you join us! You will meet new people, have fun, get to love on the dogs and find it very rewarding knowing that you are supporting our magnificent Golden beauties!

Adult Golden **Charlie's** perspective... *we had another foster dog visit us for two weeks. Although she was 10 years old, she kept **Winnie** busy playing and gave me a break! Then we hit the jackpot – we got two new dogs at the same time, and my mom said they are here to stay! They are senior dogs, so when we get crazy playing, we have to be extra careful around them. I don't know why she looks at ME when she says that, but I think she needs to remind my younger sister **Winnie** of her craziness! She is like the Energizer Bunny and wants to play, play, play, and when she doesn't get her way, she barks at ME! Since there are a lot of new events coming up this year, maybe my mom will take **Winnie** to them and give the rest of us some quiet time!*

Upcoming Events

Please join us for our next fun adventure!

FOOD & FUN!

Chopsticks With The Dogs

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

Location: *P. F. Chang's*

2420 W Happy Valley Rd, Phoenix 85085

AGR has been invited back this year to enjoy a fun day out at *P. F. Chang's* – *AGR* will receive a percentage of purchases of food and beverages by diners who indicate they are there to support *AGR*. There is an outdoor patio area where you can sit with your dogs and enjoy delicious Chinese cuisine with family and friends. Wanting to eat inside the restaurant? Check out our Christmas tree featuring our beautiful special needs dogs with *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, Advent Dog Bone Tree calendars for your dogs and much more!

NEW EVENT!

Santa Pics & Pints – Photos with Santa

Saturday, November 29, 2025, 12 PM until 4 PM

Location: *O.H.S.O. Brewery*

13448 N Prasada Pkwy, Surprise 85388

Join us with your pets for Photos with Santa at *O.H.S.O.* in Surprise. Capture the holiday cheer in a photograph with Santa that you can use for your holiday cards or just frame them to enjoy the good memories! While you're there, have a pint of their great draft beer – *O.H.S.O.* will donate \$1 to *AGR* for every pint purchased over the course of the day!

NEW EVENT!

Santa Paws Holiday Pet Adoption Event

Hosted by *Phoenix Legacy Foundation*

Presented by *Sam's Club* and *Cut the Crap Pet Services*

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

Location: *Sam's Club*

18501 North 83rd Avenue, Glendale AZ 85308

At this fantastic new location, *AGR* will have a booth for meet-and-greet, adoption information and merchandise sales. Come join the fun and socialize with fellow dog-lovers!

PARADE!

Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade

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

51st Avenue & Glendale Avenue, Glendale AZ 85308

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

GIFT WRAPPING!

Floor & Decor, Prasada

13230 N Prasada Pkwy, Surprise, AZ 85388

This year, we will again provide gift wrapping services at *Floor & Decor* at Prasada in Surprise. Join us from 11 AM to 3 PM on the following dates: Friday, Dec. 12th, Sunday, Dec. 14th, Saturday, Dec. 20th, Sunday, Dec. 21st, Monday, Dec. 22nd, and Tuesday, Dec. 23rd. **NOTE:** We will **NOT** be wrapping on Christmas Eve Day this year! Enjoy meeting the public, socializing 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! Hope to see you there!

PARADE!

Parada Del Sol Parade & Trail's End Festival

Old Town Scottsdale

Saturday, January 31, 2026, 9 AM until 5 PM

AGR members and dogs are invited to walk in this fun and memorable parade! Last year we had 32 dogs and 34 people walk in the parade. It was so much fun, and we won a trophy for the best animal group! With so many new adoptions, let's try and beat those numbers this year! Following the parade, *AGR* will have a booth in the *Trail's End Festival* in Old Town selling merchandise and having a meet-and-greet with the public – a FUN Day for all!

ADOPTATHON – *PACC911* at Anthem

Saturday, February 21, 2026, 10 AM to 3 PM

Location: *Anthem Community Park*

41703 N Gavilan Peak Parkway, Anthem



PACC911 at Anthem is a well-attended event with many dog adoptions occurring during the day! *AGR* will have a booth for merchandise sales, while sharing our information and success stories with the public. Bring your dog(s), join the fun, relax and socialize with fellow dog-lovers! Greet the public and help raise money for the medical and behavioral needs of our rescued dogs.

FOOD & FUN – *PAWS AT THE PARK!*

Sunday, March 8, 2026; 11 AM until 4 PM

Location: Eldorado Park, **WEST** Ramada

2311 N Miller Road, Scottsdale 85257

Paws At the Park is **Arizona Golden Rescue's** annual members' meeting and a day of fun with family and friends, good food and uplifting music! We will be celebrating our 16th year in existence! Bring your dogs, especially the newly-adopted ones, to participate in the Picnic, Adoption Recognition Ceremony and Parade of Rescues! Children are always welcome! We will have merchandise for sale, raffle baskets and silent auction items. Mark your calendars for this memorable event!

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.



FORE! PAWS GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday, May 1, 2026 12 PM until 8 PM

Location: **Papago Golf Course**

5595 E Karsten Way, Phoenix 85008

More details in the February issue of *The Golden Paw*. 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 appreciative of 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 and Safety

By Julie and Garrett Wheadon
Co-Directors of Health Care

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Cooler Weather Fun:
Enjoying the outdoors with our furry family members safely!

Now that the heat is finally letting up, it's a great time to get outside and enjoy the nice weather, especially with our fur babies! This season is a nice change from the hot summer, whether you're going for a walk or a hike. Just make sure to keep a few things in

mind so your pets stay safe, healthy, and happy all season long.

Check the Ground Temps: Always test the ground with your hand – if it's too hot for you, it's too hot for your dog's paws! Early mornings and late afternoons are best for walks.

Watch Out for Critters: When it gets cooler, snakes and other wild animals come out more. Keep your dog close and on a leash (not an extendable one!) and stay away from tall grass and rocky areas. Snake training can help keep your dog safe.

Don't Forget the Water: Cooler days are still dry. Always bring water for you and your dog and take breaks in the shade. A collapsible bowl makes it easy to give your dog a drink.

Healthy Dogs, Happy Dogs – Pet Care Tips:

- **Vaccines & Flea/Tick Protection:** Even in cooler weather, fleas and ticks are still around. Keep giving your dog their monthly flea and tick medicine, and make sure their vaccines are up to date before heading outside.
- **Allergies & Itchy Skin:** Season changes can make dogs itchy. Dust, pollen, and dry air can bother them. Brush your dog, wipe their paws after walks, and watch for extra scratching. A humidifier can help with dry skin.
- **Holiday Treats:** Don't let your dog eat candy, chocolate, grapes, onions, or anything with xylitol. Stick to dog-safe snacks or plain pumpkin puree (with nothing added).
- **Vet Visit:** Book a check-up with your vet, especially if your dog hasn't been active lately. It's a good time to check their health and update any medicine.

Dog Parks and Getting Out

Looking for parks and trails for your dog to run, play, and make new friends? Lots of neighborhoods have big off-leash parks, perfect for burning off energy in the cooler months! Put *Dog Parks in Arizona* (or specify your town) and a huge list will come up!

- **Foothills Dog Park** (Glendale) – Big space, shady spots, water, and separate areas for big and small dogs. (Closed on Wednesdays)
- **Rose Mofford Dog Park** (Phoenix) – 2.5 acre off-leash area with separate zones for big and small dogs. (Closed on Thursdays)
- **Chaparral Dog Park** (Scottsdale) – Huge, grassy, well-lit, and has fun agility equipment for your dog to try.
- **Buffalo Ridge Park** (North Phoenix) – Great for hiking with your pup (on leash) and enjoying the outdoors together.
- **Cosmo Dog Park** (Gilbert) – is nationally recognized as one of the best dog parks in the country! Check it out: <https://www.gilbertaz.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/parks-information/parks/cosmo-dog-park>

If you are looking for a private area for your pup to run, check out the app **Sniffspot** where landowners will rent out their acreage for your dog to run.

This is one of the best times of year to explore Arizona – beautiful weather, happy dogs, and lots of outdoor fun. Take some time to unwind, enjoy your pets, and make the most of this time of year. Remember to stay current on your dog's vaccines, bring water, and watch your dog so everyone can have fun.

Best to you and yours, and Happy Holidays.

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 are at the Bridge. There are many members who have never adopted a dog from us and some who don't even have a dog at all! We are grateful to those who have continued to renew their memberships year after year and who contribute their time, money, and hearts to the group, whether or not they are interested in adopting a Golden.

Now let's welcome our new Transport and Placement volunteer, Katherine Feltmann. In her words: *I've always loved dogs for as long as I can remember. I grew up in Prescott and one of my earliest memories was my parents taking my brother and me to the shelter to pick out our family dog. I was three years old when Badger let us know that he'd be coming home with us. He was*

a very mellow and incredibly beautiful Alaskan Malamute who refused the fenced backyard and opted for our front doorway stoop. He lived for 16 years, which is wild considering he was close to 100 pounds! Not long after his passing, and upon my reaching young adulthood, I was off to join the Army where I completed a 24-year career (mostly overseas).



