



RockySpot NEWS

The RockySpot News is dedicated to letting our volunteers, adopted families, and supporters know what the rescue is doing and what they can do to help. If you have an address correction, suggestion, idea, and/or a story you would like to include in the RockySpot News you can email them to RockySpotNews@earthlink.net

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In the Beginning....there was Adam & Eve

Two years ago, Adam and Eve’s dark, haunted eyes looked out from their pen in the Oklahoma City animal shelter. Cattle tags hung from their necks by frayed rope. Adam lay quietly on the cold floor. Eve, determined to protect him from harm, perched gently on his side and licked the massive fleshy growths trauma had caused in his ears. Eve’s back legs had long ago been crushed and allowed to heal without vet care and she had been hit so forcibly under the chest that a tumor emerged, one which was made more prominent by her thin form from untold weeks of letting Adam eat first. One could only hope that the cause of their injuries was not human, but no one will ever know for sure.



Today, the tumors are removed. Eve’s scarred legs are pain-free. Adam’s ear canals have been removed, resulting in partial deafness. Despite all they’ve been

through, both dogs radiate confidence and total trust in all, as if the pain of their past has been erased. The only emotional evidence of their trauma is the very tight bond the two have for each other, Eve still loving and guiding Adam, and Adam still looking at Eve with adoration. It would mean the death of two lovely souls were they ever separated.

Time and time again, families beg to adopt Eve, cute, tiny and cuddly as she is, loving all humanity and letting them know it, but everyone worries about Adam’s ear maintenance and is reluctant to take on

that responsibility. No sweeter, more laid-back dogs exist; they are so low-maintenance it is like having only one dog. Adam and Eve continue to live at the rescue hoping that someday someone will take a chance and find it in their heart to open their home to these two wonderful, loving, gentle creatures

NUBBY’S PROSTHETIC LEG IS FINISHED! AIRLINE MILES NEEDED

A fundraiser was set up a few years ago to explore the possibility of a prosthetic for Nubby, our 3-legged RSR mascot. We felt that as Nubby aged, his good front leg would wear out from taking all his weight every hopping step he made. The money was raised and airline miles donated to bring the prosthetist from Florida. The local TV station aired the molding of the cast for his leg and is waiting to air the finished product. It has been a long time coming but FINALLY the artificial leg is READY! We now need an airline ticket to get the prosthetist and Nubby’s leg back to Oklahoma for the fitting and therapy training! If anyone has airline miles they would like to donate to the cause please contact us at nubby@rockyspot.com.

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Thank You

for bringing this foster dog into my life.

Had I not made the decision to participate in rescue, I would never have had the chance to meet him. If I had sat here comfortably in my home and said "I already have four dogs and I know that I couldn't take in another - even on a temporary basis," I would never have met this dog.

Yes, it takes time to rescue and foster... but who gave me Time in the first place? And why or what was the reason I was given Time? To fill my own needs? Or was there another reason ever so small and seemingly insignificant, like rescuing this one dog, that could make a difference in an other's life? Perhaps to add joy, hope, help and companionship to another who is in need?

With great sadness, I sat down on a footstool in my kitchen this morning and watched as this foster dog bounced back into the house and skidded across the floor to sit ever so perfectly in front of me. He was the picture of health, finally. He was all smiles for me.... and I smiled back at his happy face. Deep in his eyes, the storm clouds of illness and generalized poor health had blown away, and the clear light of his perfection radiated out from his beautiful soul. He holds no ill will toward man. He forgives us all.

I thought to myself as I impressed this one last long look of him into my heart, what a very fine creature You have created. Tears slowly pooled and spilled over my cheekbones as the deeper realization of how wonderful this dog is sank into my internal file cabinet of Needful Things to Remember. Lord, he's a dog - but he's a better human being than I am.

He has forgiven quickly. Would I do the same?

He passionately enjoys the simple things in life. And I have often overlooked them.

He accepts change and gets on with his life. I fuss and worry about change.

He lives today and loves today. And I often dwell in the past or worry about the future.

He loves no matter what. I am not that free.

This very lovely dog has gone to his new home today and already I miss him. Thank You for bringing this dog into my life. And thank You for the beautiful and tender lesson on how to be a better human.

