

Gold Star Kennels

Quality care pampers animal guests

From grooming services and obedience training to boarding options, Gold Star is passionate about serving its guests.

Whether pet owners are considering grooming, day care, boarding or obedience training needs for their cat or dog, the Gold Star Kennels legacy continues to offer impeccable, individualized care for every animal under its care.

Since 1971 Gold Star Kennels and Gold Star Dog Grooming have been synonymous with professionalism, quality, knowledge and experience in animal care. Owners Vicki and Barry Wagner say they work hard to keep people's pets happy and healthy to insure pet owners a worry-free time while they are away from their pets.

Located in Nowthen on 10.5 acres. Along with being on hand 24 hours a day, seven days a week, Gold Star Kennels has many built-in features to make sure its furry guests have a clean and healthy environment.

All kennels are semi-private with indoor and outdoor spaces that feature a system which prevents any cross contamination between kennels. All kennel floors and cages are routinely disinfected as well. An air exchanger continuously cleans air in the building which is temperature and humidity controlled, too.

With owners' permission, dogs are allowed to play with other dogs of similar size and disposition several times a day in a large outdoor exercise yard, equipped with playground-grade wood chips. Separate from the dogs, feline guests get to lounge or play in the cat room in kitty condos.

"We don't want dogs to stay cooped up in a kennel all day," Vicki says. "It stresses them too much. They get so much group play and one-on-one attention, many of the dogs and cats don't want to leave."

It is no wonder, when the furry guests



Owners Vicki and Barry Wagner with Gracie left, Sally middle, and Boomer right.

are indulged in Gold Star Kennels' luxury suites. Each dog and cat suite has a hand-painted mural and a four-poster deluxe bed, complete with a TV/DVD player.

This passion to give pets the best possible care started when Vicki was 14 years old and she received her first show dog. Working with the collie led to the young animal lover enrolling in Minnesota School of Dog Grooming three years later.

Since that time, Vicki has owned and operated grooming shops in Monticello and Minneapolis. Clients brought their pets from as far away as Hibbing, Minnesota and Wisconsin for her extraordinary hand scissoring techniques.

Vicki's passion for excellence carries over to her staff as well, as they reflect the owner's demand for quality, expert care.

"I'm extremely choosy about my groomers and trainers," Vicki says. "I feel very fortunate to have Deb Stevenson grooming at Gold Star. We've recently welcomed Ginny Ross (until recently, owned St. Francis Mobil Pet Salon) with 15 of years experience grooming cats and dogs. I have also been very pleased with Pat Benson,



Deb Stevenson (groomer) with her dog, Shiela, and Josh (kennel tech trainee) with customer, Tallsman.

our Certified Master Trainer. She is a great asset and has had many

pleased clients."

It is a family-run business that is now second generation. Deb is like family, Vicki says, the two knowing each other since grooming school in 1975. Now Deb's son, Josh, has joined Vicki's staff and is training to assist in running the operation.

Vicki and Barry's son, Ryan, is part of the family business as well. Vicki says he is the backbone of our web site, developing and maintaining its content. His quest for excellence will help the business run more smoothly with new software he is developing.

Gold Star Kennels' creed of excellence is recognized by veterinarians, too. Dr. George Baker of Broadway-Robbinsdale Animal Hospital wrote: I was enthusiastic when you announced the opening of Gold Star Kennels. Now I can refer boarding clients to you, confident their pets will be housed in an excellent physical facility and receiving quality care.

Vicki says the Gold Star motto is, "We're not the biggest, just the best!"

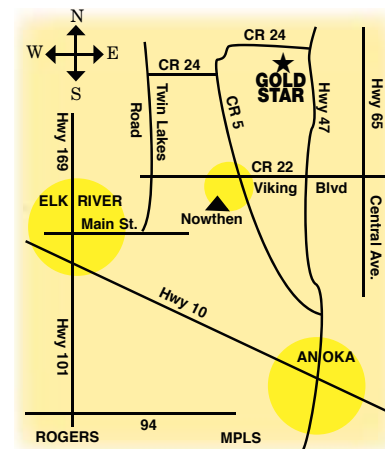
For more information on Gold Star Kennels and its services visit www.goldstarkennelsofmn.com. People can also call 763-753-5450 to schedule any of Gold Star's exceptional services.



Ryan (computer programmer) with his dog, Shorty.



Ira and Lilly in the "Safari Suite."



No matter where you're coming from, we're on your way up north.

Satisfied customer Jina, her dog Bentley, and Trainer Pat Benson after a private training session.