

# THE GUARDIAN

APRIL 2026 | ISSUE 137

ENZO #5083



ARE YOU A *golden retriever* BELIEVER?





# THE GUARDIAN

APRIL 2026 | ISSUE 137

The official publication for Golden Rescue, a not-for-profit rescue and adoption service for Golden Retrievers.

**Editor:** Viive Tamm **Creative Director:** Betty James

If you have any comments or suggestions for the Guardian, please email [guardian@goldenrescue.ca](mailto:guardian@goldenrescue.ca).

**All the Guardian issues since 2013 are on our website. If you'd like to read past issues, please click [HERE](#).**

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## GOLDEN RESCUE MISSION STATEMENT SECOND CHANCES FOR GOLDENS IN NEED

Our comprehensively volunteer-run organization is dedicated to ensuring each and every rescued Golden receives exceptional care, regardless of the extent of their needs. We provide veterinary care, rehabilitation, behaviour training, and numerous other services to help our Goldens prepare for their second chance with a loving forever family. We also help educate people about the virtues of rescue.

Our core values are our guiding principles ~ integrity, kindness, compassion ~ delivered without judgment.

**Mailing address:**

PO Box 31026, Barrie, ON L4N 0B3

*Golden Rescue™ is a registered trademark of the Canadian Golden Retriever Adoption Service Inc.*

## ON THE COVER

**Enzo #5083** ~ Adopting Enzo was one of the best decisions of my life. I thought I was giving him a second chance, but the truth is he gave one to me. His calm presence, steady loyalty, and endlessly loving nature have brought a kind of peace and joy into my life that I didn't even realize I was missing. In so many ways, I've come to understand that I needed him more than he ever needed me. Enzo isn't just my Golden, he's my reminder to slow down, love fully, and show up with a gentle heart every single day. **Ryan**



SHADOW #1342

## DON'T MISS OUT ON GOLDEN NEWS!

We send out regular Adoption Alerts and eblasts for News & Events...

**AND NOW, OUR FREE GUARDIAN!**

To stay 'in-the-know' about Golden news

**CLICK HERE TO JOIN**  
**OUR MAILING LIST**

or sign up by going to our website (*click on 'Join our mailing list' on the top right-hand corner and follow the prompts*).

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



'Like' us on Facebook and 'Follow' us on Threads, Instagram, and Pinterest to stay up-to-date on what's happening with Golden Rescue. Click on the icons here (or on our website) to stay connected!



# GR ONLINE AUCTION

APRIL 17-19

**PLEASE CLICK  
HERE TO ACCESS  
OUR FANTASTIC  
AUCTION!**

## **WE ARE LOOKING FOR PRIZES**

Here are a few suggestions for things we'd be grateful to receive (new items only):

- Anything related to Goldens/dogs
- Theatre/sporting event tickets
- Golf certificates
- Gift cards (for restaurants/resorts/experiences/merchandise)
- Quilts, jewelery, anything gardening

If you would like to donate to the auction, please email [sa@goldenrescue.ca](mailto:sa@goldenrescue.ca).

**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR SUPPORT!**



## MEET &amp; GREET



STUART #3255

Stuart is an amazing boy and has fit into our family so well. He lives with us and our two cats. Stuart loves life and goes for off-leash walks every day and has lots of play-time in the backyard. He just loves the pool in the summer and we introduced him to dock diving. His first jump was six feet and he's now jumping over 22 feet. Considering he came from Egypt, we are amazed how much he loves snow! Stuart is great at paying-it-forward as he visits our local nursing home where he is a hit with all the residents. Stuart is also a regular blood donor. We are grateful to Golden Rescue for giving us the opportunity to adopt him ~ he is the best!

**Barbara & David**

## MEET &amp; GREET



TIFFY #4202

Tiffany is a wonderful girl ~ we couldn't ask for better. She's super smart, in fact, she outsmarts us at times to get more treats. She loves food and lives for her next meal. She gets along so well with our son's Golden and all humans. She loves her walks, playing with her ball, and chilling on the front lawn while she waits for the kids to head home from school so she can play with them. She also enjoys watching TV, especially soccer, baseball, football, hockey, and Dr Pol (she loves animals and could watch him for hours). She really likes a fresh snowfall, jumping up to catch flakes, having her paws rubbed, and going to the groomer. We couldn't have asked for a better fur-baby!