-Author Unknown

Rescuing the Rescue

Local artist Suzanne Wallace Mears has donated 100% of the proceeds from her December Art Show to the RockySpot Rescue. Having adopted two RockySpot Dalmatians, one a rescue of the devastating May 3, 1999 tornado and the other an unwanted deaf puppy, Mears knew of the importance of the continued operation of the rescue.

"Immediately following Hurricane Katrina, financial support for RockySpot began to dry up. This posed a potentially devastating problem for RockySpot," Mears said. "This was a wonderful opportunity to give in a special way to help a cause that was in need. Animals do not ask for pain or neglect and they can not help themselves. The two Dalmatians I adopted have been loyal stars. It was a perfect way to say thank you."

Funds were used for outstanding debt such as veterinary bills, the installation of heat and air conditioning in the kennels, fencing for a sound barrier, as well as the completion of the kennel runs.

Mears work has been exhibited in galleries throughout the United States, Europe and Asia. Her paintings, ceramics and glass are in the private collections of art connoisseurs across the world. One of Mears's glass pieces could be seen in the living room on the set of "Frasier".

For more information go to www.suzannemears.com.



Kennel Progress Report

Due to some unexpected and much-appreciated funding, at long last all 12 of the RockySpot's 20-ft indoor/outdoor runs are finally in the kennel building, which is currently housing 24 lucky, lucky puppies! The heat/air unit is keeping the dogs all very comfortable in their new home. However, each pen only has one dog bed for two dogs. To help us get the other dog off the cold floor you can donate a bed by going to our website <http://www.rockyspot.com> and clicking the "Donate a Bed" link at the bottom of the home page. The cost including shipping for each almost-indestructible bed is \$65.

Cabinets to safely house medical and cleaning supplies are needed as well as a sink and bathtub in order to bath the dogs inside where it is warm and cozy. Stockade fencing is still very much necessary and needed around the dogs play areas so they can get outside run time without disturbing the neighbors with their barking. Despite all the items still needed, the basics are here and we are fully up and functioning. RSR offers a HUGE thank you to all that sponsored different parts of this project and made this dream possible.



We would like to extend our love and prayers to the following 4-legged companions that touched our hearts and that have crossed over the Rainbow Bridge.

Charlie Hernandez
Nikki Thompson

Dottie Thompson
Zane Flemming

Louise Stevens
Freckles Newman

THE FINAL FOUR

A VICI STORY (update)

On April 2, 2005, 25+ dogs entered the RockySpot Rescue from the Vici, OK rescue where over 218 dogs were living on chains. Only four dogs remain from the original number. Here are their stories.

KING ZEEK

Very housebroken and low-maintenance, Zeek, a beagle/shepherd mix, was apparently once someone's much-loved pet. Forced to live his golden years on a four-foot chain in all the elements, surrounded by younger and tougher chained dogs, he was scared, confused, and in much discomfort...One of the saddest cases from the VICI rescue mission. Knowing that at his age he would not be easy to place, we had to take him and somehow make the remainder of his life happier. Today Zeek sleeps in the middle of the bed and bosses the other dogs around. He would love a home of his own (With fewer other dogs) where he could truly be "king of the house." Zeek is a one-person dog who will bond tightly and protect you with his life. Do you need love and protection? Zeek will be there for you.

ELLIE FULL OF LOVE AND SPEED

Ellie is a pointer mix who is very sweet when she is not around other female alpha dogs. She loves to run free and we have been told that she likes to hunt. No better soul mate exists as she would be a very Velcro loving dog who would be your constant companion and friend. Faithful to the end, she THRIVES on human contact and bonding. Due to her alpha personality she gets very little run time at the rescue and stays kenneled most of the time. However, when allowed inside she is the best housedog ever. Adopted once to a young man who still lived at home with his mom and her elderly Shih Tzu, Ellie was just too much dog for the Shih Tzu and had to come back, with many tears from the family. She is a wonderful pet who just needs her own home to get more love and attention or a home with a male dog who can play with her some.

Continued next column

MOLLY IS BACK

Molly was adopted to a family with an infant and a three month old female puppy. She was very happy in her new home and adored her "sister." Over the Christmas holidays, their family went out of town and left the two dogs in the back yard. After their escape, RockySpot was called and Molly and the pup, Roxy, were brought to the rescue. Molly has been identified as a Labradoodle, a Flat Coat Retriever, and some even suspect a Border Collie trait or two. She has ½ a blue eye which makes her very bewitching to look at. As well as being a great housedog, she is a very beautiful dog with long wavy shiny hair, loves the water, and has the most charming personality. After living on a chain in Vici, Molly has blossomed into the most lovely animal ever.

