

# Flagstaff-Sedona Dog magazine

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December 2022/January 2023

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### **FLAGSTAFF-SEDONA DOG MAGAZINE**

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## COVER DOG CONTEST

**It's easy to enter your furry best friend!**

- 1) Take a picture of your canine pal
- 2) Send your picture to [info@reddogpublishing.net](mailto:info@reddogpublishing.net)

*Please include your name, dog's name, address and phone with your entry. Entries without owners info will not be accepted.*

**Winner will receive:**

- 1) A photo shoot with A Portrait Park by J in Prescott
- 2) 50 copies of Flagstaff-Sedona Dog
- 3) A personalized social media post congratulating your dog as the winner and an electronic copy of the printed cover

**All entries are judged for the edition submitted..**

You can enter for EVERY edition! One entry per dog, per edition.

**Deadline Dates - 3/31, 5/31, 7/31, 9/30, 11/30 and 1/31**



## Hachi, Our Cover Dog

**Name:** Hachi

**Hometown:** Cornville, Arizona

**Age:** Approximately 1 year and 8 months

**Favorite brand of kibble:** My favorite is the Purina Pro Salmon and Rice. It's especially delicious when Mom mixes in a little wet food.

**Favorite people food:** I have so many favorite people foods. I don't get to eat people food all the time as I can have a sensitive stomach. I do love chicken, pizza and cookies. Paws down, cookies in the morning are the best. In the mornings Mom and Dad have coffee and cookies and they will share a cookie with me. Just hearing the crinkle of the cookie wrapper makes my mouth water. Occassionally they will try to fool me and give one of those cookies without sugar, but I know the difference.

**Favorite toy:** I have gone through a lot of toys as I do have a bit of an obsession with the squeaker inside of them. It's a passion of mine to find the squeaker inside my toys. I love any type of toy someone can throw for me to go and fetch. I really like the big stuffed lion in my sister's room but she's made sure it's off-limits to me, and I'm not allowed to play with him anymore.

**Favorite outdoor activity:** Going to the dog park and playing with all my dog friends is something I could do every day and all day long. I'm really friendly and love to play with any size dog. No doggie is too small or too big for me to play with. I think it's fun making the dogs chase me because they never can catch me! When the weather is hot I also enjoy playing in my little swimming pool.

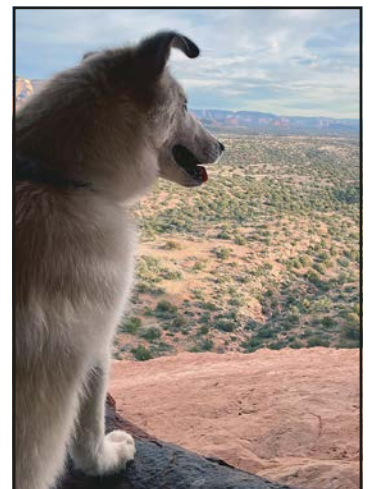
**Favorite indoor activity:** Being silly and throwing all my toys out of the toy box. I love to be the center of attention and have people play with me. Sometimes sitting on the couch with my family watching animal shows or videos is a lot of fun, too.

**Favorite nap spot:** I have a really big bed in our living room, but there's something special about the sofa. It's the best nap spot.

**Fitness regimen:** My morning fitness regimen is playing and having the dogs at the dog park chase me, or I pull my Dad on the bicycle and run really fast for a few miles. Afterward I feel so relaxed and content for the day. In the evening, I enjoy a leisurely walk around the neighborhood.

**Describe your perfect canine pal:** Any canine who is willing to play with me is a friend of mine. If I had to describe a perfect canine pal, it would be one who's not too small because I sometimes get so excited to play that I can be a little rough and I would want a pal who could keep up and run with me.

**Describe your perfect day:** Cookies in the morning followed by a trip to the dog park and snuggling on the sofa with my owners. Oh, and delivery of my monthly Chewy box because there's always a little treat in there for me.



# The 'Red' Black Friday

By Cherie L. Dreves

When my daughter was in early elementary school, she was given a puppy at the park and told to "take her home and tell your mommy you found her." My daughter did as she was instructed by the two girls at the park. She was beautiful, and there was no question we were keeping her.

K.D. Bear, as she came to be known, was an awesome dog. Smart, loyal, and always by my side; we became inseparable. At the time I work in a business associated with retail. After my Black Friday experiences in prior years, and being gone all day, my first choice was to stay home and decorate the tree with my girls.

So that's what we proceeded to do Black Friday Morning. My daughter rolled out of bed, and we started decorating the tree. The sound of carols, and the smell of coffee, hot chocolate, and cinnamon pine cones wafted through the living room.

A couple of hours into the melee, the tree was looking great but my daughter wanted a few new things. Her reasoning was that "it was Bear's First Christmas," which indeed it was. She was weeks away from her first birthday.



First, remember I mentioned staying home with the girls and decorating the tree? She wanted me to take her to Garden Ridge Pottery, which wasn't far from our home. I stood there slowly nodding my head and figuring trip length, etc. and suddenly out of my mouth came "I agree. Baby, get my keys."

