Reaching out to you with...

The Golden Paw

Volume XVIII Number 1 February 2026
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Masthead photo of **25-070 Charlie** by Connie McCabe
Cover design by Connie McCabe

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GRILLMASTER NEEDED!

For the last 16 years, Jeff Guilbault has served as the grillmaster at our annual *Paws At The Park* event in March (this year on Sunday, March 8, 2026). Jeff has now retired from that position, so we need someone else to do the charcoal-grilling of hamburgers and hot dogs. *AGR* will provide charcoal, lighter fluid, cooking utensils, meats, cheese, and buns. All you will have to do is flip burgers and turn hot dogs.

You will need to arrive at the West Ramada in Scottsdale's Eldorado Park at 10 AM, set up the grill and do the grilling until 1 PM, then clean the grill.

If you are an experienced charcoal-griller, please volunteer for this job. Contact agrgoldenevents@gmail.com if you are willing to cook for us.

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

Wags and Woofs

By Deb Orwig, President

dorwigaz@cox.net

2025 Holiday Season

In three words: It was GREAT! I want to thank all of you who sent cards and holiday wishes, often enclosing end-of-year donations, all very much appreciated.

From end of October through December, we were very busy with several fundraisers: *Dine Out With The Dogs*, *Chopsticks With The Dogs*, *Christmas Wish Trees* at ***P. F. Chang's***, *Giving Tuesday*, ***Phoenix Legacy Foundation's*** *Holiday Adopt-a-thon* at ***Sam's Club***, *Gift Wrapping* at ***Floor & Decor Prasada***, *Photos with Santa* at ***O.H.S.O Prasada***, and the *Matching Funds Challenge*. We did well with all of them. The *Matching Funds Challenge* issued by Jeannette and David Morrocco (thank you so much!) was especially lucrative: **$23,453**! This money ensures that **25-060 Zazzy** will get his legs fixed (read **Zazzy's** story on page 10). Thank you all so much for your support!

Sharon Flores

Over many years, Sharon has done a lot for ***Arizona Golden Rescue***. She asserts that Rescue saved her from falling into a pit of depression after she lost her daughter-in-law, her husband and her mother within a short time, but she is one who has saved Rescue in many ways.

She adopted a dog from us: **13-044 Honey**. She brought **Honey** to numerous events, met some of our more active members and decided she wanted to get more involved. In 2018, she offered to answer the ***AGR*** telephone, which we call the WAGSline (623-566-WAGS), and has been doing that seven days a week ever since – we have gotten countless positive comments about our phone being answered by a person!

After **Honey** passed away, Sharon started fostering and accumulated a total of 27 different dogs; some stayed with her for just days, others for months. Many were medically needy – several had parvo (all survived); one had a weird kind of Giardia that required special meds; one had to have two surgeries and some rare medication that had to be given on a strict schedule; one had heartworm and disseminated valley fever and was sick for months; recently she fostered **24-045 Spam** from puppy to adulthood – she needed a special kind of surgery (liver shunt) and stayed with Sharon for almost a year.

In 2019, Sharon took a break from fostering for three years. She adopted a bonded pair of 12-year-old dogs, **19-081 Riley** and **19-082 Cassie**, when their adoptive owner died suddenly; she kept them going until they were over 15. She joined the Intake Team and, eventually, became Co-Manager with Judy Petitto. She worked closely with Debbie Ball to get the Intake section of the *Policies & Procedures Manual* in order. She has done much database work; she has helped check up on approved adopters who have not had a dog placed with them in a year to determine if they still want to be on our waiting list. She has also done many home evaluations remotely by Facetime, and has done transports, as well. I cannot sing enough praises of Sharon and all she has done for ***AGR***!

Now getting older, she has moved to Montana to be closer to her daughter and son-in-law, who have lived there for years. We may be losing her physical presence, but we are not losing her as an active volunteer! She says she will continue to do everything she was doing by phone, text and email, except that she will not be able to foster, as it would be a bit far for Transport to take a dog!

Our sincere thanks to Sharon Flores for her service to ***AGR*** for 13 years and for continuing to support us in whatever way she can for as long as she can.

About Volunteering

Use what talents you possess: The woods would be very silent if no birds sang there except those that sang best ~ Henry van Dyke

Our Director of Activities, Denise Padavano, does a great job soliciting volunteers to help at events. Although we could use more without Denise having to work so hard to encourage participation, it is not just those one-time or even multiple-times volunteers that we could use. It is what I call "core volunteers": those members who do day-to-day or weekly jobs that oil the Rescue wheel.

When you look at all that our Board, Team Managers and Team volunteers accomplish, you may think, "Oh, I could never do any of those jobs." You're probably wrong. We all started out knowing little about the job we offered to do. Over time, both the job and the individual doing it have evolved and become better.

We have a terrific mentoring system, and Debbie Ball has compiled an excellent *Policies & Procedures Manual* with details about any job you might consider doing. The *Manual* is always a work in progress and updated as needed; any procedures you might need to use are written in an easy-to-follow, step-by-step outline form. You'll never be expected to know everything there is to know about a job right from the get-go. We will train you!

We need a member with some accounting background to work with our Organization Accountant, Cindy Tigges, to learn the ins and outs of our Quickbooks system. It would be wonderful if the

person is already familiar with Quickbooks. In Cindy's words: *What I would like is for someone to review my notes with me on the accounting process for* **AGR** *to make sure they are accurate and understandable for anyone needing to use QB in the future. That would mean a trip to my house and to sit with me and follow my notes, while I show-and-tell my data entry and reconciliations process. One time only gig.*

Other calls that need to be made are to adopters whom we have not heard from since adoption was finalized, especially to those who adopted more than a few years ago, to ask if the dog they adopted is still with them and how she or he is doing.

We need members willing to write thank you letters for donations. You will be given a template, stationery and postage, so the only thing you need to provide is time.

We could always use more home evaluators in all parts of the Valley, especially some with dog-friendly dogs who are willing to take their dog to the home of an applicant who has a resident dog.

If you are willing to commit to volunteering for a few hours a week or a month, please contact me or Debbie Ball or Connie McCabe.

What's Up, DOC?

By Debbie Ball, Director of Operations

debbie.ball@arizonagoldenrescue.org

Part of my duties as Director of Operations is to manage the database to ensure accurate documentation and that our various procedures are being implemented. I thrive on statistics which I have compiled below. Since 2025 is now finished, here is a summary of our rescue dog statistics for the year, plus our Submitted Forms, and some income percentages. All information is as of 12/31/25.

A total of 73 dogs were rescued by ***AGR*** in 2025, which is somewhat fewer than our typical 90-dogs-average based on our previous 10 years of operation.

2025 Intake Dog Statistics:

Gender: 33 male; 40 female

Age: 41 were 2 years old or less
17 were 3-5 years old
10 were 6-8 years old
5 were seniors at 9 years or more

Breed: 42 purebred Goldens
31 Golden mixes (including Doodles, Labrador Retrievers, Great Pyrenees, etc)

Intake: 67 were owner surrenders
4 were strays
2 shelter dogs

Status of 2025 intake dogs as of 12/31/2026:

52 have been adopted and finalized
13 are with FWITA pending adoption
2 were euthanized for medical reasons
3 are available for adoption
2 are with fosters under observation
1 is at veterinary boarding awaiting medical

Statistics for 2025 Submitted Forms:

Adoption Applications: 314 total
Adopted (finalized adoptions): 46
Adopted Elsewhere: 41
Approved and on waiting list: 63
Approved to Foster: 2
Cancelled (applicant advised does not want to pursue): 21
Denied (did not meet our adoption standards): 3
Expired (never paid application fee in over 90 days): 0
Hold (Had home eval & approved; advised want to postpone): 15
Pending (FWITA has a dog awaiting finalization): 12
Requested More Info (conditional approvals): 30
Under Review (app fee not yet paid, less than 90 days old): 28
Waiting Home Visit: 10
Waiting for Landlord approval: 15
Waiting on Applicant (advised they want to postpone BEFORE home eval done): 28
Membership Applications (some new, some renewing): 154
Home Evaluations: 205
Contact Us request forms: 13
Surrender Inquiry forms: 89
Pickleball Registration forms: 31
Wine Tasting Event registrations: 41
TOTAL 2025 Submitted Forms: 852

Categories of largest percentage of 2025 AGR Income:

Donations = 39%
Grants = 15%
Adoption Fees = 14%
Memberships = 10%
Silent Auctions = 5%
Merchandise = 3%
All other = 14%

Specific events with greatest income in 2025:

Matching Funds Challenge = $23K
Wine Tasting Event = $9K
AZ Gives Day = $9K
Paws At The Park Annual Picnic = $7K
Dine Out With The Dogs = $6K
Pickleball Tournament = $6K
Gift Wrapping at Prasada = $5K

Golden Adventures!

By Denise Padavano, Director of Activities
agrgoldenevents@gmail.com

YIPPEE, skippee, Happy New Year! New GOLDEN adventures are in the forecast, maybe new resolutions, too, and hopefully more laughter, joy, and time with family, friends and puppy dogs!

We tend to look at the past and review what we may have accomplished or haven't. ***Arizona Golden Rescue*** has accomplished a lot in the past year! In 2025, rescue took in seventy-three dogs looking for their forever homes!

We also took on some NEW Adventures which included, *BINGO Night for the GOLDENS* which took place in June, and then *Score for the Goldens*, our first Pickleball Tournament, which took place in August. Both events were fun and successful! Plans are being made to have both events again this year.

What new beginnings are we looking forward in this coming year? Plans are in the works by Connie McCabe to have Easter Bunny photos at ***O.H.S.O. Prasada*** in April! We are also planning for a golf tournament in May – we haven't hosted one since 2023. Come join the fun and think about volunteering, as we will need a lot of help for this major fundraising event!

My senior Golden **Daisy's** perception…*life has gotten very interesting and exciting since I moved to my new home in September! I came with my friend **Muffy**, and we now live with 3 more dogs and 2 cats! I have a larger back yard, which I love to explore and to lie in the sun! During the holidays, I got to go on my first field trip with my new mom for gift wrapping. At first, I was a little nervous, but then I saw some people that I knew and had a fun day taking walks, getting lots of pets and collecting money in my donation vest! I can't wait to go to more events, meet more new dogs and people and spend the day with my mom again (the only time I get her to myself)! Come join us so I can meet you, too!*

New beginnings, new adventures, and new memories await all of us in our upcoming events! NOW is the TIME TO PLAN YOUR SPRING GOLDEN ADVENTURES! Be sure to mark your calendars with the following dates!

PARADE!

Parada Del Sol Parade & Trail's End Festival
Old Town Scottsdale
Saturday, January 31, 2026, 9:00AM until 5:00PM

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!

Editor's Note: Denise wrote this section a couple weeks before this issue actually went out in the mail, so the Parada Del Sol/Trail's End event will have already happened before you read this. I hope many of you participated! The summary write-up will be in the May issue.

ADOPTATHON - PACC911 at Anthem
Saturday, February 21, 2026, 10 AM to 3 PM
Location: Anthem Community Park
41703 N Galivan Peak Parkway, Anthem 85086

PACC911 in 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 to 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 17th anniversary! 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! There is a registration fee with a deadline for this event. The flyer/registration form is included with this newsletter and is also available on our website.

PHOENIX LEGACY FOUNDATION
Spring Paws & Play Pet Adoption Event
Saturday, March 21, 2026, 9 AM to 2 PM
at ***Sam's Club***
18501 North 83rd Avenue, Glendale 85308

NEW EVENT!

EASTER BUNNY PICS & PINTS:
PHOTOS WITH THE EASTER BUNNY
Saturday, April 4, 2026, 11 AM until 5 PM
Location: ***O.H.S.O. Brewery***
13448 N Prasada Pkwy, Surprise 85388

Join us with your pets and/or children for *Photos with the Easter Bunny* at ***O.H.S.O.*** at Prasada in Surprise. Capture the excitement in a photograph with the Easter Bunny that you can frame and enjoy the good memories!

PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT
*Score for the Golden*s
Sunday, August 2, 2026 1 PM to 4 PM
Brunch Available for individual purchase: 10 AM to 2 PM
Location: ***Chicken N Pickle***
Westgate Entertainment District
9330 W Hanna Lane, Glendale, 85305
Prizes for 1st and 2nd place
Raffles and Silent Auction Items available
Registration available in May
SPONSORSHIP DETAILS ON PAGE 12

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 in a year. Every hour of a volunteer's time is treasured!

Fore! Paws Golf Tournament

To benefit ***Arizona Golden Rescue***

Golf: 4-Person Scramble • 1:00 PM Shotgun Start
Check in 11:45 AM – 12:45 PM

Delicious Italian Dinner: Caesar Salad; Fresh Fruit Platter;
Pasta with Marinara Sauce and Meatballs;
Chicken Piccata
Cannolis; Fruit Cobbler
Iced Tea and Lemonade
No Host Bar

Prizes: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Teams;
Longest Drive (men and women),
Closest-to-the-Pin (men and women)

Spectacular Silent Auction and Raffle

Individual Entry Fee $175 • Foursome $700
Golf Entry Fee includes range balls, greens fees, cart and dinner
Non-Golfer Dinner Guests $50 (tax & gratuity included)

Must be pre-registered for golf and/or dinner
Deadline for payment: April 15, 2026

Hole Sponsorships $300 (Tee sign provided)
Other Sponsorships available – see page 12
Sponsorships must be paid for by April 1, 2026

Register here:
https://fore-paws-golf-tournament.perfectgolfevent.com/registration

SCAN ME

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.