Mishka, Katherine and Jaxson

*In 2009, I was back from deployment in Iraq and working at Fort Huachuca in Southeastern AZ. My then-boss-and-mentor introduced me to his family, including his young Golden Retriever, **Murphy**. I was captivated by this amazing dog and knew I wanted a Golden once I retired and was settled in one area. Fast forward to a year ago, I brought home **Mishka** as a young puppy and he immediately was the center of my world. Pool parties, meetups, pup-friendly happy hours, and making new friends with other Golden families. I love him so much and think the only thing better than a Golden is... TWO GOLDENS! So that's how I was introduced to **AGR** and their amazing volunteers. They allowed me to meet **Jaxson**, who I call **Jazzy** for short, a gorgeous 8-year-old boy who's the color of a slightly-toasted marshmallow. Everyone adores his personality – you couldn't find a more gentle soul. He's been with me since July 2025, and he makes both **Mishka's** and my existence that much more wonderful. I'm so grateful to **AGR** and am blown away by their dedication to these beautiful, sweet dogs. I've been assisting **AGR** with both placement and transport, because it's an important mission to find good homes for these exceptional dogs. I truly want other families to experience what a blessing it is to love and be loved by a Golden.*

Thank you, Katherine!

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 their own. Home evaluators will preferably have a dog-friendly dog they can take with them on 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. All volunteers need to be members in good standing.

Hiking With Your Dog

By Jude Fulghum

Editor's Note: A number of years ago when she was visiting me, Jude and I attended a workshop entitled "Hiking With Your Dog." The workshop was sponsored by the City of Glendale's Parks and Recreation Department and held at Thunderbird Park, about a mile north of my house. Jude took good notes and wrote an article, which I have saved for use at an appropriate time. As we are encouraging you to exercise your dogs, especially your older ones, you may find some useful suggestions in this article.

Even though the weather is still quite warm in Arizona, you can improve both your own and your dog's exercise regime by treating yourselves to some hikes in the nearby areas. But taking your furkid for an adventure beyond a simple walk around the block or to the local park requires some preparation on your part for both you and the dog.

Equipment and provisions must definitely be considered in advance. The most crucial concern is, of course, water. Can't carry your water and your dog's? Think about buying a dog backpack and collapsible bowl and let him carry his own! A dog in good condition can carry up to 25% of his weight in a pack (or about 18 lbs for a 75-pound dog), but build up to that weight slowly! Several manufacturers offer different styles (from day packs on up) with corresponding price ranges. Beware, you get what you pay for in outdoor equipment! In my experience, **Ruff Wear®** Dog Gear (www.ruffwear.com) makes excellent products. They happen to be headquartered in my hometown of Bend, OR, and I have visited them and know how they test for quality and durability. There is a relatively inexpensive one (\$69.95) called Front Range Dog Day Pack, which is available from **Ruffwear**, **Amazon** and **Chewy**. Another top brand is **Wolf Packs®** (www.wolfpacks.com). They are very well made and will hold up under all kinds of conditions.

Before you order a pack from a catalog or website, it is extremely important to have the dog fitted to ensure the correct size. Beware – all brands of packs are not the same and do not fit the same. Even if you plan to buy from a catalog or online, take the time to go to a good outdoor store [Note: Try **REI** or some of the specialty dog supply stores locally] and have your dog properly sized. Some packs even come with top handles which can be useful for holding onto the dog through streams or when going up hill (who knows, maybe it's more of a handle for you!). Look for padded straps, but make sure they don't chafe the dog. Make sure the pack sits forward on your dog's shoulders. Look for compartments for stowing not only water, but also treats, your sunscreen, a light jacket or shirt, first aid kit, etc. And be sure if you're hiking in an area where there is a river or lake and your Golden likes to swim that the pack can take it without ruining everything inside!

So how do you pack the water? An excellent idea is one of those Nalgene water reservoirs (flat packs) you see being used by bicy-

clists and hikers (you just need the Nalgene pack itself, not the tubing). The water stores flat and will fit easily in a backpack. As the water is used, the load lightens instead of having to carry around a container that may weigh enough on its own. If you fill the water unit up the night before and freeze it, the ice will melt as you and your dog hike, and you will be rewarded with cold water.

Backpack manufacturers typically also sell collapsible bowls and, again, you will get what you pay for. Beware of \$5 ones in the box stores – they leak through the lining! Some brands have tops that can be secured to stow dry dog food or water. These bowls are also excellent to have in your car, as they take up minimal space. This is a nice one if you're planning an all-day or overnight: *Wild One Collapsible Travel Silicone Duo Dog Bowl*. Silicone bowls don't leak. There are now dog electrolyte drinks (like human Gatorade) that may be beneficial on strenuous hikes or if you have a dog that overheats easily.

Always check your dog frequently for overheating! One of the more obvious signs to look for is discoloration in the gums. If you see bright red or bright pink coloring, your dog is in trouble. Do NOT immediately douse him in very cold water – this could cause a decrease in or loss of skin circulation, which delays cooling. Rest, shade and cool water baths are important. Heatstroke is more prevalent in larger breed dogs, so be careful with your Golden.

In areas where your dog might be walking on hot sand or pavement, consider investing in a pair of dog booties. The rule of thumb is if the pavement is too hot for you to walk on with bare feet, it is too hot for your dog to walk on with bare paws. The best way to get your dog accustomed to wearing booties is to put them on him and immediately start walking. Your dog will look and feel goofy for awhile, but at least he won't burn his pads. If you feel you need to use tape to keep the booties on, try putting vet wrap around the top of the bootie before you apply the tape – less pulling on the dog hair makes it more comfortable for the dog. And label your booties LF (left front), RF, LR, RR – when always worn on the same paw they will mold better to the paw shape.

A reputable outdoor store should be able to help you with outfitting yourself and your dog for your adventures. The library also has several good books on the subject. Be realistic about the kind of hiking you're really going to do. Don't gear up with equipment made for a hike to the bottom of the Grand Canyon when what you're really going to do is a 2-3 mile hike on gently sloping terrain! Save those bucks and donate them to **AGR!**

Finally, you should have proper identification on your dog at all times. There are frequently ads in the local paper and on "lost dog" internet sites for dogs lost while hiking with no ID. Be wise and carry a laminated copy of your dog's rabies and other vaccinations, as well as the name of your vet. If you have an accident, whoever finds you will need to know what to do with your dog.

The Financial Picture

By Deb Orwig, President

Donations

As you can see in the table in the right column, we lost a significant amount of money during the first three quarters of this year. Since we have several fundraisers planned for the fourth quarter, we are hoping to end the year in the black and not the red. However, since the cost of vet services will continue to increase as more dogs come into Rescue, and since some of these dogs will spend a lot of time in boarding because they are special-needs dogs, we will only be successful in avoiding the red-zone if you will consider sending **AGR** an end-of-year donation. All donations are tax deductible. All donations will be acknowledged if they are over \$250 (accumulated during the year or one-time), as the law requires. Amounts less than that will be acknowledged if the donor makes the request.

For 2026, please consider setting up a monthly donation. You can create a monthly donation program with PayPal or through your bank. One of our monthly donors sends us \$5 per month – that amounts to \$60 for the year, and that \$60 will pay for a vet exam for a new intake. One donor set up a monthly PayPal donation of \$20 per month – the 12-month total of that amount is \$240, which could pay for a blood panel, or a heartworm test, or part of a valley fever test. Would you miss \$20 per month? Maybe not, but we would certainly benefit. Another donor had her bank start sending us \$25 per month – that's \$300 per year, which might help pay for a spay or neuter! A couple others have their bank send **AGR** \$100 per month, or \$1,200 per year, which covers the cost of a complete vet exam with all vaccines and tests that we have done and a spay or neuter. So you see, ANY amount sent on a monthly basis is helpful – it is income we can count on.

Using PayPal?

If you choose to use PayPal to send a donation or pay for a membership renewal, please be so kind as to include an extra 4% – that amount is subtracted by PayPal for "administrative fees." Consequently, if you want **AGR** to have \$100, please add \$4 to the amount you send from PayPal, otherwise we will receive only about \$96. If you send a check or a donation by Zelle (set this up with your bank; even some credit unions now participate with Zelle), there is no extra charge except for the 75¢ stamp you have to use to send a check; if the bank sends the check, then they cover the postage cost.

Reporting period: January 1, 2025 - September 30, 2025

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Adoption Application Fees	\$ 4,375.00	\$
Adoption Income	27,215.50	
Adoption Fee Refunds		950.00
Auction Income	7,345.00	
Calendars		
Sales of 2025 Calendars	368.00	
Calendar Sponsorships	2,520.00	
Donation Income		
General Fund	50,403.71	
Honorary	7,958.00	
Memorial	5,227.50	
Summer Fundraiser	150.00	
Gift Wrap	393.00	
Grants	33,950.00	
Membership Income	20,869.00	
Merchandise Sales	4,500.45	
Pre-paid Shipping	19.50	
Newsletter Subscription	16.00	
Pavilion Art Gallery Event	1,596.00	
Paws At The Park Picnic	1,866.00	
Auction	2,060.00	
Donations	1,367.74	
Prizes	1,190.00	
PetSmart Charities PetWalk	873.00	
Pickleball Tournament	2,065.00	
Brunch	1,682.50	
Sponsorships	7,797.00	
Prizes	1,055.00	
Cost of Goods Sold		
Pickleball Expense		1,947.23
Paws at the Park Picnic Expense		348.58
Purchases – Merchandise		3,542.53
Expenses		
Bank Charge – PayPal Charges		307.12
Credit Card Expense		194.42
Dog-related Expenses		
Behavioral Training		3,525.00
Boarding		26,798.04
Collars, Leashes & Collar Tags		1,096.15
Dog Food – Specialty Rx		1,685.48
Grooming		250.00
Veterinary Services		148,027.19
Event Expense		362.82
Insurance		2,731.06
Internet Services		1,255.92
Legal & Professional Fees		260.00
Office Expenses		2,724.82
Postage		1,405.60
Rent or Lease (storage facility)		2,927.00
Stationery & Printing		4,460.36
Telephone		204.88
Gross Profit through 9/30/25	\$174,074.56	
Total Expenses through 9/30/25		\$198,215.86
Net Operating Income	- \$ 24,141.30	
Interest Earned on CDs	\$ 7,819.84	
Net Income		- \$16,321.46



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 third quarter of 2025, we had six 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.



