



# NCR's Rescue Reporter

March 2011

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## New President's Message by Sherry Luttrell

Hello fellow collie lovers. I will be the President of NorCal Collie Rescue this year. I joined NCR years ago and began by fostering several of the Yolo collies which I found very rewarding. I've been the Santa Cruz Area Coordinator for some time now. I don't get many dogs in my area but my specialty is old timers so I help the other area coordinators with whatever dogs I can. I hope that some of you will consider opening your heart and homes to a senior collie sometime. I always think, what if something happened to me and my oldies still had quality of life left? If we don't help them, they don't stand a chance in the shelters where they many times end up. The young ones are always in demand but the seniors have a special charm all their own. If you can't provide a home, maybe you will consider donating to our [Sanctuary Fund](#) so that we can continue to help them. As always, thank you to all our generous donors, we couldn't do this work without you.

I'd like to announce our completely [redesigned web site](#) created by Barbara Laird of Website to the Rescue. A big thanks to Cathy Toft for helping facilitate this much needed upgrade. Please check it out when you can. We're very happy with it. Along those lines, if any of you have adopted collies from us and would like to submit a [Happy Tail](#), please send it to your Area Coordinator.

I'd like to thank everyone on our great team. Welcome to the newcomers and thank you for continuing to help you NorCal veterans! If anyone would like to join our team, please feel free to contact me or any Area Coordinator. We also have an [online volunteer form](#) now on our web site with suggestions about how to help. Looking forward to a busy year helping to save collie lives, but hopefully not too busy!

Sincerely,  
Sherry Luttrell



## Frisco's Story - NCR Sanctuary Dog by Charlene Logan Burnett, NCR Volunteer

Frisco was found on the streets of San Francisco—old, matted, and alone. He has severe cruciate ligament damage, which contributes to his inability to move around, but that was not his biggest challenge that day. Frisco was so matted that his hind legs had literally fused together. He could not walk.

After NCR rescued Frisco, there was some debate—even though it is the absolute last option any rescue volunteer wants to consider—about whether euthanasia might be the kindest treatment. Sherry Luttrell, the AC for that area, thought otherwise. She cleaned him up, fed him a high-quality diet, and put him on medication to help his mobility. He responded to her love and care.

Ideally, every dog, no matter how old, will find his forever home. Frisco was highlighted on the NCR website as available and waiting. He waited and waited, yet no one came forward who was in a position to adopt an elderly dog with a medical condition. Thankfully, NCR has the Senior Sanctuary Program, which is supported by generous donors who contribute to this cause.

In September 2010, Frisco entered the program. I became his foster mom. My home is now his forever home. I consider myself lucky to be able to spend this time with him. There's something about him that is so special—his kind, wise eyes; his quiet demeanor. Even my three other dogs quickly accepted Frisco as a respected member of the pack.

Old dogs need lots of care. Coming off the streets, Frisco needed even more. His coat was badly matted. His teeth were blackened. He needed X-rays to pinpoint the structural weaknesses that prevented him from standing on his own. Blood tests revealed he had a thyroid condition and a urinary tract infection. Therapy was needed to increase the mobility of his hind legs.

Today, Frisco enjoys sleeping by a window on a sunny afternoon. Although he needs help getting up over his feet, once there, he can meander around the yard, sniffing and marking his territory. At night, he sleeps on a giant bolster dog bed on the floor near me. I love looking over at him when he's fast asleep and watching his legs move as he runs in his dreams.

For more pictures of Frisco, [click here](#).

## Treasurer's Tips

by Cathy Toft, NCR Treasurer

NCR volunteers were once again amazed by your generosity. We thank you for your strong support of our [Angel Fund](#), which supports the NCR Sanctuary Program. This month's newsletter features Frisco, one of our Sanctuary dogs and a recipient of your generous support.

2010 donations continued to roll in for the month of January. I have tried to get out all 2010 IRS tax receipts, for 2010 donations totalling \$75 or more. If you did not receive yours by either snail mail or email, please [email me](#). 2011 receipts will begin to go out in December. Meanwhile, Mary (our resident artist) will be sending you Thank You cards to acknowledge your generous donations. If you like Mary's work, you can find her cards for sale at our [CafePress store](#).