This quarter I'd like to feature some thoughts from our very important Placement Team – Keri Marchant and Katherine "Kat" Feltmann.

Keri has been serving on the Placement Team since fall 2021 and Team Chairman since summer 2023

Serving on the **AGR** *Placement Team is a position that encompasses both challenges and rewards. Each team member feels compassion for each dog entering our Rescue, recognizing the various circumstances that lead to their arrival. Among other reasons, dogs may come to* **AGR** *due to owners relocating out of state; financial limitations preventing ongoing veterinary care; illnesses such as parvo or other medical concerns; injuries like broken bones; the declining health or passing of an owner.*

Kat joined the Placement Team in summer 2025

Effective communication between Placement and other teams is essential for smooth operations. Placement Team members must be adept at reviewing substantial amounts of information – adoption applications, home evaluations, and database journal entries – to make well-informed recommendations regarding placements. Success in Placement requires strong communication, research abilities, and sound judgment. While applicants may have specific preferences, the Placement Team is responsible for asking critical questions and always prioritizing the welfare of the dogs. Ultimately, we strive to find the best fit for each dog.

Each dog's progress is tracked through "Journal Entries" or notes within our database. We reach out to pre-approved applicants via email, text, or phone, documenting all interactions and responses received, which can include requests to pause applications due to personal schedules, vacations, family changes, or interest in facilitating introductions with existing pets.

There is a constant need for foster families or households throughout the year. When a foster home isn't immediately available, our dogs must stay in kennels at the primary veterinary office, which increases costs for **AGR** *and may affect the dogs' well-being. Opening your home to a dog for even a week or several months benefits the dog's welfare and allows us to learn more about their personality during their stay.*

Recently, I fostered ***Zelda****, a senior Golden Retriever, overnight before her transition to a longer-term foster home. She was a pleasure to care for, and she will soon join an approved applicant who will provide her with a supportive and loving environment. Our foster families always have first option to proceed with adopting (foster with intent to adopt) the dog they foster.*

The Placement Team is not currently looking to add more members, but when you renew your membership, please note if you are interested in joining this Team in the future.

In the meantime, if you have any time to spare... we really need some help on the Fundraising Team to gather donations and sponsorships for our upcoming events – especially the *Fore! Paws Golf Tournament* in May and *Pickleball* in August. Please contact Denise Padavano or Jeanne Wegener at agrgoldenevents@gmail.com if you can help in any way or have any fundraising ideas.

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

Health and Safety

By Julie and Garrett Wheadon
Co-Directors of Health Care
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garrettwheadon@hotmail.com

Oh, No! My Dog Has Diarrhea—What Now?

Diarrhea is one of those things almost every dog owner deals with at some point. Whether you've just brought home a new pup, your longtime companion ate something weird, or your dog picked up a bug or parasite, loose stools happen. Most of the time, it's nothing to panic about, but it's good to know what to watch for and when to take action. Never hesitate to reach out—nobody knows your dog better than you do.

This guide will help you figure out what could be causing your dog's tummy troubles and what you can do to help.

Step 1: Don't Freak Out—It's Super Common

Dogs get diarrhea for all sorts of reasons. Just one loose poop usually isn't a big deal. For now, keep an eye on your pup, clean up after them, and see if it keeps happening.

Step 2: Why Dogs Get Diarrhea

1. Stress or Changes in Routine – Travel, moving, new faces, or even just excitement can upset your dog's stomach.
   What you might notice: You may see softer stools, mild diarrhea, but your dog's energy and appetite are usually normal.
   What you can do: Stick to regular mealtimes, make sure your dog has lots of fresh water, and keep an eye on things for a day or two.

2. Sudden Diet Changes or Food Sensitivities – Switching up food or treats too quickly can throw off your dog's digestion.
   What you might notice: Loose stool after changing food, some gas, or mild belly discomfort.
   What you can do: Switch foods gradually over 5–7 days, don't give table scraps, and offer plain, gentle food if your vet recommends it.

3. Parasites (like Giardia, roundworms, and others) – Dogs that have been in shelters, around lots of other dogs, or outdoors a lot can pick up parasites.
   What you might notice: Watery or recurring diarrhea, weight loss (especially in puppies), and no improvement after basic deworming.
   What you can do: Keep your dog's area clean, wash your hands after picking up poop, and call your vet if diarrhea sticks around for more than two days.

4. Bacterial Infections – Sometimes dogs pick up bacteria like Salmonella, E. coli, or Campylobacter.
   What you might notice: Mucus or jelly-like poop, sometimes blood in the stool, and possibly fever or a sore tummy.
   What you can do: Wash food and water bowls and bedding every day, don't feed raw meat diets, and call your vet if symptoms don't clear up after two days.

5. Parvovirus (Really Serious) – A dangerous virus, especially for puppies and dogs who aren't vaccinated.
   Warning signs: Vomiting, bloody or super-stinky diarrhea, very tired with low energy, refusing food, and getting dehydrated fast.
   What you <u>must</u> do: Get to the vet right away and keep your dog away from other pets to avoid spreading the virus.

Step 3: Quick Guide – What's Going On?

If you notice… It could be… What to do

Mild diarrhea, acting normal otherwise... stress or a food switch... just watch them for 24–48 hours

Watery or keeps coming back... parasites... call the vet if it goes on longer than 2 days

Mucus or jelly-like poop... bacterial or viral infection... contact the vet if it lasts more than 2 days

Vomiting plus bloody diarrhea... PARVO... Get to the vet now!

Step 4: Keep Everything Clean

Wash your hands after picking up poop, clean food and water bowls, crates, and bedding every day, pick up poop right away, keep sick pups away from other pets, and ask your vet which disinfectants to use.

Step 5: When to Call the Vet

Reach out to your veterinarian if diarrhea lasts longer than 48 hours, there's blood in your dog's poop, your dog is throwing up and has diarrhea, your dog seems tired, stops eating, or is dehydrated, or if you're worried or just not sure what to do.

One Last Thing

Diarrhea is common and usually clears up fast. Just pay attention to how your dog's acting, eating, and drinking so you can spot if something's wrong. With a little TLC and some watchful eyes, most dogs are back to their happy selves in no time.

For years, ***AGR*** has recommended the "diarrhea diet" for dogs experiencing loose stools. This diet consists of boiled hamburger (preferably 93% lean with fat skimmed off) and boiled white potatoes, using equal amounts of each. If diarrhea continues, try adding canned pumpkin (not pumpkin pie filling) to your dog's meals. If loose stools persist, it's best to make a vet appointment and have your dog's stool tested.

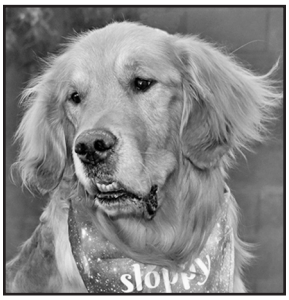
Reporting period: January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

	Income	Expenses
Adoption Application Fees	$ 6,075.00	$
Adoption Income	35,640.50	
Adoption Fee Refunds		950.00
Auction Income	7,345.00	
Calendars		
Calendar Sales	1,319.00	
Calendar Sponsorships	2,520.00	
Donation Income		
General Fund	82,751.70	
Dine Out With The Dogs	4,945.28	
Honorary	20,065.17	
Memorial	9,177.50	
Gift Wrap	3,866.99	
Grants	39,100.00	
Membership Income	26,254.00	
Merchandise Sales	8,414.29	
Pre-paid Shipping	105.24	
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	1,797.00	
Prizes	1,055.00	
Santa Photos	1,476.00	
Prizes	1,240.00	
Cost of Goods Sold		
Calendar Printing		3,276.27
Pickleball Expense		1,947.23
Paws at the Park Picnic Expense		348.58
Purchases – Merchandise		3,542.53
Expenses		
Bank Charge – PayPal Charges		524.38
Credit Card Expense		353.39
Dog-related Expenses		
Behavioral Training		3,525.00
Boarding		36,019.35
Collars, Leashes & Collar Tags		1,096.15
Dog Food – Specialty Rx		1,833.93
Grooming		250.00
Veterinary Services		204,233.43
Event Expense		848.78
Insurance		2,731.06
Internet Services		1,851.76
Legal & Professional Fees		260.00
Office Expenses		3,131.57
Postage		2,590.47
Rent or Lease (storage facility)		4,006.00
Stationery & Printing		5,467.86
Telephone		324.94
Gross Income through 12/31/25	$263,858.91	
Total Expenses through 12/31/25		$269,048.07
Net Operating Income	- $ 5,189.16	
Interest Earned on CDs	$ 7,068.84	

Diamonds in the Ruff

By Debbie Ball
Director of Operations
debbie.ball@arizonagoldenrescue.org

Diamonds in the Ruff are dogs on which ***AGR*** has had to spend at least $2,000. In the fourth quarter of 2025, we had 11 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.



22-007 TK came into Rescue in January 2022 as a 6-year-old male purebred Golden. He had been diagnosed with valley fever in 2021, but his prior owners stopped giving him medication – they said they could no longer afford it. When he was surrendered to ***AGR***, his valley fever titer measured 1:256 (highest possible reading), he weighed only 44 pounds and was so weak he could not stand or walk without assistance. He was adopted by Liz, our former Health Care Director, via our *Gentle Paws Hospice Adoption* program and remained on daily oral anti-fungal meds. In Spring 2024, **TK** was having seizures. A neurology checkup was done revealing that he had extensive meningitis, which was the likely cause of the seizures, along with severe changes to his skull and osteomyelitis in other bones. Most recently, in early December **TK** began having more unusual seizures and acting abnormally. After an emergency visit to ***Thrive Pet*** in Scottsdale, **TK** was found to have a large mass growing on the right side of his neck invading the spinal cord. The vet indicated there was no way to remove the mass in his neck, and said the invasion will eventually give **TK** more physical issues even if the mass was not malignant (turns out it was). His prednisone dosage was increased, and for a few weeks he looked good, was eating and happy. Unfortunately, he passed away on January 17. **TK's** expenses for 4th quarter 2025 were **$7,830**, and total overall expenses for him since early 2022 have been in excess of $47K. Liz has graciously purchased and donated the cost of **TK's** many meds totaling over $2K annually.

25-001 Belle is a 3-year-old female Great Pyrenees/Golden mix that was returned to ***AGR*** in early 2025 when her prior adopter could no longer keep

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The Matching Funds Challenge

By Deb Orwig, ***AGR*** President

To help raise some end-of-the-year donations, on December 7, 2025, David and Jeannette Morrocco contacted me to offer a *Matching Funds Challenge* of $5,000 to ***AGR*** members. Since *Giving Tuesday* had just passed on December 2, I decided to wait until December 15 to issue the *Challenge*; the Morroccos were OK with the delay.

During the next week, it was decided that matching funds raised would go toward paying the medical expenses for getting **25-060 Zazzy's** legs fixed. Here is his predicament: **Zazzy**, an 18-month-old Golden/Great Pyrenees mix, was born with his kneecaps severely dislocated, in fact, they were about 180 degrees offset from where they should be. His knees were bent and protruded forward; his legs appeared to be locked at the knee. He could barely hobble, taking baby steps with one foot at a time; he could hop like a bunny; he could gallop; but he couldn't walk like a normal dog.

Upon the advice of Dr. Brian Petrovsky at ***Arizona Canine Orthopedics & Sports Medicine*** (***ACOSM***) in North Scottsdale, we had CT scans done of **Zazzy's** legs. The scans clearly showed the deformity. After Dr. Petrovsky had had a chance to review the scans, we had a consult with him on December 19 to find out if he felt he could repair the legs; he was confident he could. His plan was to do the weaker right leg first, then do the left leg 3 months later. In the interim between surgeries, **Zazzy** will have about 4 weeks of no-exercise-at-all healing time, then 8-10 weeks, probably twice a week, rehab with a physical therapist. He has been adopted by a family that is committed to his care and rehab. The first surgery will be sometime in February.

Once the *Challenge* was sent out by email and published on the ***AGR*** Facebook site, donations poured in. When the Morroccos read **Zazzy's** story, they were so touched that they raised the *Challenge* by an additional $2,000! Our members and supporters more than met the *Challenge*: donations ranging from $5 to $2,000 came in, and when all was said and done, 85 people had donated **$23,453.50**! **Zazzy** will get his legs fixed; he will have weeks of rehab therapy after each surgery; he will have anything else he needs medically for the rest of 2026! Thank you all, and special thanks to Jeannette and David Morrocco!