Off to Garden Ridge Pottery we went. Bear, being 10 months old was not really into messing with things in the house. She liked to tear up frisbee's, blocks of wood, and her stuffed toys, though my furniture, rugs, and homework were never threatened by Bear.

Maybe we took too long at Garden Ridge? Maybe the smells throughout the house finally got the best of her? Whatever it was that afternoon, it makes for a wonderfully funny memory almost 30 years later. The scene unfolds like this:

Lauren and I pull up to the house. I shut off the car and handed her the keys so we could go in the front door with our purchases. She hopped out, bounded up the walk, unlocked the door, and all I heard was "No way!" The panic moment started when she came running back to the car to exclaim "Bear's got red all over her muzzle and legs."

I hurried into the house to find the living room a tip. Our almost completed Christmas tree lying on its side, and my beautiful white shepherd with candy-apple red splotches and more than splotches covering her muzzle and her front legs.



There were even a couple of blotches on her back. The same blotches were also present all over my living room carpet. It was as if someone had dipped a Hot Wheels car in red paint and ran it across the floor.

I quickly scanned for the source of the dye. It didn't take long; it was the candy apple red hearts that we had purchased around Halloween. They would be a great alternative to breakable ornaments for Bear's first Christmas. Little did we know they were going to be so attractive to her.

We righted the tree, cleaned Bear and the carpet, finished decorating the house and made plates of leftovers for dinner, all the while laughing about what happened. We called Bear 'Pinky' for a while, as the dye finally faded from her coat.

That was 29 years ago, my daughter has grown into a fine young woman. September marked the 17th anniversary of Bear's passing.

A lot has changed in all that time. One thing however has remained consistent. There is always one candy apple heart, near the top of our tree, in remembrance of that 'Red' Black Friday.



## Bear Gets Her Wings

by C.L. Dreves

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# It Started with a Handful of Love

By Priscilla Hall

In Memory of Machaca  
December 6, 2007—  
September 6, 2022

One chilly January day in California, I had an unexpected encounter that changed my life. A man stood in front of a 99 Cent Store with a cardboard box next to his right foot and his left hand cupped over his heart. On closer inspection, he was cupping a very tiny puppy in that hand. All I could see was its tiny head and a white spot on its fawn-colored head. The puppy was a female Chihuahua.

I fell in love at first sight! My husband paid for her, and she became a superb partner and best friend. I named her immediately. I held her up and said, "Meet Machaca!" It felt like we had a bolt of lightning surge between us. A team was formed.

My husband and I had faced a tragedy that left us crushed and hopelessly sad. Machaca was our rescuer. She brought us out of our doldrums with her charm and puppy antics. I signed her up for training on our way home when we stopped to buy a few items necessary to welcome her to her new home. We made one more stop before going home, our veterinarian. Machaca was weighed and an appointment was made for her vaccinations.

At two months old, Machaca weighed 1.3 pounds. She fit within my cupped hand. If I covered her loosely with my other cupped hand, I could effectively hide her completely.

I did not have any intention of dressing her in costumes, initially. That was a happy accident. At four months old, she began her puppy class. It was March and the concrete floor was cold for a tiny, low-to-the-ground Chihuahua. I felt she needed something to keep her warm.

Her first outfit was quickly fashioned from the top of tube sock. It worked, but I knew I could make something better. That is where our partnership really began. Much to Machaca's chagrin, I could sew and crochet. Her wardrobe grew to 130 outfits and costumes.



Machaca and I found our way into costume competitions. We were quite successful in our efforts. She was Best in Show at the second annual Tlaquepaque Pet-A-Walky, and Mother Road Brewery's dog competition.

Mother Road Brewery had contestants run an Agility Course. Machaca was the second dog to run. I told the owner/manager that she did agility, but she didn't DO agility. As we stood waiting for the command to start. I could feel that electricity surge up the leash. I felt Machaca thinking, "I'll show them!"

She actually DID the course with speed and efficiency. Tunnels, weave poles, jumps, and all. It felt like we were at it for at least three minutes, but I was wrong. Her time was 29.5 seconds. When we joined my husband after our run, he said, "She hit those tunnels like her tail was on fire!"

Among her awards at Mother Road Brewery was a 50 pound bag of Dog Chow. A life-time supply if only she could manage the size of the nuggets. I arranged for one of the judges to take it to the shelter where she worked. I made donations like that whenever practical. Machaca also added to her collection of trophies.

She won more than two dozen trophies and accumulated hundreds of dollars in cash and prizes. When we weren't competing, we were out and about Flagstaff greeting people with her favorite trick: "Who's your friend?" She would put her front paw (the size of my index finger

pad) on the foot of the person standing before her.

One September 11th, we went to the local fire station and rang the bell. I told the woman-fire-fighter that Machaca had a message for her. I said to Machaca, "Who's your HERO!" It took more effort for her to swing her leg up to reach the top of the steel-toed boot, but she managed.

