

Reaching out to you with...



# The Golden Paw

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GOLDEN  
RETRIEVER



**KINDNESS**

Have a heart, give a paw!

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Family resemblance? Not really, just genetics. Shelby Ball, age 4 1/2, and Gracie II Prose, age about 6, came from the same breeder in California. They met for the first time at one of the gift-wrapping sessions during the holidays. According to the breeder, they are not related. Last year, we got Buzz, age 11, from the same breeder – he is Shelby's grandfather.



Shelby Ball

Gracie II Prose



18-026 Buzz Krause

Thanks to the following for proofreading the draft: Debbie Ball, Teri Guilbault, Connie McCabe, Larry Orwig and Liz Tataseo

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Masthead photo of **18-074 Riley McCabe / Dodson**  
 by Connie McCabe

Cover Design by Connie McCabe

## Editor's Assistants' Notes



Vin, Duffy and Mufasa Orwig



We were so excited to be able to participate in *AGR* events during the holidays! We got our picture taken with Santa Phil at *Petco* – so nice of him to allow us to snuggle up and drape ourselves over his lap! He seemed to enjoy that as much as we did! And, of course, Connie caught just the right moment in her terrific photo!

It was usually **Vin** and sometimes also **Duffy** who got to greet customers at *Barnes & Noble* during the gift-wrapping activities. The bookstore customers were ever so kind! The three ambassadogs who were there during each session were warmly greeted by everyone, received lots of petting, and a couple customers even brought treats to give out. And, of course, the dogs collected lots of donations – many \$20 bills and even a couple of \$50 bills and one \$100 bill were found in the donation vests! **Mufasa** usually kept Dad company at home, but even **Fasa** got to walk in the *Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade*, too. That was such a fun event! The crowd in Glendale loved all of us dogs!

We are all looking forward to participating in the *Parada Del Sol* on February 9<sup>th</sup>, and we hope you can join us there. This is our 10-year anniversary year, so please try to come and help make this year's walking group the largest *AGR* group that has ever walked in this parade. We encourage you to hang around our booth at *Trails End* after the parade, too. We get lots of attention from the large crowd of thousands that show up and wander around this street fair.

We are also looking forward to our 10<sup>th</sup>-year Anniversary Celebration on March 31<sup>st</sup> at beautiful *Eldorado Park* in Scottsdale. **Vin** and **Duffy** hope to see all their littermates there! So, everyone, please plan to attend!



## Wags and Woofs

By Deb Orwig, President

dorwigaz@cox.net

*Thank you* – two of the kindest words in the English language. The short form, thanks, is almost as good. We try to remember to say thank you in every situation where it is appropriate. A volunteer's time and efforts in an all-volunteer organization need to be acknowledged, otherwise those volunteers won't stay active for very long. The small tasks are just as important to recognize as the large ones. So, we do try to thank everyone for the generous time they share with us for whatever jobs they do.

I value the time that everyone who writes an article for this newsletter takes to get it done. I value the time Debbie Ball puts in when she adds individual dog expenses to her ever-expanding spreadsheet so we can keep track of how much we spend on any particular dog. I value the time Cindy Tigges takes to put all our financial information into our online Quickbooks account and reconcile all of it with bank statements, credit card statements and PayPal transactions at the end of every quarter. As Cindy has said, *Debbie follows the dog; I (Cindy) follow the money*. Both are incredibly important! Thank you both for your contributions!

Karin Forsythe, our Organization Secretary, comes to our infrequent Board meetings and takes detailed Minutes, which she writes up and distributes to all the Board members. She keeps track of any online motions that are made by the Board and the results of votes. Thank you, Karin!

Sharon Flores answers calls that come in to the *AGR* WAGSline phone number (623-566-9247). Most of the calls are addressed at the moment they come in. Occasionally, Sharon has to leave her home, but she always makes a call-back as soon as possible and always apologizes for the delay in speaking with the caller. She is incredibly polite and helpful to the caller, which sometimes takes no small degree of effort on her part. I honestly don't know how she keeps her temper or her tongue sometimes with some of the inconsiderate people who call. Do we take geckos? Do we take German Shepherds? Will we take ...? She has answered an unbelievable number of calls that don't have anything to do with Golden Retrievers! Will we take a dog that bit the neighbor's kid? No. For all such calls, she offers a list she has compiled of no-kill shelters and other rescue groups that accept a breed other than Golden Retrievers. If it is a call about a dog in distress, that rings the "911 bell" in Sharon's head and she immediately starts the ball rolling to get that dog the care it may need by contacting whoever is on Intake duty if it is not herself, contacting Transport and contacting Health Care; Placement comes into the picture later after we have a handle on what is wrong with the dog and how long the recuperation process is expected to take. By the way, she does

home evaluations and fosters dogs for us, too, and some of those have been difficult-to-place or long-term rehab dogs. Thank you, Sharon, for the many and varied jobs you do for **AGR!**

Intake Team Members say thank you to anyone who contacts us about surrendering a dog – *thank you for contacting Arizona Golden Rescue*. They also have to bite their tongues sometimes when a potential surrendering owner tells them their reason for having to give up their dog. Home Evaluators say thank you when leaving a home they have just observed – *thank you for allowing me to visit and look around*. Placement says it when a family decides to accept a rescued dog – *thank you for giving this dog a second chance at a great life*. Our Transport Manager is careful to say thank you to every transporter who offers to take a dog where it needs to go. Transporters say it to a surrendering owner for trusting us to do right by their dog, and say it to the potential adoptive family when they deliver a dog. Health Care Team members say it to our vets, especially for the discounts they give us, and thank our foster and foster-with-intent-to-adopt families when they take the time to get a new rescue examined by one of those vets.

At events, we say thank you to anyone who purchases any of our merchandise and/or donates money, even, and especially, the children who give us their allowance, be it pennies or a dollar or more. We also say *thank you for asking* to any child who asks if it is OK to pet one of our dogs.

If it is a **PACC911** event, either the Director of Activities or I will make the effort to find one of the event hosts and thank them for giving us the opportunity to attend so we can get greater exposure for our organization, even though we do not do on-the-spot adoptions. We also thank members of the public for stopping by our booth, whether they just pet the dogs, inquire about our adoption process, give us a donation, or buy something we sell. Speaking of that, were it not for two **AGR** members, Connie Wozniak and Sheri Rodeffer, who are fabulous seamstresses and who donate a lot of handmade items to us, we would not have much of the merchandise we sell! Thank you, ladies!

During and especially at the end of any event, we say thank you to all who have taken the time to help with any aspect of the event. Everyone who volunteers is sent a wrap-up e-mail in which they are told how much money we made – after all, they helped bring in this money just by being there. In this newsletter, we publicly acknowledge the members who came to each event.

We say thank you to everyone who donates anything at any time during the year. Each quarter in this newsletter, we list everyone who donated during the previous three months. Over 360 thank you letters for both items and money were sent out on January 12<sup>th</sup> to individuals, families, and businesses for 2018 donations. If you think you should have had a letter acknowledging a donation and you did not receive one, please contact me right away. Thank you!

## **TWO DATES TO RESERVE – CHANGES!!**

**AGR's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** will be on **Sunday, March 31, 2019** and will be held at the West Ramada in **El Dorado Park in Scottsdale**. We will have the usual fantastic BBQ, raffle and silent auction, but there will also be some special activities. Look for more information to come out on Facebook and by e-mail, but reserve the date now so that nothing will interfere with your attendance! We really would like to see at least 200 Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes at this event! The reservation form is included herein.

The 2-day *Phoenix Pet Expo*, which was originally scheduled to be at **WestWorld** over Memorial Day weekend like it was in 2018, has been moved to **March 23-24**. The Saturday date for this event, which we have already paid \$350 to attend, is in conflict now with **PACC911's** upcoming *Paws Around the Fountain* adoption event in Fountain Hills. We would really like to have a presence at this **PACC911** Adopt-a-thon – the reception we got from the public there in 2018 was excellent! However, neither April Crow nor Deb Orwig can be in two places at once. We can manage to get the set-up to Fountain Hills early on March 24<sup>th</sup> and come at the end (3 PM) to help with the booth break-down, but we cannot stay all day. So, we would very much appreciate it if some members who live in Fountain Hills would offer to be responsible for our booth at that event. Please contact April at lolowsmom@gmail.com if you are willing to help.



*It's a Ruff Life!*

**By April Crow  
Director of Activities**

lolowsmom@gmail.com

As we enter 2019, this is a great time to reflect on all the wonderful memories from last year – all the happy times that made us smile. My husband and I do pet therapy with a couple of our Golden Retrievers, and this is by far one of the most rewarding things in our lives. Knowing our dogs bring such joy and happiness to others is the reason we devote so much time to this activity.

I meet with a group of at-risk children a couple times a month, and “kindness” was one of our topics around the holidays. When asked what “kindness” means to them, their answers were all over the board, but one sweet, quiet little boy’s answer I will never forget: *Kindness is when someone does something for you that makes you smile and feel special and good about yourself*. This is so simple but yet so profound from the world of a 7-year-old.

During the holidays, we talked about acts of kindness that we can do for others that would make the world a better place. The kids responded with: *open doors for people, compliment people, invite outsiders to join the group, invite other friends to play, take food to old people or people who can't afford a meal, sharing toys/candy with kids that don't have any, bringing dogs to visit sick people*, and the list goes on. I was so impressed with the thought that they put into their responses and appreciated them sharing their experiences.

We all talked about things that recently made us smile and feel special. I shared with the kids that I had **Willow** (my little Golden wannabe) in the car with me that morning and when we went through the **Starbucks** drive-thru line, the lady in front of me bought my drink and ordered a pupuccino for **Willow** because she said just watching us in her rear-view mirror made her smile. Well, that simple gesture made us smile, too; and the kids thought **Willow** must have felt so special because the lady got a nice treat for her. The kids shared stories of things that made them feel special, and we concluded that being kind and friendly is the best way to treat others. We never know what other people are going through, and it takes nothing to be polite and kind to others. That one act of kindness can make such a difference in a person's day.

Volunteering and helping out at different **AGR** events during the holidays was also a great example of kindness. I felt like everyone was friendly wherever we were. People loved on the dogs and were generous with donations, were grateful and appreciative of all the gift-wrappers and beautifully-wrapped gifts and truly enjoyed supporting **AGR** by purchasing wonderful hand-made items. All of the volunteers were happy and friendly and that provided for a great environment. For this being such a busy and stressful time of year, I feel like it was so rewarding because of the kindness being displayed all around us. So, my hope is that everyone moves into 2019 remembering one simple thing... just be kind – it is truly contagious!

There are many events coming up this spring, so check your calendar – we hope to see you at some of them! I love attending the events, meeting other members and, of course, loving on all the dogs that attend, so I hope to see many new faces this year!

The **PACC911** Adopt-A-Thons are a great way to meet other Rescue lovers and support **AGR**. Come out with your dogs and enjoy the perfect spring weather!

The *Parada Del Sol* is a fabulous event, and to be honest, the reason I began to volunteer more and then take on the role of Director of Activities. Last year was the first parade I had attended and participated in and I was SOLD! It was so much fun and everyone LOVED seeing all the dogs. I might be a bit biased, but I do believe we were the hit of the parade. You can't help but smile

from ear to ear when you see all the people waving at you and so excited about all the dogs – the standing ovations are awesome! I can't even express to you enough how enjoyable this event is, so mark your calendar and plan to come out to the *Parada Del Sol* on Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup> and experience the thrill for yourself.

If you can help out at any of the events, please contact April Crow @ lolowsmom@gmail.com or 602-463-2717. We appreciate any time you are willing to volunteer and thank you in advance!



## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

### **Monthly Meet-and-Greets at the Northern Ave Petco and 91<sup>st</sup> Ave PetSmart**

Check website calendar for dates and times  
www.arizonagoldenrescue.org

### ***PACC911 Adopt-a-thon***

Saturday, February 2 10 AM – 3 PM  
**Anthem Community Park** in Anthem  
41703 N Gavilan Peak Parkway, Anthem 85086

### ***Parada del Sol and Trail's End***

Saturday, February 9, Downtown Scottsdale 10 AM

### ***PACC911 & PetSmart at the Promenade***

Saturday, March 2 10 AM – 3 PM  
16257 N Scottsdale Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85254

### ***PACC911 Fundraiser: Glimmer of Hope***

Sunday, March 10 11 AM – 2 PM  
4949 E Lincoln Dr, Scottsdale, AZ 85253

### ***PACC911 Paws Around the Fountain***

Saturday, March 23 10 AM – 3 PM  
12925 N Saguaro Blvd, Fountain Hills, 85268

### ***Phoenix Pet Expo***

Saturday, March 23 10 AM - 5 PM  
and Sunday, March 24 11 AM - 4 PM  
WestWorld of Scottsdale

### ***Arizona Golden Rescue***

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
Sunday, March 31 11 AM – 3 PM  
El Dorado Park, Scottsdale

*Paws Forward*

By Sue Vallie, Director of Dog Care

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Kindness in today's world sometimes seems to be a rare commodity. Fortunately, this is not true among our **AGR** volunteers. Throughout our entire process, each person tries their very best to be kind and patient with both dogs and people as we embark on this mission of finding, saving and rehoming our dear Golden Retrievers.

A home evaluation is generally the first time **AGR** and a potential adopter come into direct contact. We are literally coming into a stranger's home with an eye to seeing potential areas of safety concern for a dog. Pointing out any areas of concern, that is, to actually criticize someone's landscaping or housekeeping habits of laundry or small toys available for a young dog to ingest, takes tact, to say the least.

I am in awe of both the kindness and patience our Intake staff exercises on virtually every call. Sometimes, you wonder what people were thinking that got them into the problems they now face. Some of the reasons given for wanting to relinquish a dog are amazing. (*The dog hair really shows up on our new carpet.*) Sometimes all family members are not on board with the solution of giving the dog up for a better home. The back-and-forth discussion of, *Yes, we need to give the dog up*, and *No, we want to try again*, can last weeks. Sometimes, the simplest calls are the ones that disclose a dog's aggressive behavior. That means we cannot and will not take the dog. Even that refusal is done firmly but graciously, offering a continually updated listing of no-kill shelters that may present a solution we cannot.

Giving up a dog for whatever reason is usually very difficult for some if not all members of a family. Especially heartrending is when a dog is in need of medical care the family simply cannot afford. Unfortunately, people sometimes wait too long, letting an animal suffer needlessly before seeking a solution. There are times when a family recognizes that they basically took on more than they can handle with this dog. Assuring that both these types of surrendering owners are making the best decision for the welfare of the animal is the kindness Intake members must express during the phone calls and that Transport staff must display with each pick-up. Possibly trickier is when no one in the family expresses any remorse or sadness over giving up the dog. Then the kindness is expressed by what Transporters are tempted to but do NOT say, simply loading up the dog with more understanding for what the animal has been enduring.

Placement has a very tricky job. Trying to weigh all of the information available about a given dog (and sometimes it isn't very

much), what is known about the potential adopters and their families, including other pets, they make the best match possible for a dog needing a new home. Meanwhile, approved applicants call asking why they have not been contacted or indicating they want a dog that has been posted. Diplomacy is the best word that can be attached to our Placement Team members!

Our Health Care Team members are really good about contacting new fosters and FWITAs regarding what, if any, vet care is needed. Their prompt responses and coordination with follow-up about any needed care constitutes the kindness to help all of our dogs get healthy and stay well. Further, they reassure new adopters that **AGR** is really concerned about them and the dog in their care. Sometimes this means joining a foster, FWITA or even an owner in allowing the dog to go to the Bridge to end their suffering when it is time.

We are fortunate to have a skilled Behaviorist, Sharon McKenzie, who donates her time freely to help transition a dog into a new home and provide guidance on how to deal with specific problems that may have resulted in the dog coming into Rescue in the first place. Supporting these new owners to correct behavior or keep one's own counsel if people can't seem to follow the suggestions or haven't the perseverance to see the correction through is a further kindness.

There are several other people providing services for us who are not in the mainstream of events. These include Kathy Blue, who posts the dog profiles to our website and a myriad of other related pets-for-adoption sites. Unfortunately, she doesn't get much attention until such time as someone has a criticism of the profile because critical information seems to be missing or people are not reading it correctly. Another unsung hero is Sandra Hansen, who sends out the reminders for members to renew, updates new members to the website and records micro-chip information. Karen Davis follows up with adopters prior to finalizing to assure that the potential adopters want to make the adoption final. This same person sends what we call Bridge cards when we learn that one of our rehomed dogs has passed. Acknowledging the difficulty of saying goodbye to our canine friends is an ultimate kindness.

Any time there is a group of people working together, some people may have their feelings hurt or someone may be curt with a fellow volunteer. We are only human with all of the attendant foibles. My experience has been that **AGR** volunteers make sometimes extraordinary efforts to not hand back some of the less-than-polite kinds of treatment occasionally dealt out by disappointed members of the public. Further, as our only "salary" is recognition and thanks for our efforts, we can all consciously increase the kudos for one another. Let me take this opportunity to say thanks to all of those working directly or indirectly with our mission of bringing in and rehoming Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes who are restored to as good health as possible.