24-055 Indi came back into Rescue in mid-July 2024 as a four-year-old spayed female Goldendoodle eager to find a forever home! She was originally rescued by **AGR** in 2023, but returned in July 2024 due to some behavior issues, plus the adopters made frequent travels. For about a year, **Indi** was in boarding and on fluoxetine, which helped to

keep her considerably calm. She also spent time in training with behaviorist Sharon, who reported that **Indi** is very motivated by human attention and well-mannered. As of early August 2025, **Indi** finally found her forever home with adopters Bruce and Claire in Mesa! **Indi's** third-quarter expenses were **\$2,358** and total expenses since her July 2024 intake are **\$7,769**.

25-036 Lilly, a three-year-old unspayed female English Cream Golden Retriever, was rescued in late May 2025, along with her younger brother **25-037 Fin**. They are a bonded pair that the prior owner surrendered due to personal health issues. At one of our partner veterinarians, **Lilly** received all her initial vetting including vaccines, heartworm and valley fever bloodwork tests, grooming and boarding. In late July, **Lilly** was spayed and had a small cyst removed. Both **Lilly** and **Fin** have been adopted by Steve and Jeannine in Scottsdale and are doing well! **Lilly's** third-quarter expenses totaled **\$2,352**, and total expenses since intake (with initial vet work) were **\$3,114**.



25-045 Cali Gold is a ten-year-old unspayed female purebred Golden Retriever rescued in early July 2025. Her former owner abandoned her and left her with his parents who could not keep her due to family allergies. She is a very sweet girl who was neglected – had a ragged coat, sparse tail, and dirty ears. After receiving all her initial vet work including vaccines, bloodwork,

and grooming, she was spayed soon afterward. Additionally, **Cali** was found to have a mammary tumor requiring a later surgery in mid-August. After initial fostering with Denise in Sun City to recoup from her surgery, **Cali** is now recovering with Jeanine and Cameron in Queen Creek. Third-quarter expenses for **Cali** have amounted to **\$3,730**.



25-046 Scottie came to **AGR** in early July 2025 when he was only 7 weeks old; he is a male purebred Golden Retriever puppy. He was surrendered due to unforeseen circumstances with the prior owner's apartment complex. An **AGR** member couple was selected to foster this adorable boy, and they renamed him **Kode**. He received all his initial vetting for vaccines and

bloodwork at one of our partner veterinarians. In late July, **Kode** had a bout of vomiting, diarrhea and lethargy, requiring an emergency vet visit for radiographs, fluids, and monitoring. He was diagnosed with Cryptosporidium and anemia, so meds and specialized food were required. The foster couple, Teri and Jeff of Sun City, have decided to adopt him, and **Kode** is now doing well and growing fast. Total expenses so far for **Kode** are **\$4,197**.

25-047 Sara Lee is approximately eight years old, an unspayed female purebred Golden Retriever that was found as a stray in mid-July 2025. The finder was unable to keep her. She was quite overweight but otherwise in pretty good shape other than her severely matted coat. She received all her initial vetting with vaccinations brought up to date, ear cleaning, grooming, and tests for heartworm, parasites, and valley fever. **Sara Lee** tested positive for coccidia and required some rounds of medication for that. In late September, she was spayed. **Sara Lee** has been placed with William and Terry in Apache Junction. They have been anxiously awaiting finalization of her adoption as her forever home! Renamed **Sunny**, she is now theirs! **Sara Lee's** expenses totaled **\$2,631**.



25-054 Walter was surrendered to Rescue in mid-August 2025. He is a very handsome, large, 9-month-old red male Golden Doodle/Retriever (mother was a Golden, father was a Doodle). His original owner was moving out of state to an apartment and could not afford either the cost or time for the care of this gorgeous boy, as **Walter** was in need of surgery on his left shoulder. **Walter**

is currently being lovingly fostered by Connie and Nick in Glendale and having a great time playing with their pack. In mid-September, **Walter** had arthroscopic surgery at **ACOSM** for Osteochondritis Dissecans (OCD) on his left shoulder and is still recouping in his foster home. When he is ready, **Walter** needs a new home with a large yard and another active dog to play with. His expenses so far have cost **AGR \$4,877**.



Another Tip For Hiking with Your Dog

You already know how to protect yourself when hiking, right? Don't forget to layer your clothing and wear good sturdy shoes. Positively do not forget to take sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat, a first aid kit, and, depending on where you intend to hike, bug repellent. Take it easy and work up to longer hikes as you and your dog become more fit, and enjoy the great outdoors with your dog.

Remember...

If you have a fat dog, YOU aren't getting enough exercise!

~Anonymous

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 July 16 through Oct 18, 2025. All adoptions finalized after October 18th will be in the next issue.



25-045 Puppy Spam at Intake

24-045 Spam is a 1-year-old female Golden Retriever with a heart as golden as her coat. She was surrendered by a service organization due to medical needs that required ongoing care they couldn't provide. Her medical story is long and ongoing, but in short, she is a special needs dog born with a liver shunt: abnormally-formed vessels allowed 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. Surgery to repair this condition, a procedure called intrahepatic coil embolization, opened up the vessels so her liver would work properly; the surgery was a success. Here's where **Spam's** story turns into a fairytale! The very veterinarian who began **Spam's** medical journey has now become her forever home! For the past four months, **Spam** has been thriving with her new family, Kelsey and Michael, who have gotten to know her playful, spirited personality. As they share, *Despite her medical issues, she still has a lot of puppy energy!* And what a clever girl she is! **Spam** adores her toys, especially a rubber frisbee that she's figured out how to wrap around other toys so she can carry two at once. Sometimes she does this while sitting on her favorite outdoor

toy, the Jolly Ball. Of course, every journey has its challenges. **Spam's** biggest one? Convincing her feline brother to be her best friend and to play with her all the time! **Spam** also has some unique talents. Kelsey related: *We've discovered she's an exceptional belcher, especially after meals.* It's clear that **Spam** has found the perfect home filled with love and laughter. As her family says: ***Spam** is a sweet, funny girl, and we're so lucky she came into our lives.*



25-045 Spam all grown up



24-055 Indi is a 4-year-old female Goldendoodle who was sadly surrendered due to aggression issues with other dogs. It was a very emotional goodbye. Fortunately, **Indi** has now found a loving new home with Bruce and Claire, who have been wonderfully proactive in working with behaviorist Sharon M. to help **Indi** overcome her behavioral challenges. Upon arriving at her new home, **Indi** was

excited to explore her new yard! When it comes to people, **Indi** is incredibly affectionate and sweet. How lucky is **Indi** to have found her forever home with Bruce and Claire.



25-025 Sasha, now known as **Bailee**, is a 6-year-old female Goldendoodle who spent her first 5 years as a breeder dog. **Bailee** was saved by her new owners, Cory and Rachel, who have brought much love and attention into her life. Well... let's just say **Bailee** had a few surprises in store for the family. Rachel shares an entertaining description of **Miss Bailee**: *It*

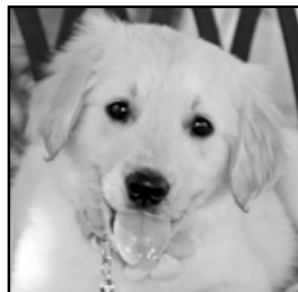
turns out Bailee is terrible in the car. Her idea of travel involves pacing, whining, and attempting to ride shotgun whether there's room or not. And while she may look sweet and angelic, Bailee is not exactly the "dog park socialite." She struggles around other dogs, often more of a menace than a playmate. Sadly, it seems she missed out on proper socialization in her earlier years, and that makes interactions a challenge. Bailee has also revealed some talents that have brought some laughter and bit of anxiety for the family. As Rachel vividly describes: She can jump nearly as high as a six-foot fence, leaving us both impressed and mildly terrified. When a siren wails in the distance, she channels her inner Victorian widow – lifting her head and unleashing a long, mournful howl. Sometimes, we can't resist joining in, creating a very unique family chorus. And every morning, without fail, Bailee wakes her human mom, by bouncing on the bed like a semi-committed kangaroo, ensuring that sleeping in is no longer an option. The love in the following sentiments will make you smile and maybe just say "Ooooooh, I love this!" From their heart, read what they want you to know: Bailee may not be the easygoing road-trip companion or dog-park darling we expected, but she has found her people – and we love her, quirks and all. Adoption isn't always about the "perfect fit" on paper. Sometimes it's about embracing the surprises, celebrating the chaos, and discovering joy in the unexpected. We certainly want to thank Arizona Golden Rescue and Bailee's foster family for all of the help with the transition. How wonderfully heartwarming for Bailee to be living with Cory and Rachel!