The woman was enchanted and said, "Stay here. I want to get the other firemen for this." The Captain received his message directly from Machaca and said, "You have to go to the other firehouses!" We made four more such visits that day.

Machaca's education with Puppy, Intermediate and Advanced Classes, and Click-A-Trick was completed when she passed the Canine Good Citizen test, the first Chihuahua to ever pass the CGC at that location. We moved on to a doggy dance trainer.

Initially, the response from the dance trainer was pretty flat-lined. After Machaca performed tricks and obedience commands for a solid 30 minutes, the trainer's eyes were sparkling. Machaca was panting, and I gave her a drink of water out of her pink plastic shot glass. The trainer was inspired and said, with a snap of her fingers, "That's it! She dances to Tequila!" Machaca started with a drink from the shot glass and ended by stepping on the easy button. "That was easy!"

Tricks, she had a few. She was a remarkable student. She mastered a new trick every two weeks. Machaca insisted on doing her homework



each evening. I realize she was treat motivated, but she did tricks for at least 30 minutes each night.

She won a costume contest at Barley Hound Pub in Prescott which led to her becoming a regular on Sandy and Friends on AZTV as the Calendar Girl. She appeared in the appropriate costume for holidays for several months. Machaca got that job on her own! That's impressive. If you would like to see her in some of the costumes she wore on "Sandy and Friends," go to Facebook and search "Machaca Puparazzi."

I made most of Machaca's outfits and costumes. It became a hobby and a mission. She brought so much happiness to me and so many others in their brief meetings. I strongly believe that was the purpose in her life. Spreading happiness came easy to her. She oozed charm and personality.

Machaca will be a difficult act to follow, but my heart is crushed. I know of only one cure. I cannot possibly replace Machaca; I won't even try. I must find another Chihuahua. Hopefully one that can fit into her costumes and outfits.

At fourteen years and ten months, Machaca was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. She suffered several attacks or episodes. Some were obviously painful. I sent her to the rainbow bridge to join my other four-legged loves to wait for me. She will be there.

At such a sad time, I find peace in the thought that the Boss planned much shorter lives for our fur babies because He expects us to care for more of His creations.

IT STARTED WITH A HANDFUL OF LOVE

# Book Review: *Gracie, A Rescue Dog* is a Fun Read for All Ages

By Heidi Dahms Foster

If you want a quick, heartwarming read for yourself and the youngsters in your life, check out *Gracie, a Rescue Dog* by Marlene Baird.

*Gracie, a Rescue Dog* is a winsome, well-photographed book that tells the story of this little pup who was fortunate to find a loving adoptive family. Anyone who has given a rescue dog a second chance and found themselves in love will identify with this book.

Baird adopted Gracie on December 15, 2020 from the Yavapai County Humane Society in Prescott, and says the pup belongs to no organizations.

"She is skilled at eating, sleeping, hiding, walking and being petted. She can lift spirits and make a person laugh. She loves other dogs, snacks, and playing. She is a smart dog who has taught her people all of her tricks. Her ancestry is unknown."

Marlene Baird is the author of four published novels: *Murder Times Two*, *The Filigree Cross* (*The Salvation of*

*Larry Broadfellow*), *Minnie and the Manatees*, and *Claire Walker*.

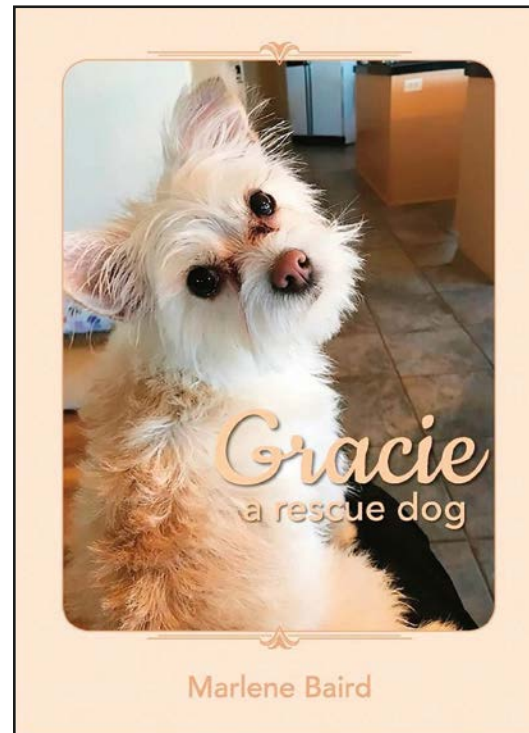
She took third place in the Lorian Hemingway International Short Story Contest, and has won several other awards.

She is a member of Professional Writers of Prescott and Arizona Authors Association. She has twice taken first place in the Arizona Authors Association's annual writing contest and now serves as a judge for the contest.

Marlene is a transplanted Canadian who lives in Prescott with her husband, Bob.

The purpose of Baird's engaging little book is to promote adoption of helpless animals and to thank all of those individuals who do this necessary work.