**Annette & Alan**

## MEET &amp; GREET



CLEO #4057

Cleo has been part of our family for over four wonderful years and the time has flown by so quickly. The first time we saw Cleo, she was so tiny. From the moment we saw her, we just knew she was the missing puzzle piece to our family. She was shy at first but warmed quickly. Cleo is incredibly resilient and has a huge heart. After everything she went through as a stray puppy in Cairo, she now zooms around the backyard chasing squirrels, fills our home with love and laughter, and despite her size, somehow manages to take up the entire bed. My family and I could never wish for a sweeter girl and we can't imagine life without her.

**Jill & Paul**





**Dear Goldie:** You know the song: "It's raining men, Howlalooya! It's raining men, what's it to ya." My song choice is more like "Rain drops CAN'T fall upon my head..." Not sure why I'm like this and what does this mean. Dad opens the back door, I see rain and freeze fur-real, like a statue, or run the other way. As I do this, my Golden bro who was rescued with me, rushes by me, does his thing, comes back in, then stops and stares at me. He's always triple-dog-daring me to just go out there and do it! Can you help me Goldie? Cassidy

**Dear Cassidy:** Some dogs dislike the feel of rain on their fur, hate wet ground or associate rain with a feared thunderstorm. When Golden retrievers feel fearful, this fear is reduced if someone goes out with them. Maybe your owner can find an area under trees or some other covered spot. Praise and reward are also important at this stressful time. Another strategy is to play fetch on a warm summer day in the rain to break that negative association.

**Dear Goldie:** Now I lay me down to sleep. My doggie bed is soft and deep. But before I actually hunker down, for some reason, I circle round and round. Goldie, why do I do this? Oreo

**Dear Oreo:** The circle dance before curling up to sleep is common. This behaviour is thought to be an inherited throw back from your wild wolf ancestors who would circle to pat down long grass or snow. It is also thought to have been a protective trait in determining wind direction to detect potential scents or threats.

**Dear Goldie:** True story! Before I was rescued, I lived on the streets far away. I was young and bullied by other dogs, but strangely a street cat became my best buddy. She would run toward those dogs coming for me and scare them away. Then, every night the two of us would huddle down together sleeping side-by-side. Don't know what I would have done without her. We were so attached that we were both actually rescued together. Ten years later, the two of us are still together with our forever family. I've never been happier so I never feel lonely when mom goes out. Can other Golden retrievers learn anything from my story? Babe

**Dear Babe:** Thank you for sharing your story. Cats and dogs can often live happily together, but are rescue dogs good with cats? It depends on whether your Golden is a mellow, low energy, big goofy love bug or instead more prey-driven. In your case, you adapted to living with a cat at an early age. It may be a possibility for a young Golden rescue to have a similar experience;

however, anyone contemplating this partnership should first assess the Golden's character. If a decision is made to proceed, it will require time, patience, and a closely supervised step-by-step introduction and monitoring strategy.



## SPRING PRECAUTIONS

All the new smells of spring can be very overwhelming for Golden retrievers. It is prime time not to listen to recall, to chase that bunny, squirrel or deer just a little further and become disoriented about returning home.

PLEASE TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTIONS THIS TIME OF YEAR.

## MEET & GREET

### Mabel #4786

Picture a quiet, tree-lined Toronto neighbourhood. Avenues and laneways ringed by larger streets with names like Queen, Broadview, and Logan. Greenspaces, dog parks, and sniffaris abound ~ it's a doggie paradise. Unless you're a scared, skittish rescue who's had precious few positive interactions with people and in public places. That's the Mabel, who came home with us in late September. For a while, we weren't sure if she'd come around. She silently slept by her food bowl for days and cowered for weeks. When she did get somewhat comfortable, she spent all her time lying on our bed. Walks were the real challenge, especially when cars or other people were around. She would shake and panic whenever we left the house. After doing her business, she'd turn right around for home. But we're so happy to report that Mabel's an entirely different girl now. She's proven to be smart as a whip and is a verbal goofball. She's always by our side and is excited for walks. She runs with her furry friends at parks, has learned to play fetch, sit, stay, and shake a paw. And she loves watching TV. Mabel makes us smile every day and smiles herself all the time too. And while she still loves our bed, she now has one to call her own...forever.