25-027 Ruff is a Golden mix who was once a scrappy stray; he is now a much-loved companion for Lorraine. **Ruff** is food-motivated, quick to sit for treats, and never turns down a good face kiss. Lorraine affectionately shares her chats with **Ruff**: *"Are you tired of kisses yet, Ruff?" He just tilts his head, licks my cheek, and basically is saying, "Not a chance."* Since arriving on August 4th, **Ruff** has been a work in progress – learning the ropes, unlearning some old habits, and keeping his human on her toes. He started as a marker (the shrink wrap on the furniture says it all!) and wore his male wrap proudly for a while before earning his big graduation. From kennel nights to bed snuggles, **Ruff** has come a long way and now enjoys his



freedom like a champ. Read about some of his favorite activities that Lorraine shares. *He loves walks, backyard playtime, and his ongoing rivalry with the elusive lizard and the impossible-to-catch flies. Lorraine tells him that he won't catch those flies, but he is determined to keep at it! He'll give you his heart, his goofy antics, and the occasional challenge, especially if you tug his collar too quickly. But patience, love, and plenty of treats have helped him blossom into a trusting, affectionate, one-of-a-kind pup. Ruff may still be a "work in progress," but aren't we all? What's certain is this: he's a cutie, he's adored, and he finally knows he's home.*

25-031 Aurora, now known as **Carli**, is a Golden bundle of sunshine with a YOLO attitude and a heart full of wiggles. Her owner showed up at Deb Orwig's house when the puppy was only 8 weeks of age. She had had the puppy only three days and said her resident adult male Golden wouldn't accept the puppy. Of course, Deb took her, but within



an hour Deb realized she "couldn't do puppy" and called Denise, who had just released another foster dog for adoption. Denise took **Aurora** and kept her as a foster for several weeks, getting her initial vetting done. Puppies are a LOT of work, this one especially – she had Giardia, coccidia, Cryptosporidium (all intestinal parasites), and tested positive for parvo, so Denise had to keep her isolated from her other dogs and carefully and immediately clean up every poop the puppy produced. [Editor's Note: a new monoclonal antibody treatment is available for parvo – **AGR** gave **Aurora** the treatment, so her case was always very mild and cleared up quickly.] When **Aurora** was adopted by Scott and Stephanie in



Scottsdale, Denise breathed a sign of relief! They observed that **Aurora** is a certified cuddler, professional snuggler and part-time ankle biter with a flair

for chaos. Her new owners want to give you a good laugh about **Carli's** hobbies: *"She swims at her own leisure, followed by epic wet-zoomies through the house. But it is not just swimming! She chases tennis balls and fearlessly launches herself into the pool. Sometimes, she will be playing her favorite game: Drying Off = Wrestling Match. Carli is a collector of random "treasures" a.k.a., things and stuff. She then tests the limits of what can be considered edible. It is no wonder that after all her energetic exploits, you'll find her snoozing in the most ridiculous positions, melting hearts as the sweetest little Golden nugget. Carli lives big, loves food fiercely, and proves daily that puppy life is best*

lived at full speed. **Carli** hit the jackpot with her new home!



25-032 Marley is a 5-year-old Golden-doodle with a heart as soft as her curls. She came into Rescue after her former family could no longer give her the time and care she needed, but this gentle girl has been blossoming in her new home with Julie and Jim. Julie and Jim want you to know a bit about Marley's medical needs: *We were introduced to **Marley** as a girl with special needs who required a foster home.*

*Given our understanding of the unique requirements of dogs that experience seizures, we believed we could offer her the care she needed. **Marley** does take daily medication to manage seizures, but since being on a consistent schedule with us, she has only had one episode, right after arriving. She continues to do wonderfully with her treatment. She loves her walks, enjoys swimming in the pool, and has recently discovered the joy of toys, especially tug-of-war and tossing a toy around for herself. As you read what Julie shares next, be ready to have a smile on your face that will take you through your day: **Marley** is incredibly sweet. She doesn't have a mean bone in her body. She quickly claimed her favorite spot on the couch and often spends her afternoons lounging there. However, the moment an animal appears on the TV, she becomes intensely focused, eager to see what she might be missing. Most of the time she is content to quietly watch commercials or documentaries, but not when she sees a man in uniform! She is definitely a "sucker for a man in uniform." If there's a police K9 on screen, she will whine, cry, jump at, and talk to the TV! **Marley** is extremely motivated by food. This description from Julie paints the best picture: *We have never encountered a dog as food-motivated as **Miss Marley**. Her neck becomes a periscope, scanning the kitchen counter whenever food is around, often stealing anything within reach. **Marley** certainly has a beautiful outlook on life as Julie relates: *She seemingly just sits enjoying the sunset. I think we all could learn a thing or two from **Marley**! I bet we can all relate to this story: *In true Golden fashion, she exhibits selective hearing. She may not hear us calling her, but she can detect the sound of the refrigerator door opening from four rooms away! Overall, **Marley** is adjusting well, and even **Harper**, the resident dog, is becoming more adjusted to the new dog in the house. **Marley** brings endless love and joy to her new home.****



25-033 CeeCee is a 1-year-old female Golden Retriever with a stunning red coat. Unfortunately, due to financial hardship, her original owners were no longer able to care for her. That's when Michael and Natasha stepped in, ready and eager to welcome **CeeCee** into their family. At first, **CeeCee** was shy and reserved. She showed some

skittishness around Michael, though she warmed up quickly to the ladies. She's still figuring out their young son, whose boundless energy and playful spirit are exactly what **CeeCee** craves. Here are a couple of sweet stories from the kids about life with their new furry sister. The 12-year-old daughter says: *One of my favorite memories with **CeeCee** so far, is when she finally learned how to go up the stairs in our house. The first time she did it, I was asleep. My dad opened my door, and **CeeCee** jumped right onto my bed and started licking my face to wake me up.* This is the cutest story from the 6-year-old son! *"I love to dress up in costumes with **CeeCee** – she looks so funny! I also really like swimming with her in the pool. How lucky **CeeCee** is to be in this family!*



25-036 Lilly (at left in photo) and **25-037 Fin** are English Cream Golden Retrievers originally from Serbia. **Fin**, a 2-year-old male, and **Lilly**, a 3-year-old female, both had successful show careers in Serbia, winning many competitions. Their owner's health was failing and, with upcoming surgery, she was unable to continue caring for this beautiful pair. **Fin** is full of goofiness, energy, and love, while **Lilly**

is calmer, with an adventurous spirit and a curious eye always on what's next. They are deeply bonded and prefer to be near each other. The pair found their perfect forever home with Steve and Jeannine, experienced, loving, and responsible dog owners who provide them with a large backyard and even a swimming



"Show dog" Lilly

spot. **Lilly** is sweet, smart, and crafty. These next tales of **Lilly** and **Fin** are hysterical and will keep a smile on your face! *We call **Lilly** a princess because she loves to lounge on soft surfaces. During training, she surprised us by proving she might actually deserve the title Queen. One day, we*

*had set up barriers on the bed to keep the dogs from climbing up. **Lilly** managed to jump onto the bed anyway, pull back the comforter, drag a silk pillowcase to the center, and curl up for a nap as if it were her rightful throne! **Fin**, on the other hand, is our fun-loving boy with his big "polar bear" paws and endless eagerness to play. But despite being a retriever, swimming is not at the top of his fun list. We've tried many times to teach him, but he tends to forget about using his back paws. He'll dogpaddle enthusiastically with his front legs while his back end sinks, leaving him bobbing*



"Show dog" Fin

with his front legs while his back end sinks, leaving him bobbing

upright in the water until we help him float horizontally again. We assumed swimming would come naturally, but **Fin** proves us wrong every time – head held high, front paws paddling, back-end sinking. What a pair of silly, fun and loving dogs who are living their best lives with Steve and Jeannine!



25-038 Winnie is a 3½-year-old female Golden Retriever who was surrendered when her previous owner no longer had enough time to care for her. **Winnie**, who came from a puppy mill in Korea, has been here only nine months. Fortunately, Elizabeth and Richard were ready to open their hearts and home to this happy-go-lucky girl. At first,

Winnie had some incontinence and an eye problem, but our vet partner helped with these medical issues, and Winnie is fine now. **Winnie** was overjoyed to meet her new Golden sister, **Rose**! From the moment she arrived, **Winnie's** tail didn't stop wagging. She eagerly greeted her new family and explored the house and yard with curiosity and excitement. **Winnie** wasted no time soaking up love and attention from her new people. She has her favorite blankie (photo at right) and toys which make her one happy Golden girl! Welcome to your forever home, sweet **Winnie**!