### *The Information Highway*

**By Adam Cardinal  
Director of Information Management**

arcardinal@hotmail.com

When Deb Orwig indicated that the theme of this newsletter was to be “kindness” I was feeling stymied. When you think of technology, kindness isn’t something that springs to mind. After pacing back and forth a bit, I decided the best I can do is provide information on how to use technology to find charitable organizations that are worthy of your donation dollars.

Donating to charities used to be relatively efficient and painless. Donations were usually made in person – either to the charity itself or to a local representative collecting on behalf of the charity. In most cases the charities were those focused on delivering service in the donor’s community. Writing a check or contributing household items made donations simple and relatively easy.

With charities increasingly involved in awareness campaigns, complex networks of cause-marketing and often exorbitant overhead, donating to the most effective charity has never been more challenging. If you are a discriminating giver, you will need a set of guidelines that can tell you if your donation will mostly be spent on a charity’s mission and not on peripheral activities. These days you have to use your head far more than your heart to see that your charitable dollars are well spent on causes you care about.

There are services and strategies you can use to make an informed decision. Most of them can help you determine if your dollars will reach the charity’s “mission” – and whether a nonprofit organization is effective in what it is striving to do.

Fortunately in the past few years, as the number and type of charities has grown dramatically, the availability of independent, unbiased reviews of charities has also increased. Here, I hope to provide some suggestions on reliable sources to perform your own research.

#### **The Major Services**

One of the first steps in searching for charities is GuideStar ([www.GuideStar.org](http://www.GuideStar.org)), which contains records from 1.8 million nonprofits registered with the Internal Revenue Service. The free component of the GuideStar website provides access to each organization’s Form 990, the basic I.R.S. filing document for nonprofits. That is useful on the front end if you want basic information on a charity’s income, spending, mission and executive salaries.

As with the other services, you can also pay for “premium” services from GuideStar that provide more financial analysis and access to a nonprofit’s contractors. This would help if you wanted

to perform detailed comparisons of charities or to explore their financial ratios or executive compensation in greater depth.

What GuideStar does not do is give a qualified rating of a charity. It tries to remain neutral and avoid providing advice or guidance. For more intensive evaluations, you need to go to the BBB Wise Giving Alliance or Charity Navigator.

The BBB Wise Giving Alliance ([www.give.org](http://www.give.org)), affiliated with the Council of Better Business Bureaus, has free reviews of 1,300 national charities; local BBBs have evaluations on an additional 10,000. The group applies 20 “accountability” standards – governance, oversight, effectiveness and the like – once every two years at no charge to the charities, but it does not explicitly rate them using a star or letter system.

The Alliance will specify if a charity does not meet BBB standards or “did not disclose the requested information.” About 40 percent of the charities evaluated meet all 20 benchmarks; ones that do are designated a “BBB Accredited Charity.” Organizations accredited by the alliance can then pay a sliding-scale fee based on their size to obtain a license to use the BBB Charity Seal on websites and fund-raising material. About 60 percent of those qualifying elect to pay the fee for the seal.

Like GuideStar and Charity Navigator, the Alliance cautions against paying too much attention to the percentage spent on non-program expenses, also known as the “overhead ratio.” The Alliance’s approach appears to be more rigorous than the other two services’, although its findings are not compiled into an overall rating. Organizations are deemed “accredited” (met standards), “standards not met,” “unable to verify,” “did not disclose” and “review in progress.” Still, the group’s focus on audited financial statements and accountability – it also publishes in-depth newsletter articles on the subject – is a pragmatic way to view a charity’s operations.

To customize a search and get charity-specific ratings, Charity Navigator ([www.CharityNavigator.org](http://www.CharityNavigator.org)), which evaluates about 7,000 nonprofits, has an easy-to-use interface to find charities that match your interests. Focusing on financial health, accountability and transparency, Charity Navigator applies an analysis to each of its charities to come up with its star ratings (with four stars as the highest rank). It examines federal Form 990s to see how much of a charity’s income goes toward programs and what percentage is spent on administration and fund-raising. Of the three major services, Charity Navigator is the easiest to use. Others to consider are:

- GuideStar ([www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org))
- CharityWatch ([www.charitywatch.org](http://www.charitywatch.org))
- GiveWell ([www.givewell.org](http://www.givewell.org))
- BBB Wise Giving Alliance ([www.give.org](http://www.give.org))

Generally, a good rule of thumb for a worthwhile charity is having at least 75 percent of income spent on programs, or the non-profit's mission. Aside from vetting a charity's financials, donors should understand the charity's mission – pick just a few, do your research and stick with them over time. Charities do change focus for a variety of reasons – societal changes, management changes or legal / regulatory changes. Make sure the changes are consistent with your values. Ideally the changes reflect the impact the donor wants to make on this issue. If not, this is a good time to change to a charity that more accurately reflects the donor's objectives or intent.

### Getting Granular

Want to dig deeper and go beyond the charity information services? You can use them to find basic information on revenue, fund-raising and spending, but you will need to go several layers deeper if you want additional scrutiny. Here are some major issues to consider:

- How does the charity evaluate its effectiveness?

You should be able to see some examples in its annual reports. Also, ask the charity directly about its successes. Does the organization perform any analysis of outcomes of their programs or initiatives? Where has it failed? A transparent charity should provide this information along with progress reports. Charities that cannot gauge their effectiveness through benchmarks may have effective programs, but it is hard for donors to understand how effective or compare them to other options. A charity may spend very little on overhead – and therefore meet financial objectives – but the funds they are spending don't result in the overall change the donor is looking for.

- Is the mission supported by academic research?

Organizations may be funding ineffective ways of addressing their mission. A boutique charity information service like Give Well recommends only three organizations a year out of the hundreds it has considered since its founding in 2007. GiveWell performs extensive research to show that recommended charities are proven, cost-effective, scalable and transparent.

- Watch out for red flags.

Because nonprofit accounting and reporting can be incomplete, suspicious activity can be hidden. Charity-Watch, formerly known as the American Institute of Philanthropy, rates 600 charities with a grading system from A to F – and takes a watchdog approach that tries to expose nonprofit abuses. Common ways charities can hide inappropriate behavior are found in “gifts in kind,” where donations may be overvalued, or in organizations

with emotional appeals – some charities involving animals, children, first responders and veterans. Pay special attention to charities that rely on extensive use of tele-marketing, direct mail and television advertising. They may be little more than aggressive fund-raising operations that do little for their missions, or funds that are diverted to officers or other purposes. Also look at where overhead costs are allocated – there have been numerous cases where donors thought they were paying for an office or business address only to find they were paying the founder's rent or mortgage.

- Is the charity sitting on too much cash?

You need to know if the charity is putting its cash to good use or reserving it for some other purpose. Look at the charity's Audited Financial Statements. Organizations must report the amount they receive annually through donations and fundraising as well as spending on service delivery. If the charity is spending less than 75% of the money they are taking in annually it will be important to understand why they are holding onto donations and if there are plans in the coming year to make expenditures the assets are earmarked for.

### Due Diligence

What can you do with these ratings and reams of financial information? Although you can become immersed in nonprofit accounting arcana and employ all of the charity research services, your efforts may still not tell you if a charity is worthwhile. Break down your charity evaluation into the missions that matter the most to you and your family, and screen for the most effective organizations.

While we hope **AGR** will always be a charity you will support, we know that many of you support more than one charity. Supporting the charity that does the most good with your hard-earned dollars is as important today as it ever has been. Also we hope that, given these recommendations, you will understand why **AGR** has chosen a specific focus in how we will achieve our mission – one that minimizes a need to invest in overhead and extensively uses volunteer resources to operate the organization and coordinate fundraising and awareness. As with most charitable endeavors, the satisfaction you derive is often linked to how hands-on you are with the organization. Getting involved – or seeing it in action for yourself – is part of that fulfilling experience.

*We could use more home evaluators in all parts of the Valley. Two ride-alongs with experienced evaluators are required before we will send you out on your own. If interested, please contact Sheila Joyce at [horsecrazymom@msn.com](mailto:horsecrazymom@msn.com)*



### The Human Connection

By Connie McCabe  
Human Resources Director

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“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 some of the people you think you know. Hopefully you will learn something new about them and gain more insight into how they got here. I have generally been going in order of membership number, beginning at “one” and featuring several members in every column. You may notice that there are some missing member numbers. I know there are a lot of people who really 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.

If you would like to view previously featured members and do not have access to the printed newsletters, you can download them from the Information tab on our website.

Hopefully by now you will have noticed how very many of our members have stayed to be part of the organization long after their first year membership has expired. And, many times, they continue as members even after the **AGR** dog(s) they have adopted have gone to the Bridge. There are many members who have never even adopted a dog from us and some who don’t even have a dog at all! We are very 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.



In this issue, let’s get to know Teddi Axne better. She is number 1063, has done numerous home evaluations and volunteers at many of **AGR**’s events.

In Teddi’s own words: *Hello everyone! My name is Teddi Axne and I have been volunteering for **AGR** for over six years. Unfortunately, I am still working full time as a Radiation Therapist at **Mayo Hospital**, which does not give me as much time to volunteer as I would like. I did Home Evaluations*

*for four years but had to cut back, and I try to show up at fundraisers as often as possible.*



*My husband, Del, and I have been married going on 37 years in April. My love for Golden came shortly after our marriage began, when a patient of my physician came into the office looking for a home for a mom and a 6-month-old Golden he had rescued. Well, off I went with check-book in hand, came home with my first 6-month-old Golden, and they*

*have taken over my heart since.*

*We have had 7 total Golden, 6 males and 1 female. Unfortunately, two weeks ago we unexpectedly lost our **Palmer**, so we are left with my 4 ½-year-old, **Watson**. We will soon be looking for a buddy for him.*



*We purchased a home in Sedona last year to retire to, and hope to make the move up there permanently within the year. We also love Colorado, having lived there 6 of our 37 years together, so look forward to hiking Sedona and Colorado even more. Our fur babies come on 99.9% of our trips, as all Golden love adventure. Here is wishing everyone a wonderful new year and blessings in 2019.*



Now, let’s meet Neal and Candy Greff, sharing number 1179:

Neal was born and raised in Denver, Colorado. He and his family relocated to Arizona in 1989 while he was working with **Continental Airlines**. His first wife passed away suddenly in 1994.

Candy moved to Arizona with her son in 1991 from Orlando, Florida. She worked in hotel management for over 30 years. Neal and Candy met professionally in the hospitality industry, became friends and later married in 1998. They have volunteered with many organizations such as the **Fiesta Bowl**, **National Football Foundation** and their church, **Central Christian**. They’ve enjoyed riding their Harleys throughout the Valley and mountains and with the **Christian Motorcyclists of America**, with whom they’ve also done volunteer work. An opportunity to become business owners presented itself in 2010, and they have now been in the funeral business for nine years, assisting families during a time of loss.

When they joined forces, Neal had a Dalmatian and an English Setter, and Candy had a rescued Black Lab mix, a rescued Yellow Lab, and a rescued Maltese. Rescuing, along with having multi-pet households, was not new to them.

One by one, they said goodbye to pack members. **Shelby**, a newer addition, had become an only dog, after 14-year-old **Bear** (Black Lab mix) went the Bridge. A few years prior, a neighbor's Lab had wandered off, and while traveling the neighborhood searching for her, Candy had come across a family who bred Labs. So, she and **Shelby** found that house again to see if/when they might be having puppies. Well, they didn't have Labs. However, they had just had two litters of Golden Retrievers. Eight weeks later, they brought **Casey** home – she was responsible for their love affair with Goldens.

Everyone loved **Casey**. She was the perfect dog, and all their friends wanted a clone! A neighbor had a male Golden whose name was **Casey**, too. Eventually they bred, producing seven live puppies. All but one was spoken for before they were born, so they ended up keeping two boys, **Teddy Bear** and **Beamer**. They were then back to having four large dogs. In 2013, they lost **Casey** to cancer at age 10, thirty days later **Beamer** (8) died suddenly in Candy's arms, and thirty days after that **Shelby** died from old age – she was fourteen. Neal and Candy were broken-hearted beyond words.

**Teddy Bear** was lonely, as he'd never been an only dog. Candy and Neal had decided they would like to rescue, knowing how many dogs are looking for homes. That's when they discovered **AGR**. Sweet **Dixie** had lived with one family for eight years when the family decided they couldn't keep her any longer. Initially she didn't like having another dog in her life. However, through much love, lots of patience and time, she grew to love **Teddy**. Candy and **Teddy** enjoyed volunteering with **AGR** through Meet-and-Greets and gift wrapping events, and Candy walked the East Valley Shelter trying to assist rejected Goldens.

When **Teddy** went to the Bridge in May 2017, they put a deposit on a puppy, **Harley**, who joined the family in June. **AGR** brought **Brewster** to their family at the end May. He had a battle with mast cell cancer. Candy said: *We are forever grateful that **AGR** made sure he was healthy, taking care of his medical needs. He has been such a Godsend, as he has been the best big brother to **Harley!** **Dixie** didn't readily accept **Harley**, but in time she loved him in her own way, and he adored her and respected her. She always just wanted to belong and be loved. She taught us so much, and we are ever so grateful to have had her in our lives for five years. We said goodbye to **Dixie** in October – she was 13 ½.*



*Once Candy recovers from a major surgery, she plans to do more volunteer work, and*

*they will most likely look at adding to their pack again.*

they will most likely look at adding to their pack again.



Now on to Paul and Tiara Korpalski, number 1256: They have attended many events, fostered several dogs and Tiara has done home evaluations in addition to transports.

Paul grew up in Boise, Idaho with his parents and younger brother. During high school he played most sports but was best at wrestling. He moved to Tempe when he

started at **ASU** for his engineering degree. Paul was not a fan of the snow and felt that Tempe was the perfect fit. To this day Paul still refuses to drive in the snow!

Tiara started out life in Florida with her mom and grandmother. Later on she moved to Williams, Arizona, where her new stepdad officially adopted her. Tiara gained a love for travel while participating in Upward Bound, touring colleges. She attended **ASU** and earned a degree in Family and Human Development. Tiara works for the Medicaid population, helping chronically ill individuals stay out of nursing homes and remain at home, whether with family or independently.

Paul and Tiara Korpalski met not so long ago in 2010. Tiara's friend at work had been trying to get her to meet Paul for months with no luck. Finally, Tiara gave in and met everyone in downtown Phoenix. She and Paul have been inseparable ever since. They started traveling right away, first with a trip to Mexico and then off to Costa Rica. They both gained a love for backpacking through the country and really soaking in the culture.

After spending a month in Brazil, it was time for a dog! **Maximus** was the next journey. He became a part of the family in the summer of 2013. He was six weeks old and full of life, zest, and oh so much energy. They learned that caring for a dog was much more work than they anticipated but so worth it. **Maximus** chewed up a few baseboards, one couch, one rug, and one pair of 3D glasses for Paul's fancy TV. He shined at his **PetSmart** training classes and learned everything almost immediately – the pup had a personality all his own.

By 2014 they were ready for their second Golden. **Shep** was fostered but unfortunately didn't fit with the wild and crazy **Maximus** very well. In April they received a call from **AGR** about a "slightly" overweight dog by the name of **Jaxx**. He was 113 lbs, but every bit of him was perfect! He fit in immediately and their family was complete.

Paul and Tiara at this time were still not engaged, but off to Guatemala they went and Paul popped the question at the top of the tallest ruin at sunrise! It was romantic and adventurous all wrapped up in one. The next day they were traveling over to Belize for the

rest of the vacation. Tiara tried to convince Paul to elope there but he wasn't having it. He wanted the wedding!

So there was a wedding. The pups also joined in for pictures. Tiara surprised Paul after the ceremony by having mascot "Sparky" show up (Did we mention that Paul is a HUGE ASU football fan?). After the wedding they sold their house and moved in with Paul's parents while their new house was being built! Four people and four Golden Retrievers was an adventure. Their pool at the house was designed with the pups in mind (**Maximus** hates swimming, so he has a nice large Baja step all for himself).



After another eight countries were explored, Tiara gave in to the idea of a baby, and we are all so happy she did. They took one last baby-free trip to Italy and Ireland and in September 2018 Mason was born and stole his mom's heart. The perfect new addition to the family. **Jaxx** loved him immediately and **Maximus** has warmed up to the idea of no longer being the baby.

New exciting adventures are in store for the Korpalski family!