**Amy & John**



## GOLDEN SMILE

A Golden walks into a bar, sits down, locks eyes with the bartender and wearily says "One beer, one shot, please."

The bartender says "Holy moly! A talking dog! You should be in the circus, buddy!"

The Golden says "Why? Do they need an electrician?"

## GOLDEN MOMENTS<sup>©</sup>



"Just wait until those two dumb bunnies try to make a run for it!"

## Media Relations Team Lead

We need a passionate and skilled communicator to lead our brand strategy with media. You will oversee media relations and communications and develop content to ensure clear, engaging, and consistent messaging. As the ideal candidate, you are a creative thinker and have strong writing and editing skills. You are like a 'dog with a bone' in your desire to advance Golden Rescue's mission and expand our reach. Your flexible schedule will allow you to dedicate the time needed to address time-sensitive matters promptly and effectively. Once you've identified your mission, you may want to create a team. **Estimated time commitment:** 10-20 hours per month

## Eblast Team Lead

We are seeking a motivated and detail-oriented volunteer to oversee the planning, creation, and distribution of engaging email communications for our organization. You will coordinate with team members to develop compelling content, manage email schedules, and ensure consistency in messaging and branding across all campaigns. The ideal candidate has a passion for community engagement, strong communication and organizational skills, and an understanding of design elements and is proficient with MailChimp. As a leader, you will guide and support volunteers, monitor campaign performance, and help optimize outreach efforts to maximize impact. This is a great opportunity to build a team while contributing to meaningful initiatives. **Estimated time commitment:** 10-15 hours per month

# HELP WANTED

## Education & Advocacy Team

To support our mission, we are building a dedicated team of volunteers focused on community outreach. This team will work within local communities to promote awareness, share educational resources, and advocate for responsible pet ownership. Through post-secondary school visits, community events, public information sessions, and partnerships with local organizations, you will help spread the message that rescue is not just about responding...it's about prevention. **Estimated time commitment:** 10+ hours per month

## Treasury Help Wanted

We need volunteers to help out on our treasury team with accounts payable, month-end journal entry processing, and banking. Basic bookkeeping skills are required. **Estimated time commitment:** 10-15 hours per month

## Placement Team Admin

The placement team is responsible for carefully matching our Golden Retrievers with their forever families. Much of our incoming communication is received through a central inbox, where messages are reviewed, responded to, and directed to the appropriate team members. These emails include

general inquiries, questions about specific Golden Retrievers, and adoption applications. We are currently seeking a volunteer to share responsibility for managing this inbox. The ideal candidate will have excellent written communication skills, strong attention to detail, and solid computer proficiency. You should be able to respond to emails with compassion and

empathy, while maintaining confidentiality and respecting privacy. Full training and ongoing support will be provided by our team. **Estimated time commitment:** 1-2 hours per day (with scheduling flexibility)

## Golden Gala Volunteers

We are in the infancy stage of planning a gala event in the Toronto area to raise funds and awareness for Golden Rescue. We are looking for volunteers to help explore this idea. The options are endless and hopefully we can raise a substantial amount of money while having fun. Looking forward to putting a team together to start a new tradition ~ the 'Golden Gala'. **Estimated time commitment:** 5+ hours per month

## PLEASE COME TO OUR RESCUE!

If you're interested in any of these roles, please let us know by emailing [teamresources@goldenrescue.ca](mailto:teamresources@goldenrescue.ca).



SAVE THE DATE!

# Golden Rescue Picnic SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19th

Viamede Resort  
Stoney Lake in the  
Kawarthas



## UPCOMING EVENTS

TELL YOUR FRIENDS, MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS, AND HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!

### Help us spread the **GOLDEN** word!

We need YOU ~ volunteers and visitors! If you are interested in volunteering with your Golden for a few hours, please email [events@goldenrescue.ca](mailto:events@goldenrescue.ca). Indicate which event you would like to help with and the hours you are available.