The Financial Picture

By Deb Orwig, President

Matching Funds Challenge: $7,000

Issued by Jeannette and David Morrocco

Kim Albrecht
Joanne Allenhenning
Teddi and Delwin Axne
Debbie Ball
Linda and Mike Beard
Stephanie Beard
Maria Bears
Karen Bethune
Kathy Blue
Jeanne and David Borucki
Sharon Briggs
Pattye Brown
Christine Brzycki
Patricia Burbridge
Jeffrey Campbell
Joni Cipollone
Kristie and Andrew Cowan
Robert D Crouse
Andrea Decker
Jill Deluce
Skip Derra
Jerryl and Fred Dogan
Patrick Doyle
Emilie Duncan
Cheryl Duter
Heather and Cameron Engdahl
Elizabeth Farrand
Beverly Farrar-Host
Kellie Feld
Katherine Feltmann
Janet Fiebig
Sharon Flores
Belinda and Pete Galindez
Kay Hale
Liz and Mike Harman
Gail Heiberger
Rebbekka Hirsch
Leslie Hugg
Marti Joyce
Darlene Kaminski
Jean Klink
Grace Kocur
Ann and Tom Korpalski
Raymond and Olivia Lenz
Melissa Lopez
Jane Lowery
Anthony Mace
Sarah Martin
Penny Mavroudis
Janet and Andrew McClurg
Anne and Jack McGill
Beverly Metzel
Pat Morgan
Patti and Tom Morris
Jeannette and David Morrocco
Marlene and Dean Mortimore
Wendy Nelson
Francis O'Halloran
Deb and Larry Orwig
Erin Orwig
Denise Padavano
Susan and Scott Pechersky
Judy Petitto
Jill and Fred Prose
Rosemary Ratzin-Turner and Jim Turner
Jocelyn Raught
Cheryl and James Riga
Jeanine Rogers
Sharon and Carlos Ronstadt
Jennifer Rose
Pamela Spicer
Loretta Stines
Carrie Stoneburner
Fran and Jan Strock
Sun Valley Quilts, Barbara Connoyer, Owner
Lisa Swanson
Sanja and Admir Teteric
Jane Triplett
Julie and John Tyree
Jennifer Walrond
Stephanie and Scott Watkins
Cynthia Wenström
Dori and Dewayne Whittaker
Mike Wilson
Connie and Marshall Wozniak
Steve and Jeannine Ziomek

her. Aside from some basic updated vaccines, parasite testing and a teeth cleaning, the largest expense for **Belle** has been for boarding at one of our local veterinary offices. No one has wanted to adopt this beautiful girl or even foster her, as she is tall and somewhat boisterous, so she could knock over a small child or frail elderly adult. **Belle** is affectionate, gets along well with multiple big dogs, and has been to several recent ***AGR*** events where the public has been eager to meet her. Thankfully, Connie and Nick are currently fostering her while the Placement Team still searches for an adoptive home for sweet **Belle**. Fourth-quarter expenses for **Belle** were **$2,205**, and total 2025 expenses were $6,053, of which $4,406 of that was just for boarding since her return to Rescue.

25-034 Sol is a 2-year-old male purebred Golden Retriever surrendered with his sister, **25-035 Luna**, by their prior owner due to lack of time for them. Both dogs were severely matted, had ingested rocks, and both dogs were found to have shallow hip sockets. **Sol** and **Luna** both had surgery on June 3rd for foreign body removal of the ingested rocks, and both are placed together and lovingly fostered by Dewayne and Dori in Sun City West – they intend to adopt them. In November 2025, **Sol** had a needed ear cleaning and abscess drained along with mass/growth removal surgery on an elbow. After a consult with a cardiologist, it has been determined that **Sol's** heart cannot handle the intended hip surgery. So, in late November a specialized wheelchair was ordered for **Sol** from ***Pet Ortho Braces***, and he has learned to use it well! Expenses in 4th quarter 2025 for **Sol** have amounted to **$3,273**.

25-049 Sadie was rescued in August 2025 as a 10-month-old unspayed female English Cream Golden Retriever puppy whose surrendering owner did not have time for her. After initial vetting, she was placed with Joe and Leigh Ann, who intend to adopt her. In early October, **Sadie** was taken to an emergency vet due to vomiting, likely from something she had ingested. Curiously, it was found that **Sadie's** left kidney was missing and the right one slightly enlarged, but kidney values were good. She was discharged and kept on a bland diet for a few days, with no further episodes of vomiting noted. She had been scheduled to be spayed in October but had to be rescheduled for January due to going into her heat cycle. Fourth-quarter expenses for **Sadie** were **$3,665**; overall expenses will increase with her upcoming spay in early 2026.

25-053 Callie is an 8-year-old female English Cream Golden Retriever who came into Rescue in late July along with **25-051 Dolly**. They were a bonded pair. Their surrendering owner had personal health issues and could no longer care for them. After initial vetting, **Callie** tested positive for valley fever and was started on a regimen of fluconazole. **Callie** and **Dolly** were both kept in veterinary boarding until Kristie and Andrew were identified as willing to foster the pair of girls and intend to adopt them. In mid-December, **Callie** was spayed and also had a mammary mass removed. **Callie's** 4th-quarter expenses amounted to **$2,496**, and total 2025 expenses for her since intake were $3,927.

25-060 Zazzy is a stunning 18-month-old male Golden/Pyrenees mix rescued in mid-October 2025. He was born with knee mobility issues but was not paralyzed and is actually quite ambulatory – he hops like a bunny when moving slowly and can move quickly at a gallop. He was fostered by Deb and Larry, and they got him through his neuter surgery and through various appointments with veterinary specialists, where it was determined that **Zazzy's** knees could be corrected surgically! Each knee will be done separately in 2026 with at least 3 months of healing and recuperation time in between surgeries. **Zazzy** has been moved to another foster couple, Michelle and Steven, who plan to adopt him and are, fortunately, quite familiar with rehabilitating dogs post-surgery. Expenses so far for **Zazzy** have amounted to **$4,418**, which will rise significantly in 2026 with the anticipated $7-8K per knee surgery cost.

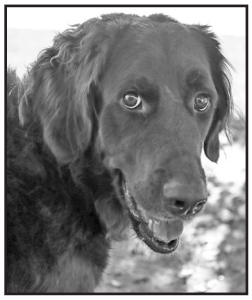
25-061 Sunny is an 11-month-old male purebred Golden Retriever whose surrendering owner no longer had time to exercise him; **Sunny** was crated most of the day. Unfortunately, while in boarding **Sunny** was diagnosed with Giardia and required numerous tests and medications to overcome this infection. **Sunny** has since been adopted by Kim and Mark, has been renamed **Sonny**, and is enjoying his new life with numerous daily walks, cuddling, and obedience training. **Sonny's** expenses in fourth quarter cost ***AGR*** **$2,058**.

25-062 Oro is an estimated 3-year-old male purebred Golden Retriever that was a stray which we rescued from the ***MCACC*** shelter. He was emaciated and had terrible eye secretions resulting from entropion, a condition where the eyelids roll inward causing hair and lashes to rub against the cornea leading to much irrita-

tion. He received his initial vetting and was brought up-to-date on vaccines and bloodwork, plus had a good grooming. In early October he was evaluated by ***EyeCare for Animals*** – they

determined eyelid surgery was necessary. The entropion surgery was done in November and currently **Oro** is MUCH improved! He was fostered and subsequently adopted by Kathy, who fell in love with him and has renamed him **Bogey**. His expenses including the eye surgery cost ***AGR*** **$5,583**.

25-063 Bailey is a 10-year-old male purebred Golden Retriever surrendered because his former owner passed away and the family could not keep him. He received updated vaccinations, bloodwork, and grooming. A long-time ***AGR*** member spoke up for fostering him and hopes to adopt him, as she prefers the senior dogs. In mid-November, **Bailey** required a CT scan to check his thyroid and spleen. Nodules were found, but there were no signs of infection or malignancy. He has also been given some meds for allergy situations. General vet work and the CT scan for **Bailey** have cost ***AGR*** **$3,872** so far.



25-064 Nino is a 2-year-old male Goldendoodle mix who strongly resembles a chocolate-colored Golden. His prior family was moving out of the country and could not take him along. He was already neutered and up-to-date on vaccinations so just required some updated bloodwork. Unfortunately, he tested positive for parvo. He had to remain quarantined in boarding for a few weeks but was able to receive the very effective parvovirus monoclonal antibody treatment. And in mid-December he was transported to Melody and CJ who plan to adopt him! Fourth-quarter expenses for **Nino** amounted to **$3,731**.

25-070 Charlie is a 2-year-old male purebred Golden Retriever surrendered by his prior owner, as they had no time for him with a new baby. He is not yet neutered, but just like **Nino** above, he was up-to-date on vaccinations and needed some updated bloodwork. Also like **Nino**, he unfortunately tested positive for parvo, had to be quarantined in boarding for a few weeks, and was given the parvovirus monoclonal antibody treatment. He has improved and was recently transported to Gina and Ray who plan to adopt him! **Charlie's** expenses in 4th quarter totaled **$3,411**, which will increase when he is neutered in 2026.

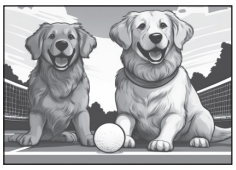
Please help *AGR* treat more special needs dogs like these!

SAVE THESE DATES!

Fore! Paws Golf Tournament
Friday, May 1, 2026 1 PM Shotgun Start

Papago Golf Club
5595 E Karsten Way, Phoenix, AZ 85008
Buffet Dinner Included
Raffles and Silent Auctions Available
See details on page 6 and below

Score! For the Goldens Pickleball Tournament
Sunday, August 2, 2026
1 PM - 4 PM
Chicken N Pickle
9330 W Hanna Lane, Glendale, AZ 85308



SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!

*The following include a full-color 32" x 18" tee sign for Golf **OR** a 41" x 16" banner for Pickleball; for sponsorships of $500 or more, logo will be included on registration site rotating carousel*

GOLDEN GLOW SPONSORSHIP: **$5,000**

ENGLISH CREAM SPONSORSHIP: **$2,500**

FIELD RED SPONSORSHIP: **$1,000**

HOLE SPONSORSHIP PLUS**: $500**

NOTE: $500 will purchase BOTH a Golf Tournament Hole Sponsorship AND a Pickleball Banner Sponsorship

HOLE or BANNER SPONSORSHIP**: $300**
For EITHER a Golf Tournament Hole Sponsorship OR a Pickleball Tournament Banner Sponsorship

GOLDEN MIX SPONSORSHIP: **$100**

PUPPY GOLD SPONSORSHIP: **$25**

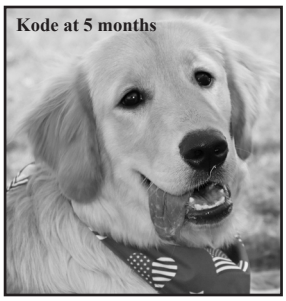
MAGIC MOMENTS

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 Oct 19, 2025 thru Jan 17, 2026. All adoptions finalized after Jan 17th will be in the next issue.*

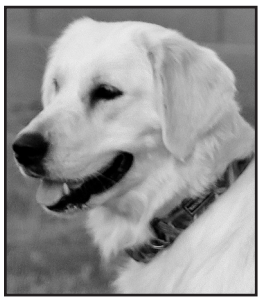
25-023 Max is a 2-year-old male Golden Retriever who is sweet and good-natured. The surrendering owner was unable to continue to care for **Max**. Leslie was there to become **Max's** forever home. Here is what she says about her **Max**: *He is such a calm puppy, considerate of dogs and people. He has four other dog siblings in the house. Even when another dog takes his toy, he lets them – he just gets another one out of the pile. It is as if he is saying "No biggie!"* **Max** takes his treats gently and sleeps on the bed with all the others. He has a calm disposition – Leslie has never heard him growl at anyone or anything. Here are some sweet anecdotes from Leslie: *He does enjoy throwing toys up in the air and always shares them. He is not destructive, but he does chew up magazines, as if he's trying to read them before I do! His favorites are the TV Guides and recipes*! **Max** has mild epilepsy and takes his meds like a champ. He has lots of dog friends, one being **Tedd**y a former ***AGR*** dog who visits. According to Leslie: *I think he likes just about everything and everybody!* Leash training is a work in progress, because when he sees something or someone in his path, he just wants to be his big friendly self! **Max**, you sure are one lucky dog to have found Leslie!

25-046 Scottie, now known as **Kode** (pronounced like Cody), was, at intake, a 2-month-old male Golden Retriever. There probably isn't much more cuteness or cuddliness you can feel after reading that sentence! **Kode's** forever home not only came with two amazing humans, Teri and Jeff, but, are you ready for this: five Golden Retriever sisters to keep **Kod**e apprised on all the ins and outs of the family! These sweet words will make you say aaawwwhhhhh: ***Kode*** *came into our home as an adorable little 8-week-old puppy! We were initially planning to just foster him since we already had five female Goldens. However, our pack took one look at him and unanimously agreed that he needed to stay – it would have been fun to see how that vote took place! It was truly love all around!* ***Kode*** *has become our chief inspector, having to check out everything, and self-appointed guardian of the girls. He has definitely rounded out our pack! We are beyond blessed to have him.*



Kode at 5 months

25-048 Hamilton is a 2-year-old male Golden Retriever who was surrendered due to the owner moving. That paved the way for **Hamilton** to find his forever home with Hayley and Kyle. **Penny**, the resident dog, now has a new tug-of-war partner as well as a snuggle buddy. **Hamilton** and **Penny** (also an adopted Golden from ***AGR***) are attached at the hip – best friends! An elderly Yorkie lives with them; **Hamilton** is very sweet to him, as well. Read this from Hayley and Kyle and imagine the sound: *He woos all the time, especially if he is hungry or wants to go on a walk.* Besides his walks, **Hamilton** enjoys a good belly rub, bones and, of course, a squeaky toy! Want a big kiss? Look no further than the sweetest dog ever… **Hamilton**! Well, **Hamilton**, I'm pretty sure you love them as much as they love you! ***AGR*** is currently treating **Hamilton** for valley fever.