WINNIE - SAD AND ALONE

We were told Winnie was an owner turn-in at Vici and had a littermate that the former owner INSISTED she not be separated from or she would die. It appears this separation has upset Winnie very much for she instantly bonded with a male pointer here at the rescue named Patrick. Unfortunately, Patrick was adopted recently. They were so bonded. She wouldn't leave his side. She is once again traumatized. She may be Heeler-Dal mix and is very, very timid and shy of new things and new people. Trust has come hard for Winnie. Those who have earned her confidence have discovered a very sweet little girl who loves attention and will even reward you with one of her beautiful "smiles". Due to her fear, Winnie is fear aggressive with other alpha females (I-will-get-you-before-you-hurt-me-type response) but seems to be fine with all male dogs. She needs a home with a tall fence or a country home with another male dog she can bond with. She is a great housedog if she is not scared. Very loving and gentle with people, Winnie just needs love and another male dog to adore.

2005 Dedications

Albert & Carolyn Thomas - \$100

David Madison & Georgiana Starzel - \$100

Patricia Smith - \$100

Brad & Ronda Smicklas \$200

Tom & Marianne Westort - \$100

Jackie Damiani - \$50

Donna Newman - \$100

Dee Lurry - \$40

Eric & Tracy Ragain - \$30

Jim & Cindy Connaughton - \$100

Kim Bartman - \$300

In Honor of John & Sue Madison

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In Honor of John & Barbara Smicklas,
Collin & Bridget

In Honor of Lil Bo Peep

In Honor of Jane Von Seggern

In Memory of Baca

In Honor of Erin & Megan Straughan, Velvet

In Honor of Freddie

In Honor of Casey, Linus & Apollo

In Memory of T'pau



Murphy's Buddy

“No longer time to care for,” said the shelter paperwork. That excuse and his name – Aric – were essentially the only things the shelter knew about the confused middle-aged Dal boy. He was beautifully marked, but speculation reigned about what could have caused his ear to be scarred so badly it was shriveled almost to his skull.

Aric remained confused and lost at the rescue for many months. Preferring to keep a low profile, he just lay on his bed most of the time. He was hardly ever noticed. Not standing out in a crowd, not pushing himself upon people who came to visit, not wanting to draw attention to himself, Aric just blended into the woodwork and existed in his kennel,

Zwaiting.... waiting... waiting. Waiting for what we did not know. We just knew he would NEVER be adopted like this. Time and time again, we spent hours working with Aric to gain his trust and improve his confidence, but the next day was like starting over with him. Aric was indeed a sad and perplexing case.

Then one day Murphy came looking for a buddy. Adopted 2 years ago, Murphy did not take well to new dogs, especially male dogs, so we tried to help him find a female buddy. Murphy visited every kennel without success. That is until he came to Aric's! INSTANT BUDDIES! The bond was amazing. It was like Murphy KNEW Aric needed him.

A month into the adoption, Murphy and Aric's dad reports, “They adore each other. They play so well together and are so happy.” Did he say Aric PLAYS?? OUR Aric?? No way!! He continues “If the boys are asleep on the dog beds in the evening and Murphy gets up and leaves without Aric, he immediately searches the house whining.. ‘Where is my buddy? Where is my buddy?’ until he finds him. Then all is right in Aric's world again. He still starts each day brand new like he does not remember the last but as soon as he sees Murphy he is ok again.”

Now we know what Aric was waiting for. He was waiting for his Buddy!! Thank you, Murphy, for choosing Aric as YOUR BUDDY!

Kennel Run Sponsors

- John & Sue Madison
- Holly Vestal in Memory of Lilly
- Josh Paynich in memory of Grandma
- Suzanne Mears in honor of Sissy
- Barbara Smicklas for “John & Tasha”
- John Smicklas for “Barbara & Shorty
- Ron & “Dottie Girl” Herendeen
- Donna Newman in memory of Freckles & Baci
- Kirsten Newton in memory of Dice
- Paul & Stephanie Oseland in honor of Spot
- Paul & Stephanie Oseland in honor of Mojo & Spook.
- Beth Smith in memory of Katie
- The Hoffman's