**Sun, Apr 12th**  
Ottawa Farmers' Market  
OTTAWA (ON)  
10 am – 3 pm

**Sat, Apr 25th**  
Muskoka Maple Fest  
HUNTSVILLE (ON)  
9 am – 5 pm

**Sat, May 23rd**  
Ottawa Street Farmers' Market  
HAMILTON (ON)  
8 am – 2 pm

**Sun, Apr 12th**  
Oshawa Flea Market  
OSHAWA (ON)  
10 am – 6 pm

**Sat, May 16th**  
Subaru Customer Appreciation Drive-In Theatre  
OAKVILLE (ON)  
2 pm – 10 pm

**Sat, Jun 20th**  
Wag-tastic Day  
OSHAWA (ON)  
1 pm – 4 pm

**Sat, May 16th**  
Subaru Night-at-the-Drive-in  
OAKVILLE (ON)  
5 pm – 8 pm

**Sat, Jul 18th**  
Pawsitively Elgin Dog Festival  
ST. THOMAS (ON)  
10 am – 4 pm



## MEET &amp; GREET



BENITO #5010

What little we know about his life has made us understand his quirky tendencies. He arrived in the midst of a winter blizzard and our biggest worry was that he would struggle with the frigid temperatures and the snow. Boy, were we wrong ~ he dove into snowbanks and, within seconds, was hopping back and forth digging his big paws and cute nose into the white stuff he'd never seen before. He immediately claimed my sofa chair as his and no visitor can take that away from him. He's flourished into such a happy boy ~ curious and willing to try new things. He didn't understand any English but he has become fluent in the language of love and affection. He loves to cuddle and always enjoys long walks. He's such a beautiful boy...and I'm so lucky he's in my family.

**Reichen**

## MEET &amp; GREET



KEELEY #3797

Keeley has been a member of our family since she arrived from Cairo in 2021. She has settled in beautifully, partaking in daily morning cuddles, walks, swimming at the cottage, boat rides, and road trips. She loves everyone she meets ~ people, kids, and other dogs alike. Don't get us wrong, it took some work to get here but it was well worth it. Keeley arrived with a very strong prey drive, an inclination to run off, and a language barrier, along with some minor health issues (which Golden Rescue helped us with). With love, patience, and consistent training, she has learned to stay close and she has developed an extensive vocabulary and a repertoire of tricks. She continues to impress us with her loyalty, kind-heartedness, curiosity, and boundless energy...and we could not be more delighted that we took a chance on her.

**Erik, Lesley & Emma**

## MEET &amp; GREET



LIZZIE #3193

Our hearts overflowed with joy when Queen Lizzie joined our family in November 2019. At six years old, she arrived with a quiet sadness in her gentle eyes, hinting at past hardships. From the moment she stepped into our home, a transformation began...not just in her, but in us. With her goofy antics, little grunts, and gentle nudges, she is living her royal and best life. She has filled our lives with warmth and laughter. Despite coming to our home with no official training (she adapted with ease), she delights in backyard bunny searches and greets every passerby like an old friend. We've made it our mission to give her the royal treatment she deserves, but in truth, she has given us far more ~ a daily reminder of love, resilience, and the power of second chances. Our gratitude goes to Golden Rescue, whose incredible work makes stories like ours possible. We found a love beyond measure!

**Louise & Paul**

## MEET & GREET



### Charlie #4892

Charlie joined our family in June at the distinguished age of 10 and he settled in wonderfully. As he's gotten more comfortable, his personality has really started to shine and we're learning that Charlie has quite a bit to say about how things should be run around here. He's a very well-trained boy but he also maintains a healthy skepticism of authority,

which keeps life entertaining. Commands are generally followed... after a brief moment of thoughtful consideration and what appears to be a cost-benefit analysis. Charlie's absolute favourite activity is walking and preferably for as long as possible. If it were up to him, we'd probably still be out there now. And when he walks, he doesn't just walk, he prances. Charlie has such a stylish little trot that people have actually stopped to ask if he's a show dog. We haven't confirmed or denied this...but we suspect Charlie believes he might be. He has also become a big fan of the cottage, where he happily spends time swimming whenever he gets the chance. Water and long walks are definitely high on his list of priorities. At home, Charlie has taken on the important role of neighbourhood security officer. Charlie loves people and other dogs. We feel incredibly lucky to have him in our lives and are so grateful to the rescue for bringing this wonderful boy to us. Adopting a senior has been such a rewarding experience. Charlie may be 10; however, he still has plenty of energy, personality, and love to give.