### *Health and Safety*

By **Liz Tataseo**  
Health Care Manager

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### ***Muscle Issues in Dogs Not Caused by Trauma***

We recently had a dog almost surrendered to us with a condition called Rhabdomyolysis or Exertional Myopathy. This is a condition that results from extensive exercise for a dog that has not had adequate training. Because of an inadequate supply of the blood to the muscle due to over-exertion, muscle cells can be destroyed, and excess potassium leaked into the dog's system can cause kidney disease. Symptoms include pain and swelling of the muscle, stiffness, fast breathing and, in severe cases, collapse and kidney failure. If it is determined that a dog has this condition, mild exercise, good nutrition and no prolonged, strenuous exercise should ensure a good life for the dog. Remember, your dog will keep going with you on walks, hiking or retrieving. If your dog has not been trained for extensive exercise, don't do it.

What other muscular or neuromuscular issues can your dog get in his or her lifetime?

**Masticatory Myositis:** This is an inflammatory condition that affects the muscles in the jaw/head. It can be either acute (a one-time response) or chronic (that lasts a lifetime). Signs include swollen muscles and inability to open the jaw normally. If you see your dog unable to pick up his or her toys, or not eating, or yelping in pain if you try to look into their mouth, your dog may have MMM or Masticatory Muscular Myositis. Usually treatment with steroids alleviates the condition and the acute form often never returns. However a chronic condition will mean small doses of steroids for the rest of the dog's life.

**Myasthenia Gravis:** This is the most common neuromuscular disease in dogs. It is caused by a breakdown of the neurotransmitter acetylcholine that facilitates impulse transmissions between nerve cells. As a result the muscles do not contract adequately and dogs show weakness and fatigue. MG can be an inherited congenital defect that appears at 6-8 weeks after birth (puppies usually do not survive) or acquired in adult dogs 1-4 years of age or 9-13 years of age. The acquired form shows up in Golden Retrievers, Labradors, German Shepherds, Dachshunds, Scottish Terriers and Akitas. Mild forms of the disease that manifest later in life have good prognosis. Dogs that acquire it at a younger age often have poor prognosis. Symptoms include enlargement of the esophagus (megaesophagus), loss of reflexes and generalized collapse. Treatment includes oral doses of anticholinesterases that stop the loss of acetylcholine. There is no cure for MG, and to prevent aspirational pneumonia, most often dogs will have to change how they eat due to the megaesophagus.

**Tick Paralysis:** In certain areas of the United States, a common disease of the neuromuscular junction is that produced by a toxin present in the saliva of gravid (carrying eggs) ticks of many species. This disease causes an ascending paralysis of skeletal muscle by inhibiting the release of acetylcholine in the nerves, much like MG. Common signs include weakness, which may be profound. The disease may be fatal, with death due to respiratory paralysis. Often, recovery from the muscular paralysis usually occurs within 1 to 3 days after removal of the ticks if respiratory paralysis does not occur.

**Polymyositis:** This is an inflammatory muscle disorder in adult dogs that can affect the entire body. It is an immune-mediated disease like MMM. It can be either sudden or recurring and progressive. Symptoms include depression, lack of energy, weakness, weight loss, lameness, muscle pain and loss of muscle mass. Again, steroids are the treatment of choice, although there are other drugs that suppress the immune system that may be used. Prognosis is good if diagnosed correctly.

The above conditions are systemic issues; normal leg sprains and strains are transitory and usually resolve with rest and a careful

return to exercise. The symptoms come on suddenly and can include swelling, bruising and lameness with the dog able to bear weight on the leg. If your dog is not bearing weight on the leg, go to the vet. That could mean a fracture or tendon/ligament issue. Limping for longer lengths of time can also indicate possible valley fever.

When in doubt, take your dog to your vet.

### *Follow the Lead*

By Deb Orwig

#### **Basic Dog Training**

Spring is on the way, and it comes earlier in Arizona than in most other places in the U.S. – by the time it is spring in Connecticut or Michigan, it is hot in Arizona! Now is the ideal time, at least in Arizona, to start working on obedience training with your dog.

There are some by-words you should remember when beginning to train your dog.

**Education.** When it comes to dog training, make an effort to get yourself trained. Your dog is not going to learn much if left to his or her own devices, unless what the dog learns is behaviors that are undesirable. Learn how to train the dog to do the behaviors you want it to do, either by going to a class taught by a professional trainer, or by watching a video online – there are some that are quite good. (Google on YouTube Dog Training and you'll find a lot from which to choose. Watch as many as you have time to watch. No two trainers train the same way!)

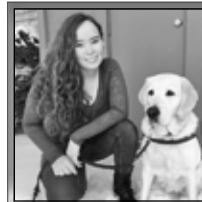
**Consistency.** After you have learned how to teach your dog the desired behavior, be consistent. When training a particular “trick” or behavior – some people refer to “heel”, “sit”, “down”, “stay” and “come” as tricks, others as behaviors – be consistent. Don't say “down” one time and “lay down” or “lie down” another time. One-word commands are easiest for the dog to learn. If you don't want the dog on the furniture (or the counter or jumping on yourself), use “off” rather than “down” or “get down” or “get off”. Everyone in the family should use the same command for the same behavior to get the same result.

**Enforcement.** Don't issue a command you cannot enforce. For example, don't say “come” if the dog is across the yard from you and you don't have a leash attached to the dog's collar. If you can't enforce the command by giving a tug on the leash, the dog will quickly learn to ignore you. Another example: Say “sit” and say it only once. If the dog does not sit on command, show the dog what “sit” means by pulling up on the leash and pushing down on the dog's rear end at the same time as you issue the command.

Praise, praise, praise with an excited tone of voice when the dog does the behavior!

**Persistency.** Training does not happen overnight with any age dog. Don't believe it when you hear *You can't teach an old dog new tricks* – you can! Many rescued dogs have been living with someone who did not know anything about training or could not take the time to do any. Consequently, some dogs will need more attention to training – or retraining, as the case may be – than others, but most rescued dogs could use at least a refresher course. We always encourage our adopters to enroll in a series of basic obedience classes. Taking a basic class will be good for you as a handler and good for your dog for both socialization and education. Be persistent. Set aside some time every day for formal training. Training, even heeling in the correct position, can be practiced indoors if the weather is not conducive to working outdoors. In order to ensure the dog's attention, it is best if you keep the time short, 10 to 20 minutes, and, if possible, have two or three short sessions each day. It is also best if you can schedule the training at the same time every day. In other words, develop a routine. “Practice makes permanent” is a phrase I heard my first trainer use over and over. However, you have to be careful to practice what you have learned and how you have learned it. If a dog is allowed to practice an undesirable behavior, that behavior is likely to become permanent, which is not what you want.

Education – of yourself, then of your dog – is the most important thing. Then, consistency is as important as persistency! Start training, and good luck!



### *Service Paws*

By Aria Ottmueller  
Guest Columnist

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*Editor's Note: In May 2018, Aria Ottmueller graduated from Northern Arizona University with honors. She completed a double major in Criminology and Criminal Justice and Political Science with a minor in International Studies and Law and Society. She intends to attend law school at some point. Aria was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; however, she grew up in Chandler, Arizona. She is visually impaired, and has a guide dog, Tori, a 5-year-old Labrador Retriever. Tori accompanies Aria on day-to-day activities, acting as her eyes. Aria wrote a 39-page final paper for a class she took at NAU. The following is excerpted from the paper which is entitled Fraud Dogs! The Dangers of Fraudulent Service Animals. I published her Introduction in the February 2018 issue, the section entitled The Law in May, another section called Problems Within The Law in August and Opportunities for the Disabled in November. Our thanks to Aria for allowing us to print parts of her paper which I feel might be of interest to our readers.*

#### **Education**

Von Bergen (2015) discusses the increase in emotional support animals on college campuses and how that is affecting universi-

ties around the country. Colleges want to accommodate people with disabilities, but many campuses are not in agreement with accommodating emotional support animals (ESAs). They are often forced to comply with emotional support statutes in regard to on-campus housing. If they do not, college campuses will be subjected to legal recourse as mentioned throughout Von Bergen's article. According to the article, colleges that do not allow pets are getting more requests for emotional support animals to live in the dorms. In any year, one in four people could be diagnosed with a mental illness, whether it is depression or a bipolar disorder, thus continuing to increase ESAs on college campuses. Psychological disorders are the second most claimed disability in the United States. The article argues that it is more acceptable today to be diagnosed with mental illness, supporting why more people are disclosing that information. Animals have a positive impact on students with mental illnesses, therefore animals are becoming more prevalent on campuses (Von Bergen, 2015). Colleges continue to be wary when accepting emotional support requests as a result of this increase. The article argues that in the future colleges should be prepared to address greater demand for ESAs.

Although Von Bergen recognizes and approves of the growing use of ESAs, he also argues against the purchase of vests through online websites. This article recognizes the importance of the differences between ESAs and service animals, stating that service animals are used to perform a specific task, whereas ESAs are not. Institutions, such as colleges, should not ask for "overly intrusive, burdensome, confidential, unnecessary documentation, or information with respect to accommodations" (Von Bergen, p. 26, 2015). Administrators should not focus on the disability of a person. The article also says that the context for which people utilize these animals matters, meaning that people have more rights with ESAs on college campuses than in housing or apartment complexes. College campuses allow ESAs to include dogs, cats, and various other animals. In these cases, it depends on the laws of each state with regards to ESAs. These psychological disorders are considered mental health disorders that have increased in the United States. As a result of the increased mental illness, Von Bergen argues that the broadened definition of an ESA will continue to increase the number of animals on college campuses.

Kanter (2015) argues that the *American Disabilities Act* did not recognize the right to equality of people with disabilities because it was never meant to entirely equalize disability rights, including education and employment. He believes that there is a narrow definition to the application of "reasonable accommodation." Kanter believes the primary purpose of the *ADA* was to "move people from the reliance on government benefits to employment by prohibiting discriminatory acts to disability rights." The *ADA* is not purely against discrimination, according to the article, but it entitles people to accommodations that do not pose an "undue hardship" on employers. The law focuses on whether a person meets those needs, not their individual needs. By not specifying

rights it limits the potential of those with a disability, according to Kanter. At the time the *ADA* was enacted, people wanted to equalize employment for those who had a disability. People with disabilities were making less than half of what someone without a disability earned (Kanter, 2005). The unemployment rate costs the U.S. taxpayer several billion dollars in dependency and non-productivity every year. It was not until the enactment of the *ADA* that people were given equal employment opportunities under the law. Kanter argues that this Act was necessary; however, its primary focus was not to create equal opportunities across the board but to improve opportunities for the disabled (Kanter, 2005).

Rimmer (2017) argues there are further difficulties faced by people with disabilities, when examining education and employment. He describes this group of people as having the highest rates of unemployment and poor health condition than any other group in the United States. Many people working in the field of disabilities, such as caregivers, are not given the resources to address disabilities. Schools are not able to implement programs allowing children with and without disabilities the same opportunities to engage with one another. Disabled children do not have any opportunities to interact through sports or important outdoor activities that are critical to a child's psychological development. Often teachers are not given the resources or time to facilitate these activities, because children with disabilities are not a large portion of the population. According to Rimmer, the current environment supports the lack of interaction between students in school. He also argues that the engagement in society is limited as a result of broken sidewalks, no transportation, and many other reasons. Some living barriers include an inability to eat well because a person with a disability has difficulty leaving their home. The article argues that community leaders should address these issues and improve society through environmental changes, community awareness, and improvement in transportation (Rimmer, 2017).

Heiman (2017) discusses barriers within education for people with disabilities. He examines the difficulty in education to integrate information and how it is difficult for those with a disability to retain some of that information. The article analyzed data and found that 35 percent of those in higher education with a disability access disability services. This means that most who are diagnosed with a disability do not access resources to be successful. Herman argues that distance-learning universities are more efficient in higher education for those with a disability. These institutions focus on distributing lectures through online seminars, which could be easier to access. This also allows the dissemination of information to those who are not physically present in class. The schools provide many alternative forms for taking exams, which is better for those with disabilities, according to the article. It was shown that students seek help more frequently when learning in an online seminar. Additionally, student accommodations were met on all occasions, which is not always seen in public institutions. Heiman views distance-learning universities

as a solution to increasing education for the disabled, since many are more likely to accept accommodations.

Nasibullov (2015) focuses on the integration of disabilities in society and social success of those with disabilities. He includes all levels of education in his article. The article argues that education is a main influence in society. He believes that giving equal education to those with disabilities plays an important role in improving society. He argues for inclusive education, meaning that people with disabilities should be integrated into the classroom; however, he also recognizes that it may not always be a viable option. Full integration is difficult. It is hard to meet all educational needs. Increasing social interaction and integration in education for people with disabilities improves their successfulness in education by providing them with the same opportunities as those without disabilities. This in turn will increase their successfulness in attaining a job after school. By including children with disabilities and integrating them into the classroom it also decreases discrimination. An increase in adequate education, according to Nasibullov, will increase the child's self-esteem and it will ultimately have a positive outlook on their future.

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**2019 Calendars Are Still Available**

If you do not have one of our fabulous 2019 calendars yet, we still have a few left. Please send your order in right away, \$12 plus postage. Order form is on the website: [www.arizona-goldenrescue.org](http://www.arizona-goldenrescue.org)



*The Financial Picture*

By Deb Orwig

**Reporting period: January 1, 2018- December 31, 2018**

**Total Assets as of January 15, 2019: \$223,558.83**

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Adoption Application Fees	\$ 7,700.00	
Adoptions	25,540.00	\$ 600.00
Adoption Fee Refunds		\$ 250.00
Bank Charges (PayPal & Credit Card fees)		1,172.92
Calendars		
Sales	2,126.00	
Printing		3,454.53
Sponsorships	2,250.00	
Donation Income, General	42,721.23	
Debbe Begley Memorial Fund	2,498.00	
Honorary	16,804.64	
Memorials	9,435.61	
Summer Fundraiser	11,210.00	
Dues and Subscriptions	16.00	745.24
Event Expense		400.00
Gift Wrapping <sup>1</sup>	5,608.30	
Golf Tournament	26,093.20	6,084.70
(Donations)	3,839.20	
(Golf Prizes)	1,820.00	
(Golfers)	7,029.00	
(Hole Sponsorships)	5,150.00	
(Meals)	1,925.00	
(Silent Auction)	6,330.00	
Grants	9,000.00	
Insurance		694.00
Interest	80.49	
Legal and Professional Fees		10.00
Membership Income	22,010.00	
Merchandise	10,603.45	1,642.17
Paws At The Park 2018	2,470.96	533.11
Office Expenses & Supplies		1,082.00
Photos with Santa in Dec. 2017	769.38	
Postage		1,591.14
Rent or Lease		3,143.09
Stationery and Printing		4,945.97
Telephone and Website		191.46
Dog-related Expenses		
Boarding		2,900.50
Leashes and Collars		43.01
Micro-chip expenses		715.45
Miscellaneous		760.63
Veterinary Services		158,884.83
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$196,687.26</b>	<b>\$189,594.75</b>

**NET INCOME: \$7,092.51**

**Checking Account on 1-15-19: \$113,464.24**  
**Savings Account on 1-15-19: \$100,006.79**  
**Debbe Begley Memorial Fund as of 1-15-19: \$10,087.80**  
**Outstanding Credit Card Balance on 1-15-1: \$13,536.83**

<sup>1</sup> Merchandise sales during gift wrapping sessions are included under *Merchandise Income* not under *Gift Wrapping*

Notes from the President Regarding *AGR*'s Financial Picture

By Deb Orwig

We have always been and always will be completely transparent about the money we make and the money we spend. We publish our entire cumulative "picture" in every quarterly newsletter; this issue contains the whole year 2018 on page 14.

First, no one in our organization gets paid for anything – we are all volunteers.

Second, there are necessary expenses that are not directly dog-related.

- We have to pay to provide credit card and PayPal services – this is the main reason we add on an extra 3% when a purchase is made, be that a membership or a merchandise item; we do not tack on that 3% for a donation made with a credit card or by PayPal, but we still get charged for the transaction. Credit card and PayPal fees are going up in January, so we are considering raising our "convenience fee" to 3.5% in order to cover the cost. Better to pay for something by check or by using *Zelle* – more on that later.
- We have to pay for insurance, but our insurance is as low as it could be because we require all our volunteers to be members.
- We have to pay for office supplies and printing – some office supplies are donated (ask me what we need!) we use *Arizona Correctional Industries* (i.e., the state prison) to print our newsletter, which saves an incredible amount of money.
- We have to pay for postage. We send the newsletters and golf postcards out by bulk rate mail, which also saves us a lot of money. Occasionally, we do send first-class mail: all the thank you letters that were sent in January and all the *Summer Fundraiser for Special Needs Dogs* letters that go out to adopters. If a particular first-class item cannot be delivered because the recipient has moved, we get the item back; bulk rate mail is not forwarded or returned to us if it cannot be delivered. So, please tell us if you move!
- We have to pay to rent a storeroom – my garage cannot begin to hold all of *AGR*'s stuff.
- We have to pay to communicate with each other and with the public by phone or through our website. To save money on our phone bill we use VoIP for small businesses; software packages that power the various online functions we have to have sometimes need to be upgraded.