25-049 Sadie is a 10-month-old female English Cream Golden whose surrendering owner didn't have the time that **Sadie** required. Joe and Leigh were ready to be **Sadie's** forever home – to them, her high-spirited personality is part of her charm. She is actively engaging with her new dog siblings! These words paint the best picture of her: ***Sadie*** *has a really unique personality. She loves life to the fullest and reminds us of Tigger from Winnie the Pooh. When*

Sadie *plays, she leaps, bounces and hops. She springs into the air when chasing her fur siblings,* ***Bailey*** *and* ***Harlee****. Not only does she love her fur siblings,* ***Sadie*** *LOVES her stuffies. As a matter of fact, when she goes outside, another favorite place of hers, she brings many of her stuffies with her!* Joe and Leigh are not sure if they have more stuffies outside or inside! Usually when she comes back in, she just brings her smile and wagging tail! **Sadie** is a darling who knows how she wants things, especially when it comes to her toys. This is just the funniest scenario: *When we bring all the toys back inside and put them in the toy box, she has to immediately start bringing them out one by one. She is really a smart cookie and has turned into quite the snuggle-bug. It is such a heartwarming feeling to see all three of our Goldens snuggled together on the couch, floor or bed. We could not imagine our home without her.* Welcome to your fabulous home, **Sadie**!

Stuart on left; Jeff, now Jack, on right

25-050 Jeff, now known as **Jack**, and **25-052 Stuart** are a bonded pair who initially showed up on someone's property. The boys are 2 years old. The finder was unable to keep them as he is moving, but **Jack** and **Stuart** are now in their forever home with Cameron and Jeanine. Their story is a fairytale with the best possible ending! Jeanine and Cameron met **Jack** and **Stuart** at the beginning of October 2025. Both boys were starting to deteriorate in the kennel; they felt that they needed to take a chance on them. Unfortunately, there was little information on the boys. They had lived outside on a 15-acre ranch for the past year and a half. Did they get along with other dogs? People? Potty trained? In Jeanine's words: *They were extremely fearful; they had never walked on leash.* They are adorable and sweet, but as Jeanine wants you to know: *We have had some ups and downs with them and it hasn't all been 'golden;' they are still so scared.* **Jack** and **Stuart** are learning to be goods dogs, as Cameron and Jeanine have the patience and unconditional love to help them become the best versions of themselves. Just after the boys were placed in the home, they tore up a couch. Jeanine, who watches them with a nanny-cam when she is at work, let us know that they have not destroyed anything in the last month! Socialization with people and animals is happening, as well as leash training. This story from Jeanine will make you laugh out loud: *We have found that they love to play with toys; we are teaching them how to play with a ball. They are so cute! When we toss a ball down the hall, they both go bounding after it, by leaping and jumping, legs outstretched, then slipping and sliding the whole way. They also stand up on their hind legs and try to catch the ball with their front paws – they are so uncoordinated! Both are the biggest couch potatoes! After living outside for over a year, they now love being inside and crashed out, upside down, on the couch. These sweet boys are totally worth all the effort, and I am looking forward to sharing more of our journey!*

25-050 Jeff, now Jack

25-052 Stuart

25-051 Dolly on left; 25-053 Callie on right

25-051 Dolly and **25-053 Callie** are a beautiful bonded pair of English Cream Retrievers. **Dolly** is 4 years old; **Callie** is 8. Surrendering them didn't come easily, but due to ongoing health issues for the original owner it was the best decision for these girls. They have a new home with Kristie and Andrew, where they have acreage to run and be free! These two have quite the personalities as told by Kristie and Andrew: ***Callie*** *and* ***Dolly*** *are inseparable. When at the vet, if* ***Dolly*** *gets separated from* ***Callie****,* ***Callie*** *will bark and whine. They keep an eye on each other when outside and will lie near each other when napping. One is never far from the other or us. When seeing people they know,* ***Callie*** *brings a pillow, while* ***Dolly*** *brings a small stuffed toy to you for attention. We have given* ***Callie*** *her own small pillow for this, so she knows it's hers to use.* Don't keep **Dolly** waiting for her food, as she will quickly let you know what is up. ***Dolly*** *will howl at you if you take too long to prepare their food or she wants to get your attention. It's so stinkin' adorable!* Not only are they adorable and sweet, according to Kristie: *These crazy girls are still getting in the pool even though it's only 60 degrees!* The cats have finally accepted that they have two new dog sisters. Sweet and happy girls, they love when the adult daughter brings her two dogs to visit. This is just the best: *They are a wonderful addition to our family and they are loved so much! We are thrilled to be able to officially adopt* ***Dolly*** *and* ***Callie****!* Please read **Callie's** medical-treatment story on page 11.

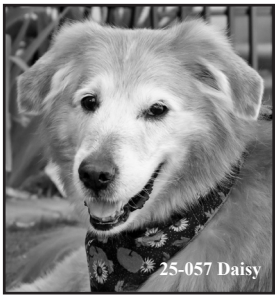
25-051 Dolly

25-053 Callie

25-054 Walter is a 9-month-old male Golden Retriever. His dad is a Doodle, while his mom is a Golden. Walter favors the Golden side. He is a sweet, loving and friendly dog who has been described as a dream boy. ***AGR*** had surgery done on his shoulder. His original owners had some personal family issues; unfortunately, they had to make this heartbreaking decision which they didn't do lightly. They will be happy to know that **Walter** has found a caring and loving family with Corey and Corrine. Such a beautiful sentiment from his forever home: ***Walter*** *has been such an amazing addition to our family; it feels like he was meant to be here the whole time. He has such a goofy personality that shines when he is with our children playing outside or wrestling with his new fur brother,* ***Finn****. We were told he hadn't been around kids, but I don't think anyone would believe that with how gentle and loving he is with our kids. He was immediately drawn to them and is always at their side to cuddle them to death.* Fireworks are not **Walter's** favorite sound, but Corey wants you to know: *His cuddles went to a new level on New Year's Eve when fireworks started going off. He jumped into the corner of the couch and hugged into me as hard as he could to help protect him*. Not only does **Walter** have a wonderful home, he has the privilege of going to work with Corey! This is an amazing anecdote from Corey: *I've brought him out to our squadron on* **Luke Air Force Base***, so he could get some socialization with my students; he was so excited to be the center of attention for the day. I don't think he went more than five minutes without being in one of the classrooms to get some face scratches.* Corey, Corinne, their kids, a cat and other dogs have welcomed **Walter** into the pack with loving paws stretched wide open. **Walter**, you have hit the jackpot with your new family!

25-055 Toby is a 4-year-old male Golden Retriever who is immensely loved in his forever home with Tim and Kate. The surrendering owner had some health issues and was unable to care for **Toby**. Tim and Kate were more than ready to welcome this bundle of energy, who has an eagerness to please and love unconditionally, into their home. **Toby** is now a brother to **Dash**, the resident Dachshund. You can hear the genuine love Tim and Kate have for **Toby** in these next sentiments: ***Toby*** *has been a wonderfully perfect addition to our family! He loves affection and attention without being demanding. He makes sure Tim gets the daily morning walk, for Tim's health's sake of course.* ***Toby*** *can't wait for his walks, but he does manage to hold all his excitement in as his leash is attached!* **Toby** sounds like Daddy's dog! *If you see Tim, you know that* ***Toby*** *is close by! When Tim leaves,* ***Toby*** *quietly naps next to the door going to the garage awaiting Tim's return.* This is the cutest story: *He's made all the difference in our other dog.* ***Dash*** *has to take his medicine 3 times a day. Previously,* ***Dash*** *would often spit out his meds, whether it was in pill pockets, a treat or anything else. Now,* ***Toby*** *is right there getting his Pupperoni treat and* ***Dash*** *will 100% of the time quickly swallow his meds in a bit of string cheese!* ***Dash*** *isn't taking any chances of* ***Toby*** *getting his treat!* **Toby** can be left alone without getting into trouble; he loves being indoors and prefers the floor to the expensive dog bed they had purchased for him! **Toby** loves any visitors; he has become a favorite among the dog sitter and friends. **Toby** has certainly found his perfect forever home with Tim and Kate.

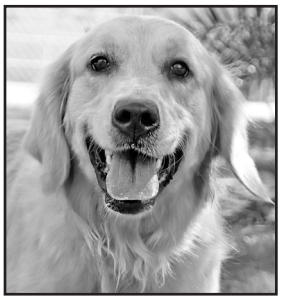
25-056 Holly is a 7-year-old female Golden Retriever who found her forever home with Tom and Jan after her first owner passed away. Having a sweet, gentle nature, plus the love from Tom and Jan, **Holly** easily transitioned to her new home, as Jan would like to share: ***Holly*** *is a great dog, and she makes our life much more enjoyable. We have had her for three months now, and it has been very rewarding to see her settling in to her new home and start to open up and relax.* A well-behaved dog, she never barks and has been accident free. She has adjusted to the rhythms of her home. One of her favorite things is belly rubs! *We have made good progress with her separation anxiety and are able to crate her and leave for a few hours without major distress.* Holly was rescued by Tom and Jan, but I think she has rescued them also. Here is why! *Her favorite thing is her twice-a-day walks. She does a little dance when it's time for a walk. She has encouraged us to increase our walking distance to two miles a day, so that is a plus for us to get more exercise.* To ***AGR*** they would like to express their gratitude for bringing **Holly** into their lives and for all the great support and assistance throughout the entire process! This is a Win-Win!


25-057 Daisy

25-058 Muffy

25-057 Daisy and **25-058 Muffy** originally were adopted in 2019; the owner passed away and her daughter-in-law took the dogs. Unfortunately, she had to move to California and was unable to take them with her. Denise, a close friend of the original owner, has now become their forever caregiver. These two are a bonded pair and needed to

stay together. **Daisy**, a 13-year-old female Golden Retriever, and **Muffy**, a Terrier mix also 13 years old, have easily adjusted to their forever home! According to Denise: ***Daisy*** *is a real sweetheart! I met* ***Daisy*** *when she first came into Rescue six years ago and knew she was a real love bug when my friend adopted her! She loves attention, smiles a lot and is a real joy to have as part of my family of furry friends.* As much as **Daisy** loves watching the resident cats, wanting to play with them, the cats are still adjusting to having two additional dogs in the household (there were already three) and are slowly venturing back out amongst the dogs. Oh, what a life for **Daisy**! Picture this: ***Daisy*** *loves to lie in the backyard soaking up the sun and gazing around. When she wants to come in, she runs across the yard like she's hit a home run and just about slides through the door. For a 13-year-old, she can have a lot of energy!* There is always a chatterbox in the group. In this case it is **Muffy**. In Denise's words: ***Muffy*** *is a real talker! She always greets me when I come home by throwing her head back, howling and telling me a story! Not only that,* ***Muffy*** *likes to sit in my chair, warms it up for me, and then enjoys sitting in my lap for attention!* Other favorite things for these two include snuggles and cuddles in the morning and going on walks where they sniff every rock, bush, and plant that meets their noses. As Denise puts it: *Thank goodness I'm not into power walking!* What a perfect home for **Daisy** and **Muffy**!

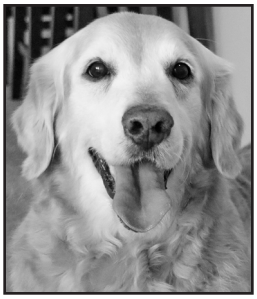


25-059 Sasha, now known as **Bisbee**, is a 2-year-old female Golden Retriever. Her owner passed away. Now she is the newest family member of Beverly and David. **Sedona**, the resident sister dog, welcomed **Bisbee** with open paws; they immediately interacted and played together! **Bisbee** is a people lover with a sweet-natured disposition. You have to just love this vivid description: ***Bisbee*** *is the most loving and affectionate dog you'll ever meet! She jumps in your lap, all 60 pounds of her, and you need to remember to keep your mouth closed when this happens, otherwise you may get a French kiss!* **Bisbee** is very excited to greet you when you get home; being thoughtful and considerate she does take the time to go find a chew toy first, so as not to greet you "empty handed." Aaaawwwwhhhhhh! It's important to not leave a filet mignon on your counter! Here is Beverly's funny story: *She tends to counter surf! We're working on that. I had a nice filet mignon ready on a plate on the counter. I turned away to get something, turned back around and there was no steak. However, there was a certain dog who had a very guilty expression on her face!* A fast and smart learner, **Bisbee**, who came with no training at all, has learned sit, stay, come, off, and down. This is the sweetest! There is a new kitten in the house and **Bisbee** has decided that this is HER kitten and best friend! **Bisbee**, you are one incredible dog who has found the perfect home!