Twenty-five percent of the proceeds from this book will go to the Yavapai Humane Society, which makes it a great little gift or stocking stuffer with a purpose. Find it at Amazon.com for \$11.95.



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Available at all major booksellers. Marlene Baird has won many awards for her short stories. She has published four novels: *The Filigree Cross*, *Claire Walker*, *Murder Times Two*, and *Minnie and The Manatees*.

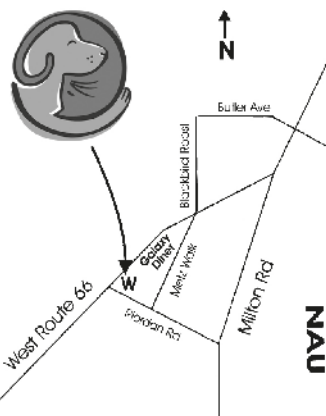
She is a member of Arizona Authors Association and is a judge for their annual writing contest.



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# The Pluto Project of Sedona

By Kim Spangler, Volunteer for The Humane Society of Sedona

When you hear the word Pluto, what do you think of? Do you think of the dwarf planet Pluto? Or the famous Disney character? Or perhaps from Greek mythology you remember the Greek ruler Pluto who ruled the underworld.

For me, from now going forward, when I hear the word Pluto, I will be reminded of the shelter dog Pluto from The Humane Society of Sedona.

I met Pluto on Tuesday September 27 on my volunteer shift. As the typical shift goes, I took a few dogs on walks that day to get them out of their kennels and to get exercise. One dog happened to be named Pluto.

Pluto was a sweet brown dog who loved her walk. She stopped to smell the grass and the flowers we passed by. She looked back at me over her shoulder as if to say, wow - isn't this fun? On our walk we came upon a Pink Jeep and Pluto sniffed it and then gave me a look as if to say 'wouldn't this be fun to ride around in'.

After returning Pluto to her kennel I saw the hiking backpack in the shelter, and inquired about how to sign up to take a dog on a hike. I was told to text on a cool morning and they would let me know if a dog was available to hike.

Two days later I woke up to a beautiful cool morning and thought of taking a shelter dog on a hike. I remembered Pluto and what a great walker she was. I texted the shelter and yes Pluto was available that day.

I picked up Pluto and off we went to Chimney Rock Trail - one of the most scenic and easy trails in west Sedona. This trail is known for its views and it is good for dogs as the trail is relatively smooth. You can see Thunder Mountain to the northeast. It was a lovely morning.

The hike with Pluto was everything I hoped for and expected. She was happy and enjoying every step. Pluto walked right by me, wagging her tail, and sniffing the scents. She would lift her head up occasionally to look at me and seemed to be saying thank you for taking me out.

At the halfway point we stopped for a snack. I put down a water bowl and some treats for Pluto and she took me up on both offers. I had a trail bar. We watched a blue butterfly land on a branch near us. It was serene. Pluto nuzzled up against me. All was right with the world.



After our break we headed back down the trail to the parking lot. This is where things went awry. Poor Pluto did not want to get back in my car. Two women in the next car saw this and offered to help, which was nice except it spooked Pluto when they walked up behind her. At that moment Pluto jerked with enough force to free herself from her collar. She made a u-turn and headed back

up the trail we had just hiked.

Pluto then started what became a six-day odyssey around Chimney Rock and Thunder Mountain and west Sedona.

After Pluto ran off, a wonderful group of humans arrived to help including Sandy, Kirk, Philippa, Peggy, Megan, Antonio, Carolyn, John, Leann and others. Everyone pitched in and a plan was formulated. Lost Dog flyers were made. Walks began around the neighboring areas. Posts were put up on social media.

As this "Pluto Project" began in earnest an old saying jumped to mind... "fortune favors the brave", which comes from a Latin proverb that means those who take risks often reap great rewards. Those who are courageous are often the most successful. We are encouraged to take chances in life in order to get what we want. In this case we all wanted to find Pluto. But looking for a reddish-brown dog in a reddish-brown landscape was not going to be easy. We needed to be brave.

The Pluto Posse was dedicated, disciplined, and determined, showing up every day, every hour. Hikers and bikers joined in the search. People who had seen Pluto were calling and texting. Pluto went viral on social media with people reposting her sweet face and those soulful brown eyes.

As each day passed, hope remained our friend and our beacon. We were told Pluto had good survival skills being that she initially hailed from Native American lands up north. Rains came on day 5 so we knew she could drink water from the puddles.

Then suddenly lots of sightings! Pluto on Harmony! Pluto on Moonglow! Pluto at the Peace Park! Pluto on Hozoni! Pluto on Sunshine! Residents and visitors kept letting us know that Pluto was on the move!