**Natalie & Maryan**

## Commemorate a Date!

Buy a commemorative date in the 2027 Calendar for your loved ones and support Goldenrescue.ca in need at the same time!

Happy Birthday  
Shadow #1342

In memory of  
Bailey #1212

Happy Gotcha  
Day Kili #4171

Please email the date, message, and photo to [board@goldenrescue.ca](mailto:board@goldenrescue.ca) and send your etransfer to [treasurer@goldenrescue.ca](mailto:treasurer@goldenrescue.ca).

**Cost:** \$20 per date or \$50 if you'd like a small photo in the same month (limited spaces available so first-come...)

*(The cost of the commemorative date does not include a calendar.)*

**DATES/PHOTOS SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE: AUGUST 15TH**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Rescue - it's not just a verb...it's a promise	Melton #3556	Flooby #3556	Libby #3556	Floebee #3556	Nohia #3991	1 Happy Birthday Melton #3556 Happy Birthday Kili
2	3	4 Missing sweet Libby	5	6 Happy Birthday Floebee Isa Bonita #3588 - have a great one	7	8 Happy Birthday Henry
9 Mother's Day	10 In Memory of Buddy #2893	11 In Memory of Belle Sheila	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Happy Gotcha Day Nohia #3991
23/30	24/31 Victoria Day (24)	25	26 Happy Adoptiversary Sheldon	27 Happy Birthday sweet McKinley #4047	28	29

MAY 2027

Golden Rescue  
Adopt. Second Chance  
www.goldenrescue.ca

f @ i p y

# ADOPTION ALERT

## NICKY #5020 & BODHI #5021



To read their profile and to watch a video of these two happy, loveable, bonded goofballs, click [HERE!](#)

- Bonded pair ~ they love each other & best as the only pets in the family
- Suitable for country or city living ~ a secure yard would be ideal where they could romp & play together
- Nicky is exceptionally sweet, fun-loving, playful & affectionate
- Bodhi is gracious to all but reserves his love & trust for a lucky few
- Active family (older kids or teens would be great)
- Nicky is 108 lbs & Bodhi is 75 lbs.

Please consider adopting by filling out an adoption application [HERE](#) – or if you have already applied, please email [adoption@goldenrescue.ca](mailto:adoption@goldenrescue.ca) and let us know who you're interested in.



## MEET & GREET MAGGIE #4953

My name is Maggie. For five years, my world was dark and small. I lived in a basement, learned to stay quiet, and learned not to trust ~ especially women. I had puppies that were taken away, over and over, until I stopped expecting anything good. Then I came here. The light was too bright and the space felt too big. For the first three days, I hid under the bed, positive I didn't belong here. But no one forced me out. They waited. Now I live on a big property by a lake with open fields and fresh air. I learned how to run and sniff the grass. My new family is gentle and patient. I learned I was safe and I sleep without fear now. Most importantly, I am loved and I belong. I am home!

Venus was never part of the plan. We had agreed to foster a Golden for a couple of months ~ just long enough to help her land on her paws and find her forever family. It turns out she already had one...us! Nearly three years later, Venus is still here and every single day feels like a quiet miracle. She has been a testament to resilience, to trust rebuilt, and to the kind of love that grows slowly but roots itself deeply. When we first brought her home, she was not the typical Golden ~ the bubbly, everyone's-best-friend kind. Her nervous tail and cautious steps told a story we could only imagine. Whatever she had been through had taught her that the world was unpredictable. We let her set the pace. We didn't rush her. We didn't demand more than she could give. We simply showed up for her and very slowly, she began to show up for us. Watching her discover joy in something that once frightened her is nothing short of extraordinary. And then there's her playful side...the one that took its sweet time emerging. Now she bursts out the door in pursuit of her favourite ball. But more than anything, Venus now loves being close to her people. Venus may still be cautious with strangers, but once you're in her circle, you're in for good. Her loyalty runs deep. There is something profoundly moving about being chosen by a Golden who once trusted no one. She's even learned to love car rides...something we never could have imagined in those early weeks. Now the car means adventure. And nothing thrills her more than a trip to the beach. We set out to save her. Somewhere along the way, she saved us right back. We found in her a companion, a confidante, and a steady, gentle presence we didn't know our lives were missing. She has taught us that trust is sacred, that patience matters, and that love, real love, isn't loud. It's consistent. It's earned. It stays. Venus was never part of the plan. She was something far better. She was meant to be ours.