These "administrative" items amount to about 14% of our expenses; 86% of our income is spent on veterinary services and dog-related categories. According to the criteria in Adam Cardinal's

article on pages 7 - 8, *Arizona Golden Rescue* is a good charity to support!

I mentioned *Zelle* early on in this message. *Zelle* is a bank-account-to-bank-account money-transfer system. There are no set-up fees, no transaction fees, and the money is transferred instantaneously. Get started by enrolling your e-mail or mobile number through your mobile banking app or with the *Zelle* app. Enter the preferred e-mail address or mobile number of the recipient. Enter the amount to send. Your recipient gets a notification explaining how to complete the payment simply and quickly. You can send money to almost anyone you know and trust with a bank account in the U.S. To find out if your bank or credit union supports *Zelle*, go to [www.zellepay.com/banks](http://www.zellepay.com/banks). If you want to send *AGR* money via *Zelle*, the best thing to do is to contact me by e-mail ([dorwigaz@cox.net](mailto:dorwigaz@cox.net)) and ask me to add your e-mail address to *AGR*'s bank's list and then tell me how much you want to send. I will then issue you an invitation from *AGR*'s bank (*JP Morgan Chase*) and all you have to do is respond to it. Easy. Quick. Done. Money in the bank!

*Diamonds in the Ruff*

By Debbie Ball and Deb Orwig

*Diamonds in the Ruff* are dogs on which *AGR* has had to spend at least \$1,000 during one quarter. Please consider making a donation 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 and will be acknowledged both in the newsletter and in a personal letter to the donor.

To recap third-quarter 2018's *Diamonds in the Ruff*...

**18-007 Murphy** had additional surgery to clean up the margins where a tumor had been attached to his stomach wall. **Murphy** has some fairly severe allergies that his adopters are now trying to control.

**18-027 Dodger's** new owner reports that **Dodger** is doing great, full of energy and smiles following his ear ablation surgery. He is feeling much better!

**18-035 Allie**, almost 16 now, is doing well with her new family as a *Gentle Paws Hospice Adoption*. She now has the company of **18-085 Sarah**.

**18-037 Kona** was adopted by Jay and Abbey in Glendale. They love her and don't care if she "leaks", which she will probably do the rest of her life. She is taking medication that helps a little.

**18-053 Mitch** and **18-054 Steele** were surrendered by their owner due to the owner's personal health situation. **Mitch** has allergies, a sensitive stomach and thyroid issues. He has been adopted by a family that promised us they would not let **Mitch** get into any-

thing he shouldn't. He had some additional expenses during 4<sup>th</sup> quarter (see below).

**18-054 Steele** has also been adopted and is now the constant companion of a disabled individual who adores him and will see to it that **Steele** behaves himself.

**18-055 Sherry** (a.k.a. **Goldie Hawn**) had TPLO surgery (tibial plateau leveling osteotomy) to stabilize the stifle joint after rupture of the cranial cruciate ligament. She is doing very well and has been adopted and renamed **Pepper**.

**18-060 Jewel** was in terrible shape when we got her from the shelter, so the Board made the decision to send her peacefully to the Bridge.

**18-062 Sensei**, now **Sampson**, has recovered from his intestinal troubles and is now a typical puppy. He still needs to be neutered.

**18-064 Mandy** is doing much better and has been adopted. She had some additional expenses during 4<sup>th</sup> quarter (see below).

**18-069 Jackie's** leg has been repaired and she is doing well. She still needs to be spayed.

#### *Fourth-quarter 2018 Diamonds in the Ruff*

An unusually low number of only four dogs made it into the *Diamonds in the Ruff* category during the fourth quarter of 2018, and only **Mandy's** cost was a little higher than the rest.



**18-053 Mitch:** In November **Mitch's** foster discovered a couple of lumps, which were subsequently removed in early December. The biopsy was negative – his mass was found to be a pilomatricoma, which is a tumor arising from the hair matrix. **Mitch's** 4<sup>th</sup>-quarter costs were **\$1,047**, and his total 2018 expense was **\$3,337**.

**18-064 Mandy**, renamed **Abby** by her adopter, had ongoing unresolved bloody diarrhea despite treatment with antibiotics. In October she was referred to **AMSC** for X-rays and an ultrasound, with the resulting diagnosis being chronic intestinal inflammation. **Mandy** has been helped by adding Tylosin Tartrate powder to her food; she may need this supplement for the rest of her life. She was finally spayed and had a dental done in December. Fourth-quarter expenses for her were **\$3,853**, and total 2018 procedures for **Mandy** have cost **\$7,298**. Our expenses were reduced by generous grants from the **Golden Retriever Foundation's April Fund** and by **PACC911's**



**Critical Care Program's Golden Angel Fund.** We greatly appreciate their help!



**18-072 Sadie** is an 8-year-old purebred female Golden surrendered to Rescue due to her owner's work situation and lack of time for her. She was given all the usual tests for heartworm and valley fever and was brought up to date on her vaccinations. **Sadie** needed to lose a few pounds before being spayed – her spay surgery was then completed in late November. **Sadie's** expenses amounted

to **\$1,069**, despite there not being anything particularly unusual about her health condition.

**18-078 Lady** is a 3-year-old female Golden mix who was surrendered by her former owner due to family allergies. She had been used as a breeding bitch for several litters of puppies, but the last litter had genetic defects, so she was being retired from breeding. **Lady** was given the usual initial exam, screenings for heartworm and valley fever, and brought up to date on all necessary vaccines. Her spay surgery was completed in late November, along with X-rays of her hips and spine as there was thought to be a possible problem – when she was on the table her leg spread was quite wide, but, thankfully, no problems were found and she is healing nicely! She has been adopted by Christine and Tim in Prescott. **Lady's** 4<sup>th</sup>-quarter expenses totaled **\$1,473**.



#### *2019 – Already one expensive dog and working on two more...*



The first dog we rescued in 2019 made up for all the others that did not cost a lot during the fourth quarter of 2018. **19-001 Lilly**, an almost-11-year-old purebred Golden, was surrendered to **AGR** by a family that said she had been in distress for three days and they could not afford to find out why. **Lilly** had been vomiting, had watery diarrhea, and would not eat or drink. She had a

history of eating things she shouldn't, but the owner told us that the last time **Lilly** did that was three years ago, so she had no idea what could be wrong with the dog. The owner surrendered the dog to us at **Blue Pearl Emergency Clinic** at 9875 W. Peoria Ave in Peoria. **Lilly** was dehydrated and obviously felt awful, so the vet started her on IV fluids and antibiotics. X-rays showed a blockage in her intestines. When the surgeon opened her up, he was startled to find a towel stuck between her stomach and intestines and lots



of intestinal adhesions that formed pockets where fluid could and did collect. He told us the adhesions indicated that during her lifetime **Lilly** had to have had multiple surgeries for the removal of foreign objects. There is only so much that a dog's system can tolerate, and, unfortunately, **Lilly** had reached beyond her limit by the time she was in our hands. We tried to save her, we really did – she was a beautiful, platinum-colored, very sweet girl – but we were not successful. She stayed at the emergency clinic until it became obvious after four days that she was not going to recover, so the Board voted to send her to the Bridge. Had the family surrendered her to us when they first noticed her distress, we might have been able to save her life. But they didn't, and we couldn't. Lilly's stay at the emergency vet cost over **\$7,900**. It was a really difficult way to start the New Year. We would appreciate any donations that will help with this expense.

### *Is it an Emergency?*

From Deb Orwig: *While waiting for the vet at **Blue Pearl Veterinary Clinic** to examine **Lilly**, I read through a brochure that was available to the public on their reception counter. Below are signs and symptoms listed in the brochure that should encourage you to at least call your own vet (mine is on speed-dial) or an emergency clinic if you notice any:*

- Arching back, lethargic, restless, bloated or distended stomach
- Bites from insects and snakes that would produce an allergic reaction: chewing at feet, diarrhea, difficulty breathing, fever, hives, puffiness around the eyes, scratching, swollen face, vomiting
- Bite wounds, bleeding, cuts and lacerations
- Breathing: rapid, shallow, trouble breathing
- Burns
- Cold, frostbite
- Diarrhea
- Eyes: injuries, infections, pawing at the eyes, different pupil sizes, squinting, discharge, tearing, redness or swelling
- Head tilts, circling
- Heat and dehydration: excessive, relentless panting; lethargy; uncoordinated movements; vomiting or diarrhea; weakness or inability to stand
- Limping, lameness, or suspected broken bones
- Poison, toxic substances: disorientation, excessive salivating, seizures, vomiting, weakness; if poison-ingestion is suspected, call the **ASPCA** poison control hotline at **888-426-4435** – there is a charge for consultation, so have your credit card ready.

### *... BUT IT'S JUST A DOG ...*

**By Nancy Campbell LVT\***

Certified Aromatherapist, Astrologer, Artist and practicing Pagan  
Owner/Moderator of Natural Ferrets  
(Some days you're the windshield, other days you're the bug!)

*If it were my brother, I'd find an allergist to help him with his allergies, no matter the cost.  
But they tell me, it's just a dog.*

*If it were my sister, I'd find the best laser eye surgeon so she could see again, no matter the cost.  
But they tell me, it's just a dog.*

*If it were my mother, I'd hire a staff of oncologists for the cancer that is stealing her away from me, no matter the cost.  
But they tell me, it's just a dog.*

*If it were my father, I'd find the best orthopedic surgeon to enable him to walk again, no matter the cost.  
But they tell me, it's just a dog.*

*If it were my husband, I'd hire every medical professional necessary to put him back together after that terrible accident that almost took him away, no matter the cost.  
But they tell me, it's just a dog.*

*If it were my child, I wouldn't skimp on dental care, no matter the cost.  
But they tell me, it's just a dog.*

*If it were my best friend, I would go with her to the doctor, every day that she needed me to help her through the worst pains in her life, taking off work if necessary and putting my own needs aside, no matter the cost.  
But they tell me, it's just a dog.*

*If any member of my family were dying, at that moment I would pull out all the stops and do whatever was in my power to save their life, no matter the cost.  
But they tell me, it's just a dog.*

*Just a dog.*

*Just my friend.*

*Just my family.*

*Please . . . my dog . . . no matter the cost.*

\*from *The Guardian*, the Canadian Golden Retriever Adoption Service Newsletter, Issue #28, Winter 2002.  
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## MAGIC MOMENTS

By Mary Engstrom

*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 October 9, 2018 through January 13, 2019. All adoptions finalized after January 13<sup>th</sup> will be in the next issue.*



**18-054 Steele** is a 9-year-old Lab mix male who needed a new home due to a change in his surrendering owner's health. We accepted him because he was bonded with a Golden. He received his vetting at **Kennel Care in Chandler**. The vet provided the leptospirosis vaccine, tested **Steele** for valley fever and took blood for senior panel

labs. **Steele** was also in the process of being weaned off Fluoxetine HCL that was being administered by his surrendering owner to treat anxiety and obsessive-compulsive behavior. Skin allergies and a yeast infection in his ears were easily treated. Now this gentleman was ready for his forever home. He was warmly welcomed by Peter in Maricopa, and they hit it off as soon as they met! An addendum was granted for removal of a knee lipoma only if it were to grow in three months and give **Steele** trouble with mobility.



**18-064 Mandy**, now **Abby**, is a 1-year-old purebred Golden. This little girl found herself at the Eastside **MCACCS**. She was, sadly, very ill. One of **AGR's** transport angels came to her rescue and whisked her off to **Animal Medical & Surgical Center** in Scottsdale to address her medical needs. She was diagnosed with a UTI, valley fever titer of 1:64 and diarrhea.

The appropriate medications were prescribed along with prescription food. Now she was ready to go to her forever home to continue being nursed back to health. Bonnie of San Tan Valley was overjoyed to open her home to **Mandy**. Bonnie related: **Abby** came to us on August 12, 2018. She was shaved down to the skin from the neck down. Her ribs showed through her skin revealing months of starvation and neglect. She arrived with medication for a bladder infection and valley fever. She did not stand upright, but cowered in fear with her tail tightly tucked in. Since that time, **Abby** has been under treatment for a small-intestinal bacterial overgrowth which will require medication for the rest of her life.

Today, four months later, **Abby** is a sweet, loving snuggler. She plays well with the other two dogs in our home and loves to visit my son's home where there are four large dogs. She can now run and play. She has recently discovered toys and is an expert at shredding them! She walks nicely on a leash but is still terrified of anything that makes a sound, like leaves blowing in the wind, chimes ringing on a patio, a garage door opening, or people talking. Even though she continues to have issues, **Abby** has become a wonderful loving addition to our family and she keeps learning how to trust again every day. She is starting to be less anxious and is coming out of her shell! **Mandy** was given a second chance at life with a perfect family match! An addendum was granted for retest and valley fever meds for three months along with prescription food and intestinal medications.



**18-069 Jackie** (f.k.a. **Yaqui**), now **Sadie**, is a 6-month-old adorable purebred Golden puppy. Unfortunately, this little girl had a broken leg and her surrendering owner could not afford the much-needed medical care. Since this was an urgent situation (what we refer to as a "911 transport"), the transport angels sprang into action and

whisked this precious pup to **Animal & Medical Surgical Center** in Scottsdale. The vet there diagnosed a fracture in the left stifle that would require surgery with insertion of a plate. **Jackie** went through surgery with flying colors and was released to her new family. Viki and Russell of Phoenix were excited to welcome this beautiful girl into their home! Viki and Russell sent this message: **Sadie** rescued us September 9, 2018 at a time when we really needed her. We had just lost our Golden, **Gracie**, on July 5<sup>th</sup> at 10 ½ years old after being diagnosed with a brain tumor. We had just sent our daughters off to college in August. Our house had never been cleaner or quieter, and we just couldn't take it! **Sadie** came to our home at 6 months of age after her surgery, with a plate and 6 screws in her left rear leg and sporting a beautiful yellow and green cast. She was very restricted in her movement for many weeks. **AGR** provided a wonderful pen that we could use to help

limit her activity according to her recovery plan over the next 8 weeks. Connie and Liz of **AGR** were wonderful supporters who helped **Sadie** progress through her healing. The medical staff and team at **AMSC** did a terrific job on her surgery and post-op care. After 8 weeks of therapy, she is fully healed and has no sign of her leg having been broken. **Sadie** loves her walks and is up to 2.5 miles at a time! Her personality has really blossomed, and she has the sweetest, most affectionate disposition. We feel truly blessed that we got to support her recovery and healing and she gave us the complete home that we were looking for. Our home is filled with fur, happy puppy kisses and unconditional puppy love. Life is good!" An addendum was granted for spay when **Sadie** is between 12 and 14 months old.

**18-070 Trudy**, now **Lucy**, is a striking red 8-month-old Goldendoodle. She found herself in need of a new home, as her surrendering owner moved from a house to an apartment and realized this puppy needed more space and a yard in which to run. She received her vetting at **Four-Legged Friends Animal Hospital** in Phoenix. She was current on vaccinations but had lab work completed for heartworm and valley fever tests. John of Scottsdale was delighted to open his home to this youngster who is full of energy. Sharon, our wonderful behaviorist, worked with him to deal with some of **Lucy's** overzealous behaviors. **Lucy** has also received some obedience training from Cindy – she has spent some time with her when John has to travel for business. Happily, it was a match made in heaven! An addendum was granted for prescription food for her sensitive digestive system.



**18-071 Kylie**, now **Missy**, is a 6-year-old female Golden mix. Unfortunately, this sweetheart was found on the side of the road and taken to **MCCACS**. She was spayed and given the required vaccinations. You'll notice in the photo that her nose has lost some of its pigmentation. At first, it was thought this might be an indication

of lupus, an auto-immune disease, but that was not confirmed, so it may have been caused by something she got into when she was a stray. The FWITA was just cautioned to keep an eye on it and report to us if the raw area does not improve. A mammary mass was discovered, and she would also require a teeth cleaning with extractions – there was grass impacted in her upper jaw area and lots of gingivitis. She continued to receive her medical care at **Kennel Care in Chandler** where her FWITAs Shirley and Peter lived. Thankfully, when the mass was removed the biopsies were negative. **Missy** is now enjoying her new life in her new home

that includes the resident Golden, **Paws**. Shirley relayed: *Our new addition is so wonderful. We all just love her, and she fits our family perfectly.* Thank you, **AGR**, for giving this girl a new start!



**18-072 Sadie** and **18-073 Sunny** are a bonded pair. Sadie is an 8-year-old blond purebred female Golden and Sunny is a 7-year-old blond purebred male Golden. Unfortunately, their

surrendering owner had a job that required traveling most of the time and this dynamic duo were not getting the time and attention they so rightfully deserved. They received their vetting at **Four-Legged Friends Animal Hospital** in Phoenix. It was recommended both dogs be placed on the green bean diet, as they were both quite "fluffy". **Sunny** had an ear infection and low thyroid that were easily remedied with medication. While being vetted both dogs were made current on the recommended vaccinations. Now it was time to find the perfect home for double the fun and Golden love. Elizabeth and Damon of Scottsdale were overjoyed to welcome this wonderful pair into their home. They said: *These two gentle giants entered our life on a rainy Saturday in October, and we feel thankful and blessed every day because of it. Sunny and Sadie are beautiful, happy and healthy, a smart mother and son bonded pair. They immediately bonded with us and our other rescue, a blind Chinese Crested Hairless named Piggles. On cold mornings both Sunny and Sadie will allow Piggles to lie on their backs to share some warmth.* Great story and great new beginning for **Sadie** and **Sunny**.