Finally on the afternoon of Tuesday October 4th, Pluto was spotted heading east



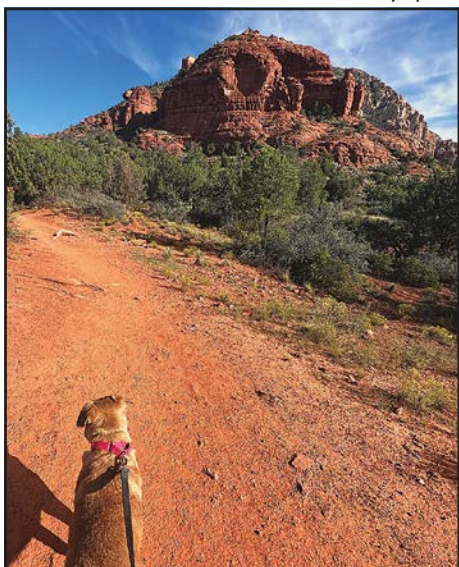
from Chimney Rock. East was great as that is where Kirk had placed the trap that Sandy had baited with Vienna Sausage and Roasted Chicken. Sandy had also scented the area with fish sauce, liquid smoke, and minced hot dogs! What dog could resist all that?!?

The story has a happy ending. Plucky Pluto entered the crate to feast and the door closed behind her. I saw this on my phone which I had activated from the camera that was placed near the crate. Once we saw her inside, we drove up Rhapsody Road, walked up the hill, and there she was! She wagged her tail as if to say hello and I am back! Pluto said she wanted to beat the amount of activities that Ferris Bueller did on his days off. Well, she did!

A short time later a van came to pick up Pluto and return her to The Humane Society. The staff was elated to see her. Pluto was given food, water, and vet care. She was in overall good shape considering she had spent six days in the wild.

Now all Pluto needs to complete her remarkable journey is a person, a family, a forever home. Pluto is a sweet girl who deserves her own happy ending. Can you provide her with love, and walks, and treats, and belly rubs? If you can, please contact The Humane Society of Sedona. Pluto is 5 years old, spayed, microchipped, vaccinated, and full of joy.

PS From Pluto: My journey of ten thousand steps began with a single step. Now you take a step toward me.



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For an expanded view of Rescue Resources, visit [FlagstaffSedonaDog.com](http://FlagstaffSedonaDog.com)

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<p><b>ANIMAL GUARDIAN NETWORK HEALING RIVER RANCH</b> 2564 N Arena Del Loma, Camp Verde (623) 780-1604, animalguardiannetwork.org</p>	<p><b>BRADSHAW MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION</b> 18200 S Wolf Run Trail, Mayer (928) 632-9559, bradshawmountainwildlife.com</p>	<p><b>HUMANE SOCIETY OF CENTRAL ARIZONA</b> 605 W. Wilson Ct, Payson (928) 474-5590 humanesocietycentralAZ.org</p>	<p><b>UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS</b> Prescott, (928) 778-2924 unitedanimalfriends.org</p>
<p><b>ARK CAT SANCTUARY</b> (928) 635-5909, Parks arkcatsanctuary.org</p>	<p><b>CENTRAL ARIZONA ANIMAL SEARCH &amp; RESCUE</b> Camp Verde, (520) 921-9974 centralarizonaanimalsearchandrescuellc.com</p>	<p><b>HUMANE SOCIETY OF SEDONA</b> 2115 Shelby Dr (928) 282-4679 humanesocietyofsedona.org</p>	<p><b>VERDE VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY</b> 1520 W. Mingus Ave, Cottonwood (928) 634-7387 VerdeValleyHumaneSociety.org</p>
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<p><b>BIG LUCK CLUB</b> Navajo Reservation Dog Rescue bigluckclub.org, bigluckclub@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>COCONINO HUMANE ASSOCIATION</b> 3501 E Butler Ave, Flagstaff (928) 526-1076, coconinohumane.org</p>	<p><b>PETS RETURN HOME</b> petsreturnhome.org (928) 793-2013 info@petsreturnhome.org</p>	<p><b>YAVAPAI HUMANE SOCIETY EQUINE CENTER</b> (928) 515-4947, Chino Valley yavapaihumane.org</p>
<p><b>BLACKHAT HUMANE SOCIETY</b> Native American Reservation Animals (928) 245-3890 blackhathumane@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>HEELING HEELERS HEARTS</b> Surprise, (623) 226-2749 azblueheeler.com</p>	<p><b>SAVING PAWS RESCUE SHEPHERDS &amp; MALINOIS</b> Glendale, (480) 737-6089 savingpawsrescueaz.org</p>	<p><b>YAVAPAI HUMANE TRAPPERS ANIMAL RESCUE</b> Chino Valley yavapaihumanetrappers.org</p>
<p><b>AREA DOG PARKS</b></p>	<p><b>FLAGSTAFF DOG PARKS</b> Thorpe Park – 788 N Thorpe Road, Flagstaff Bushmaster Park – 3150 N Alta Vista Dr, Flagstaff</p>	<p><b>SEDONA DOG PARK</b> April 1 thru Oct 1: 6am-8pm • Oct. 1 thru April 1: 7am- 7pm Turn north on Soldier's Pass Road off State Route 89A, Sedona.</p>	<p><b>COTTONWOOD DOG PARK AT RIVERFRONT PARK</b> Dawn to Dusk Riverfront Park Drive &amp; N 10th St, Cottonwood</p>

# Chase's Corner: The Chase Project on Steroids!

By Chase & Jan Tomlinson

You will not believe what just happened! The UPS truck arrived at our door with four big boxes. I immediately became very suspicious because my mom never orders anything that comes in four big boxes.

