



NCR's

Rescue Reporter

Winter 2008 Newsletter

President's Message: We Need You

By Andrea Moss, NCR President

Over the past six years, our rescue efforts have saved almost 300 Collies— some 50 per year or one per week— and enriched the lives of their adoptive families. This may not seem like so many when compared with shelter adoption rates or local all-breed rescues and big non-profits such as the Animal Friends Rescue Project, who rescue hundreds each year. But it sure feels like a lot to *us*, with our all-volunteer group and extremely limited number of foster homes. We put so much time, expense, and heart into each and every dog, striving to find the ultimate "forever home" match. Of all the dogs we have placed, I recall only six that have had to be re-homed.

The key components of our success have undoubtedly been our committed volunteers and our generous donors.

Volunteers - We have no facility to house the one Collie per week that comes to our attention. Most of the dogs we rescue now come from high kill rate shelters and are at risk of being euthanized within 24 hours. Our volunteers, who have their own households, jobs, and families, take in these dogs, often on a moment's notice. This willingness on the part of our volunteers to open their hearts and their homes has made the difference for so many Collies. However, our primary fosterers are wearing out and **WE ARE DESPERATE** for a more diversified base of foster homes, so that no one has to do quite so much. Although we have yet to turn down a Collie in need, sadly, I can foresee that day coming. Already, we have been taking in far fewer owner-relinquished dogs and instead have offered owners the use of the Referral page on our web-site. Additionally, we are increasingly referring applicants directly to the "good" shelters, who have advertised Collies on their websites.

Funds - Our donors have enabled us to provide the level of veterinary care necessary for the good health of our Collies. Our adoption fees do not cover the medical costs that so often come up. For example, we spent \$2,600 on a cancerous mouth tumor removal/reconstruction on a young, deserving Collie and \$1,200 on dental work for two night-drop box "throw-away" dogs, along with the standard vet bills just in the last couple of months. Thank you Donors!

How You Can Help Us Continue To Save Collies

- Volunteer to Foster

Please go to our website today at:

<http://www.calcollierescue.org> and download a foster application, fill it out, and send it to me at:

andrea@calcollierescue.org



Collies romp at Margie's Foster Home

CALENDARS



CALENDARS



Now Available through Café Press, this year's 2009 Collie Rescue Calendars in **THREE CHOICES:** THE PORTRAIT/SCENERY CALENDAR, COLLIE FRIENDS CALENDAR, AND THE ALL WHITE CALENDAR. Simply go to: <http://www.calcollierescue.org>, and click on the calendar of your choice. Each calendar nets NCR about \$15, and you get to look at a different rescue Collie each month! They make great holiday gifts as well. If you would like other store items personalized with *your* Collie's photo, write to Store Manager Sherry Luttrell at: sherry@calcollierescue.org

Stay in touch with adopters and volunteers, join our Yahoo Group @ http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/NCR_Family/

and click JOIN THIS GROUP or send an email to:

NCR_Family-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Ask The Behaviorist Column Will Return Next Issue!

Due to space restrictions, we are unable to print Cathy's popular column in this issue of our newsletter. However, to find out more about positive reinforcement (R+) dog training, you can visit her web site and blog, which she created for the purpose of providing information about modern dog training and where she reprints all of her articles in the Rescue Reporter and more: web site: <http://www.r-plusdogtraining.info> and the blog: <http://blog.r-plusdogtraining.info>.

Area Coordinator Reports

Bay Area, East

By Billie Reiydelle

Since the summer, things have been a little slower for Collie rescue in my region, which is *good*, because my foster homes have been completely full with a few very difficult-to-place dogs. Contra Costa Animal Services called about four Collies: one youngster is now in a foster-to-adopt home, two were adopted prior to my picking them up, and the last went to another rescue group. Most of these Collies were victims of foreclosures.