25-040 Scottie, born in January 2024, is a neutered male Goldendoodle bursting with energy and affection! His energy is the reason he was surrendered, as his owner has mobility issues that were getting worse and he had knocked her down several times in his exuberance. The owner recommended he be placed in a home with children, as he did very well with the

kids in the owner's daycare group. Placement paid attention to that recommendation: he's living his best life with Stacey, Eric, and their three teenaged boys. **Scottie** is settling in beautifully with his new family and feeling right at home. *He's a real ham!* says Stacey and it's easy to see why! **Scottie's** big personality keeps his family laughing with his playful antics. His favorite place to be is outdoors, whether he's zooming around the backyard or enjoying walks through the neighborhood. His forever family wants everyone to know: *He is a sweetheart and he has actually rescued us, not the other way around.*

25-041 Stormy and **25-042 Thena** are a mother-daughter pair of AKC Golden Retrievers with very different personalities, yet they are inseparable. Their former owner, who loved them dearly, was



25-041 Stormy and 25-042 Thena now Zena

moving and sadly could not take them along. Lucky for them, Tami and Jeff were ready to welcome two four-legged darlings into their home. **Stormy**, the mom, is two-and-a-half years old. Her daughter **Thena**, who now is known as **Zena**, is a one-year-old and full of

energy. She is adventurous, playful, and endlessly curious – always exploring, sniffing, and tasting the world around her. **Zena** doesn't pay much attention to cats, preferring to devote herself to toys, games, and finding mischief. I bet you will feel the proud parents' sentiments here: *Since arriving in June, both girls have made tremendous progress. Their coats are now soft and shiny, and Zena has grown noticeably. They look healthy and happy, so much so that their previous owner wouldn't recognize them!* Watch out New York Fashion week! There are two new models in town! If you're looking for something to make you shake your head in disbelief and just laugh endlessly, continue reading for Tami and Jeff's account of the new models in town: **Stormy** quickly revealed her clever side after her spay surgery when she managed to escape not just one, but two cones in less than a minute. We finally found the solution! She absolutely loves her Onesie and struts around in it like a fashion queen. It even works as a comfort outfit during thunderstorms. Because the stones in the yard bothered her paws, we added "astroturf runways," which both dogs now walk down like models on a fashion show catwalk! Buckle up for this tale as told by her owners: **Stormy** is a TV enthusiast. She'll happily watch an entire animal documentary, completely engrossed. She adores the laser game too, sitting patiently (but insistently!) to let us know it's time to play with the Munchkin cat often joining us. **Zena**, meanwhile, is our little clown. We keep two toy bins filled, but she insists on emptying them because, naturally, the toy she wants is always at the bottom. She's still a bit uncoordinated – often sliding off the couch – but it doesn't faze her in the least. She proudly carries her beloved stuffies around, even after "surgery" when the stuffing has to be mended. As with many rescue pups, it's all part of the adventure to have skills they need to improve. Thanks to their dedication and love, Tami and Jeff's pups are thriving! Here's their progress report: *When they first arrived, leash walks were a struggle—especially with Zena*



25-041 Stormy above;
25-042 Zena below



– even a short block was exhausting. Now, they both walk three miles daily (early, before the heat), and are even beginning to run alongside us. Trail hikes are their favorite, often convincing us to change routes so they can explore. **Zena** has already joined in on a hike while **Stormy** recovered from surgery, and we're looking forward to many more as the weather cools. **Stormy and Zena** came from a very small world, but it has been a joy watching them discover so much more. They are still cautious around new people and dogs, yet they are making steady progress. And we will end with this heartfelt sentiment: Above all, they are thriving, happy, and bringing countless smiles and laughter into our home.

25-043 Jaxson is an 8-year-old male Golden Retriever with the heart and energy of a pup half his age. **Jaxson** came to his new home with Katherine after his owner, with great difficulty, had to surrender him due to a move. It was clear how loved he was, and it shows in his gentle, affectionate nature. This sweet boy wants nothing more than to be near his people – lounging on the floor, snuggling on the couch, or curling up in bed at night. Belly rubs are his favorite, and he's happiest when showered with attention. Despite his mellow side, **Jaxson** still has plenty of playful spark. He is best friends with **Mishka**, the other dog in his home. Katherine says: **Jaxson** has an adorable way of "poking" **Mishka** with his nose to start a game; we call it his "woodpecker move." Listen to how **Jaxson**, also known as **Jazzy**, is a park favorite. At the park, **Jaxson** is a true social butterfly, making his way to every human in sight to collect the "Golden tax" of pets and scratches. Strangers and friends alike are charmed by his sparkling personality. True to his goofy Golden ways, **Jaxson** sometimes snacks on socks (whole!), so a little vigilance is needed, but it only adds to his lovable quirks. **Jaxson** is a sweet, loyal, and happy soul who loves people, loves life, and has settled beautifully into his new home. With his big heart and Golden grin, he makes every day brighter.



25-044 Daisy is a 3-year-old female Goldendoodle who was surrendered when her previous owner realized they didn't have enough time to give her the attention she needed to thrive. Bright, affectionate, and full of personality, **Daisy** has since found her perfect match with Jackie, Karen and her new furry siblings, **Freckles** and **Boomer**. From the moment she arrived, **Daisy** was showered with love and attention;

she quickly knew she had found her forever home. Jackie and Karen would like to share this story that lets us all know how truly smart **Daisy** is and she wasn't going to let her owners not keep the promise they made to her: Recently, **Daisy** had her "big

girl" surgery. We had been telling her that once it was done, she wouldn't have to sleep in her crate anymore. The first night home after surgery, she was pretty drowsy and went right into her crate, sleeping soundly through the night. The second night, we put her in the crate again, but this time, she wasn't having it! After trying to comfort her with a favorite toy and a few snuggles, we let her out, and she settled happily on her bed beside ours. Now, she sleeps there every night while some evenings, she even puts herself to bed! Don't you just love that story! Feel the deep connection her new family has with her. **Daisy** has been an absolute joy. She's fitting in beautifully, gets along wonderfully with her canine brothers, and loves when the grandchildren come to visit. We were hoping for a companion who would play with our deaf dog, and **Daisy** has fulfilled that hope completely. She and her brother love to wrestle and play tug-of-war together. We're so grateful to have found **Daisy** and to be able to give her the forever home she deserves!

25-045 Cali Gold is a 10-year-old female Golden Retriever who was abandoned by her owner and left with his parents – they surrendered her to **AGR**. How lucky was Cali to find the perfect forever home with Jeanine and Cameron. There is a tremendous amount of affection as they share their journey of having **Cali** become a part of their family: We have only had **Cali** for a short time and we are still learning about her, but one thing for sure...she LOVES TOYS! When we first met **Cali**, she made us a bit nervous with how she greeted our **Lucy** and **Fozzi**; she was all snarly and kind of scary, but we found out it is all for show. Once she gets past being snarly and loud, she is all wiggles and a very sweet girl. Continue reading for a delightfully funny story about **Cali's** visit to the vet: Recently we took **Cali** to the vet for a post-surgery checkup and while in the examination room, **Cali** was enjoying the tech's attention – she was all wiggles and sweetness! Suddenly, she started barking and snarling while looking up at the tech! Cameron and the tech were so surprised and couldn't understand what was happening.



Lo and behold, they realized that **Cali** was barking and growling at a poster that was on the wall behind the tech! The tech actually had to take the poster down off the wall before **Cali** would calm down. Then the tech told **Cali** not to look around the room because the walls were covered with dog portraits! Maybe **Cali** was just saying, "I need to be on the wall too!" Here are some of **Cali's** favorite things: she loves resting in the sunshine, is our best watch dog, has a fetish with taking tags off the toys, enjoys walks! Her walk is the cutest, as she kind of sways back and forth. You truly feel the tenderness and warmth her new family has for her! As you are reading the description her owners tell about her, just picture it! She has an adorable face with a zipper stripe down her nose and curly cowlick on the top of her head (see photo above). Cameron and Jeanine are showing **Cali** every day that she is loved

and they are her forever home! *Thank you, AGR, for bringing Cali into our lives!*



25-047 Sara Lee is an 8-year-old female Golden Retriever who came to **AGR** as a stray. The person who found her was unable to keep her, so we were called. When she arrived, she had no chip or collar; her age was estimated to be between 8 and 10 years old. BUT she behaves more like a 10-month-old puppy! **Sara Lee** has since been adopted by Will and Terry, who gave her a new name that

perfectly suits her bright spirit, **Sunny**. They want you to know: **Sunny's** name is truly a reflection of her personality. She is love wrapped in a strawberry-blond sweater. Will and Terry have a few sweet anecdotes they would like to share about her: **Sunny** loves to play catch and proudly returns her toys, often instigating games throughout the day. What is your superpower? Read what **Sunny's** is: *Communication is her superpower. She "talks" using an adorable mix of gurgles, grunts, and playful growls. If that doesn't get the response she desires, she'll nudge your hand, wiggle her whole body, roll on the floor, or even wipe her face on the carpet – all in an effort to make sure you're paying attention.* **Sunny** knows how to make her wishes known to Terry and Will: *When Sunny wants something, it's usually one of her favorites – a treat, a walk, a good petting session, a tummy rub, a trip outside, or a chance to play.* You just have to smile at this next little tidbit: *She craves attention and affection! The best part is she gives just as much as she receives. Smart, expressive, and full of joy, she's wonderfully responsive to people and her surroundings, and she has filled her new home with warmth, laughter, and love. What a wonderful forever home for Sunny!*

Euthanasia: A Hard Choice, but Sometimes No Alternative

We hate it when we have to help our beloved pets go to the Bridge. There are companies that will come to your home to do the euthanasia. The advantage is that even if it's a stranger performing the service, it's being done in a place familiar to your pet. When you need such a service, you might try one of the following:

Angel Veterinary Services www.angelvet.com 602-819-0655
Happy Endings happyendings euthanasia.com 480-225-3939
A Peaceful Farewell www.apeacefulfarewell.com
 480-760-5896

Last Loving Moment www.pethomeeuthanasia.com
 602-321-4022

Pet Animal Lovers Service www.ourpals.com
 offers cremation choices and unique memorial products
 602-455-6677

PLEASE HELP AGR PAY FOR THE MEDICAL EXPENSES OF NEW INTAKES BY ATTENDING THE FOLLOWING FUNDRAISER...



Chopsticks with the Dogs

Arizona Golden Rescue will be enjoying a fun day out at P.F. Chang's. They will even be offering some special drinks in honor of our Golden Retrievers!

Please be sure to mention Arizona Golden Rescue or present flyer when ordering!

There is an outdoor patio area where you can sit with your dogs and enjoy Chinese Cuisine with family and friends. 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, Advent tree calendars for your dogs and much more!