I looked on as she started to open one of them. To my horror, it was filled with those little stuffed Shelties that she calls Chase Junior. They all had on red vests that said Therapy Dog, and they were really stuffed into the box. I can't even imagine how many there are in four boxes! And, I hear her say that three more boxes were still to be delivered! Now, that is the craziest idea I have ever heard.

This job of keeping them all in line and training them is getting way too big for me. Since I AM the Prince, I shouldn't have to work that hard. That's why I have servants to do my work.

Now I had to find out what was going on. A fleet of groomers arrived at our house as those Chase Juniors looked pretty messy from their trip. Of course, I never look that messy! I am going to have to hang around to find out where they are all going. Hmmm...maybe she will tell the groomers where they are going.

YES! Something was said about the Verde Valley Senior Center and Meals on Wheels. They are all



going to be delivered with the meals. I hope they don't eat too much or there won't be any food left for the seniors!

We have boxes and boxes and boxes of Chase Juniors in our Arizona room, so I hope they don't all escape at night. I will have to keep an eye on them. Sigh! Now it's just wait to see what will happen next.

You've got to be kidding! Four more boxes of those Chase Juniors arrived today. My mom promised me that they were all going away soon. I guess this is just the last 45 of the 150 to be delivered. But that still leaves 15 of them. I am really good at math.

Oh Boy! Two friends arrived today with their truck and SUV. I think that means that the boxes of Chase Juniors are finally going away. Yep. We're

loading them all up, and my mom tells me that I also have to go and help deliver them to the senior center. I have to put on my vest to look official.

When we get there, we start unloading the boxes and take them inside. Since I am the honorable Chase, I don't have to carry any. There were lots of important people there, and of course, I was the main attraction. There were people from the Cottonwood City Council, the Supervisor of Yavapai County, and especially the reporter from the local newspaper. That meant I might become famous by having my picture in the paper. He took lots of pictures and interviewed my mom. I think he should have interviewed me! We were in the Sunday edition with a BIG article.

Now we still have 15 more of them to take somewhere, so I can get some rest. Then my mom told me we were taking them to Dr. Kara, the pediatrician at the Yavapai Health Service. Hopefully, they will help the kids feel better and bring some smiles to their faces. I am so glad that I got to make so many people happy.

Now my mom says we may need more to deliver to Meals on Wheels. Maybe you can do something good for your community today.

~Sir Chase and Chase Junior



Dogtoberfest 2022 is in the books. The two adoption events sponsored by *The Prescott Dog Magazine* are always so much fun for us. We see rescue people we rarely see and usually find homes for all the dogs we bring. This year Andy, Nikki and Bernie were the lucky ones.

Here is a picture of Andy and his new people. They are thrilled with their new companion. Buzz was another dog looking for a new home. He found one even before Dogtoberfest and here is what his new owner had to say.

Hi Kim! I hope this finds you doing well. I just wanted to give you an update on Buzz.

He is adjusting well and is quite the little man! He and Oliver are enjoying each other immensely, chasing after each other and playing for hours at a time, both inside and outside. He quickly learned how to use the doggy door and has been snuggling up in bed with



Andy on Buzz's lap.

us each night. It is wonderful to see Oliver once again excited and full of life. Buzz was truly a good fit.

I was worried he might be a bit too small, but he is giving Oliver a run for this money! Thank you for giving me the opportunity to add Mr. Buzz to our family. One of these days I may decide three is the way to go! If so, I will surely give you a call. Take care! Again, thank you and bless you for the work you do!

We are pretty excited about our, first ever, adoption event partnering with K9 Konnections this fall. It will be held Friday November 25th at Tractor Supply in Wickenburg. Mark your calendars for this big adoption event.



Donna Gordon, a long time Yarnell resident was struck and killed in September crossing a street in Yarnell.

I knew Donna for about 10 years. Donna boarded other people's dogs often. When she was looking for a dog of her own, she let me know and at that time a special plea came out from Maricopa County

Animal Control for a big black lab/pit mix with a weird name who was in the shelter way too long. I shared that with Donna and she was drawn to him.

He came to her home and became Manny. He was a hard to handle dog sometimes with lots of energy and a mind of his own. He explored town on his own often enough that when Manny was seen without an owner they knew to call Donna to come and get him.

Manny passed away after Donna's house burned down. when she finally moved into her new house, she decided a cat would be a more appropriate companion for her, and she came to the Resource Center and chose Angel, who became Lizzy.

Lizzy and Donna adored each other. Lizzie was shy and Donna worked her magic and helped her come out of her shell.

The night Donna died, even through the shock of it all, at least a dozen people called me with their concerns about making sure Lizzy was not forgotten. The kindness and compassion of this community becomes even more profound in situations like this.