I placed one Collie, the lovely Ms. Rita of Hayward. Ms. Rita was an older Collie, found by Hayward Animal Services standing in front of a supermarket by herself. She had been groomed and obviously very much loved by her owner. What attracted the family who adopted Ms. Rita was that she had been de-barked. The family has a Shetland Sheepdog who barks a lot so they appreciate that Ms. Rita is very quiet.

Then, there is Lady who we are fostering now. Lady loves to run, play and best of all thinks my husband is grand. Lady is a "guy's dog." She follows my husband everywhere, even to his home office and wood-working shop. She loves to go for bicycle rides and will sometimes go with my husband on two bicycle rides. With seven Collies at our house, all get a turn at bicycle rides and we get a lot of exercise!



Rita



Lady

Central Valley, Foothills and Washoe County, Nevada

By Cathy Toft

The economy and mortgage crisis are finally affecting Collie rescue in northern California. I'm still fostering Jasper, who was dumped in a night deposit box along with Tyler when their owners lost their home in foreclosure. Since then, the next two dogs coming into my area were turned into shelters after their owners had to move and could not find housing that accepted dogs.



Jasper



Tyler

So dogs are coming in as collateral damage from the economy. For the same reason, our adoptions have slowed down. We continue to get much interest in young Collies, especially the roughs and the sables, but we are finding it much more difficult to place older Collies, smooth Collies, and Col-

lies with issues, such as those who chase cats. More dogs coming in and fewer going out means our foster homes are filling up.

Over the past five years I have placed nearly 100 Collies. I take on the more challenging dogs and most of my fosters stay at least two months. My own dogs and I have learned a lot from these dogs and it has been a rewarding experience to rehabilitate them and find them loving homes. *Please consider fostering a dog—just one will help lessen the load of our volunteers.*



Bay Area, West and South, By Andrea Moss

This second half of the year has found me so busy professionally, I have been scrambling to juggle dogs out to other Area Coordinators. We had a brief respite mid-year and then were bombarded with Collies in need. One weekend we dealt with four at once! So many people, it seems, are becoming unable to care for their Collies due to the poor economy. Luckily, the other ACs came through - sometimes fostering three dogs at one time -- so we can *still say* we have not yet had to turn down a Collie at risk.

Dana was one of the four dogs on that busy weekend! She was confiscated from her owner and was in horrid condition when a volunteer rescued her. She is about 8 years old and is hoping to find her forever home soon. She is currently being fostered by one of our most trusted and dog savvy volunteers, who has worked hard at normalizing such dogs with behavior challenges, so as to make them available to the regular pet family. (See cover shot of her front lawn littered with romping Collies!)

I am absolutely thrilled to report that three of my Collies from the beginning of the year are thriving and living happily ever after. Macy and Lucy, ever the social butterflies, dressed up for Halloween and enjoyed the festivities, along with their family. And Savanna has taken to jogging with her new owner and to running free along the beach with her "brother" Jasper, another of our rescue Collies. Previously, her life was that of a typical backyard dog, who was loved, but didn't get out much. Now she goes everywhere!

I never tire of hearing that our Collies are doing well and have made a difference in the lives of their people. So keep those stories coming!



Dana



Savanna & Jasper



Lucy

Macy

Area Coordinator Reports

Mid-Central & San Joaquin Valleys

By Karen Boselly

It's been a pretty busy time for Collies in my region and I'm glad to report these happy endings. First, Rosie and Annie, two smooth

Collies I have fostered for five months have found their forever home, with a wonderful family in Oregon. The girls came into rescue together and I so wanted them to be adopted together and sure enough they were. Here's a picture of them in the car on their way home - look at their smiles!



Rosie & Annie



And, young Spencer, who was with me for only a few weeks, got a lovely home up in wine country. He enjoys going to the winery every day with his people and surveying the grapes.



Spencer

Bowie also found a happy home with two other Collies and kids to play with.