When you order from the regular menu... Arizona Golden Rescue receives 10 % of the proceeds from food & beverage sales, excluding bar.

P.F. CHANG'S

2420 W Happy Valley Rd, Phoenix 85085

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



EXTRA, EXTRA – FREE FOOD!

The first 25 **AGR** members who come to eat at **P. F. Chang's**, 2420 W Happy Valley Road, Phoenix, on November 22 between 2 PM and 7 PM will get a gift card for a free appetizer with purchase of an entrée. The renowned Lettuce Wraps, normally \$16.95, can be yours for free!

OVER THE RAINBOW

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



12-028 Dakota Nagel

14-004 Brinkley Irish



15-047 Emma Gutekunst

16-048 Rainey Dufrene



17-010 Casey Williams

19-039 Toby Hester



19-040 Duke Hester

19-071 Sophie Finch



22-073 Layla Halpert

Mowgli Hansen



Paris Hansen

Elly Padavano



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.



Rosie Ronstadt

Callan Wehry-Hill



And...

David Engelhardt and Jackie Engelhardt
Former AGR Members/Adopters

Labelle (Cricket) Forstrom
Former AGR Member/Adopter and
Beloved Mother of AGR Member Shelly Forstrom

Wayne Reed
Beloved father of AGR Member Cindy Tigges

Neal Tigges
Beloved father of AGR Member Gary Tigges

HERE and THERE

Events from August 4, 2025 through October 12, 2025



Pet Supplies Plus Moon Valley

By Denise Padavano



Clockwise from left:
Rand with Trixie, Jean with Belle,
Liz with TK, Dean with Sugar and
Denise with Winnie

A small group of **AGR** members did a Meet-and-Greet at the **Pet Supplies Plus** in Moon Valley, 245 E Bell Road, Suite 16 on August 30th from 11 AM – 2 PM. We met in the Community Room and set up our literature for the public to peruse. Rand Drake came with **Trixie**; Jean Klink helped with set up and handled different dogs throughout the day; Connie



Connie and Jean
with Belle, who is
still available for
adoption



Joni and Dean
with Sugar

McCabe brought **Belle** who is currently available for adoption; Dean Mortimore brought **Sugar**; Denise Padavano came with **Winnie**; and Liz Tataseo came with **TK**. Joni Cipollone stopped by to drop off some medications to Liz and stayed to visit for a while. Since people weren't coming into the Community Room, we decided to venture out into the store to meet the customers. We were greeted by many friendly shoppers who stopped to pet the dogs and listen to what our organization had to offer. We received one completed application from the event from a couple who specifically came because they knew we would be at the store. The dogs wore donation vests, and we collected **\$81** for our time.



TK

AGR members had time to visit with each other and enjoy sharing our story with the public. Silvia Ciarlo, event coordinator, and Julio, another store team member, were glad to have our group at their store. **AGR** is planning to participate in future events at our convenience. Please regularly check our website calendar of events for new dates and time.



Rand with Trixie

Celebrate Fine Art, Wine and Tasty Tidbits

By Denise Padavano



Behind every one of our fundraisers are Denise, our Director of Activities, and her assistant Jeanne; here they are with Jon, the host for the wine tasting event

We had a wonderful celebration of **AGR** members, friends and family for our *Fine Art, Wine and Tasty Tidbits* event that took place at the **Pavilion Fine Arts Gallery** in Scottsdale on Sunday, September 21, 2025! Providing us once again with the lovely venue were owners Jon Wendell and his wife Alicia Furner.

The wine event could not have happened without countless hours and hard work from our many amazing volunteers! Solicitating gift cards and items for the silent auction were Teddi Axne (who lives in Sedona), Emilie Duncan and Jim Cogan, Jean Klink, Rebecca Mackerman, Kati Montgomery, Penny Mavroudis, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Lauren Rudin, and Jeanne Wegener.



Jim and Emilie spent many hours
beating the streets of Scottsdale
asking for donations



Deb, Denise and Jeanne also procured the wine and dessert donations.

Assembling our elegant silent

auction baskets and creating the beautiful bows were Carolyn Brown and Deb Orwig. Deb produced the wine glass-shaped descriptive labels for the baskets, as well as bid sheets for the silent auction items. Thank you, Deb, for having the patience to cut out all those wine glass shapes! You are a trooper!

Connie McCabe designed the outstanding graphic signage for the item displays and patiently captured the day's



Wine glass label describing the
gorgeous necklace and earrings
created by Louise Carter; each
silent auction item had a
descriptive label like this



Connie's most impressive graphic creation was the large 3-fold sign for our very popular *Eat Out at Least Once A Month For A Year* – this item included \$100 gift cards for many restaurants; some of the gift cards (*Synergy*, especially) could be used in more than one place, making them very useful! After a bidding war, it sold for its full value of \$1,250!



Elegant *Aridus* wine tasting room at 7173 E Main Street in Old Town Scottsdale



Arizona Stronghold tasting room is located at 4225 N Marshall Way in Old Town Scottsdale



LDV Tasting room is located at 7134 E. Stetson Drive; #B110 (south of Camelback Rd, west of Scottsdale Rd at SouthBridge)

activities by taking memorable photographs. As last year, we had a delightful power point presentation of past *AGR*-rescued dogs that was created by Connie!

Denise Padavano and Jeanne Wegener picked up all the donated wine from the different wineries, while tasting a few wines along their travels! After all, we had to make sure they were worthy of serving at the event! Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano,

and Jeanne Wegener shopped for all the food items, with Deb picking up all the desserts on the day before the event from *Butta Cakes*, *Crumbl Cookies*, *Dawn's New York Bakery*, and, new this year, *Suss Pastries*. Nick Pappas, who makes the best baklava anyone's ever tasted, delivered his donation to Deb's house.

Gathering Saturday afternoon at the Orwigs' house to load vehicles with equipment and silent auction items were Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Fred Prose, Jeanne Wegener, Mark Wengraf, and Garrett and Julie Wheadon. Staying to help prepare the food for the event were: Jean Klink, Rachel Manley, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Fred Prose, and Jeanne Wegener. Deb had graciously prepared her kitchen with cutting boards, knives, and containers for us to work efficiently! Thank you, Deb!

Returning Sunday morning to pack the vehicles with perishable items, ice and the wine included Patrick Doyle, Larry and Deb Orwig, Fred Prose, Jeanne Wegener, and Garrett and Julie Wheadon.

Jon Wendell was waiting with open doors for the set-up crew at 11 AM to get started! People went right to work unloading cars, setting up tables for check-in and auction items, arranging the graphics and items for auction, displaying the variety of available wines,



The LDV logo is used on the labels of all their bottles; it says, "earth's fruit comes full circle" – they generously donated 12 white and 12 red wines

preparing the tasty appetizers and presenting the trays of delicious desserts. Volunteers included, Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Daisy Barsetti-Nerland, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Diane Taylor, Blake Wach, Stephanie Watkins, Jeanne Wegener, Mark Wengraf, Garrett and Julie Wheadon, Bruce and Claire

White, and Jeannine Ziomek.

Managing the check-in and wine cork raffle sales throughout the day were Debbie Ball, Jane Lowery, Deb Orwig, and Tera De Los Reyes, with Debbie Ball and Deb Orwig completing the day with checkout of silent auction winners.



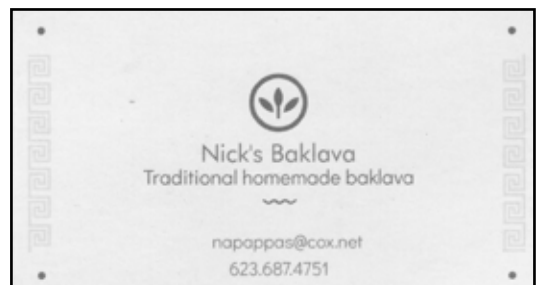
20801 N Scottsdale Rd, Ste 107, Scottsdale

"Raising a glass to our Goldens" were wine pourers Jim Cogan, Emilie Duncan, Robin Mish, Trishia Murphy and Marlene Mortimore. Thank you to our outstanding servers! The variety of wines served were all donated by the following: *Aridus Wine Company*, *Arizona Stronghold Winery*, *LDV Winery* and Deb and Larry Orwig.

Tracy and Gary Buffington, Andrea Decker, Dean Mortimore, and Liz Ta-



111 E Dunlap Ave #13, Phoenix, AZ



From October through April, Nick sells his baklava every Sunday from 9 AM to 1 PM at the Farmer's Market on High Street, SW corner of 56th St and Deer Valley Rd, Scottsdale



5341 N 7th Ave, Phoenix

taseo monitored the food, adding more appetizers and delicious sweets as needed. Unlike last year when we offered only sweet dessert items, this year we had ingredients for attendees to make their own charcuterie cups – and we had champagne-style cups, too!



Our check-in table with the cork raffle was located just inside the Gallery's front door, right in front of a stunning full-color photo of the Superstition Mountains taken by Jon Wendell

People could choose any or all of the following: several kinds of crackers including some gluten-free crisps; four kinds of meats including *Boar's Head* ham and turkey, *Gallo* salami and fresh shrimp; several varieties of cheese including *Trader Joe's Unexpected Cheddar* and *Smoked Gouda*, and from *Costco* six types of cheese already cut into cracker-size pieces. We also offered an array of fresh fruit including blueberries, raspberries, strawberries, sprigs of red and green grapes, and cantaloupe and honeydew melons cut into bite-size pieces. We had gift cards from *Trader Joe's* and *Fry's Grocery*, and Deb bought the salami from *Winco* and the *Costco* cheese.