We are so happy to report that Lizzie has gone to a new home with a person who knew and loved Donna and was in a position to make her part of their family.



# Steel, Please Come Back

By Kathy Sater Partch

If a well-trained dog becomes frightened of something, or is stolen or breaks free, what could happen? Well, that all depends on where the dog starts to take off. If he's lost in open country, what happens to that well-trained, domesticated dog?

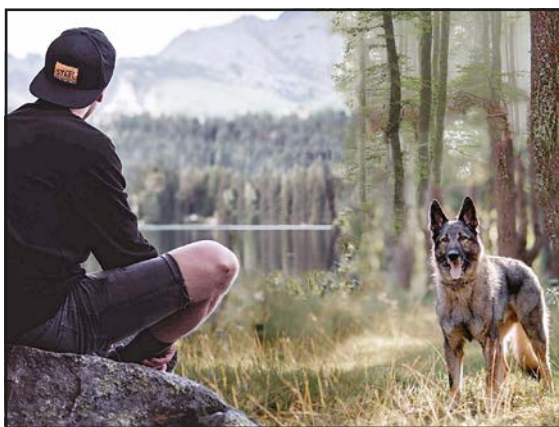
A healthy dog could survive five days or so without food, but an unhealthy dog may last less time—if something doesn't kill it. Finding water would give the dog a greater chance of living more days. Can the normal dog find its way back home?

My late grandfather had a wonderful family dog for years on his farm. One day his cold heart decided he did not want him anymore. To this day, we don't know why, because the family said the dog was impressive in every way. Grandfather gave the dog to a friend 35 miles away. The poor animal found his way back home by the next day. It's a sad story I hold in my heart to this day.

Do dogs feel traumatized? Do they lose spirit? When a dog is lost, how far will it keep going? And how long does it take before the dog becomes feral? They run for days and want to survive; their instincts turn feral.

This is a true story about a professional dog trainer I know personally in Arizona who has a German Shepherd Dog named Steel that got lost in a large area of the Tonto National Forest and became feral. We'll name the trainer Richard, and his wife, Maria. They had Steel for five years, and he had extensive training. But the will to survive becomes greater than anything man can teach.

Days passed, and it was time to look for Steel. Richard and Maria did everything they could think of, including laying familiar articles and food in



Richard and Steel. Photo by Kathy Sater Partch.

the closest places where Steel had last set paw ahead of them. Their spirits were stressed with little hope in finding their awe-inspiring Shepherd after more days had passed. So, the second week, they decided live in the deep parts of the forest.

While calling out Steel's name, they thought they saw a figure of a dog not far away. But the figure seemed to keep dodging them. They just knew it had to be Steel, so they placed bits of his favorite food all around their campsite.

In the morning, they saw Steel about twenty yards away. Richard called out, only for the dog to turn and run. Richard asked, "Why doesn't he remember my voice, our smell, and the scents we've left for him? He is now a wild animal."

They could only imagine how famished Steel must have been. Where had he found water? Through his adventures, did he find any food? Was he able to catch a rabbit or whatever to have made it this far? Had he encountered a bear, cougar, wolf, or

any other dangerous animal or human?

It was now the third day at their campsite, watching and catching glimpses of Steel off and on. Finally, Richard took a piece of Steel's favorite food and sat on a large rock close to where he had sighted his beloved Shepherd. He sat there for hours, becoming exhausted, with little hope, and finally tasting Steel's treat himself.

He had started to doze when he felt something close to him. When he slightly opened his eyes, he saw Steel approaching the large rock in careful fashion. Richard said, "I do not want to say anything, or move at that moment."

Steel still had his leather collar on, thank goodness. Richard could see the dog was air-scenting him and taking one tiny step at a time. Steel had gotten close enough to touch, and Richard thought this could be his only chance and he didn't want to make any mistakes.

Steel started to lick the food from his hand. Richard became anxious and was trying to breathe as little as possible. He felt his heart pumping hard through his heavy coat. Then the dog started to smell Richard's clothes while Steel's insecure tail moved slowly back and forth. Richard was hoping Steel had started to remember his loving past. His hand was now close to Steel's collar. Richard said softly, "What a good boy!" He then gently took hold of Steel's collar with no refusal. Steel was finally back home.

From now on Richard and Maria's German Shepherd Dog, Steel, wears a GPS tracking device while hiking the woodlands in the Tonto National Forest of Arizona.