**18-074 Riley** is a beautiful 5-year-old purebred Golden. A homeless couple walked up to a kind stranger at a gas station and asked him to take their dog and give her a good home as they could not keep her. An attempt was made to track down the owners through the microchip, but no response was received. Unfortunately, the recipient of this wonderful girl could not keep her and

contacted **AGR** to find her the perfect home. She received her vetting at **Four-Legged Friends Animal Hospital** in Phoenix and got "the works" since there were no vet records. She received all the necessary vaccines and was tested for valley fever and heartworm. Also, spay surgery has now been completed. Everything looks good for this girl except a Grade 2 heart murmur. She loves spending time with her foster family playing ball and swimming, and her foster parents loved her. In fact, they were so smitten with her they adopted her! **Riley** is enjoying the good life with Connie

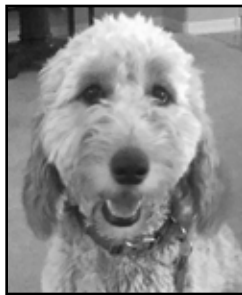
and Nick of Glendale and the many foster dogs that pass through their doors! Connie and Nick relayed: *Our **Riley** came to us when we really needed to have another Golden in our home. We had lost all five of our precious seniors over a period of 18 months, and we thought that maybe we would just foster for a while so we could recover emotionally and financially. That was not to be, as this ball-obsessed little spitfire stole our hearts immediately. She was overweight and very obnoxious when meeting new dogs, but with strict dieting and frequent socializing, she is a whole new dog. She is still feisty when meeting dogs, but she is learning to control herself better. Our sixth AGR dog, **Riley** is definitely the queen bee of the house and is really learning to enjoy and behave at Meet-and-Greets and other AGR events.* Just love this happy ending! An addendum was granted for 3 months of allergy medication.



**18-076 Cashmere**, now **Cassie**, is a 10-year-old Golden/Lab mix. Unfortunately, this senior girl's owner lost her home; therefore, the dog was also without a home. Pat of Peoria was so anxious to adopt this sweetheart she offered to take care of the vetting expenses. Thank you so much, Pat! Pat's vet thoroughly examined **Cassie** and told Pat she thought the dog was

more like 6 years old than 10. Pat has said she agrees, as **Cassie** has far more energy than anyone would expect of a 10-year-old! **Cassie** is loving her new life and enjoys playing fetch whenever she gets the chance. Thank you, **AGR**, for another success story.

**18-077 Bella** is a 1-year-old Goldendoodle. A youngster! This bundle of energy needed a new home due to a change in the family living situation. She received her vetting at **Four-Legged Friends Animal Hospital** in Phoenix where a microchip was implanted and the first of two leptospirosis vaccines was given. Jennifer stated: ***Bella** joined **Zorra's** (18-061) family in November where she found lots of love and energy from her new parents Jennifer and Mark, three human siblings, and her new BFF **Seamus**, a 1-year-old Golden with whom she plays all day long. Jennifer, a teacher at a school located in south-central Phoenix, is training **Bella** to be a therapy dog for children. Jennifer relayed: ***Bella** stopped by my school for a short visit the day before winter break. On her way out, she met one of my students who recently lost the ability to walk and speak in complex sentences. **Bella** loved on the student, prompting him to tell her all about his day. We were all amazed, as we hadn't heard the student speak so much at once since the injury! I am very grateful for **Bella** and am looking forward to seeing how she helps more children in the future. Thank you, **AGR**!**



**18-078 Lady** is a 3-year-old Golden mix. The owner's daughter had developed an allergy to the dog, so the dog had to go. She had apparently been used as a breeding dog, but puppies in the August 2018 litter had genetic defects, so she was taken out of the breeding program. She was reportedly good with children and with other dogs. Connie transported **Lady** to her new home with Paula and Donnie in Prescott Valley and told us: ***Lady** is one of the sweetest dogs I have ever seen. She rode very quietly in the back area from **Academy West** to Prescott Valley, occasionally resting her beautiful head on my shoulder. Once there, she was greeted by a Welcome sign on the front door. She met the adorable little 2x2 (2 feet long, 2 feet wide) Spaniel with no issues at all. Both of their tails were wagging the whole time I was there and they even galloped around the house together. I advised the family on a diet plan for **Midnight** – they have been feeding that little dog a cup of Pedigree food 2 times a day and can't understand why she won't lose weight! Paula related: **Lady's** teats are getting less swollen-looking, still hanging down quite a bit but getting better. Yes she is really sweet – my mother was ready to take her home with her today, she just adores her like the rest of us do. **Lady** is getting in lots of walks and has been playing with my 4-year-old grandson and also playing good with **Midnight**. She even jumped up on my husbands' recliner and snuggled up with him as well. A couple weeks later Paula said: Everything is great with **Lady**, she has settled in very fast and very well with our family. She even plays with **Midnight** now, running around and chasing each other around, it is good to see **Midnight** running around again, she gets tired pretty quick but she loves it! **Midnight** is eating the green beans with her food too without any problems. **Lady** is just so loving and both dogs will give each other a kiss or two and lick each other a bit. She has gone with me to run a couple errands and seems to like being in the car. Happy new life, **Lady**. **Lady** is in good health, so no follow-up addendum was attached to her adoption finalization.*



**18-079 Moab** is a 10-year-old possible Queensland Heeler Mix and **18-080 Sandy** is a 10-year-old purebred Golden Retriever. They are a bonded pair that have been together since puppyhood, which is why we accepted **Moab** – with a pair that is obviously bonded, we make every effort to keep the dogs together. This pair was abandoned at the home of the surrendering owner (SO). The original owner asked her to keep them just one or two days then disappeared and blocked the surrendering owner from calling her. The SO had them for 2 weeks. Her lease only allows 2 dogs, which she had before she agreed to babysit these two. Her



The original owner asked her to keep them just one or two days then disappeared and blocked the surrendering owner from calling her. The SO had them for 2 weeks. Her lease only allows 2 dogs, which she had before she agreed to babysit these two. Her



landlord told her to get rid of dogs or she would be evicted. Both dogs are very laid back, really sweet, get along with kids, dogs and a cat, even ignored a chinchilla in a cage in the living room. No medical records came in with either dog, so they both had to have our standard vet work-up with exam, vaccines including leptospirosis, and tests for heartworm and valley fever. Fortunately, all was

well. **Moab** was already neutered, but the vet could not tell if **Sandy** is spayed. Sometimes, if a spay was done when a dog is very young, the surgical scar virtually disappears by the time the dog is 10. So, when the adoption was finalized, **Sandy** was issued an addendum for spay surgery if she goes into heat. The pair was excitedly adopted by Janis and Randy in Chandler. What a great couple to take on a pair of 10-year-old dogs! Thank you from **AGR**!



**18-081 Scully** is a striking 3-year-old red male Golden. His surrendering owner developed health issues that made it difficult to care for him, so the decision was made to call **AGR** to find him the perfect forever home. He received his vetting at **Animal Medical & Surgical Center** in Scottsdale and was in tip-top shape except for an ear infection that was treated, al-

though we issued an adoption addendum for a deep cleaning if the infection does not clear up in a reasonable amount of time. **Scully** is now happily residing in Fountain Hills with Cindy and Rick, who have fostered several dogs for **AGR**, but they have adopted **Scully**. Another happily ever after!

**18-083 Sandy** is an 18-month-old red-gold purebred female Golden. Both of her owners were working long hours, so bored little **Sandy** became destructive, pulling up the sprinkler system in the yard of the rental home property. The landlord said, "The dog goes, or you go." Sharon F fostered **Sandy** for a while and took her for vetting at **Kennel Care** in Chandler. **Sandy** got the standard vaccines and tests. Everything was fine except that she tested positive for whipworms, so she was treated for those. Whipworms can be stubborn to eradicate, so when her adoption was finalized, she was issued an addendum for a follow-up fecal test and continued treatment, if necessary. Sha-



ron delivered **Sandy** to her forever home with Ryan and Timothy and their resident Golden, **Jake**, in Phoenix. The family then spent Christmas in beautiful but cold Colorado. Ryan told us: ***Sandy** had acclimated to our household well. She and **Jake** are playing and sleeping together. She is a dream come true. Thank you for all your hard work. **Sandy** will be spayed ten days after she tests negative for whipworm.*


**18-086 Chewy** was the name given to this 4-year-old male Golden mix (more Golden than mix) by Connie, who rescued him from the Eastside **MCACCS** Shelter in mid-December – he chewed through the leash and towel she had put in the crate with him. He seemed very frightened, tucking his tail under his rear. Since he was a stray, we have no history on




him, but it is likely he was running loose for some time – he had some skin issues on his legs, a thinning tail and was quite underweight. He received the rabies and DHPP vaccines at the shelter and they gave him a microchip. However, **AGR** did the rest: neutered him, had the leptospirosis vaccine given, and had him tested for heartworm and valley fever, both, fortunately, negative. He was renamed **Finn** by his forever family, Beth and Derek of Gilbert. Beth told us: *He is the biggest love and we adore him! He does not seem to realize his own size – when he becomes excited, he jumps around in a circle, butt wiggling, and can bump into things. Just the other night, we left for a while and left him out of the crate as "he is not a fan."* Having unsupervised freedom, he succeeded in T-P-ing the whole house. Taking a hold of the end of the roll on the wall, he took off, trailing it behind him. Our only continuing challenges are getting him trained to use the crate and learning his commands. His initial kennel cough responded well to treatment and now he is fine. **Finn** may have come to us with no history, but he sure is making some wonderful memories with his new family!

## HELP WANTED!

The **Intake Team** is looking for a new member to help with the very rewarding position of bringing new dogs in to Arizona Golden Rescue.

 You will need basic computer and email skills, listening ability and compassion and must be able to be non-judgmental. Training is very thorough, with established procedures and a written script to follow. The managers are available at all times to help if needed.

 You would be on duty only one week every four to five weeks. Some weeks there are no dogs surrendered, some weeks it can be really busy. When on call, you will need the ability to be able to check your email frequently. If you are employed, you can check while on breaks or lunch and return any messages with a note that you will handle the intake when you get home, and then follow through as soon as possible.

If interested, please contact Sharon Flores at 480-802-0093 or [floretrain@hotmail.com](mailto:floretrain@hotmail.com) for further details.



# OVER THE RAINBOW

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



10-032 Augie Tataseo



11-088 Oliver Ruth



13-089 Dixie Greff



14-033 Dolly Orwig



15-073 Maya Berry



16-032 Missy Bichler



16-049 Jed Kienglen



16-079 Molly Mitchell



17-005 Autumn Breeze Engstrom



17-056 Whisky Phair



19-001 Lilly

## 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.



Palmer Axne



Lilly Carter / Carreiro



Caesar Davis



Salem Palumbo-Mullaney

and

David Manthey  
Beloved brother of AGR member Debbie Ball

Michael Meyer  
Beloved father of AGR member Michele Meyer

HERE and THERE

Events from October 1, 2018 through January 13, 2019

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

*Editor's Note:* Generally, I present event articles in chronological order. However, since we had more than one event on the same date or in between gift wrapping sessions, some are out of order.



*State Farm Insurance  
40th Anniversary Celebration*

**By Deb Orwig**



Dean Mortimore and Judy Aguilar-Woertz with Ashley, Mary Kate, Vin and Duffy

In September, we were contacted by Judy Aguilar-Woertz regarding the upcoming celebration of her 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with **State Farm Insurance** in Tempe. She and her daughter both love Golden Retrievers, so she asked if a group of **AGR** members with dogs could attend. We had nothing else scheduled for Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, so sure, why not? She told us she expected a large crowd (several hundred people attended), there would be free food



Liz Tataseo with Reba; Emma was hiding behind the chair




State Farm Insurance office at 8601 S. Priest Dr., Tempe

(it was great!), they would have a tent set up for us, and she would make a donation to **AGR** if we could come. Attending from **AGR** were Dean Mortimore with **Ashley** and **Mary Kate**, Liz Tataseo with **Reba** and **Emma**, and I brought **Duffy** and **Vin**. It was a good thing Dean lived close to the **State Farm** office, because



he was able to get there on time (9 AM) with his girls. Liz carpooled with me and we got held up in the 7<sup>th</sup> Street tunnel on I-10 for 1¼ hours (never did find out why the traffic was stopped

for so long)! It was really fun and a nice way to spend a Saturday morning once we got there. We talked to several people who were interested in possibly adopting, and the dogs got lots of petting, as well as free treats. We left with \$100.11 in anonymous donations from the public, and Judy gave us a check for \$100 – we sincerely thank her for her generosity and for inviting us to attend!



*PACC911 at  
All Saints Episcopal Church*

**By April Crow**



April Crow, Patrick Doyle, Jolene Schlichter and Chris Spiel with Natasha Tigges, Jack and Nash Spiel

Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> was a great day for the **PACC911** Adopt-a-Thon at **All Saints Episcopal Church** in Phoenix. The weather was absolutely perfect, and we had a great end booth location with extra space including several shade trees, and no one on either side of us so we had plenty of space to spread out and welcome lots of visitors.

We would like to thank the following volunteers for helping us set up early Saturday morning: April Crow, Patrick



Back: Kris Thumith, Deb Orwig, Patrick Doyle, Liz Tataseo, Karen Helm, Dean Mortimore;  
Front: Anne and Patrick McGill, Cassie Barnett



Connie McCabe and Riley

Doyle, Deb Orwig (with **Duffy** and **Vin Orwig** and **Natasha Tigges**) and Jolene Schlichter. We had several additional volunteers help for the morning shift, including: Cassie and Lily Barnett, Kris Thumith, Cindy Pavero with **Honey** and Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**. The dogs



Cindy Pavero with Honey and Dean Mortimore with Ashley and Mary Kate

at our booth were a huge hit, and we had several kids stop by wanting to love on them and give them some donation money. Not only did we have a group of well-behaved dogs at this event, but we had very polite and respectful children attending as well. Our ambassadogs were so great about promoting **AGR** that we received three (3) applications from people wanting to adopt from us.

Between the donations received from our ambassador dogs (\$71) and the merchandise sales at our booth, **AGR** was able to bring in \$364.35. Not bad for a beautiful fall day hanging with friends and supporting a great cause!

A big thanks also goes out to the afternoon volunteers and those that helped pack up the booth at the end of the day: Karen Helm, Connie McCabe with **Riley**, Anne McGill and son Patrick, Dean Mortimore with **Ashley** and **Mary Kate**, and Liz Tataseo with **Reba**.



New volunteer Karen Helm with Vin Orwig and Reba Tataseo

Thank you to everyone that came out to help and represent **AGR**!



*Paws & Pasta*  
By April Crow

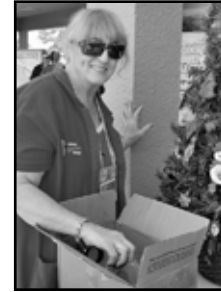


Restaurant owner Bryan Foley at right with his staff

As the new Director of Activities, I am so excited to be part of **AGR** and look forward to meeting you! This is not only my first article for *The Golden Paw*, but it is also the first event I co-chaired for **AGR**. I am beyond pleased with everyone and everything involved in putting on *Paws & Pasta* at **Little Bite of**

**Italy** in Sun City. Although I have never been to this event before and have nothing to compare it to, I thoroughly enjoyed spending time with

Nancy Wheeler, Sandy Fullington and Marlene Breton at registration



Sharon Wieser (left) helped set up and then had to look at some of the beautiful tote bags made by Connie Wozniak (center); Mary Engstrom (right) also came to help with set-up and bought some **AGR** merchandise

all the great people who came and thought we had an excellent turnout.

I have to start out by thanking Bryan Foley and Nancy Wheeler. They have graciously hosted this event for nine (9) years now. Bryan and his staff went above and beyond helping our members and attendees and making sure everyone had everything they



needed. I was truly impressed with their generosity and efficiency.



First-shift servers Chris Spiel, April Crow and Larry Orwig

There are so many people to thank for contributing to such a successful event. All beverages for the event were donated by Adam Cardinal, Deb and Larry Orwig, Liz Tataseo and Sue Vallie; the food was donated by



Delicious food, generous portions and plenty of dog paws – 107 total to be exact! – to entertain the customers. Why the odd number? Our newest member, Cody Brown, at right with his dad and mom, Peter and Carolyn, is a tripod!

sauce and the salad fixings) and all the wonderful desserts were donated by Deb and Larry Orwig. Everyone raved about the delicious food, and sev-



Bryan Foley and Sandy Fullington (meat for the spaghetti)





Liz Tataseo and Nick Dodson

eral people (me being one of them!) mentioned how great it was to have such a variety of desserts to pick from .