25-061 Sunny, now known as **Sonny**, is a 7-month-old male Golden Retriever. His previous owners just didn't have the time to devote to the training of a puppy. But you know who was ready for the joys of a puppy? Kim and Mark. Life with **Sonny** as lovingly stated by Kim and Mark: ***Sonny*** *is expressive. He listens for the sounds that the alarms make when someone or something approaches the house and adds his own to let us know we have a visitor. I'd like to think that he is settling into his space.* **Sonny** shows enthusiasm for breakfast and dinner! He is a smart and quick learner who loves the positive reinforcement that treats bring to his basic obedience training. **Sonny** is a cuddler who sleeps on the bed with them. He will start on top of the pillows but quickly ends up spooning one of them during the night. Kim and Mark make sure **Sonny** has at least 3 walks a day, getting his steps in with at least 3 miles plus a day. He is a friendly dog who has fun meeting other dogs. Here is a cute story: ***Sonny*** *is a bird dog. He loves to chase quail in the yard and is alert on the walks for quail, rabbits, etc. The yard is fenced so he doesn't go anywhere. We are working on recall!* Here are the five words Kim and Mark use to describe **Sonny**: *joy, goofy, curious, smart, loving. We are fortunate to have him.*

25-062 Oro, who is now named **Bogey**, is a gorgeous deep-red-coated 3-year-old male purebred Golden Retriever. With the loving care of his new owner, Kathy, **Bogey** is thriving and living his best life! This is **Bogey's** story as told by Kathy: ***Bogey*** *came to me the first of October as a foster. I was told that he was found on the streets of Phoenix and had been in a shelter. He was dangerously thin. He is a sweet boy; he immediately seemed happy to have a safe place to live. The first evening he grabbed a tub of butter off the counter and devoured the entire thing. I definitely learned my lesson about watching over a dog who probably had no idea where he was getting his next meal.* **Bogey's** life is a happily-ever-after story. He has been a champ through various vet appointments as well as eye surgery (read his medical story on pages 11-12). Kathy and **Bogey** are a bonded pair! He has quickly adapted to living in his new house and is Kathy's shadow! One of his favorite activities is playing in the snow in Flagstaff, where he burrows down as deep as he can to sniff all those enticing smells. **Bogey** can still not be trusted with anything on the counter but is doing better and is now at his recommended weight. These are just the sweetest words from Kathy: ***Bogey's*** *most defining trait is he thinks he is a lap dog. AND never misses a chance to climb up on my lap and snuggle.* ***Bogey*** *is a joy, and I am lucky to have him! I get so many compliments on how good-looking he is, but the BEST is the*

enthusiasm he shows to me when I get home or even when I talk to him. That is a heart warmer right there!



25-063 Bailey is a 10-year-old male Golden Retriever whose owner passed away. **Bailey** has found his forever home with Pat. These two are a match made in heaven! Here are Pat's sentiments about her new love bug: *I expected **Bailey** would require an adaption period since he previously belonged to an older couple and was the man's dog before the man passed. **Bailey** had some medical issues and was boarded for a period of time before he was brought to my home. Believe it or not, **Bailey** and I bonded the minute he entered my home.* Daily walks have helped him greatly, as it seems he may not have had many walks in his previous home. You have to just love this next thought from Pat: *He is supposedly 10 years old, but all of his actions and his senses are those of a 5–7-year-old. He is very, very astute as to his surroundings and is also very protective.* **Bailey** is very loving and prefers to be next to you most of the time. Has **Bailey** ever found his perfect home, as Pat sweetly states: *He is already a spoiled brat, and it is so very well deserved!* What a lucky, lucky dog!

25-065 Mickey, now known as **Jack**, is a 2½-year-old male Golden Retriever with boundless energy. Julie, Mike and Allie have become **Jack's** new forever home, and he is thriving! He is cute, and boy oh boy does he know it. Outgoing, friendly and smart are the best descriptors for **Jack**. **Jack** is well loved as evidenced by the family's sentiments: ***Jack** is such a great addition to our family! He is so loving. He and **Maverick** have bonded nicely. They are buddies.* Here are a few of **Jack's** favorite things… daily walks, visits to ***The Home Depot*** to meet new people, chasing squirrels, as well as playing in Christopher Creek and hiking. Commands are no problem for him. He is an expert with sit, stay, and place and is working on come. He's perfectly house trained. You have to just love this feeling: *The best thing is he loves to be loved.* Not just a hiker, **Jack** treasures his time in the pool, and especially the bath that comes after to remove that chlorine odor! At breakfast time it's a sight to see **Maverick** and **Jack** sitting and waiting for the command to eat! As his new forever family says: *Life is great with **Jack** and **Maverick** in our family.*

25-067 Minnie is a 4-year-old Golden/Dachshund whose surrendering owner wasn't able to give **Minnie** the time she needed to succeed. She had been crated for a huge part of the day. Sue was ready and willing to have **Minnie** join **Coco**, the resident Standard Poodle, as well as her cousins **Mishka** and **Jazzy** also an ***AGR*** dog! **Minnie** is loyal, playful and sweet. According to Sue: ***Minnie** is the cutest little Golden in the whole wide world. Although we can't be 100% sure, we believe she's a Dachshund and Golden Retriever mix. Imagine a 22-pound Golden that looks like a forever puppy!* She has a big house and yard with a new grassy play area in the front courtyard. This is the cutest: *When **Minnie** gets excited, she runs around in circles.* Her Auntie Kat (***AGR*** Placement volunteer) bought her some stairs so she can get up on the bed where they all sleep in a pile. What a delight that must be! She is loved and happy, as she reportedly has a variety of toys and is a pro at a game of tug-of-war! According to Sue: *She has quite the personality. A little Dachshund body with the heart of a lion!* Her appetite never lacks! She is living her best life between houses in Dewey, Phoenix, and Tucson! Thank you, Sue, for providing such an amazing home for **Minnie**!

25-069 Buddy, now being called **Brodi**, is a 10-month-old male Golden Retriever who had to be relinquished due to a divorce. He is a puppy, so you can imagine his energy, curiosity and playfulness. In his new home with Kim and Joe, he has found a very special place to let his personality shine – it might be with his huge bark or the fact that he runs really fast, jumping in the air, hopping and prancing around or just having a blast. He is still figuring out his place in the pack with **Odin**, **Thor** and **Loki**! Kim and Joe would like to share this tale about **Brodi**: *When we first got **Buddy** (now named **Brodi**), we could tell that he had been in a crate much of his life. He was really shy, tried to hide under chairs and furniture and did not bark or make any noise at all. We had no idea what kind of personality he had. The first time we took him for a walk he was pretty nervous and was fascinated by everything he saw. Feeling safe and loved, **Brodi** really came out of his shell. He started playing with the other dogs, got super excited for every walk and he just loves running with everyone in the morning on the trails of South Mountain. We are so very happy to have him!* Congratulations to all on your new addition to the family!

Bring your dog, family and friends to Paws At The Park on March 8 – we guarantee you'll have a delicious lunch and a great time!

OVER THE RAINBOW

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

14-013 Rhys Cardinal

18-076 Cassie Morgan

19-023 Heidi Bichler

19-060 Cooper Ference

22-007 TK Tataseo

23-021 Clark Svec

Autumn Guilbault

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.

And...

Carol Gora
Valued AGR Member and Adopter

Evelyn Hartzog
Beloved Mother of AGR member Joy Slagowski

Terri Hill
Valued AGR member

Gary Landwehr
Valued AGR member

You can shed tears that he is gone,
or you can smile because he has lived.

You can close your eyes and pray that he'll come back,
or you can open your eyes and see all he's left.

Your heart can be empty because you can't see him,
or you can be full of the love you shared.

You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday,
or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.

You can remember him and only that he's gone,
or you can cherish his memory and let it live on.

You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back,
or you can do what he'd want: smile, open your eyes, love and go on.
~ Jennifer DeLaurant

HERE and THERE

Events from October 13 through December 31, 2025

Dine Out With The Dogs at *Paulie's Little Bite of Italy,* Sun City

By Denise Padavano

We had a remarkable group of volunteers helping with *Dine Out with the Dogs* on Sunday, October 26, 2025! Enjoying this annual event at ***Paulie's Little Bite of Italy*** in Sun City, were many members, family, friends, the public, and our amazing dogs! The morning was beautiful, warming up to 87º in the afternoon!

We made an impressive profit of **$5,995.96** to benefit ***Arizona Golden Rescue***! This included $1,090 from raffle ticket sales, $3,045 from silent auction wins, $834 from merchandise sales, $300 donation from ***Paulie's Little Bite of Italy*** for a percentage of food purchased, and $649 in other donations. We are grateful to everyone who volunteered, came out to eat, and /or generously made donations!

Jeanne and husband Clif

Jeanne Wegener was instrumental in obtaining student volunteers from ***Peoria*** and ***Dysart High Schools***' *National Honor Society*. Thank you, Jeanne, for your time and determination in securing the assistance of these young people to help us with the challenging tasks of loading up and packing up ***AGR's*** trailer and vehicles!

Twenty-eight dogs joined us throughout the day, seven of which were dressed in cheerful Halloween costumes, with two wearing decorative holiday collars! Connie McCabe took delightful photos and posted them on the ***AGR*** Facebook page. Members could cast one vote per dog for their favorites. Our first place winner was beautiful **Belle** (being fostered by Connie and Nick), who stole everyone's heart dressed as a Rock 'N' Roll star! Our second

Student volunteers from Dysart with Asher, Belle and CaliGirl

Student volunteers from Peoria with Takoda

place winner went to **Lucy Spiel** dressed as ***Miss AGR***! Coming in third place was **Mickey McCabe/Dodson**, wearing a Mickey

Belle

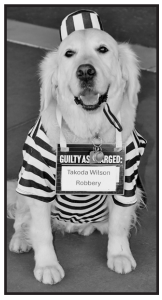
Lucy

Mickey

Mouse outfit! The winners were presented with a fun Halloween squeaky dog toy! Congratulations!

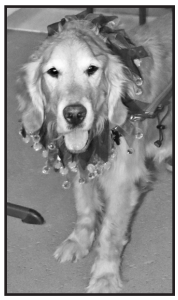
David, Asher and CaliGirl

Four other dogs that were adorned in costumes included, sweet **CaliGirl Orwig**, dressed in an adorable pink cowgirl outfit, and kindhearted **Asher Orwig** came as a fuzzy spider! Dressed as a delightful pumpkin was lovely **Josie Tolin**, and beautiful **Takoda Wilson** wore a jail outfit labeled "Robbery, Guilty as Charged." Maybe she stole some doggie treats! Also joining in the festive spirit were sweet **TK Tataseo** and gentle **David Cipollone** wearing Halloween party collars!



Takoda

Josie



TK

Joni with David

An event of this size could not have happened without the dedication, countless hours and hard work from many WONDERful volunteers in ***AGR***. It took the assistance of over 30 volunteers, 17 of which were high school students, and many of whom spent the entire day at the event. Additional volunteer hours were spent off site acquiring donations for the raffle and silent auction items, creating the beautiful crafts ***AGR*** presents for sale and then all the banking and paperwork reports that follow. A special thanks to all the artists and crafters who donated their time and materials for the items we sell at these events. Deb Orwig and Connie Wozniak are sewing experts extraordinaire! Carolyn Brown and Deb Orwig were responsible for assembling the silent auction and raffle baskets. Producing the paw labels was Deb Orwig, while Carolyn Brown spent time making beautiful bows that adorned the baskets! Producing all the outstanding table graphics was ***AGR's*** talented Connie McCabe. Many thanks to EVERYONE who volunteered their time and talents to the success of this event!

Connie W

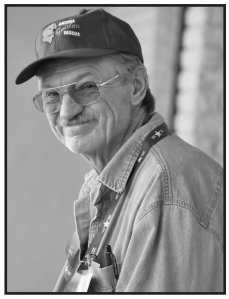
Packing vehicles on Saturday afternoon at Deb and Larry Orwigs' house and transporting everything to ***Paulie's Little Bite of Italy*** were Adam Cardinal, Nick Dodson, Jean Klink, Connie McCabe, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, and Jeanne Wegener.

Connie and Nick, always willing to help whenever and wherever

Starting event day early was Nick Dodson towing the ***AGR*** trailer. Arriving at 9:30 AM were many volunteers to help start the day! First came the task of unloading everything; next, setting up the tents and tables; then, arranging the merchandise, raffle and silent auction items. Lastly, setting up the ***AGR*** signs to advertise our event to the public.

Cheryl, Denise and Jean

We had many wonderful volunteers helping to make everything presentable and ready for our day's event! Denise Padavano and Jeanne Wegener directed the morning set-up. ***AGR's*** talented and dedicated morning crew included Peter Brown, Nick Dodson, Patrick Doyle, Cheryl Duter, Jean Klink, Connie McCabe, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Jeanne Wegener, Mike Wilson, and Connie Wozniak. We were also very fortunate to have four *National Honor Society* students from ***Peoria High School*** and twelve from ***Dysart High School*** volunteering for the morning! Breannan, Chloe, Daisy, Amy, Rafidat, Dayna, Ricardo T, Alicca, Ricardo L, Jordan O, Cindy L, Kenneth L, Jordan W, Joslyn, Miguel and Jacob were a tremendous help unloading and setting up the tents and tables, carrying the merchandise and items for the raffle and silent auction. Thank you, ***Peoria*** and ***Dysart High School*** students!



Patrick usually spends the entire day at every event, helping wherever needed

A special thank you goes out to the following volunteers that stayed for the entire event. These included Patrick Doyle, Connie McCabe, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, and Jeanne Wegener. Jean Klink and Denise Padavano were there most of the day, went home to care for their dogs and returned to assist with the close-out of the day's event.

At events where we sell raffle tickets, you will often see Fran and Anne wearing bright yellow pocket aprons and carrying handsfuls of tickets

Volunteers who handled and monitored the merchandise area included Keith Akenhead, Debbie Ball, Jean Klink, Jane Lowery, Sarah Martin, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Jeanne Wegener, and Connie Wozniak. Selling raffle tickets for our attractively displayed items were Teri Guilbault, Jake Lurie, Karie Lurie, Anne McGill, Trishia Murphy, Fran Strock, and Jane Triplett. Monitoring the silent auction items were Joni Cipollone, Beth Chaffee, Teri Guilbault, Penny Mavroudis, and Liz Tataseo.