Delicious mini cakes were provided by *Butta Cakes* (donated by Kirsten Testa and Lauren Saccuci). An array of cookies and pastries was donated by *Dawn's NY Bakery*. Gluten-free desserts were purchased



Rachel, Fred and Jean, along with Deb, Denise, Jeanne, and Trishia, spent several hours making meat rolls and cutting up melons



The attractive arrangement of foods on the charcuterie table was very inviting

with gift cards from *Sprouts*, and Trishia Murphy made her yummy gluten-free chocolate cake. Nick Pappas provided us with his mouthwatering baklava. An assortment of tasty pastries came from *Suss Bakery*; and *Crumbly* cookies and *See's Candies* were donated by Deb Orwig. Thank you, volunteers, for keeping us well-supplied with all of the tasty tidbits!

Monitoring the silent auction items during the event were Mary Jo Barsetti, Kathy Flick, Darlene Kaminski, and Dave Nerland. At



3:30 when the silent auction closed, Kathy Flick and Darlene Kaminski handled the forms for check-out.

"Raising a glass to our Golden's" were 61 people who attended the event! People eagerly started arriving early at the event before we were ready! A total of 65 people pre-registered, with three more paying at the event. Three people who pre-paid were unable to at-



Set-up Crew: Denise, Trishia, Jeannine, Stephanie, Deb, Rand, Liz, Diane, Jeanne, Patrick and Mark



Trishia, Robin and Stephanie were our sommeliers for the day



Marlene, who helped serve the wine, and Dean, who comes to almost every activity hosted by AGR; Marlene won one of the in-home wine tastings and *The Spice & Tea Exchange* basket

Julie Wheadon for staying and helping with this important task!

went quickly with many people volunteering to help! Thank you to Jim Cogan, Patrick Doyle, Emilie Duncan, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Diane Taylor, Jeanne Wegener, Mark and Karen Wengraf, and Garrett and



Always willing to help in whatever way she can, Jean loaded up her truck at the Orwigs', drove it home, then to the Gallery the next day, helped unload and set up, then went home to Surprise to be with her dog for a while, came back to help pack up, and drove to the Orwigs' house to unload. Thank you, Jean!

tend because their baby-sitter cancelled at the last minute, and another individual was sick, so their registration fees became donations.

Clean-up and packing



Garrett and Julie had planned to help set up, go home to Glendale to let their dogs out, and then come back for the event. Fortunately, they were able to stop by Deb's house and pick up the Silent Auction Bid Sheets and the credit card machine she had accidentally left at home. Garrett said he had never driven the 101 as fast as he did that day! So, we did get started a little past 1 PM, but a lot of people helped distribute the bid sheets so the bidding could begin!

basket of **Texas Roadhouse** goodies, which was won by Jeannine Ziomek! Congratulations ladies!



Denise with her brother Jim and his wife Susan who won the second cork raffle prize; Jim took home the **Ryobi One+** creeper

Paradise Valley paired with a \$200 **Morton's Steakhouse** gift card. The **Desert Botanical Garden** provided a 1-year Friends-and-Family Membership. Another item was a gorgeous **Sterling Silver and Turquoise Necklace and Earrings** set handcrafted by Louise Carter. Also included were a **Photoshoot** by our own talented **AGR** member Connie McCabe; **Eat Out At Least Once A Month For A Year** with restaurant gift cards totaling \$1,250; **Enjoy Beautiful Sedona** with golf at the **Oak Creek Country Club**, coffee from **Oak Creek Espresso** and dinner at a **Dahl** restaurant (there are five different ones in Sedona); a wine dual-temperature refrigerator; **ASU Gammage** tickets to the play **Suffs** accompanied by tick-



Jewelry artist Louise and husband John

Returning to the Orwigs' to unload equipment and food from vehicles were, Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Deb Orwig, Jeanne Wegener, Mark Wengraf, and Garrett and Julie Wheadon.

We had three fun raffle items for our "Wine Cork" prizes. The 1st and 2nd drawn prizes were a **Texas Roadhouse** Bucket with rib rub and steak sauce, gift card for a free appetizer and dinner-for-two gift card. Tracy Buffington and Susan Padavano won these two! The 3rd-draw prize consisted of a wine tasting for 8 people at **Carlson Creek Winery** in Scottsdale or at their vineyard in Willcox, along with a



Tracy and Gary – Tracy won the first cork raffle prize

Our wonderful silent auction consisted of 22 items and included hotel accommodations at **The Hermosa Inn** in Paradise Valley paired with a \$200 **Morton's Steakhouse** gift card. The **Desert Botanical Garden** provided a 1-year Friends-and-Family Membership. Another item was a gorgeous **Sterling Silver and Turquoise Necklace and Earrings** set handcrafted by Louise Carter. Also included were a **Photoshoot** by our own talented **AGR** member Connie McCabe; **Eat Out At Least Once A Month For A Year** with restaurant gift cards totaling \$1,250; **Enjoy Beautiful Sedona** with golf at the **Oak Creek Country Club**, coffee from **Oak**

Quite a few **AGR** members brought family or friends to our wine-tasting event. We are sorry we did not get photos of everyone who came.

ets to show of choice during 2025-26 at **Arizona Theatre Company**; a large memory foam orthopedic dog bed with accessories; and a **Kneader's** basket of goodies. We also offered a package with cigars from Nicaragua and a bottle of premium **ABK6 Cognac**. In addition, we had a beautiful handcrafted wood-inlay cutting board with a Lazy Susan that included filled salt mill, pepper mill, salt pig (with Himalayan pink salt), and carafes



Steve and Jeannine, recent adopters of one of **AGR**'s beautiful pairs; Jeannine won the grand prize cork drawing; we hope their dogs didn't squabble over which one was going to use the orthopedic dog bed and who would get the toys and treats Steve brought home from his silent auction win



A sizeable family group: Jenny, Danny, Daisy, Blake, Mary Jo and Dave; they went home with the **Sentry** safe and the dual-temperature wine cooler

for olive oil and balsamic vinegar. From **The Home Depot** we had an extra-large **Sentry** home safe and a **Ryobi One+** dual-function creeper/seat with battery charger. Other appliance-type items offered were a **Roborock** robot vacuum and a **NuWave Bravo Pro Smart Oven & Air Fryer**. From



Andrea won the beautiful wood-inlay cutting board



Jocelyn won the robot vacuum and **A Day In Scottsdale**, and her friend Carol took home the Cigars-and-Cognac combo

businesses in Scottsdale, we featured **A Day in Scottsdale** with gift cards to **Smooze** for breakfast, **Rehab Burger Therapy** for lunch, **Poisoned Pen Bookstore**, **Rydables** for an historic tour of Old Town, and **Sugar Bowl Restaurant** for dinner. To round out our silent auction items, we had a box of goodies from **The Spice & Tea Exchange** in Scottsdale; a collection of international wines with a gift certificate for an in-home wine tasting experience from **Wines for Humanity**; another in-home wine tasting from **PRP Wine International**; movie tickets from **AMC**, **Harkins**, and **Roadhouse Cinemas**; and for home entertainment: **Party Time**, **Mexican Style** with margarita mix, **Triple Sec**, **Jose Cuervo Te-**



Kelley and Karey will have quite a party with all the items they won in the Mexican Party Basket

quila and several salsas, hot sauce, dip mixes and chips.

Our big silent auction item winners were Mary and Bert Engstrom who won the *Eat Out Once A Month* and four other silent auction items. Thank you to all who participated, and cheers to all the winners!



Mary and Bert won five silent auction items, several of which they intend to give as Christmas presents to family members; they will also have a wonderful time going out to eat once a month for a year! Mary said, *The silent auction is a great place to shop, and it helps the dogs, too!*

Expenses for the *Fine Art, Wine & Tasty Tidbits* event were minimal. The wine was all donated and the edibles were donated or purchased with gift cards. Silent auction items and the cork raffle



Chris and Matt, new members in July, are flanked by their friends Eileen and Tony

prize were all donated. Owners Jon Wendell and Alicia Furner donated the facility for the event!

Income for the event totaled \$9,289.00, which included \$1,628.00 from the event registration fees, \$710.00 from cork sales, \$557.00 from donations, and \$6,285 from si-



Teresa and Jennifer were hoping to see their co-worker AGR member Rebecca, but Rebecca was unable to attend; instead they made a new friend in Joanne, who was the very first to register for the event back in early July

FUNraiser! A special thank you to all the new volunteers who joined us for the first time and to those incredible and dedicated long-term volunteers who keep coming back to help make our events successful! You are



Beth and Jon; Beth tried to win the *Eat Out Once A Month* item but she was outbid at the last minute by Mary; Beth and Jon will be helping with the golf tournament on May 1, 2026

all amazing people and very much appreciated!

A heartfelt thank you to Jon Wendell and Alicia Furner for invit-



Janet came with AGR member Jane

ing **AGR** to hold our event at their art gallery! This was a bittersweet celebration, as we found out that Jon and Alicia will not be renewing their lease of the gallery. We will miss you! Best wishes to both of them on their new adventure!