Have you ever wondered how great events all come together? Well, that is because it takes a village of volunteers to make an event a success. And this was my first time being

part of the village of fantastic **AGR** volunteers. I have to admit, I was surprisingly pleased with the e-mail responses I received regarding volunteering for this event. I have never had so many people step up and want to be a part of helping out at an event like this, and because of the thoughtfulness of so many members,



Mike Wilson (left), Patrick Doyle (center) and Fred Prose (right) helped with set-up and wrangled dogs during the day; Patrick and Fred also helped with packing up



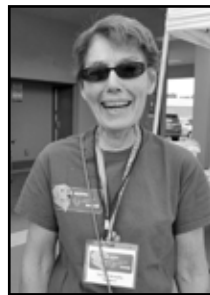
Paws & Pasta is a wonderful family event! Here are Michele Guilbault, Teri and Jeff Guilbault's daughter, children Lucas, Sawyer and Nora; Teri helped with the raffle, silent auction and merchandise sales; Jeff was a food server

we had plenty of volunteers to help out the entire day.

Thank you to Deb Orwig and Liz Tataseo for assembling the raffle and silent auction items/baskets.

Where would we be without all those that helped load the trailer Friday evening to get

everything ready for the event? Thank you to Nick Dodson, Pat-



Debbie Ball (left), Michele Meyer (center) and Trishia Murphy all said, "Put me wherever you need help!" Love it!



Some **AGR** members like Larry Jessup (left), Pat Morgan with Cassie (center) and Sheila Joyce with Willow and Charlie (right) came by themselves to eat

rick Doyle, Connie McCabe, Deb and Larry Orwig, Jill and Fred Prose, Liz Tataseo and Jane Triplett.

Thank you to the set-up crew for getting us up and running that morning: April Crow; Patrick Doyle; Nick Dodson; Mary, Christopher and Summer Engstrom; Connie McCabe; Deb and Larry Orwig; Chris Spiel; Liz Tataseo; Jane Triplett; Sharon Wieser; Mike Wilson; and Connie Wozniak. I still can't believe how fast we got all the tables, pop-up tents and merchandise assembled! A huge



thank you to Jane Triplett for selling raffle tickets all day – you were definitely meant for that job!



Some **AGR** families like Mike and Anne Booher (upper left, New River), Marlene and Dean Mortimore who brought Ashley and Mary Kate (upper right, Chandler, dogs not in photo), Karey, Sheri and Kelley Rodefer with Sucusy and Joie (lower left, Chandler), and Michele Wehry and Mark Hill with Cassie and Callan (lower left, south Scottsdale) came from a distance

Sandy Fullington and Marlene Breton helped with registration/check-in and kept everything flowing smoothly. And if it weren't for our food servers and other help during the day we would not have had the great event that we did, so I would like to give my sincere thanks to the following people: Adam Cardinal, Debbie Ball, Teri and Jeff Guilbault, Michele Meyer, Trishia Murphy, Deb and Larry Orwig, Jill and Fred Prose, Chris Spiel, Fran Strock, Liz Tataseo and Lenni and Steve Wilson. I tried to meet every single one of you and thank you for volunteering, and I look forward to working with all of you again.

And now for the inevitable part of any great event: Break-Down. At the end of the day when everyone is exhausted from working



and socializing, we had a crew that plugged along and helped us get everything packed up and loaded into the trailer. Thank you to Patrick Doyle, Connie McCabe,

Some AGR members brought friends, like Barbara Connoyer (above at left) and Karen and Phil Davis (center and far right in right photo)



Trishia Murphy, Deb and Larry Orwig, Chris Spiel, Liz Tataseo, Sharon Wieser and even her mother, Agi Goldman, for all your help. Even I thought some of the tables multiplied during the event when it came time to load everything again! It is so easy to be careless and sloppy when an event is over, and I truly appreciate that everyone helping took the time to pack supplies and merchandise carefully and strategically load the trailer.

Special thanks to Connie McCabe who documented the event so well in all the terrific photos she took. We are sorry we do not have space enough to publish them all, but you can see them if you go to Events/Gallery on our website: [www.arizonagoldenrescue.org](http://www.arizonagoldenrescue.org).



AGR Board members Adam Cardinal (second from left, top photo) and family and Sue Vallie with husband Roger with Oliver and Molly helped with beverage donations and came to eat; also in photo at right, Dave Williams and Dean Mortimore

ly-trained dogs, Nikko and Billie. I love watching trick demonstrations and am just amazed and what some dogs can do. I think many of us can agree that the best skills our Golden Retrievers have are to beg for food and give us "that look"



I really enjoyed our special guest, Peter Wong, and his superb-



Left: Anna Landeta-Wong and Peter Wong with Billie and Nikko

Below left: Nikko putting "mail" in mailbox – she then closed the mailbox and put up the flag!

Below right: Nikko rolling a barrel; Billie can also do all these tricks and many more



for attention, so to see these guests do the complex tricks they did was just amazing. Thank you for the wonderful show!



Sharon Wieser's mom, Agi Goldman, came with Sharon at the end of the event to help pack up; she's holding Emma Tataseo in this photo

Besides the great time socializing among everyone, we did well financially too. We received \$599 in general donations, \$478 for raffle ticket sales, \$360 for the silent auction items and \$1,296 for dinner sales (plus \$50 paid ahead for people unable to attend), thus totaling \$3,261 for the *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*! How great to contribute this money to the funds used for our dogs with cancer and extraordinary medical bills!

In addition to the funds raised above for the *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*, we also raised \$1,191 for calendar and merchandise sales that will go into our General Operating Fund. We had some great holiday shopping ideas and so many wonderful items to pick from. I usually shop at the *AGR* Booth at almost every single event I attend. I manage to find more great items every time I come back to the booth, and I don't even care what my total is since it all goes back to the Rescue for the dogs. And isn't that why we are all here?! It is all about helping these wonderful dogs.

I want to thank every single one of you again for coming together to help make this a very successful event. An organization is only as good as its volunteers/members, and this Rescue is full of exceptional people representing *AGR*. Thank you to *AGR* for allowing me to take on this role, and I look forward to meeting more members and seeing you all at future events.



Riley ready to go home!



*Westgate Retirement Village*

By Deb Orwig



Cindy Tigges with Natasha (top), Trishia Murphy with Duffy and Liz Tataseo with McKayla (right) all waiting for the Westgate residents to finish Saturday brunch

out this gal left her employ there after just a couple months, did not contact me, and did not tell me that 10

In July 2018, we were contacted by the Activities Director at a new retirement facility, *Westgate Retirement Village*, on Glendale Ave in Glendale near Westgate. She asked if we could bring some dogs to meet and greet with the residents. We settled on the date of November 10 at 10 AM. Turns



AM on a Saturday is when the residents eat brunch. Six of us arrived with six dogs at 10: Trishia Murphy, who handled **Duffy Orwig**, Deb and Larry Orwig with **Mufasa and Vin**, Liz Tataseo with **McKayla**, Cindy Tigges with **Natasha** and Sue Vallie with **Oliver**. We waited until about 10:30 for the residents to finish their meal and then spent a half hour encouraging them to pet the dogs and



Larry Orwig with Vin, Trishia Murphy with Duffy, Liz Tataseo with McKayla and Sue Vallie with Oliver; the few residents who did come to see the dogs seemed to enjoy the visit

talk with us. It was a quiet, pleasant morning and all of the 9 residents who joined us enjoyed the dogs and the socializing; the other 5 residents were reportedly “cat people” and stayed away. I took **Mufasa** dressed in his Indian Chief’s outfit back on the day before Thanksgiving. We took a large tray of cookies and breads that I had baked and met with a couple of the residents. The staff got most of the goodies. It was a low-key morning without much activity, so we will think twice about going again.



*A little thought and a little kindness are often worth more than a great deal of money.*  
~ John Ruskin



*PACC911 at Aviano Community Center*

By April Crow



April Crow, Adriyana Guanajuato and Sylina Slider

On December 1<sup>st</sup>, **PACC 911** hosted their last Adopt-a-thon of the year, this one at **Aviano Community Center** near **Desert Ridge Marketplace**, and everyone had a great day. It was cool in the morning during set-up, but it warmed up nicely and was a pleasant day to be outside. The event was fairly well attended, despite the venue not being on a main thoroughfare.

All the dogs that attended were well behaved and several dressed up for the holidays, so it was fun to watch everyone. Even though it was not a huge event, there were still 50



Steve and Lenni Wilson with Dusty and Duffy; one of the benefits of bringing your dog to **AGR** events is socialization – Dusty used to be quite unpleasant around other dogs, but she is now very good



Joan Takamine and Valerie Mylowe at merchandise table – Valerie is really good at creating attractive merchandise displays!

onsite adoptions from various rescue groups (not ours!) during the day, so many furry friends found their forever homes for the holidays.

We had a terrific set-up crew consisting of April Crow, Patrick Doyle, Bert and Mary Engstrom, Deb Orwig, new **AGR** member Sylina Slider with daughter Adriyana Guanajuato, and Lenni and Steve Wilson. This is one of the first times we were all set up and ready to go well before the start of the event thanks to so many early-morning



Scarlet is Joan Takamine’s gorgeous Golden/Irish Setter mix

volunteers. After set-up, Lenni went home to get her sweet little **Dusty**. April, Patrick and Deb with **Duffy** and **Vin** stayed all day. We were joined in the morning by Valerie Mylowe and Joan Takamine with her beautiful Golden/Irish Setter mix **Scarlet**. Later in the day, Dean Mortimore brought his Golden girls, **Ashley** and **Mary Kate**, and Rick Reid came with handsome **Jake**. Chris Spiel arrived with **Jack** and **Nash** later in the afternoon and stayed to help April, Pat-



Sylina Slider, April Crow and Rick Reid



April Crow and Rick Reid were pleasantly surprised that their Jake really seemed to like Vin Orwig because at home Jake ignores their other four dogs

rick, Dean and Deb pack up. Jolene Schlichter also came to help pack up. We certainly appreciate all the help with tear-down at the end of a long day!

We did very well financially at this event: \$100 in donations and \$618.73 in merchandise sales including three calendars, for a grand total of \$718.73! That is huge for a **PACC911** event! The terrific total in merchandise sales was due in large part to all the sewing done by Deb Orwig, Sheri Rodeffer and Connie Wozniak. Deb made dozens of



Chris Spiel purchased one of Connie Wozniak's Christmas tree door hanger creations



a dozen or more Christmas tree door hangers, some bone-shaped dog placemats, and some credit card holders. Thank you so much to everyone whose volunteer efforts made this a wonderful day!

holiday bannanas; Sheri created holiday collar covers and fleece tugs; and Connie produced 108 adorable pot holders,



*Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade*  
By April Crow



Wow, what a fabulous day for a parade on December 9<sup>th</sup>! Perfect weather and happy holiday cheer everywhere around us! As usual, our group was welcomed throughout the parade route by the large crowds along the sidelines. Wearing the red and green donation vests, our wonderful dogs collected \$628.07 as they greeted the people along the sidewalks. Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash** stayed after the parade and collected an additional \$76, bringing in a total

of \$704.07! Everyone was so generous, and the best part was watching the kids waving their money from the sidelines so excited to pick out a dog to give their donation to. One little girl came up to me with **Logan** and **Vin** and said, *I don't have any*



Anne Booher with Stanley

*money to give them but can I give them a kiss for being such good dogs?* Her mother took a picture of her with the dogs, and I know that had to be the best part of her whole day.

I am new volunteering with this group and still meeting everyone, but I can't believe how many wonderful and supportive members we have! Thanks to all who came to



Patrick Doyle carried the banner and our parade line-up number; Adam Cardinal carried the banner and also pulled the water wagon



Left: Bob Cain and Rebecca Kemak with KC and Murphy



Right: Dean and Marlene Mortimore with Ashley and Mary Kate



Margaret Wilson and Enzo, Lauren Rudin and Bryxx, Joni Cippolone with Ray, April Crow with Logan

walk with us: Anne Booher with **Stanley**, Adam Cardinal, Joni Cipollone with **Ray**, April Crow with **Enzo** (handled by Margaret Wilson) and **Logan**, Patrick Doyle, Jill Imler and Michael Feight with **Ducky** and **Gin-**

**ger**, Rebecca Kemak and Bob Cain with **KC** and **Murphy**, Marlene and Dean Mortimore with **Ashley** and **Mary Kate**, Deb Orwig with **Duffy**, **Mufasa** and **Vin** (handled by April), Fred and Jill Prose with **Gracie** and **Jasper**, Karey and Kelley Rodeffer with **Joie** and **Sucy**, Sheri Rodeffer, Lauren Rudin with **Bryxx**, Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**, Cindy Tigges with **Natasha Tigges** and **Lucy Martin**, Dave Williams with



Rebecca Kemak corraling Nash and Jack Spiel while Chris tries to fix a decorative dog collar; Jill Prose and Adam Cardinal in back



Left: Jill Imler and Michael Feight with Ginger and Ducky; Center: Sheri, Kelley and Karey Rodeffer with Joie and Sucy; Right: Cindy Tigges with Natasha and Lucy

**Bella**; and Margaret Wilson (who handled **Enzo Crow-Reid**). We had a total of 22 people and 23 dogs, so a wonderful turn-out for this event. Adam and Patrick carried the **AGR** banner; Adam also pulled our water wagon, and Patrick also carried our parade lineup number sign #17.



Left: Fred and Jill Prose with Gracie II and Jasper  
Right: Dave Williams with Bella



Santa Mufasa

It is truly a pleasure spending time with all of you. Nothing brings a smile to my face like seeing everyone around us happy because of all our wonderful dogs! This parade was definitely a great start to the spirit of the holiday season. Thank you, again, to everyone who came out to represent **AGR** and made it a great day!



*Phoenix Metro  
Chamber of Commerce  
Holiday Party and Adopt-a-Thon*

**By Deb Orwig**



**PMCC HOLIDAY PARTY AND PET ADOPTION**

**Adopt A Furry Friend for the Holidays!**  
Saturday, December 15, 2018, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Floor & Decor Westside Parking Lot, 59th Avenue & Bell Road

2018 from 10 AM to 4 PM. We had not yet finalized our holiday gift wrapping schedule, so we elected to do the **PMCC** event instead of doing yet another gift wrap session. It was a good de-

cision. The **PMCC** event was held in the **Floor & Décor** parking lot at 59<sup>th</sup> Ave and Bell Rd, just 3 miles south of my house – very convenient! We requested a booth spot at the end of a row, which they gave us – we had a good space on the side parking lot right along 59<sup>th</sup> Ave and next to the back customer pick-up driveway entrance. I'm sure some people driving by on 59<sup>th</sup>

cision. The **PMCC** event was held in the **Floor & Décor** parking lot at 59<sup>th</sup> Ave and Bell Rd, just 3 miles south of my house – very convenient! We requested a booth spot at the end of a row, which they gave us – we had a good space on the side parking lot right along 59<sup>th</sup> Ave and next to the back customer pick-up driveway entrance. I'm sure some people driving by on 59<sup>th</sup>



**AGR's** booth was located at the north end of the westside row in the west parking lot, a good spot! **AGR's** booth was located at the north end of the westside row in the west parking lot, a good spot!



Michael Feight, here with Duffy and Vin, kindly came early to help set up and then came back at 4 PM to help pack up



To begin the event day, the following members joined us: Sue Vallie with Oliver and Molly, Liz Tataseo with Reba, Connie Wozniak, April Crow holding Duffy and Vin, Patrick Doyle, Rebecca Kemak with Murphy, and Bob Cain with KC



In the middle of the day, Jay and Jodi Koblick and Debbie Ball with Shelby joined Rebecca Kemak with Murphy; Duffy and Vin were there all day

Ave noticed all the tents and then decided to visit, because there was a good crowd all day, despite it being overcast and cool in the morning. We were hoping it wouldn't rain, and it didn't. In fact, the overcast more or less dissipated in the afternoon and it ended up being a nice day. In lieu of paying a booth fee, we provided a nice basket for their raffle.

Joining me with **Duffy** and **Vin** during the day were Debbie Ball with **Shelby**, Carolyn and Peter Brown with **Cody**, April Crow, Patrick Doyle, Michael Feight, Karen Forsythe with **Leila**, Rebecca Kemak and Bob Cain with **KC** and **Murphy**, Jodi and Jay Koblick, Liz Tataseo with **Reba**, Sue Vallie with **Molly** and **Oliver**, Sharon Wieser, and Connie Wozniak. April,



Debbie Ball with Shelby, Karin Forsythe with Leila, Patrick Doyle with Duffy and Carolyn and Peter Brown with Cody were present to entertain the crowd

Patrick and Michael helped with set-up, and Connie Wozniak did her usual masterful job of arranging all our merchandise in an attractive display; Patrick, Michael and Sharon helped with pack-up. Thanks to all for spending their time with us.