**Kat**

MEET & GREET  
VENUS #4487





# WELCOME TO THE GOLDEN FAMILY



**Elsa #4610**  
Adopted by Victoria



**Leo #5032**  
Adopted by Jane



**Mika #5043**  
Adopted by Erin & Ryan



**Maple #5045**  
Adopted by Liz & Bill



**Ernie Clement #5049**  
Adopted by Johanna



**Charlie #5061**  
Adopted by Kate & Chapman



**Scooby #5077**  
Adopted by Katherine



**Skye #5078**  
Adopted by Margaret & Wayne



# WELCOME TO THE GOLDEN FAMILY



## QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

Handle every stressful situation like a Golden!

If you can't eat or play with it, just pee on it and walk away!



**Bentley #5079**  
Adopted by Debbie & Dave



**Enzo #5083**  
Adopted by Ryan



**Higbee #5085**  
Adopted by Lori & Steve



**Finley #5088**  
Adopted by Diane & Jeremy



**Chili #5091**  
Adopted by Michele



**Marshy #5092**  
Adopted by Cindy & Johna

SEAMUS #2223

# SEAMUS' LEGACY DONATION MATCH

MAKE A DONATION AND IT WILL BE MATCHED UP TO \$25,000

**Hi everyone, my name is Seamus #2223.**

My mom came into Golden Rescue frightened and abused ~ it makes me sad to think of her like that. The day after she found safety with the good folks of Golden Rescue, she gave birth to my sister Daisy and I and three others.

**Through Golden Rescue, we all found families that loved us and homes where we were safe.**

Daisy and I ended up living just 10 minutes away from each other and we saw each other every day, which was amazing for both of us. I spent my days swimming in ponds, playing with Daisy and our other pals, rolling in snow, chasing squirrels, and teaching younger rescued Golden Retrievers the ways of the world. I was a teacher, a protector, a playmate, and a loyal friend. I was so lucky to have this life and I wanted other Golden Retrievers in need to feel the same kind of love, safety, and happiness.

Now that I have crossed the rainbow bridge, one of my best friends has set aside a gift in my memory to help my legacy live on. Every donation made during this campaign will be matched up to \$25,000...giving more Golden Retrievers the chance to find safety, comfort, and love...just as I did.

GR launched this campaign on St. Patrick's Day, which fits in perfectly with my Irish name. Every St. Paddy's Day I was reminded of the two Irish guys who immigrated to Canada from Ireland. They saw a poster in the harbour just as they got off the boat that said "Tree fellers wanted." One of them turned to his friend Paddy and said: "Oh Paddy, what a shame there are only two of us." I loved that joke. Anyway, I digress...back to our matching campaign.

**Okay, here's how the matching campaign works and here's how you can help:**

- Become a monthly donor\*
- Increase your existing monthly donation\*
- Make a one-time donation

*\*Monthly donations and increases are counted as a full year's support toward the match. For example, a monthly gift of \$25 will count as \$300 towards unlocking the \$25,000.*

To donate or adjust your monthly gift, email [treasurer@goldenrescue.ca](mailto:treasurer@goldenrescue.ca) and indicate that your donation is for the 'Seamus's Legacy Lives On' campaign.

To donate, click [HERE](#) and donate through Canada Helps or send an e-transfer to [donations@goldenrescue.ca](mailto:donations@goldenrescue.ca) (and again, let us know that it's for Seamus's Legacy).

Thank you for helping my legacy live on!

*With love,*

**Seamus #2223**

**Please help Seamus unlock this \$25,000 matching gift. Your support will give more Golden Retrievers the chance to run, play, and be loved. Every gift is a pawprint of love guiding other Golden Retrievers toward the life they deserve.**