Patrick and Cindy



Rachel

VEG Cares 5K Run/Walk

By Deb Orwig

AGR was invited to participate in the **Veterinary Emergency Group's VEG Cares 5K Run/Walk**, which was scheduled for Sunday, October 12 at Papago Park in Phoenix. Registration was to begin at 8 AM, with the Run/Walk starting at 10 AM. Denise and Jeanne were both unavailable on that date, so I offered to chair the event and find some volunteers to help – I got plenty of offers (thank you to all). The weather all week had been unsettled, with showers on and off. The day before the event, I listened to the TV Channel 15 Weather Report and heard that a storm was on its way, so I cancelled our participation. We were going to set up a tent and table at 7:30 AM with literature and give-aways, but by 6:30 AM when I would have left my house, it was pouring rain, and the rain continued through the morning. Apparently, about 50 people who had preregistered did show up to run or walk and some brought their dogs. I'm glad we didn't go! We did help, though, by donating bag clips for the **VEG** goodie bags that all participants received. We will set up a booth next year, as long as it's not supposed to rain! All proceeds from the event went directly to **VEG Cares**, a fund that helps provide life-saving veterinary care for pets in need, including those from families facing financial hardship, displaced animals, and police, service, and fire animals.



Jane helped Tera check in; Tera played in our Pickleball Tournament in August and had such a good time, she wanted to attend another AGR event



VEG Cares

It is possible to support this very worthy cause at any time. You can make a donation by going to <https://www.veg.com/veg-cares> or use this QR Code.

Our Participating Veterinarians

To see a dog free of pain and able to walk without struggling, to know that a Golden has been saved from a life-threatening disease, we give thanks to all of the veterinarians and their staffs with whom we work for giving one more dog a chance at a long, healthy life in its forever home.

One of the most important aspects of rescuing Golden Retrievers is the health care that **AGR** provides for all of the dogs when they first come into Rescue. **AGR** wants to ensure that all our rescued dogs go to their new homes healthy and happy. We are fortunate to have established partnerships with several wonderful veterinarians and veterinary hospitals throughout the Valley and state. The following groups have all agreed to work with **AGR** and provide reduced fees for our vet work: **Academy West Animal Hospital Boarding & Grooming** in Glendale, **Crosswinds Animal Clinic** in Gilbert, **Four-Legged Friends Animal Hospital** in Phoenix, **Kennel Care Veterinary Clinic** in Chandler, **Phoenix Mountain Animal Hospital in Scottsdale**, and **Stetson Hills Animal Hospital** in north Glendale. We also have cooperative arrangements with numerous out-of-the-Valley veterinarians, as well as with specialty vets such as for Cardiology, Dental Care, Dermatology, Eye Care, Neurology, Oncology, and Orthopedics. We sincerely appreciate the discounts these practices give us, as they help us help more dogs in need.

When a dog comes into Rescue, our standard procedures for health care involve the following:

- Physical exam
- DHPP vaccine, unless the dog is up to date
- Leptospirosis vaccine, unless the dog is up to date
- Canine influenza vaccine, unless the dog is up to date
- Bordetella vaccine, unless the dog is up to date
- Rabies vaccine, unless the dog is up to date
- Heartworm test, completed for every dog over 6 months of age
- Valley fever test, completed for every dog over 6 months of age
- Microchip the dog with an **AGR** AVID microchip if the dog does not have a chip
- Fecal exam if the dog has been a stray, or if recommended
- Ear infections or minor injuries are treated

- Spay or neuter the dog, if not already done
- If the dog is ill or needs surgery, once an estimate is approved, treatment is provided.

Our Health Care Team members work closely with our vets to ensure that all the standard procedures are completed and follow-up care is done. Over the last 16 years, our vets have treated allergies, atresia ani (look it up!), bloat, broken bones, bullet wounds, cancer, cherry eye, serious dental problems requiring extractions, ear hematomas, ectopic ureters, entropion, hip replacements, ingestion of foreign objects, ligament damage, liver shunts, Patent Ductus Arteriosus (PDA), seizures, spinal damage, internal and external parasites, distemper, parvo, tick fever, valley fever and heartworm disease, among other illnesses or conditions.

Academy West Animal Hospital Boarding & Grooming

6231 W Bell Road, Glendale, AZ 85308
602-938-8650

Crosswinds Animal Clinic

67 S Higley Road, Gilbert, AZ 85296
480-497-6617

Four-Legged Friends Animal Hospital

3131 E Thunderbird Road Ste 59, Phoenix, AZ 85032
602-787-0015

Kennel Care Veterinary Clinic

5277 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

We are fortunate to work with these outstanding vets and their staffs who give our dogs such love and care. As more dogs get adopted all over the Valley and state, all of our participating vets will be ready to provide care for our Golden Retrievers when they come in, whether it is only the standard care needed or for specialized treatment. Even with the generous discounts given by our vets, every year several of the surgeries and treatments have cost **AGR** thousands of dollars. All the fundraising events staffed by our volunteers and donations made by members allow **AGR** to ensure that all of our rescued dogs are in the best health possible.

If you need a vet for standard treatment, we urge you to use one of our participating vets. You will not get the discounted fees we get, but you will get excellent service and care. For specialized treatment or for an emergency, contact us for a recommendation.

Come give us another 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.

Miley is a 2-year-old spayed Goldendoodle. She was surrendered because her owner separated from her husband and now has to care for two young children and 3 dogs.

Miley has the poodle coat and reportedly does not shed. She is playful, goofy, loving and high energy and would benefit from a yard to run in. She initially feared going outside on the leash, but is improving about that. She is scared when she first meets new people and may submissively pee. She lived with two small dogs and might enjoy a playmate who also has energy to burn. She is now up to date on all her vaccinations.



Looking for a Florence Nightingale!



Zazzy is an 18-month-old Golden Retriever/Great Pyrenees mix. Although he was born with knee mobility issues, he is not paralyzed and is quite ambulatory – he hops like a bunny when moving slowly, and can move quickly in a gallop. He has seen a specialist and it is likely that he can be corrected surgically, pending CT confirmation.

The surgeries would require a three-

month recovery for each knee. AGR will pay for the surgeries, can supply a pen for his recovery and help with transportation if needed. He likes belly rubs and petting in general – he's very affectionate in return. He is afraid of unfamiliar things – his "safe place" is a large crate or an x-pen. Can you help us help Zazzy? Even if you are not interested in adopting, please consider fostering him.

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



A stunning photo by Connie of handsome **24-046 Mickey**, adopted by Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson, graces the cover of our fabu-

lous 2026 calendar of rescued dogs. Calendars are the same price as last year: \$12 each, plus \$3.50 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(s) needed to be rescued. All the blank boxes you see on the text page of any other calendar are filled with photos of more of our 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 it 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 one calendar for free.

Order yours today with the form available on our website or included in this newsletter.

2026 Calendar Sponsorships

We received quite a few sponsorships after the August issue went to press. Here is the entire list of sponsors. Thank you, all!

Teddi and Delwin Axne (2)	Anne and Jack McGill (2)
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Amy Maynard	Connie and Marshall Wozniak
Connie McCabe and	Cynthia Wenström and
Nick Dodson	Mike Lane (2)



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 August 5, 2025 through October 26, 2025 donations that were made after October 26th 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	Joyce and Ron Moser
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Deb and Larry Orwig

Honor

In Honor of Casey, Lucy and Natasha
Cindy and Gary Tigges

In Honor of all our hard-working time-sacrificing BOD,
Team Managers, and volunteers
Debbie Ball

Memorial Donations

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

AGR Dogs:

12-028 Dakota Nagel
14-004 Brinkley Irish
15-047 Emma Gutekunst
16-048 Rainey Dufrene
17-010 Casey Williams
19-039 Toby Hester
19-040 Duke Hester
19-071 Sophie Finch
22-073 Layla Halpert

Non-AGR Animals:

Mowgli Hansen – cat
Paris Hansen – cat
Elly Padavano – cat
Rosie Ronstadt – Golden
Callan Wehry-Hill – dog

People:

David Engelhardt
Jackie Engelhardt
Labelle (Cricket) Forstrom
Wayne Reed
Neal Tigges

Debbie Ball
Teri and Jeff Guilbault
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson

Deb and Larry Orwig
Liz Tataseo

In Loving Memory of 15-047 Emma
Anne and Richard Gutekunst

In Loving Memory of 22-073 Layla Halpert
Deb and Larry Orwig

In Loving Memory of Wayne Reed, beloved father of Cindy Tigges
Debbie Ball
Deb and Larry Orwig

In Loving Memory of Callan Wehry-Hill
Debbie Ball

In Loving Memory of Rosie, our Dachshund, who was AGR
13-098 Misty's little sister
Sharon and Carlos Ronstadt

In Loving Memory of Jackie and Dave Engelhardt
Deb and Larry Orwig

In Loving Memory of Cricket Forstrom

Deborah Mayer
 Deb and Larry Orwig
 Christy Wotruba

In Loving Memory of Pat McKee and in honor of her Golden, Koa

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In Loving Memory of Cheryl Conner Staley and

Nancy Elaine Bass Jenkins, sisters of Carol Thompson
 Carol and Don Thompson

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Phoenix Animal Care Coalition (PACC911)

Special Thanks

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

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

Memberships - Third Quarter 2025

45 families purchased or renewed a Single or Household
 Membership during Third Quarter 2025

*Memberships - Third Quarter 2025
 New or Continuing Advanced-Level Supporters***COPPER (\$60)**

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Betsy and Fred Brown
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 Joni Cipollone and Woody Scoutten
 Mary and Bert Engstrom
 Linda Hester
 Julie and Garrett Wheadon

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 Connie McCabe for photo magic
 Cindy and Gary Tigges*



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*Rescue is not about finding perfect dogs to adopt.
Rescue is about helping loving dogs in need.*