Jake and Karie sold raffle tickets and helped pull the winners

New adopters Jan and Tom with Holly at their first (hopefully not last!) *AGR* event

AGR members brought 28 beautiful dogs to meet and greet the public. Those who were in attendance included: Keith Akenhead and **Happi**; Debbie Ball and **Levi**; Betsy and Fred Brown brought **Ciera Luna** and **Orla** Joni Cipollone came with **David**; Teri and Jeff Guilbault with

Marlene, Sharon and Dean with Sugar

In back, ?lady and Sarah; in front, Connie and Barbara from *SunValley Quilts* in Sun City, one of our terrific supporting businesses

Mila and **Kode**; Jan and Tom O'Hanlon with **Holly**; Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson with **Mickey** and foster **Belle**; Dean and Marlene Mortimore with **Sugar**; Trishia Murphy and **Rosie**; Deb Orwig brought **Asher** and **CaliGirl**; Denise Padavano came with **Winnie**; Karey, Kelly and Sheri Rodeffer brought **Dexter** and **Joie**; Chris Spiel and **Lucy**; Liz Tataseo and **TK**; Vic and Barb Tolin brought **Josie**; Pastor Tom with **Brandy**; Michele Wehry and Mark Hill with **Duke**, **Cassie** and **Dora**; Dave Williams and **Kate**; Mike Wilson and **Takoda**; and Terri and Bob Witte brought **Kadence** and **Mystique**.

Betsy and Fred with Luna, adopted from *AGR* in 2022, and Orla, who has taught Luna how to be a good service dog

Thanks to Connie McCabe for the outstanding job of capturing photographs of the day's events. Also contributing photographs of the day's activities were Denise Padavano, Deb Orwig, and Jeanne Wegener.

We prepared for the evening by placing lights in our merchandise, silent auction and raffle areas. These allowed people to purchase merchandise and finish bidding on the silent auction items and raffle baskets, while also providing our volunteers with enough light to close out each area. At 6:30 PM, Jake Lurie, Karie Lurie, and Barb Tolin worked together to pull the winning raffle tickets, while Beth Chaffee and Liz Tataseo marked the winning silent auction sheets. People seemed to be thrilled with their prizes as they were checked out at the front table by Debbie Ball and Deb Orwig!

Terri with Mystique, Kadence under the table, Bob, Terri's mom Marlys and Debbie with Levi

Karen (front left) always brings a tableful of friends to this event

As the evening's event ended, those volunteers who assisted with merchandise pack-up and trailer loading included: Peter Brown, Jon and Beth Chaffee, Nick Dodson, Patrick Doyle, Cheryl Duter, Jean Klink, Jake and Karie Lurie, Trishia Murphy, Denise Padavano, Vic and Barb Tolin, and Jeanne Wegener. We also had one student, Sky, from ***Ironwood High School's*** *National Honor Society,* volunteering for the evening. We were packed up and loaded in record time with the help of our phenomenal, dedicated volunteers!

Michele and Mark with Dora, Duke and Cassie

Trishia and Rosie

Jeff with Kode and Teri with Mila; Kode, not quite four months old, was a VERY good puppy!

Unloading vehicles at the Orwigs' house on Sunday evening and Tuesday afternoon were Nick Dodson, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Connie McCabe, Denise Padavano, Jeanne Wegener, and Garrett and Julie Wheadon.

There were many other ***AGR*** members who came to the event, some came with friends, while some just came to eat, but everyone seemed to have a good time! Events like *Dine Out with the Dogs* bring a lot of smiles and needed revenue to ***Arizona Golden Rescue***. It is a way for the ***AGR*** family members to touch base, have fun visiting with old friends, while meeting new members, and letting our Goldens socialize. We also have the golden opportunity to share the ***AGR*** story with the public, while inspiring people to become members and maybe consider filling out an application to adopt a beautiful dog!

After spending a few years in Virginia with his daughter, Dave moved back to Arizona and brought with him beautiful red-girl Kate

Thank you to everyone who attended, and a special thank you to all who volunteered! See you in 2026!

Editor's note: 111 photos taken at this event (194 during our gift wrapping dates) were uploaded to our online album. Due to space considerations, there is no way I could include a picture in this newsletter of everyone who attended this event. To see all the photos, go to our website, www.arizonagoldenrescue.org and click on EVENTS, then on EVENT PHOTOS.

Christmas Wish Trees at *P. F. Chang's*

By Deb Orwig

The Christmas Wish Tree set-up crew – Jean, Trishia, Deb and Denise – decorated the tree at the Peoria *P. F. Chang's* first, then went north to the Happy Valley restaurant

Two days before *Chopsticks with the Dogs*, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Denise Padavano, and I set up a Dog Ornament Wish Tree. This year we were invited to set up a Wish Tree at both the Happy Valley ***P. F. Chang's*** restaurant and at the one on 83rd Ave in Peoria.

Julie and Garrett Wheadon offered the use of a 4-foot pre-lit tree they were not planning to put up in their home, so we decorated that one for the Peoria restaurant and used the 6-foot pre-lit tree we bought last year at Happy Valley. Denise and I went shopping to purchase some small ornaments to fill in the spaces between the 36 ornaments I had made for our Special Needs Dogs. We also purchased (with gift cards) two of this year's issue of ***The Home Depot's*** Christmas Golden yard decoration, one for each restaurant.

25-034 Sol was one of 36 special needs dogs featured on ornaments; each ornament had *AGR* contact information and a short statement about the dog – Sol's said: *I am only 18 months old, but I can hardly walk. I have bad elbows, bad hips and a heart condition that prevents me from having corrective leg surgery. To help me be mobile,* AGR *is going to buy me front leg braces and a wheeled cart for my rear. So far,* AGR *has spent $6,429. Will you help purchase my hardware?*

Connie McCabe produced a beautiful sign explaining the purpose of the ornaments, and Denise made some eye-catching donation boxes that were placed on the reservation check-in counter. All in all, the display at each restaurant was very attractive. We collected the two donation boxes about half way through the season and replaced them with two others Denise had decorated; these we left in the restaurants until we packed up the ornaments and trees on December 28th.

Denise decorated four attractive donation boxes, two for each restaurant, using photos from old *AGR* calendars

The ***P. F. Chang's*** customers were very generous! When all was said and done, a total of **$1,174.92** was donated in cash, checks or Zelle transactions. Several of the ornaments had been taken and returned with cash stapled to them; an envelope with a check was hand-delivered to our mailbox on Bell Road. In addition to money, two $50 ***PetSmart*** gift cards were donated. One couple who ate at the Peoria restaurant spent time reading the stories on many of our ornaments. Then they went to ***PetSmart*** and purchased five dog blankets and two huge bags of dog toys, which they brought back to the manager and asked her to be sure we got everything. We did, as I stopped at the Peoria restaurant on my way back from gift wrapping in Surprise. We hope the restaurant managers will invite us to put up a Wish Tree again in 2026.

Cody Lewien, Managing Partner of *P. F. Chang's* Happy Valley, invited us to display a Wish Tree in 2024 and again in 2025 Thank you, Cody!

After I had a delicious dinner at the Happy Valley ***P. F. Chang's*** when we hosted *Chopsticks with the Dogs*, I got a fortune cookie that read: *Many successes are coming your way*. Yes, it was generic, but it was also predictive of wonderful successes we enjoyed during the holiday season.

Chopsticks With The Dogs at *P. F. Chang's, Phoenix*

By Denise Padavano

It took us about 1½ hours to set up tents, tables and merchandise. Set-up was available to customers for only about an hour until the rain started. Pack-up took only a half hour, so we managed to keep most of the merchandise dry.

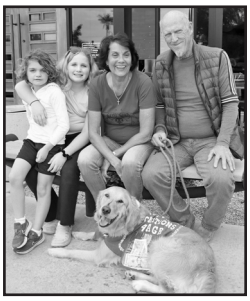
As the saying goes "the best laid plans" …
AGR's *Chopsticks With The Dogs* at ***P. F. Chang's*** in Happy Valley, Phoenix, was scheduled with Cody Lewien, Managing Partner, at least six months ago to take place on Saturday, November 22, 2025! Who knew the weather would interfere with our holiday

Set-up volunteers Diane, Trishia and Jean

FUNdraiser (it was a gorgeous day in 2024 on the same relative date)! We had an enthusiastic group of volunteers helping with this event and looking forward to a day of socializing with ***AGR*** members, families, and friends, while dining on excellent Chinese cuisine! The weather in the afternoon was overcast, with the promise of rain in the evening.

Jane came to work merchandise sales but had a short shift

Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Denise Padavano, Jeanne Wegener, and Julie and Garrett Wheadon met at Deb and Larry Orwigs' house Friday afternoon, and loaded vehicles with equipment and merchandise for the event. The set-up crew arrived at the restaurant at noon on Saturday, and included Carolyn and Peter Brown, Patrick Doyle, Emilie Duncan and Jim Cogan, Jean Klink, Jane Lowery, Deb Orwig, Diane Taylor, and Jeanne Wegener. By the time everything was set up at 2 PM, it had started to rain! The rain came earlier in the day than expected and the decision was made to pack up, which was accomplished by 3:30 PM. It was a good thing because by the time the merchandise was packed, the rain turned from a drizzle to a shower, getting all the tables, tents, dogs and people wet! Debbie Ball, Jane Lowery, Trishia Murphy, and Deb Orwig were ready to help with merchandise sales, but instead helped with pack-up! Other members who hustled to help with pack-up included Jim Cogan and Emilie Duncan with her two nieces, Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Denise Padavano, Fred Prose, Diane Taylor, and Jeanne Wegener.



Emilie and Jim brought their Golden, Oliver, and Emilie's nieces

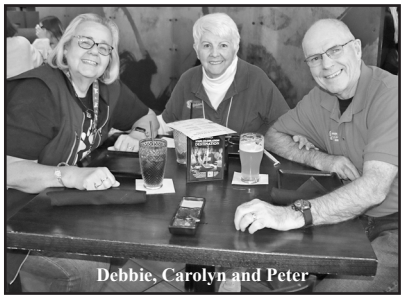
There were only a couple members who brought their dogs to the event: Emilie Duncan and Jim Cogan came with **Oliver**, and Dean and Marlene Mortimore came with **Sugar**. Apparently they had not seen the email we sent out on Thursday regarding a canine parvo outbreak and cautioning members not to bring dogs to this event. We are glad we had two there, though, as **Oliver** and **Sugar** collected virtually all the cash donations we received. Thankfully, neither dog contracted the virus.

Other members who came to enjoy the food and support our efforts included Nick Dodson, Jill and Fred Prose, Cindy Tigges and two friends, Kat Feltmann, and Liz Tataseo; the Rodeffer family came later, and Cynthia Wenström came to purchase take-out and pick up some calendars. After the vehicles were packed, Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, and Jeanne Wegener entered the restaurant to enjoy some food. Julie and Garrett Wheadon had planned on helping with the pack-up later that evening but instead joined us along with Darlene Kaminski and Rick Stephens for an early dinner! Carolyn and Peter Brown and Debbie Ball also supported us by coming to help work at the tables, packing up and dining.

Oliver (left) and Sugar (right) were excellent Golden Ambassadogs, together collecting about $145 in donations

Nick, Liz, Jill, Fred, Kat, Marlene and Connie enjoying their meal together

Returning to the Orwigs' right after the event to unload merchandise from her car was Jeanne Wegener. Then on Monday, the following volunteers returned earlier than expected to help unload the remainder of the tables, tents and merchandise: Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Denise Padavano, Fred Prose, and Julie and Garrett Wheadon. Adam Cardinal and Jason Sykes came to help, but our speedy crew had everything unloaded by the time they arrived!



Debbie, Carolyn and Peter

Surprisingly, we did well for our 1½-hour event! Income from the event totaled **$673.30** which included $421 from merchandise sales, $60 from calendar sales, and $186.30 from donations which included $40.92 from ***P. F. Chang's*** to benefit ***Arizona Golden Rescue!*** Our sincere thanks to everyone who attended and contributed in any way to the success of this fundraiser! A special thank you to all who volunteered while working through the rain! You are all amazing!

A heartfelt thank you to Cody Lewien, who enabled ***AGR*** to hold our event at ***P. F. Chang's***!

Santa Pics and Pints at *O.H.S.O. Prasada,* Surprise

By Connie McCabe

O.H.S.O. **at Prasada owner Derek with Mickey**

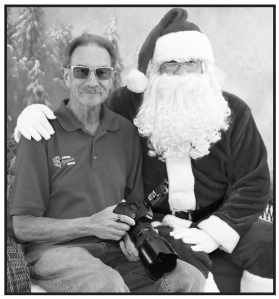
I want to thank everyone who came out and participated in our *Santa Pics and Pints* event on Saturday, November 29th at ***O.H.S.O.*** in Surprise. This was the first opportunity we have had to offer photos with Santa since ***PetSmart*** and ***Petco*** stopped allowing Rescue groups to hold these events. The ***O.H.S.O.*** location in the Village at Prasada is fantastic, and we had a great welcome from the entire staff and the owner, Derek Boettcher.

Julie and Santa Garrett

We were very fortunate to have a loaner backdrop and equipment from April Crow and Candy Ziemer. Garrett Wheadon was a fantastic first-time Santa (the hottest, hardest job of all), and Julie Wheadon was irreplaceable while doing everything, from setting up to packing up. Jack Craven and Cara Holland oversaw showing off ***AGR's*** **Belle** and helping all around. Chris Spiel brought **Lucy** and she and Patrick

Nick, Connie and foster Belle

The meeter-greeters with Deb: Duffy, CaliGirl, Vin and Asher



Fred took many photos, as did Connie

Doyle helped with customers, set-up and pack-up – they were so appreciated. Deb Orwig was there with her foursome collecting donations and answering questions from the public. Fred Prose and I were busy the entire four hours taking photos, as we had a steady stream of subjects – canine, feline and human!