Sharon Wieser came to help pack up at the end of the event and got the bonus of meeting adorable Cody Brown

We got quite a good reception at



Sweet puppy Leila with a new toy; she is a Golden/Lab mix that Karin calls her "short-haired Golden"

It was a pleasant day to sit outside and relax with the dogs.

this new venue. We collected \$114 in donations and did \$455.81 in merchandise sales, for a total revenue of \$569.81. Some vendors were selling items we had not seen before, so that was quite nice.



Duffy showing everyone how to relax

It is our understanding that the **PMCC** hosts this kind of event twice a year – we hope we are invited again.

**Gift Wrapping Extravaganza**  
By Deb Orwig



The largest group of volunteers was at the Arrowhead Barnes & Noble on Christmas Eve day, and we needed everyone! In front are those who were there mid-day: Dawn Barnett with Cooper, Karin Forsythe with Leila and Michael Feight with Ducky; wrappers in back include Teri Guilbault, Debbie Ball, Fran Strock, April Crow, Marlene Breton, Jill Imler, Lauren Shapiro and Martha McDowell (seated); Patrick Doyle is between Jill and Lauren -- he didn't wrap but helped set up, brought food for the volunteers, kept the donation jars and dog vests cleared of large bills during the day and helped pack up

Note: I hope there is a photo of every person who volunteered – I apologize if we missed anyone. Thanks to April Crow, Connie McCabe and Liz Tataseo, who added to my pictures. The photos are not always presented here in chronological order. Photos in this section are from gift wrapping.

Our very successful but busy holiday season fund-raising started with gift wrapping at Happy Valley Barnes & Noble on the weekend before Thanksgiving, November 17-18. That weekend, we raised \$1,291.45.

We continued on Black



Angela Palumbo at left came from Wickenburg to help; Martha McDowell is wrapping in back

Friday and the following Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> and we took in \$602.60 and \$897.40, respectively.



Morning group on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>: Martha McDowell, Patrick Doyle, Cindy Tigges with Casey and Natasha, and Jill Prose with Gracie II

On Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, we enjoyed the last **PACC911** Adopt-a-thon of the



When Connie McCabe wasn't hosting Santa Photos, she usually came to gift wrapping with dog treats and camera in hand



year at **Aviano Community Center**. Revenue from that event totaled about \$719 (see pages 27-28).

On Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, we were again doing gift wrapping at Happy Valley Barnes & Noble and took in \$449.46 from donations and merchandise sales.



First-time or first-time-in-a-long-time volunteers: Top left to right: Anita and Bryan Bakke with Oakley, Rita Koppinger with Maddie; Bottom left to right: Jennifer Lane (who serves on the Placement Team) with Duffy Orwig; Romy and Hugh Wolf with Diego



Marlene Breton with Duffy and Vin was one of several volunteers who managed the Orwig dogs so Deb could wrap – Deb brought Vin and sometimes also Duffy if not enough dogs were scheduled to come; Marlene also helped at Photos with Santa

Another break from gift wrapping occurred on Saturday,



Mike Wilson came to Happy Valley from Buckeye, Martha McDowell from Cave Creek, and Patrick Doyle from south Glendale



Steve Wilson with Vin Orwig, Adam Cardinal with Malle, Fred Prose with Duffy Orwig, Marc Watkins with Charles and Barkley, Lauren Shapiro, Amy Maynard with Bentley, and Rita Koppinger with Maddie

December 8<sup>th</sup> with our participation in the *Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade*. Even subtracting the parade entry fee of \$50, we brought home \$578 see pages 28-29).



Shift change on Nov. 25th: Karin Forsythe with Leila, Sheila Joyce with Charlie, Patrick Doyle, April Crow holding Vin Orwig, Debbie Ball with Shelby and Joni Cippolone with Willow Crow; since Willow is so small and stayed in Joni's arms, we didn't count her as a fourth dog when Charlie left

dition for at least \$600.

The rest of our holiday fundraising efforts were from gift wrapping. On Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> we added \$745.48 to our bank account at Happy Valley *Barnes & Noble*.

We were back at Happy Valley *Barnes & Noble* on Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> – \$499.07 collected from donations and merchandise sales; we continued on Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> and enjoyed collecting a whopping \$1,043.72 from donations and merchandise sales.



We had two more sessions of gift wrapping at Happy Valley *Barnes & Noble*, a 5-hour one on Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> that brought in \$1,015.32, and a 4-hour session on Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> added \$854.81, for a weekend total of \$1,870.13. We had the day off on Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Whew, we needed the rest!



Even the mall security people wanted to see the dogs!



Jay and Jodi Koblick have only small dogs but they have been AGR members for five years and come to socialize with others like Liz Tataseo and Reba

The *Phoenix Metro Chamber of Commerce's Holiday Party and Pet Adoption* event on Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> allowed us another break



Teri Guilbault with Vin Orwig and Ellen Lagerman with Barney

from gift wrapping, but this, too, was successful in helping to raise public awareness about our organization and also to bring in some more money, about \$570 (see pages 29-30).



Dean Mortimore brought Ashley and Mary Kate from Chandler, and Steve (with Duffy Orwig) and Lenni Wilson came from Scottsdale with Dusty

The big day, of course, has always been Christmas Eve day at Arrowhead *Barnes & Noble*. We are fortunate that so many people wait until the last day before Christmas to shop for gifts and then realize they don't have time to wrap them! We did



Teddi Axne and Watson came from Rio Verde

not sell much in the way of merchandise (a couple of calendars, a few bandannas and a couple of dog bone stockings), but we collected a total of \$2,022.66! Yes, we were very busy all day!



Liz Tataseo with Reba, Patrick Doyle, Adam Cardinal holding Duffy and Vin Orwig, and Jill and Fred Prose with Jasper and Gracie all came early on Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> to help set up; Jill took Jasper home when Liz arrived with Reba

On December 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, we had volunteers and dogs helping to raise money taking *Photos with Santa* at the Northern Ave. *Petco* (see pages 33-35). We will reap the benefits of that effort sometime in January 2019, which is when we will receive a check from *Petco Foun-*



On Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>, back: Patrick Doyle, Martha McDowell, Karin Forsythe and April Crow; front: Cindy Tigges with Casey and Natasha, Duffy Orwig, Carolyn Brown with Cody, and Adam Cardinal with Vin; Cindy left after the Browns arrived

As was the case last year, we were limited to having only three dogs onsite at *Barnes & Noble* on any given date. The only time there were more than three dogs was for a few minutes during a shift change when I tried



Sometimes it is most helpful for someone to hold the dogs while those of us more familiar with the set-up or pack-up do it; Adam Cardinal's friend Duane Borho was great in this job!



Morning group on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Adam Cardinal with Vin, Martha and Patrick in back, Jill and Fred Prose with Jasper and Gracie and Liz Tataseo with McKayla

to get a group photo of everyone from two shifts. I would especially like to thank those of you who told me you would bring

a dog, showed up on time and then left when your shift was over.

I am not able to list everyone who came each time – numerous members helped on more than one date. I thank you all, whether you came once or several times!



On Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, Cynthia Wenström with Hannah, Peter and Carolyn Brown with Cody, Mike Booher with Beau and Anne Booher with Stanley; Martha McDowell sitting in back

Special thanks to Fred Prose, who helped set up at Happy Valley every time and also at Arrowhead and many times stayed with a dog for two hours and then came back



Sharon, Ilan, Marcus and Philip Wieser with Vin; one or more of them came at the end of our session on many dates to help with pack-up; on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, they all came, and we were done in 15 minutes instead of the usual 30 so they could go celebrate Hanukkah with family at 5:30



On another date, Sharon and Philip brought their fur kids Mushu and Kiara

at the end on most dates to help pack up. Patrick Doyle and Martha McDowell were also there almost every time.

Joining me one or more times were: Teddi Axne; Anita and Bryan Bakke;

Debbie Ball; Dawn Barnett; Anne and Mike Booher; Duane



Sarah Martin brought Bunny once but came alone several times to wrap

Borho; Marlene Breton; Carolyn and Peter Brown; Adam Cardinal; Joni Cippolone; April Crow; Nick Dodson; Patrick Doyle; Michael Feight; Karin and Rachel Forsythe; Ellen and Jeff France; Kelly Gorski; Teri Guilbault; Jill Imler; Sheila Joyce; Jodi and Jay Koblick; Rita Koppinger; Ellen Lager-

man; Jennifer Lane; Sarah Martin; Amy Maynard; Connie McCabe; Martha McDowell; Dean Mortimore; Deb Orwig; Angela Palumbo; Fred and Jill Prose; Rick Reid; Lauren Shapiro; Mora, Dan, Luke and Shaylee Silver; Sylina Slider; Fran Strock; Joan Takamine; Liz Tataseo; Cindy Tigges; Mark Watkins and friend Meridith Colvin; Cynthia Wenström; Sharon, Philip, Marcus and Ilan Wieser; Mike Wilson; Lenni and Steve Wilson; and Rosy Wolf.



Kelly Gorski with Stella, Anne Booher with Stanley and Michael Feight with Ducky joined us on December 16<sup>th</sup>



Debbie Ball, Martha McDowell, Jill Imler and Sarah Martin behind wrapping table; in front, Peter and Carolyn Brown with Cody, Rosy Wolf with Diego and Anne Booher with Stanley

Dogs who wore our red or green holiday donation vests and earned a lot of money included: **Watson Axne, Oakley Bakke, Shelby Ball, Cooper Barnett, Beau and Stanley Booher, Cody Brown, Malle or Rhys Cardinal, Jake or Willow Crow-Reid, Leila Forsythe, Chloe France, Stella Gorski, Ducky Imler-Feight,**

**Charlie or Willow Joyce, Maddie Koppinger-Martinsen, Barney Lagerman, Bunny Martin, Bentley Maynard, Riley McCabe/Dodson, Ashley and Mary Kate Mortimore, Duffy and Vin Orwig, Gracie II and Jasper Prose, Barnie Silver, Scarlet Takamine, McKayla or Reba Tataseo, Casey and Natasha Tigges, Charles and Barkley Watkins, Hannah or Humphrey Wenström-Lane, Kiara and Mushu Wieser, Dusty Wilson, and Diego Wolf.**



Mike Lane and Cynthia Wenström stopped by briefly to show off their new Yellow Lab puppy, Humphrey



Jill Imler, Patrick Doyle, Sylina Slider, Anne Booher with Stanley, Fred Prose with Jasper, and Joan Takamine with Scarlet

Many of the above human volunteers stuck strictly to wrapping gifts; I very much appreciated their help, especially on Christmas Eve day, the busiest of all our wrapping days as usual. Ellen France and Sylina Slider were apt students when it came to





Adam Cardinal, April Crow, Jeff and Ellen France with Chloe, Liz Tataseo with McKayla and Karin Forsythe kneeling with Laila



Bow-makers top to bottom: Martha McDowell, Carolyn Brown, Ellen France and Sylina Slider; Ellen and Sylina were beginners but learned quickly

learning how to make bows. Debbie, Carolyn, April, Karen, Teri, Martha, Deb and Sarah were already adept at this craft, so we hardly ever used the pre-made bows I brought just in case we got

really busy. We wrapped some strange

items this year, among which were a hula hoop (Sarah just tied a huge bow on it) and two tire ramps that Carolyn somehow managed even though they weighed about 80 pounds each!

Our grand total from donations and merchandise sales from all our activities during the holiday season (Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> through Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>) was \$12,656.58!

This total does not include any membership renewals or outright donations we received in the mail during the 6-week holiday period. This is a fantastic total, which we could not have managed without the time given by so many AGR member volunteers and dogs! Thank you all!



April Crow and Rick Reid with Jake; Rick hustled to Arrowhead when someone else couldn't come



Adam Cardinal with Rhys, Teri Guilbault, Debbie Ball with Reba, Lauren Shapiro, Sarah Martin, Patrick Doyle and Karin Forsythe with wiggly Leila



Last customer (of course) at Arrowhead wanted two tire ramps wrapped, among numerous other items; Carolyn Brown figured out how to do it – good job, Carolyn!



Photos with Santa at Petco

By Connie McCabe



Petco Manager Jesse with Santa Dean and Petco staff member Robert

We were very pleased to be invited to participate again in the *Petco Santa Photos* event this year. All of the three sessions were held at the *Petco* store at 91st Ave and Northern Ave, a very nice location where Liz Tataseo holds regularly-scheduled Meet-and-Greets. *Petco* supplied the Santa suit and backdrop plus an iPad, and our volunteers supplied everything

else. Many thanks to Jack Craven and Cara Holland for once again lending us the nice bench and to Kathy Blue for making a donation of the Christmas tree prop – it really worked well, along with the gift boxes that Deb Orwig had wrapped previously.



Photo crew on December 8<sup>th</sup>: Joy Slagowski, CJ Major, Santa Phil Leavitt, Connie McCabe



Outdoors on December 8<sup>th</sup>: Deb Orwig with Vin, Duffy and Mufasa; Marlene Breton with Bella Slagowski; Debbie Ball with Shelby; Pat Morgan with Cassie; Karen Davis also spent some time outside with Star

In addition to the money for the photos themselves (a guaranteed \$200 per session), we also will be receiving proceeds from the store's designated charity sales for those three days. We took approximately 47 photos total for the three days, which is really not bad considering we were only there 3 hours per day. We

were also able to have our donation dogs there to meet the public, and they were very good at their jobs. I do not have exact photo and *Petco* donation figures to report at this time, but I'm sure we will have the totals soon, which will be reported in the next issue of *The Golden Paw*.



Karen Davis and Star with Santa Phil

This event was the same as last year: photos that were taken with the **Petco** iPad were immediately e-mailed to the customer once they were approved by them. I also took photos of everyone with my camera and uploaded them to our **AGR** gallery, so that the customers had access to them and could download them from there. The instant iPad photos worked well this year with no hitches.



Photo crew on December 15<sup>th</sup>: Liz Tataseo, Santa Dean Mortimore, Connie McCabe and Chris Spiel with her boys Jack and Nash



Outdoor group on December 15<sup>th</sup>: Marlene Mortimore with Ashley and Mary Kate, Chris Spiel with Jack and Nash, Pat Morgan with Cassie and Nick Dodson

son, Joy Slagowski (with **Katy** and **Bella**), Marlene Breton and CJ Major for helping set up. Joy also filled in for ill Liz Tataseo and got great iPad photos! CJ helped with getting the dogs and cats to cooperate. Then they all helped to load it all back



Beautiful family group of Jill Prose, Gracie II, Santa Dean, Jasper and Fred Prose

up again. We were joined by Pat Morgan with **Cassie**, Karen Davis with **Star**, and Debbie Ball with **Shelby**. Deb Orwig stopped by with **Duffy**, **Mufasa** and **Vin** for Santa photos (see page 3) after the Glendale Christmas Parade. And of course, many thanks to very patient Santa Phil Leavitt, who has been one of my favorite Santas for many, many years! **Petco** had not been advertising this event very much and the store was pretty slow.



Joyce Hubler with Thom and Ripley and Santa Dean

We had a nice, but slow day December 15<sup>th</sup>. I think the free photos being offered by **PetSmart** this year really cut into our activity. I lost track, but I think we did about 17 photos and so will receive the minimum \$200 from **Petco** for the session. Plus, we did collect \$159 in donations and sold 5 calendars for another \$60. Thank you



Not too many unusual guests for photos this year, but Santa Phil got a very curious cat; Santa Dean was a little apprehensive about Phyllis the chicken, but she behaved



so much to everyone who helped make it happen: Super Santa Dean Mortimore and Marlene with **Mary Kate** and **Ashley**; Nick Dodson, of course,

who helped with transport, set up and stayed to help meet and greet and then break down; Joyce Hubler, who despite suffering several hiking injuries, brought **Thom** and **Ripley** for photos; Pat Morgan with **Cassie**; Fred and Jill Prose with **Jasper** and **Gracie II**; Chris Spiel who helped with everything and brought **Jack**



Indoors on December 16<sup>th</sup>: Teri Guilbault, Santa Jeff Guilbault, and Liz Tataseo



Outdoors on December 16<sup>th</sup>: Sheila Joyce with Willow and Charlie, Michele Wehry with Cassie, Karen Davis with Star, Marlene Breton, Pat Morgan with Cassie, and Mark Hill with Callan; Michele and Mark also brought their pair on the 15<sup>th</sup>, too

and **Nash** for photos; Sue Vallie, who brought **Oliver** and **Molly**; Michele Wehry and Mark Hill with **Cassie** and **Callan**; and of course, Liz Tataseo who helped with everything and also took the iPad photos.