And then there's Willow who's with me now. She was at a very high kill shelter in Manteca and though the shelter told us she had four people

waiting to adopt her, in the end no one came through. So I took her out and brought her to a foster home in Santa Rosa. While she was there we had a routine vet check - which we do for all the Collies who come in to rescue - and found out she was more than half-way to term with pups. It is risky to spay a dog in late term pregnancy so I decided to take her back into my own home and whelp the puppies.

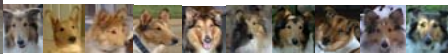


Bowie

For the third year in a row, I will have Christmas puppies who one day will all get good homes. At least that's what I'll be asking Santa for this year.



Willow



Monterey/San Benito Counties

By Mary Callaham

There are no new stories in Monterey or San Benito counties which is good news for the Collies in the area. Those of you who read Dasher's story in the August newsletter will be pleased to know he continues to progress. His agility makes it easy for him to jump onto our 37' sailboat: he has no fear of the boat motion and walks flat-footed

(no nails) all over and even goes up and down a five step ladder to the cabin. His favorite adventure is being rowed around the harbor in our dingy visiting with sea lions, seals, otters and pelicans. The dingy motor is still too loud for him, but all the other wharf and parking lot sounds do not seem to bother him. This is a great accomplishment for a noise-sensitive dog. In fact, the only challenge we faced in making Dasher sea-worthy was his aversion to his life vest until we finally figured out the velcro was pulling his hair. He now wears it proudly. A great advantage to having a Collie as a boat dog is the breed's general dislike of water. It's nice to know Dasher wants to stay on board.



Dasher

Santa Cruz County

By Sherry Luttrell

The Santa Cruz area has not generated any homeless Collies this last part of the year. And thanks to the other ACs finding homes for their local Collies, I have not had to take on any new foster dogs. However, I wanted to include an update on Sassy, now Cassie. As some of you may remember, Cassie is a six year old sable and white doll who came into my area after her owner could no longer keep her. She had a small, cancerous tumor on the front of her mouth and a painful knee problem. Thanks to our generous donors we were able to have her tumor removed which unfortunately required removal of part of her front, lower jaw as well. The surgery was a complete success and her prognosis is excellent. Her jaw has gained stability from scar tissue growth and her knee doesn't seem to be bothering her at all now that she has lost weight and been put on arthritis medicine. She has been placed in her forever home with a wonderful Collie family who will continue to monitor her health. They are all very happy and in love with each other, a deserving ending for such a sweet girl. Thank you, again, for your support which allows us to help Collies like Cassie.



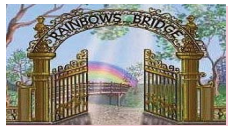
Cassie

A special thanks to Dr. Hannah Pitstick and her staff at the Capitola Veterinary

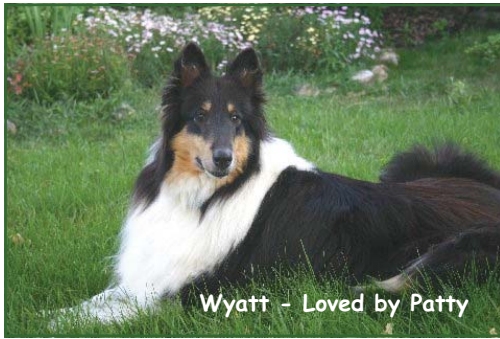
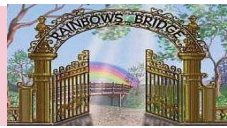
Hospital. Dr. Pitstick is a Collie lover and owner who has been extremely generous with donating her veterinary services to the Santa Cruz area rescue Collies. Her generosity allows us to conserve our resources while providing excellent medical care for the Collies we rescue. Thank you Dr. Hannah!



Hannah



Rainbow Bridge Collies ... Forever in our Hearts



Wyatt - Loved by Patty



Jazzy -
Loved by Lisa & Paul



Dakota - Loved by Maggie



Enya - Loved By Marty



Cooper - Loved by Cheryl,
Silver, Rusty & Bill



Sensei - Loved by Lisa & Paul



Dillon- Loved by
Mark & Denise

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