Jack and Cara helped mind Belle

Chris with Bella and Jason with Lucy

Denise Padavano, Jeanne Wegener, Penny Mavroudis, and Debbie Ball came for lunch and got to relax and enjoy an event for a change. It was a lot of fun meeting everyone and seeing the great variety of dogs. ***AGR*** members who came to get photos included Sheryl Catalano with **Bodie** and **Stella**; Bill and Jamie Deppey with **Max**, **Manda**, and **Theo**; Rand Drake with **Trixie**; Pat Morgan with **Bailey**; Trishia Murphy with **Rosie**; Deb Orwig with **Asher**, **CaliGirl**, **Duffy** and **Vin**; Katherine Richardson with **Milo**; Wade Sellie with **Ally**; and Audra and Brent Stuart with **Ivy** and **Jim**. I apologize if I have left anyone out.

Audra, Jim, Santa, Stella, Sheryl and Ivy; Jim and Stella are two of Ivy's six puppies that were born into Rescue at Audra's house in 2023

Jamie and Bill, Audra's parents, with Maxx, Manda and Theo

Rand and Trixie

Newly-adopted Bailey with Pat

It was a very successful day – we received $434 in donations and $80 in Sidekick leash sales for a total of $514. Derek had offered to donate $1 for every pint of beer that was sold that day and that totaled just over $500, but he generously "rounded up" to bring his donation to $1,000! All that, a great lunch and lots of fun! I'm hoping we will do Santa photos again next year, and we are already scheduled to do *Photos with the Easter Bunny* there on April 4th (see ad on page 6). Please mark your calendars and join us for another fun event.

Wade with Ally, one of the dogs we brought up from Mexico in 2024

As always, photos from the event can be viewed on our website, www.arizonagoldenrescue.org. Just click on the Events tab and select Events Photos, where you can view the Santa event photos and any others you may have missed.

Lucy with the O.H.S.O. staff, all of whom were very busy all day

Phoenix Legacy Foundation's Holiday Pet Adopt-a-thon at Sam's Club

By Denise Padavano

In back: Dean with Sugar, Jill with Jessie, Denise, Patrick, Debbie, Connie W, Trishia with Rosie; in front: Vin, Asher and Deb with Tyler on lap, Liz with Guinness, Tami with Belle

The ***Phoenix Legacy Foundation's*** Santa Paws Holiday Adopt-athon at ***Sam's Club*** in Glendale was a new location for ***AGR***. We were invited by Jason Bressler, President of the ***Phoenix Legacy Foundation***, along with a few other animal Rescue groups, to participate in this event on Saturday, December 6, 2025.

Packing vehicles with tables, tents and merchandise the night before the event at the Orwigs' house were Patrick Doyle, Kevin Hall, Jean Klink, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Fred Prose, and Jeanne Wegener.

The morning crew arrived at 7:30 AM to set-up for the day's adventure. The temperature was brisk at 44º but warmed up to a comfortable 72º by lunchtime. Our morning volunteers included Patrick Doyle, Kevin Hall, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Diane Taylor, and Jeanne Wegener.

Jill with Jessie

Liz with Guinness

While Deb Orwig, Connie Wozniak, and new volunteer Tami VerHelst handled the merchandise sales, Connie McCabe arrived with foster **Belle** and took photos. Other members joined us with their dogs to greet the public with their "Golden Love". Those that brought their furry friends included Debbie Ball with **Tyler**, Dean Mortimore came with **Sugar**, Trishia Murphy brought **Rosie**, Deb Orwig brought **Asher** and **Vin**, Jill Prose came with **Jessie**, Cindy Sandner brought **Rudder**, and Liz Tataseo came with **Guinness**. Stopping by to visit us during the day was Teri Guilbault.

The day was slow, with people meandering around checking out the different booths. Most of the people were there just to shop at ***Sam's Club*** and made a beeline from the parking lot in and out of the store, not stopping to even blink at us. A few people did come to pet the dogs, ask questions and leave a donation. **Belle**, who had been with ***AGR*** for almost a year, got a lot of attention, but, unfortunately, no follow-through. Although the day was quiet for an adoption event, we did surprisingly well, thanks to purchases of calendars, merchandise and donations: merchandise sales brought in $155, calendars sales brought in $156 and donations from the heart were $256, equaling a total of **$568.08**.

Trishia with Rosie

Debbie with Tyler

Connie with Belle and Deb with Asher

We started packing up at 2 PM. Helping were Patrick Doyle, Kevin Hall, Jean Klink, Dean Mortimore, Trishia Murphy, Denise Padavano, Deb Orwig, Diane Taylor, Jeanne Wegener, Tami VerHelst, and Julie and Garrett Wheadon. After the event, Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Denise Padavano, and Jeanne Wegener headed to the Orwigs' house to unload our vehicles.

We had wonderful volunteers helping throughout the day and nine dogs to greet the public! Patrick Doyle, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, and Jeanne Wegener stayed for the entire day! A special thank you to all who volunteered, you are the best!

NOTICE: PLEASE RESPOND!

Due to the small number of members who told us they would be coming, we cancelled out of walking in the *Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade*, which was scheduled for Saturday, December 13, 2025. We heard later from several members that they would have shown up. Please do not let this situation happen again! If Denise, or whoever is chairing a particular activity, asks for volunteer response, please RESPOND promptly!

Gift Wrapping at *Floor & Decor, Prasada*

By Denise Padavano

Denise and Jeanne with one of 10 signs we distributed around the Prasada Mall

Gathering at ***Floor & Decor*** in the Prasada Mall in Surprise for a third year of gift wrapping were many ***AGR*** members, our loving dogs, and high school student volunteers! Excitement was in the air as people were busy shopping for the holidays and trying to find just the right gift for family members and friends!

This year, Jeanne Wegener reached out to ***Millenium High School*** for student volunteers and was able to secure 40 students during our six-day gift wrapping adventures! We had a wonderful group of students helping to set up tents, tables and merchandise, in addition to caring for the dogs, wrapping presents, greeting the public, and packing up at the end of each day's event! As you might expect from *National Honor Society* students, they were polite and helpful, frequently asking if there was anything else they could do. Many of them took the dogs for numerous walks up and down the sidewalk collecting donations in the dogs' vests. Some even carried our "Gift Wrapping →" signs. Several students stayed for the whole day, while others returned on different days to help! Thank you, NHS volunteers, and thank you, Jeanne, for obtaining their much-needed help!

ED. NOTE: **We will not identify the students in any of their photos**

We had a talented group of volunteers helping with ***AGR's*** six days of gift wrapping that took place on December 12th, 14th, 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd, 2025. We couldn't have had this event without everyone's help during this busy season! Thank you, volunteers, for helping to raise money for the medical needs of our wonderful dogs! While making this event enjoyable and profitable, your dedication is very much appreciated! A special thanks goes out to the following members who joined us for most of the six days: Debbie Ball, Carolyn and Peter Brown, Patrick Doyle, Teri Guilbault, Kevin Hall, Jean Klink, Connie McCabe, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Diane Taylor, and Jeanne Wegener.

The first day, December 12, was the only day we had time to get volunteers together for a group picture: Liz with Reba, Debbie with Dillon, Deb, Jean, Jeanne, Trishia with Rosie, Carolyn, Patrick and Evelyn (seated) with Belle

Preparing for gift wrapping started with visiting the storage room and gathering needed wrapping paper, boxes and ribbon several weeks before our event. Helping to sort through needed items were Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, and Jeanne Wegener.

Peter came most days to help set up and often came to help pack up

Back: Patrick, Trishia, Jean; Front: Jeanne, Deb, Denise; all wore festive holiday attire

A couple days before the event, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, and Jeanne Wegener loaded vehicles with tables, tents, chairs, merchandise, and supplies for

wrapping gifts.

Kevin came every day to help pack up

Morning set-up crew during the six days included: Carolyn and Peter Brown, Evelyn Delaney, Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano and Jeanne Wegener. Peter Brown worked diligently to place signs directing people to our location and then came back at close to collect the signs. Jeanne Wegener also helped to position signs on a day Peter was unavailable. Placing the ***AGR*** sandwich board signs each day was Patrick Doyle. Thank you, Peter, Jeanne and Patrick!

Carolyn wore an adorable Mrs Santa outfit

Connie W made beautiful bows and wrapped numerous packages

Chris, a new volunteer from Denise's neighborhood, learned to make beautiful bows quickly

Working together to wrap gifts, make bows, monitor merchandise and sales, watch and care for the dogs, and speak to the public about ***AGR*** involved the combine efforts of the following people: Debbie Ball; Carolyn Brown; new volunteer Evelyn Delaney; Patrick Doyle; new volunteer Chris Duarte; Gina, Ray and Lauren Fagan; Ellen and Jeff France; Teri Guilbault; Jean Klink; Connie McCabe; Dean Mortimore; Trishia Murphy; Deb Orwig; Denise Padavano; Chris Spiel and friend Jason; Fran Stock; Liz Tatseo; Diane Taylor; Vic and Barb Tolin; Jeanne Wegener; Mike Wilson; and Connie Wozniak.

Debbie (navy), Teri (grey, red trim) and Deb (red) all wearing the GOLDEN JOY shirts we got a few years ago

Bowmaker extraordinaire Carolyn Brown spent many hours making 100 beautiful bows before our 6-day gift wrapping event began! She also donated 96 "pull-string" bows in various solid colors that were easy and delightful to use. Thank you, Carolyn, for helping us be prepared! Our other exceptional bow makers were Debbie Ball, Jean Klink, Deb Orwig, and Connie Wozniak! Some of the students helping to wrap presents, also learned to make bows.

Connie with Mickey

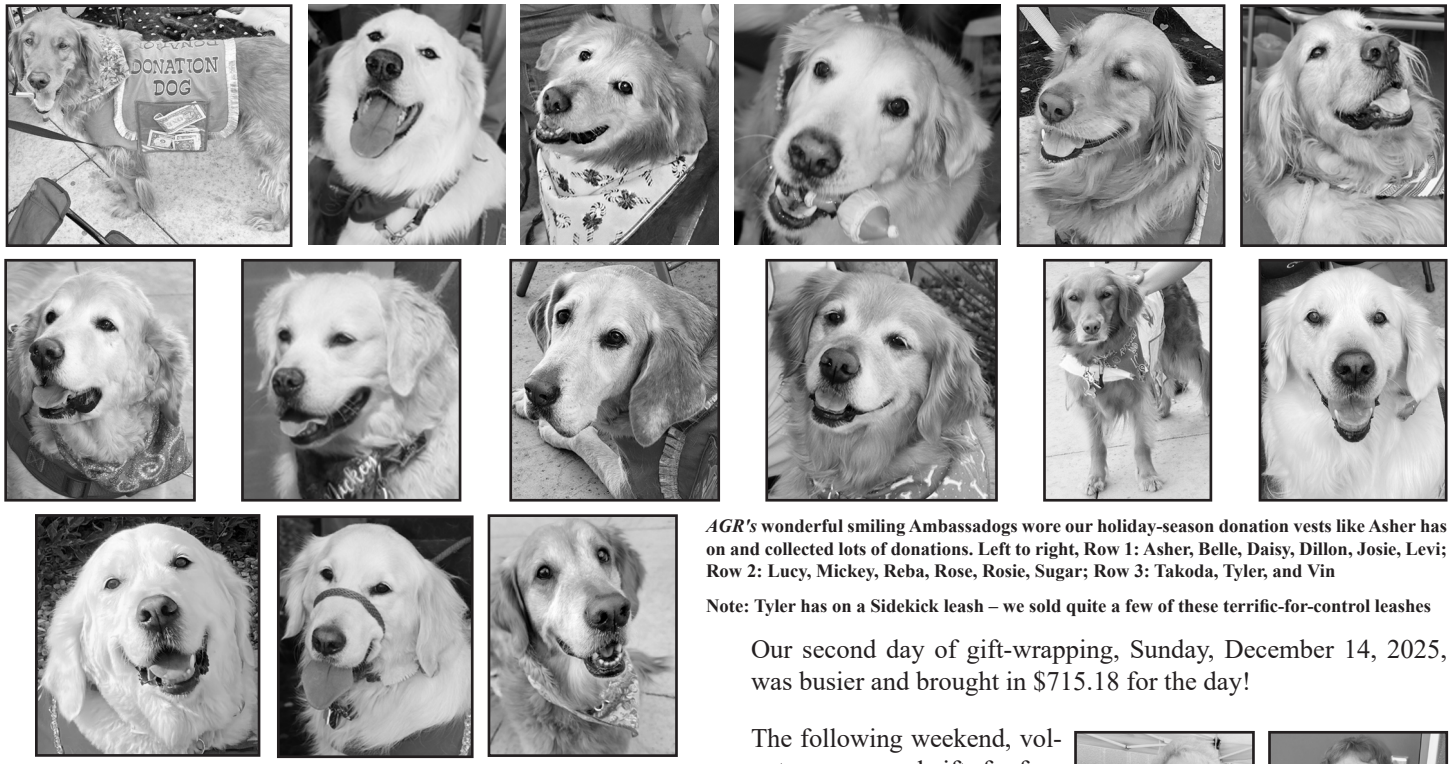
Burt (left photo) brought his family to say Hello, as did Walter (right)

Capturing the activities during the six days of gift wrapping were photographers Debbie Ball, Connie McCabe, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, and Jeanne Wegener.

