The Parade of Rescue Goldens is a time to recognize and celebrate those beloved rescue Goldens that have touched our lives, and the lives of the dedicated rescue volunteers. 2019 Golden Retriever Rescue Parade was held on October 25th in Ontario, California during the Golden Retriever Club of America National Specialty. There were 17 entries who represented rescues in California and Nevada.

During the parade all goldens and their forever families were introduced and presented with a beautiful rosette and a personalized pin brush while their story was read. This was a wonderful tribute to these magnificent Goldens, their loving families the dedicated rescue volunteers.

Here are our participants and their stories:
Lacey Platte
Lacey, age 11, was found online as available because she was being retired from breeding at age 8. The breeder would not disclose the kennel location and agreed to meet in a park. Lacey was frightened, untrained and not house trained. We were told that she had never been out of her kennel, never touched grass, never had a toy or a dog bed, and only ever had one kind of kibble and no treats. Now she runs free to play in a half acre yard. She is still timid, but so sweet. She loves her food and treats. She has become quite the diva expecting a variety of good food choices and will walk into the kitchen and give a stern look if her meal is not to her expectations!

Ellie Mae Adams
Ellie Mae was adopted over 10 years ago. She's been the love of her family’s life ever since.
She has “hippie ears” and does not know she is a dog!

Luke Platte
Luke, age 12, came from rescue at age 10. He arrived into rescue with terrible skin conditions where he had scratched himself so severely that he had multiple open wounds. He arrived at his forever home complete shaved except for a puff of fur at the end of his tail. Now he is controlled with medications and has a beautiful, soft full coat. He loves his groomer and runs to greet him. He is a real love bug and greets everyone to get petted. He is Leigh’s constant shadow, sleeping next to her and following everywhere. He loves to watch TV or movies. Favorites are action films and everything with dogs.

Penny Spiwak
Penny became a member of the Spiwak family in 2010. She was a welcome addition to their 10 year old rescued golden, Hunter. Penny is one of the most mellow dogs they have ever seen. All the grandkids (who are under 5 years!) love to cuddle with her, and she lays her head on them and they line up for kisses. She is unique! She’s attentive and very gentle and kind.
When asked if she wants to go for a ride in the car or take a walk, she talks and talks!
**Tweed Brodeur**
Four years ago, Tweed was rescued after being hit by a car and left in the street. Now fully recovered, he brings joy to everyone he meets, on every outing, his friendly nature draws kids and adults alike. His ability to bring a smile to every face has led to him being certified as a therapy dog for a wide variety of hospital patients, and there are plans to make Tweed a regular visitor at a senior center his grandma is moving into. In his private life, Tweed is a fan of swimming, belly rubs and dog treats.

**Duke and Big Bob Taira/Welch**
Duke was put up for adoption last year through Southern California Golden Retriever Rescue, and today lives happily in Orange County with his brother Bob, another rescue golden. While no one knows his exact age, Duke is around 13 years old. He is believed to have been named after one of two legends, actor John Wayne, known as "The Duke" or Hawaiian surfer Duke Kahanamoku. This Duke doesn't have a swagger and he doesn't surf, but he does chase rabbits and squirrels. He's the "Duke of Charm", extremely sweet and cheerful and wants to be everyone's friend! Duke loves spending time at the coffee shop, where he gets lots of attention. He is so comfortable there that he often refuses to leave and sometimes has to be practically carried back to the car!

"What About Bob?" that was the title of a movie, and it's also the first question that his forever family asked when they saw Bob on the Retrievers and Friends rescue website. Bob, who turned 11 in October, was given up because he was "too big". Today, he's usually called "Big Bob" or sometimes Bob Barker. If you're wondering, Bob does indeed have a big bark and a big heart of gold. He's very gentle with children and plays with Star Wars toys. Bob enjoys chasing squirrels, going to the coffee shop, and occasionally howling at the moon! When Bob was first adopted he graduated at the top of his class in obedience school. However, there was only one other student, a Jack Russell Terrier who dropped out after two classes!

**Stanley Sweetness Yerkes**
Stanley was found by the LAPD in a homeless encampment in June 2018. There were marijuana plants found with him so he had to go through some detox in case he had eaten any. From there, he went to live with a fabulous foster family and then to his forever family in January 2019. He had never lived in a house before he went to foster. It has been a happy adventure with Stanley as he learns to live with a family in a home. He is a very chill, relaxed and happy guy, with adults, kids and other dogs. When on a walk, people consistently call out, whether walking by or in a car, "I love your dog, he's so handsome!". He gets a lot of compliments. He loves belly rubs! He will roll over onto his back, a big smile on his face, looking as though he's in utter bliss.
Cassie Platte
Cassie, nearly age 14, was returned to a breeder at age 13 because her seriously ill elderly owners could no longer take care of her. She adapted quickly to her new home with a half acre to play with her new companion dogs. She is sweet and smart and always wants to cuddle! She loves the groomer who says she has the thickest coat of any golden he has ever groomed. She only had kibble her entire life and passionately enjoys new foods. She has been known to dismantle toy baskets and rope toys. She is loving and kind. She loves posing for cameras and will come running to sit pretty for pictures.

Teddy Hammond
After his previous owner died, Teddy was rescued from a home in Oklahoma where he was chained to a cage outside for 5 years. Every thunderstorm brought terror and agitation. He was finally surrendered to a Nevada shelter to lessen exposure to storms. When adopted, Teddy was diagnosed with a rare cancer but is now in full remission and loving senior life with his forever younger sister, Hope, also a golden! Hope likes to cause trouble and chase cats. Teddy learned a trick "get your puppy" where he will go and lure her from things that get her in trouble, like the cat! Hope follows him away from trouble every time!

Cooper Horridge
Cooper came into his mom’s life at 14 months old. She fell in love with his photo, and then with him! He was skinny, destructive and frightened. He is now 11 years old. He’s a born therapy dog and brought his mom through the worst. He’s that once in a lifetime dog we all hope for. At meal time, Cooper still leaps up, all four feet off the ground. Hi ho, Cooper!

Lainey Murphy
Lainey was adopted on December 16, 2015 from Southern California Golden Retriever Rescue. She came from a very abusive situation. She had no training and many issues that needed to be addressed. Through patience, training and love, Lainey is now a very happy pup and enjoying life to the fullest. Lainey is a therapy dog and earned her AKC Therapy Dog Excellent title with over 250 therapy visits. When Lainey is not doing therapy work, she enjoys learning new tricks and participating in Rally Obedience, Agility and Scent Work. Lainey will sneak in a kiss every chance she gets! Lainey is the only therapy dog I know who loves the smell of hand sanitizer!
Mazie

Mazie is 9 1/2 years old. She was originally obtained by a family who bid on her for a school fundraiser. They had 5 kids and no time for Mazie. She was an outside dog and so bored that she licked her feet raw. They decided to surrender her to rescue. Mazie was unfamiliar with the inside of a home and it took her two weeks to climb the stairs to the second story! She is now a complete house dog enjoying the good life!

Not pictured: Bailey Penschke, Koba Penschke, Cody Delle, Marco Delle.