December 16<sup>th</sup> was very slow too, partly because **Petco** only advertised the dates of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>

nationally, so people didn't really know we were there unless they happened to be in the store. I think we only took about 14 paid photos that day. We collected \$132 in donations and \$60 for five calendars and will also receive the minimum \$200 from **Petco**



This little girl thought her squirmy dog was hilarious, but both the girl and the dog finally cooperated for a nice picture



Santa Jeff with Adam Cardinal, Malle and Rhys

for the day's event. Thank you so much to everyone who helped make it happen: Fantastic Santa Jeff Guilbault with his special elf, Teri, who helped with the customers and photos and break down; Nick Dodson, of course, who helped with transport, set up and stayed to help meet and greet and then break down; Marlene Breton; Adam Cardinal,

who brought **Malle** and **Rhys**; Karen Davis with **Star**; Sheila Joyce with **Charlie** and **Wil-low**; Pat Morgan with **Cassie**; Jocelyn and Tia Raught with **Bubba**, **Mimi** and **Lulu**; Michele Wehry and Mark Hill with **Cassie** and **Callan** and stayed to help pack up; and of course, Liz Tataseo, who helped with



Tia Raught with Lulu, Santa Jeff with Mimi, and Jocelyn Raught with Bubba



Numerous customers brought their pets in some kind of holiday finery; others borrowed something from Connie's stash

everything and also took the iPad photos.

Thank you everyone for all your help at those three sessions. It's one of my favorite events – so glad we were able to do it again. All



Cassie Wehry-Hill and Callan Wehry-Hill had both party collars and reindeer antlers on and kept them on!

of the photos I took with my camera (in addition to those from all other **AGR** events) can be viewed at <https://arizonagoldenrescuemc-cabe.smugmug.com/AGR-EVENTS/>. Then select whichever album you want to view. You can also access these albums at any time from the **AGR** website ([arizonagoldenrescue.org](http://arizonagoldenrescue.org)) under the Events/Gallery tabs



Connie McCabe, Santa Jeff, Nick Dodson and Riley

Photo taken with Petco's iPad produced a colorful frame in front of the dogs like the one at right



This little boy didn't like Santa – nothing personal, Dean!



Molly and Oliver Vallie were much better behaved with Santa Dean



Meet-and-Greets at Petco and PetSmart

PETCO, 9980 W Northern Ave. – Liz Tataseo, Hostess



Dean with Mary Kate and Ashley, Patrick Doyle by Dolly, Deb Orwig with Vin, Debbie Ball with Shelby and Cassie Barnett in front with Riley

Deb Orwig hosted in October since Liz had another commitment. Deb brought **Dolly**, **Duffy** and **Vin**. It was the last



Dolly loved chin scratches

**AGR** event **Dolly** attended before she went to the Bridge, and she had a wonderful time meeting and greeting everyone from her spot on the sidewalk. Since it was October 27<sup>th</sup> and close to Halloween, Debbie Ball brought **Shelby** in her Alice in Wonderland party dress to keep **Vin** company in his Mad Hatter outfit. Dean Mortimore came with his Pretty-in-Pink girls, **Ash-**

**ley** and **Mary Kate**.

Cassie Barnett and Patrick Doyle helped with Deb's extra dogs. Near the end of our stay there, Connie McCabe arrived with **Riley** decked out in her "Walmart Special" costume and took the group picture. We collected \$92 in donations and sold one calendar.



Shelby as Alice in Wonderland Vin as The Mad Hatter



On November 24<sup>th</sup>, we pulled in \$93 with just a few volunteers and dogs. Joining **Emma**, **Reba** and me were Bob Cain and Rebecca Kemak with **KC** and **Murphy** (photo at left), Patrick Doyle (at right with **Reba** and **Emma**), and Deb Orwig with **Vin**. Since we had already started our holiday gift-wrap season, the dogs wore our red-and-green holiday donation vests; **Murphy** (at left) and **KC** also had on reindeer ears, at least for a little while. Everyone had a good time, especially **Murphy** and **Vin**, littermates who always like to visit with each other; the younger dogs did very well.



In December we were inside due to another rescue already having set up outside when we arrived, plus it was chilly. However, we did well with \$100 in donations, some of which was from Mary Engstrom, who stopped by to give Liz some unused medications from **Autumn** who had gone to the Bridge. Joining **Reba** and me were Debbie Ball with **Shelby**, Patrick Doyle,



Deb Orwig and Debbie Ball with Shelby, Vin and Duffy

Jill Imler with adorable little **Ducky**, and Deb Orwig with **Duffy** and **Vin**. We were situated in the large open area just inside the door.



Debbie bought Shelby a Christmas tree hat that was on sale; Shelby must have liked it because she didn't try to take it off!



All of our donation vests are too big for little **Ducky**, but he wasn't too unhappy about that! Deb intends to custom-make one just for him.

There was surprisingly good traffic, and we were warm! A lot of customers expressed interest in how to adopt and, of course, gave a lot of petting to the dogs.

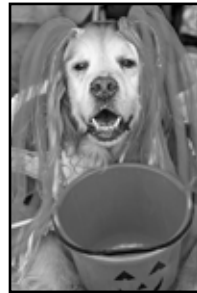
We sure would like more members and their dogs to join us for Meet-and-Greets at the Northern Ave **Petco** on the last Saturday of each month from 12:30 to 3:30. We will usually set up outside unless it is really hot. Come have some fun, help us make some money and allow your dog to socialize.

**PETSMART, 9960 N. 91<sup>st</sup> Ave. – Connie McCabe, Hostess**



Jill, Michael, Deb, Dean, Karen, Phil, Rebecca, Bob and Sheila with **Ducky**, **Ginger**, **Vin**, **Riley**, **Dolly** (behind **Riley**), **Mary Kate**, **Ashley**, **Star**, **Caesar**, **Murphy**, **KC**, **Charlie**, and **Willow**

Thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy the terrific weather and company on October 14<sup>th</sup>. We had a great turnout thanks to Karen and Phil Davis with **Caesar** and **Star**, Jill Imler and Michael Feight with **Ducky** and **Ginger**, Sheila Joyce with **Charlie** and **Willow**, Rebecca Kemak and Bob Cain with **KC** and **Murphy**,



Dolly Orwig and Caesar Davis

Dean Mortimore with **Mary Kate** and **Ashley**, Deb Orwig with **Dolly** and **Vin**, and Nick Dodson and myself with **Riley**. It was **Riley's** first full Meet-and-Greet, and she managed

to keep her costume on. All the dogs were dressed for Halloween at some point and looked very cute. **Riley** seemed to channel our **Winnie's** spirit and loved to sit up on the folding chair! We met a lot of nice folks and collected over \$100 in donations.



Ducky the Dinosaur



Little Devil Vin

We did not have any other **PetSmart** meet-and-greets in November and December due to the scheduling of other events.

In general, we try to be at this location on the second Sunday of the month, weather permitting. But please, always check the calendar to verify times, places and hours, as the schedule changes frequently: <http://www.arizonagoldenrescue.org/events/calendar.html>.



## Golden Hearts



We are so grateful to everyone who has given us their support. You all truly have hearts of gold! All donations to **AGR** are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. The donations shown below were made between October 16, 2018 and January 13, 2019. We sincerely apologize if any donors have been omitted. PLEASE NOTE: All donors who make donations during 2019 will receive an acknowledgment letter in January 2020, unless an acknowledgment for tax purposes is requested sooner.

### General Donations from the Heart

*Note: Many of the donors shown below gave more than one donation during 4th quarter; a couple paid our nonrefundable adoption application fee only to realize they were not qualified to adopt because they live out of state; quite a few made donations at one or more of the gift wrapping sessions or other events in which we participated during November and December; some sent us a message which said "Merry Christmas" or denoted "End-of-Year" donation; others added a donation to their membership renewal or merchandise purchase. Whatever the reason for the donation(s), we very much appreciate each and every one!*

Ricky Anggana  
 Teddi and Delwin Axne  
 Stephanie Beard and Greg Konishi  
 Kristen and Thomas Behan  
**Best Friends Animal Society**  
 Kathryn Blue  
 Ronnell Boswell  
 Betsy and Fred Brown  
 Wendy Brown  
 Christine and Timothy Brzycki  
 Ethel Camp  
 Adam Cardinal  
 Ronald Cavage  
 Mark Christensen  
 April Crow and Rick Reid  
 Andres Duque  
 Mary and Bert Engstrom  
 Leticia Estrada  
 Carol and RD Evans  
 Shirley and Robert Flesher

Sharon Flores  
 Ellen and Jeff France  
 Tara Gardiner  
 Brandy Gipson  
 Carol Gora and Don Woods  
 Terri Hall  
 Joanne Hartman  
 Marlene Heckman  
 Michael Hill-Mengosa  
 Tony Jones  
 Sheila Joyce  
 Ann Keating  
 Marsha and Steve Kleinz  
 Greg Korycki and Carrie Foust  
 Sherry and Gary Landwehr  
 Frances Long  
 Kathleen McAteer  
 Amberly Manszycki  
 Vicki and Pat McDermott

Cynthia McGill  
 Jacquelyn and Michael McWatters  
 Michael Morris  
 Joyce and Ron Moser  
 Valerie Mylowe  
 Deb and Larry Orwig  
 Odil Payton  
 Tyler Porter  
 Maria and Harry Saxen  
 Jamie and David Smith  
 Dan Snelling  
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 Susan Vallie  
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 Mariruth Brooks Wittkamp  
 Tamara Zelonovic

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**Merchant Services, A First Financial USA Ltd. Company**

**Network for Good**

**The Benevity Causes Portal**

### Debbe Begley Memorial Fund

Everyone who attended the *Paws & Pasta Dinner*

Bryan Foley and Nancy Wheeler, owners of **Little Bite of Italy**

Mary and Bert Engstrom *in Memory of 17-005 Autumn*

Jodi and Jay Koblick *in Memory of 14-033 Dolly Orwig*

Greg Korycki and Carrie Foust

Marlene and Dean Mortimore *in Memory of 14-033 Dolly Orwig*

Cindy and Gary Tigges *in Memory of 14-033 Dolly Orwig*

*Diamond Donors*

*Diamond Donor for "Diamonds In The Ruff" Dogs*  
Laurel Manning

*Diamond Donor for 12-100 Rusty*  
Beverly Farrar Host

*Diamond Donor for 18-081 Scully*  
Ann Williams

*Diamond Donor for 18-088 Silver and 18-089 Annabelle*  
Susan Grey

*Diamond Donors in memory of 19-001 Lilly*  
Mary and Bert Engstrom  
Deb and Larry Orwig

*Grants*

**Golden Retriever Foundation** to help with medical expenses of  
**18-055 Sherry, 18-047 Max and 18-064 Mandy**

**The Austin Centers for Exceptional Students, Inc.**

**The Mellen Foundation**

*Honorary Donations*

*In Honor of Arizona Golden Rescue*  
**Medmetrics Pharmacy**

*In Honor of Giving Tuesday on November 27<sup>th</sup>*  
**Diamondback Drugs**  
Terry and Randy Oline

*In Honor of the AGR Volunteers who brought us 18-067 Bailey*  
Alice and David Courtney

*In Honor of the doctors and staff at*  
**Four-Legged Friends Animal Hospital**  
Alice and David Courtney

*In Honor of My 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with State Farm Insurance*  
Judy Aguilar-Wortz



*In Honor of Halloween Contest Winner*  
**Riley McCabe / Dodson**  
**Happy Dog Phoenix**

*In Honor of AGR's rescue of 18-082 Ansel*  
*from MCACCS*  
Marlene and Dean Mortimore

*In Honor of AGR's rescue of 18-086 Chewy*  
*from MCACCS*  
Marlene and Dean Mortimore

*In Honor of AGR Volunteer Sharon Flores*  
Kathy Jones  
Floyd A. Kackley

*In Honor of Sam Fusco, who loves Golden and has cared*  
*for several rescues*  
Sheri Calderon

*In Honor of 18-046 Lilly – We love her!*  
Karyn and Rich Marchant

*In Honor of Greyson – donation at*  
**Arrowhead Barnes & Noble** on Christmas Eve day  
Michael Mendoza

*In Honor of Emma, "daughter" of Anne and Rick Gutekunst,*  
*and Jake, "son" of Meg Gutekunst – Merry Christmas!*  
Susan Skinner

*In Honor of my Aunt and Uncle, Anne and Rick Gutekunst –*  
*Merry Christmas!*  
Jennifer and Rick Wainright

*In Honor of 17-076 Sasha and 17-077 Sultan*  
Deborah and Thomas Vinopal

*In Honor of Deb Orwig for her dedication to AGR*  
Debbie and Rick Ball  
Lenni and Steve Wilson

*In Honor of all AGR Rescues and Volunteers – Merry Christmas!*  
Teri and Jeff Guilbault  
Deb and Larry Orwig

*Memorial Donations*

*In Memory of All 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Bridge Animals including:*

<b>10-032 Augie Tataseo</b>	<b>17-005 Autumn Engstrom</b>
<b>11-088 Oliver Ruth</b>	<b>17-056 Whisky Phair</b>
<b>13-089 Dixie Greff</b>	<b>19-001 Lilly</b>
<b>14-033 Dolly Orwig</b>	<b>Palmer Axne</b>
<b>15-073 Maya Berry</b>	<b>Lilly Carter / Carreiro</b>
<b>16-032 Missy Bichler</b>	<b>Caesar Davis</b>
<b>16-049 Jed Kienzlen</b>	<b>Salem Palumbo-Mullaney</b>
<b>16-079 Molly Mitchell</b>	

Teri and Jeff Guilbault	Deb and Larry Orwig
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson	Liz Tataseo

*In memory of Debbie Ball's brother, David Manthey*  
*and*  
*In memory of Michele Meyer's father, Michael Meyer*

Teri and Jeff Guilbault	Deb and Larry Orwig
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson	Liz Tataseo

*Memorial Donations continued*

*In memory of my father, Michael Meyer, my biggest cheerleader  
Michele Meyer*

*In Memory of my mom, Elinor, who is with our 4 Goldens "over the  
Bridge" 7 years in January, and my late dad, Robert Raymer. They  
both taught me the love of Goldens!  
Emily Raymer*

*In Memory of **09-003 Max, Sierra and 11-089 Jack**  
Melissa Carter*

*In Memory of **10-032 Augie Tataseo**  
Debbie and Rick Ball  
Mary and Bert Engstrom  
Jodi and Jay Koblick*

*In Memory of **13-044 Honey Flores**  
Kathy Jones*

*In Memory of **14-033 Dolly Orwig**  
Debbie and Rick Ball  
Alice and David Courtney  
Mary and Bert Engstrom  
Rebecca Kemak and Bob Cain  
Fran and Jan Strock*

*In Memory of **17-002 Belle Courtney**  
Alice and David Courtney*

*In Memory of **17-057 Coda Morgan**  
Karen and Phil Davis*

*In Memory of our Goldens **Painter and Misty**  
Barbara Collins*

*In Memory of **Griffin**, my friend's 14-year-old Golden, who just died  
and was much loved  
Stacey Gourdeaux*

*In Memory of **Lobo Westbrook**, my neighbor Frank's Dog  
Beverly Farrar Host*

*In Memory of **Ponto**, 12-2-18  
Laura Leopardi*

*In Memory of our wonderful rescue senior dog **Scout**, a loving guy  
Janice Snow*

*In Memory of **Pip**  
Thomas Valente*

*Gift Single Membership for Dana Haywood – Deb and Larry Orwig*

*Memberships - New Advanced-Level Supporters***COPPER (\$50)**

Candace and Neal Greff  
Jill Imler and Michael Feight  
Rita Koppinger and Thomas Martinsen  
Donna and Jeffrey Kozel  
Stephanie and Scott Watkins

**AMBER (\$100)**

Carolyn and Peter Brown  
Charles (Skip) Derra  
Carol Gora and Don Woods  
Jenna Jones  
Anne and John McGill  
Lynn and Dennis Mullen  
Patricia Murphy and Bill Richardson  
Sharon and Stephen Pheils  
Norton Remes  
Lauren and Michael Shapiro  
Jamie and David Smith  
Deborah and Thomas Vinopal

**TOPAZ (\$250)**

Mariruth Brooks Wittkamp

**PEARL (\$500)**

Sharla and David Jewett

*Thanks*

*To Connie McCabe for taking our holiday family photo  
Karen and Phil Davis  
Joy and Todd Slagowski*

*To Deb Orwig for vacation care for **Shelby**  
Debbie and Rick Ball*

*To Deb Orwig for caring for **Sky Blue**  
Betty Thompson*

*To Deb Orwig for vacation care for **KC and Murphy**  
Rebecca Kemak and Bob Cain*

*To Deb Orwig for vacation care for **Natasha**  
Cindy and Gary Tigges*

*To Cindy and Gary Tigges for vacation care for **Lucy**  
John L. Martin*

*AGR sincerely thanks those members who have set up automatic  
monthly donations through PayPal or their bank*

Stephanie Beard  
Carrie Stoneburner  
Judy Petitto  
Mary and Ken Richardson  
Liz Tataseo in memory of **Gonzo, Cooper and Augie**



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