Dogs joining us throughout the six-days of wrapping to greet the public and enjoy all the extra attention were: **Dillon**, **Levi** and **Tyler** Ball; **Burt** Fagan; **Rose** France; **Mickey** McCabe/Dodson; **Belle** with foster mom Connie McCabe; **Sugar** Mortimore; **Rosie** Murphy; **Asher** and **Vin** Orwig; **Daisy** and **Charlie** Padavano, **Lucy** Spiel and friend **Bella**; **Reba** Tataseo; **Josie** Tolin; and **Takoda** Wilson.

Evelyn, not a *Millenium HS* student, met *AGR* reps at the *Phoenix Legacy Foundation* event at *Sam's Club* and loved our dogs, so she volunteered to help at the gift wrappings and was with us every day – Thanks, Evelyn!

Packing up at the end of the day takes a lot of effort, strength and working together! The following people helped to place merchandise in the correct bins, organize wrapping paper, fold tables, pack tents and load ev-



AGR's **wonderful smiling Ambassadogs wore our holiday-season donation vests like Asher has on and collected lots of donations. Left to right, Row 1: Asher, Belle, Daisy, Dillon, Josie, Levi; Row 2: Lucy, Mickey, Reba, Rose, Rosie, Sugar; Row 3: Takoda, Tyler, and Vin**

Note: Tyler has on a Sidekick leash – we sold quite a few of these terrific-for-control leashes

erything on carts and into cars: Debbie Ball, Carolyn and Peter Brown, Evelyn Delaney, Patrick Doyle, Chris Duarte, Teri Guilbault, Kevin Hall, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Denise Padavano, Fran Stock, Diane Taylor, Vic and Barb Tolin, and Jeanne Wegener.

We also had the help of the following ***Millenium High School*** Honor students throughout the 6-days: Alex A, Payten B, Damian C, Emery C, Camelia C, Dillon C, Audriana E, Caleb E, Emerson F, Marian F, Kristen G, Anabella G, Victoria H, Dazylnn H, Maya K, Maddie K, Izabela K, Neils L, Kyla L, Vy M, Franco A, Ronan M, Katelyn M, Jocelyn, M, Adelaide M, Ava N, Alicia N, Arriana R, Calia R, Dashia R, Lily R, Mackenzie R, Sophia S, Siena S, Madison S, Chloe T, Sophia T, and Stella W.

At the end of the six-day gift wrapping event, with loaded cars, the following people went to Deb and Larry Orwigs' house and unloaded tables, tents, merchandise, and wrapping paper in their garage: Patrick Doyle, Jean Klink, Trishia Murphy, Deb and Larry Orwig, Denise Padavano, and Jeanne Wegener.

During the six days of our gift wrapping, the weather was beautiful! Temperatures were in the mid 70°s to the low 80°s. Friday, December 12, 2025, our first day was a little slow but proved to be rewarding. Mary Engstrom stopped by early in the day to have her gifts wrapped. She also donated treats for the dogs and cookies for our members! Thank you, Mary, for your support and generosity! Donations and merchandise sales for our first day totaled $461.00.

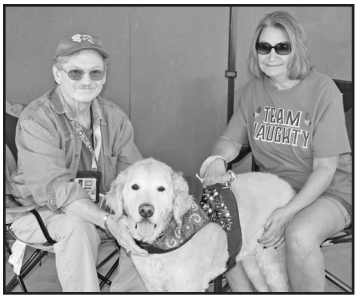
Our second day of gift-wrapping, Sunday, December 14, 2025, was busier and brought in $715.18 for the day!

The following weekend, volunteers wrapped gifts for four straight days! Although we were very tired and busy preparing for our own holiday celebration, we persevered and wrapped many gifts!

Fran helped wrap on two days

Diane helped wherever needed

Saturday, December 20, 2025, our third day and most productive day so far, brought in a total of $837 from donations and merchandise sales. Another fruitful day was day four, Sunday, December 21, 2025. The day brought in $698.09 plus a $50 PetSmart gift card.



Regular volunteers Patrick and Chris with Lucy

On Sunday, Sergio Bocardo, Director of Operations from ***The Habit Burger Grill*** stopped by to have some presents wrapped. He was so impressed with our wonderful volunteers and organization, that he bought lunch (anything on the menu) from the local ***Habit Burger Grill*** for our members two days in a row! Thank you, Sergio, for supporting ***AGR*** members!

Monday, December 22, 2025, our volunteers, both members and students, were very busy wrapping two carloads of gifts! Dona-

tions and merchandise sales for the day totaled $810.86.

Dean and Sugar (above) came from Chandler; Ellen and Jeff brought Rose from Fountain Hills

As we had expected, our busiest and most lucrative day was our sixth and last day on Tuesday, December 23, 2025. With only two days before Christmas, volunteers worked tirelessly to keep up with the steady flow of people bringing presents to be wrapped. The day's reward for our hard work brought in a total of $1,322.30 for gift wrapping donations, dog vest donations, and merchandise sales.

Thanks to everyone who contributed all the goodies to snack on and enjoy, during our days of gift wrapping! Jean Klink brought delicious sugar cookies, Denise Padavano brought a scrumptious chocolate cake to celebrate Debbie Ball and Jean Klink's birthdays, Deb Orwig brought an array of melt-in-your mouth cookies and snacks, and Connie Wozniak brought yummy cookies.

The six days were fun and profitable for ***AGR***! Total income from all six-days was $4,876.83 with $1,726.06 from merchandise sales, $216 from calendar sales, and $3,389.36 from donations! This year our first day was a little slow, but once the public knew we would be there for 5 more days, each day proved to be more productive with the last day being our best!

Volunteers, thank you again for all your hard work and continued commitment for our beautiful rescued dogs and their care!

A stunning photo by Connie of handsome **24-046 Mickey**, adopted by Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson, graces the cover of our fabulous 2026 calendar of rescued dogs. Calendars are the same price as last year: $12 each, plus $3.50 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. Order yours today with the form available on our website.

NOTES REGARDING *PAWS AT THE PARK*

Sunday, March 8, 2026 11 AM - 3 PM
Eldorado Park WEST Ramada, Scottsdale

Fee: Adults $18 each; children under 10, $10 each
Pre-registration REQUIRED – Form herein or on website
Deadline: Wednesday, March 4, 2026

Dogs on leash welcome!

Volunteers needed throughout the event: helping with set-up starting at 9 AM, registration check-in, selling raffle tickets, handling merchandise sales, monitoring the silent auction and raffle items, working in the food-service area, packing up at end
To volunteer, contact agrgoldenevents@gmail.com

Special Thanks

To Sergio Bocardo, Director of Operations for ***The Habit Burger Grill***, Prasada, who bought lunch for eight ***AGR*** gift wrappers two days in a row

To Stephanie Doll with ***Bowser's Friends Foundation*** for the significant close-down-operations donation

To ***ELANCO*** for covering the cost of vaccines and the monoclonal antibody treatment following **25-064 Nino's** parvo infection

To Paul Ghiglieri, owner of ***Paulie's Little Bite of Italy*** in Sun City, for a generous donation following *Dine Out With The Dogs*

To Cody Lewien, General Manager of ***P. F. Chang's***, Phoenix, for a generous donation following *Chopsticks With The Dogs*

To Gloria and Derek Boettcher, Managers at ***O.H.S.O***., Prasada, for a generous donation following our *Photos with Santa at* ***O.H.S.O.***

To ***Floor & Decor,*** Prasada, for sponsoring ***AGR*** to do gift wrapping in front of their store during the holiday season

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	

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 October 27, 2025 through January 15, 2026. Donations that were made after January 15, 2026 will receive an acknowledgment letter in January 2027, unless a receipt for tax purposes is requested sooner.

General Donations from the Heart

Anonymous (multiple)
Santiago Arreola
Gena Anderson
Nancy Bae and Mark Swanson
Sergio Boccardo
Kelsey Bradley
Steven Briesacher
Carolyn and Peter Brown
Carol Clever
Susan and Peter Downs
Kelly Dwinells
Mary and Bert Engstrom
Regina and Ray Fagan
Kelsey Farago
Karen and John Flammang
Dana Francis and Michael Billings
Janis Garza
Teri and Jeff Guilbault
Kylie Hanson
Leslie and Eric Hugg
Marlene Johnson
Sally and Wendell Jones
Nancy Kellender
Greg Korycki and Carrie Foust
Barbara Krajci
Abigail Kuehnau
Henri Macarthur
Michael Martinez
Edith and Clifton Mayfield
Janet and Andrew McClurg
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Tiana Mendoza
Dean Mortimore
Trishia Murphy and Bill Richardson
Janet Okerlund
Deb and Larry Orwig
Denise Padavano
Harold Parsons, Jr
Jason Peltier
Karen and James Phelps
Barbara and James Renshaw
Joe M Schiff, Jr
Marianne Snider and Jeffrey Campbell
Chris Spiel
Sun Valley Quilts, Barbara Connoyer, Owner
Dazia Nichole Trailor
Morgan T Wheadon and Sally Wheadon
Mary Whitmer
Mariruth Brooks Wittkamp

Giving Tuesday, December 2, 2025

Debbie Ball
Daisy Barsetti-Nerland
Joni Cipollone
Karen Davis
Andrea Decker
Jerryl and Fred Dogan
Kathleen M Donahue, D.O.
Keri and Rich Marchant
Deb and Larry Orwig
Judy Petitto
Thomas Skinn
Viki and Russell Snedden
Sarah Velarde
Lenni and SteveWilson

Donors to the Matching Funds Challenge are listed on page 10

Memorial Donations

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

***AGR* Dogs:**

14-013 Rhys Cardinal
18-076 Cassie Morgan
19-023 Heidi Bichler
19-060 Cooper Ference
22-007 TK Tataseo
23-021 Clark Svec

***Autumn* Guilbault – Cat**

People:

Carol Gora
Evelyn Hartzog
Terri Hill
Gary Landwehr

Debbie Ball
Teri and Jeff Guilbault
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson
Deb and Larry Orwig

In Loving Memory of ***14-013 Rhys Cardinal***
Deb and Larry Orwig

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

In Loving Memory of ***16-068 Harvey***
Anne and Jack McGill
Deb and Larry Orwig

In Loving Memory of ***23-021 Clark*** *and in honor of his family*
Debbie Ball
Amy Satterfield

In Loving Memory of ***our sweet cat Autumn, our "mini Golden"***
Teri and Jeff Guilbault

In Loving Memory of Carol Gora and Terri Hill
Deb and Larry Orwig

Honor

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

In Honor of Anne and Rick Gutekunst
Jennifer Wainright

In Honor of all **AGR** *Board Members and Team Managers in thanks for all their hard work during 2025*
Deb Orwig

Diamond Donors

*Diamond Donor for **22-007 TK***
Liz Tataseo

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

*Diamond Donor for **25-034 Sol***
Tera De Los Reyes

*Diamond Donor for **25-060 Zazzy***
Kim and Mark Albrercht
Debbie Ball
Michelle and Steven Ortega
Deb and Larry Orwig

*Diamond Donor for **25-063 Bailey***
Pat Morgan

Grants

Mark Leibowitz from the **Jo Leibowitz Memorial Fund**
To help where needed

Golden Retriever Foundation
*To help with the medical expenses of **25-049 Sadie***

Phoenix Animal Care Coalition (PACC911)
To help with the cost of spays or neuters for five adult Goldens and Golden mixes
*To help with the medical expenses of **25-034 Sol***
*To help with the medical expenses of **25-062 Oro***

P. F. Chang's Christmas Wish Tree Donations

Anonymous (multiple)
Suzanne and John Gillies in honor of **23-053 Stella**
Monique Hafler in honor of **24-080 Juno**
Sioban J Moore in honor of **23-042 Kai**

Thank You Donations

*To Joni Cipollone and Woody Scoutten for vacation care of **Sugar***
Marlene and Dean Mortimore

*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 **Winnie***
Denise Padavano

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

*To Karey Rodeffer for vacation care of **Leia***
Marlene and Dean Mortimore

Memberships - Fourth Quarter 2025

41 families purchased or renewed a Single or Household Membership during Fourth Quarter 2025

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

COPPER ($60)

Kim and Joe Casey
Jamie and Bill Deppey
Karina Helm
Mary Whitmer

AMBER ($100)

Daisy Barsetti-Nerland and Blake Wach
Judy Birt
Susan and Peter Downs
Carol Gora
Allison and Russ Jewell
Marsha and Steve Kleinz
Janis and Randy Moore
Pat Morgan
Trishia Murphy and Bill Richardson
Mark Nelson
Debra and John Prather
Jill and Fred Prose
Cheryl and Jim Riga
Cindy and Mark Roter
Sharon and Joseph Wozny

TOPAZ ($250)

Jan and Joe Baselice
Carolyn and Peter Brown
Trenton Chavez and Patrick Messenger
Isabel Fastiggi and Cathy Gorham
Kim and Kevin McVeigh
Sharon and Carlos Ronstadt
Mariruth Brooks Wittkamp

Corporate Donors and Sponsors

American Online Giving Foundation – Benevity Causes Portal

Fry's Grocery (Kroger)
Community Partners Program Activity during 4th Quarter 2025

Great American Title Agency

Nationwide and the Nationwide Foundation

P. F Chang's

5350 W. Bell Rd.
Suite C122-158
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www.arizonagoldenrescue.org
info@arizonagoldenrescue.org

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