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**STAR:** A lovely little female Chihuahua mix, 2 years old. She is a bit shy at first meeting, but once she decides you are okay, she is affectionate and loves laps. High Country Humane 928-526-0742/ foster 928-600-6550



**CLEO:** An 11-month-old mystery mixed breed lady. She weighs about 40 pounds. She is the sweetest girl and loves everybody, She does walk well on a leash. Humane Society of Sedona 928-282-4679



**MATCHY:** A 4-year-old male red and white Pit Bull mix. He is handsome with the most lovely eyes! He is smart and affectionate, loves people and going on adventures with them. High Country Humane 928-526-0742/foster Padraic 928-421-3605



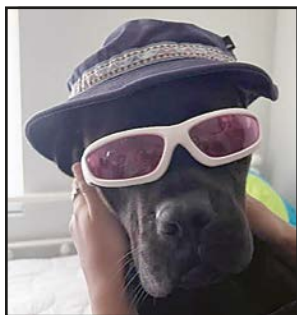
**VIKING:** A handsome brindle and white boxer mix. He is affectionate and playful, loves being around people. Verde Valley Humane Society 928-634-7387



**DINA:** A cute 2-year-old female terrier mix. Dina is a Rez dog and is rather wary of people initially but will settle with a patient, loving person. She is good with dogs and is housebroken. High Country Humane 928-526-0742/foster text at 928-607-6007



**CHIEF:** A young and handsome male shepherd mix. He is an energetic youngster looking for an active family. He is intelligent and affectionate, and would make a great adventure buddy. Verde Valley Humane Society 928-634-7387



**SAMUEL L JACKSON:** A most handsome, laid back pit bull mix, 3 years old. He is affectionate, calm, loves kids and other dogs. He's a great hiking buddy and a champion snuggler. High Country Humane 928-526-0742/foster 928-486-8171



**ANNABELL:** A petite black whippet mix, this little lady is a fireball! She is super energetic and loving. Gets on well with other dogs. Verde Valley Humane Society 928-634-7387



**POSEIDEN:** The cutest male Basset hound mix! He's a red and white low rider, 2 years old. He is affectionate, funny, cuddly, and loves his people. Humane Society of Sedona 928-282-4679



**TULIP:** A 4-month-old black and sable shepherd mix. She is sweet and smart. For more information please call. Coconino Humane Association 928-526-1076



**SID:** A funny black and white male Chihuahua mix, 10 years old and a whopping 6 pounds. He is affectionate, cuddly, and a lap sitter, waiting for his new people to love. Humane Society of Sedona 928-282-4679



**LULU:** A one-year-old female yellow lab mix. She is a gentle and mellow soul, but she loves to play and go for adventures. She is smart and knows basic commands. Coconino Humane Association 928-526-1076



**BLUE:** A 4-year-old blue heeler (just like Bluey's dad). He is super smart and very active. He loves games, hiking, and walks around the neighborhood. He gets along with dogs and children. Humane Society of Sedona 928-282-4679



**BALOO:** A sable 8-month-old male kelpie mix. He is a little free spirit, full of excitement and energy and affection. He is super smart, loving, and easily trainable. Would be great for canine sports activities. Coconino Humane Association 928-526-1076

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**MIGHTY PAWS:** An adult silver tabby male. He is affectionate, but on his own terms. He is a great friend and likes to hang out with his people.  
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**REESE:** A brown tabby male with the cutest face! He is 3 months old and the most affectionate kitten. He loves to play and snuggle into your neck for a cuddle.  
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**SPIRAL:** A young male tabby on white fellow. He is sweet and mellow, and looking for love.  
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**QUINN:** An elegant 5-year-old tortoiseshell lady with very bright colors and white trim. She is quiet, affectionate, and has a big purr.  
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**OSCAR:** A 6-month-old male seal point Himalayan mix with amazing blue eyes. For further information please contact the Coconino Humane Association.  
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**TIGRESS:** An uncommon red tabby female (most are males). She is a strikingly beautiful lady, sleek and elegant. She is very sweet, affectionate with people, and gets along with other cats. Humane Society of Sedona  
928-282-4679



**GANICUS:** A gentle and affectionate 3-year-old orange and white male shorthair. He is sad in the shelter and is hoping for a loving home soon.  
Coconino Humane Society  
928-526-1076



# Hearts for the Herd: Animal Rez-Q Making a Difference

By Rita Thompson-Tinsley



REZ-Q founder Glenda Davis with vet tech volunteer Thurman Lynch. Photo by Horse Plus Humane Society.

Glenda Davis is founder of Rez-Q, a non-profit organization she developed to provide affordable animal wellness services directly into Native American communities. According to Davis, "Given the opportunity to use our affordable cost animal services, we believe that Native Nations and our animal kingdoms will flourish and sustain one another."

The team of veterinarians on board were dental specialist Rich Fisher, Mark Anderson (formerly of PAH), Laura Waitt Wolker, Victoria Olsen-Mikitowicz (Dr. Miki), and James Foley. This animal care crew included certified/registered equine dental technician Veronica Jones, vet students from both Midwestern University and UC Davis, professional farrier Prunell Charley, and hoof trimmer Jack Pitts along with



Rey Archuleta MWV student trimming hooves.

proficient volunteers from Glenda's Rez-Q organization. These amazingly dedicated professionals came together like a well oiled machine, with the humility and passion of a volunteer spirit.

The agenda of the Equine Service and Education Trip featured low cost equine dentistry, vaccinations, and hoof care to the residents of the Navajo and Hopi nations. Castrations were completely paid for by a generous grant received from Horse Plus Humane Society of Tennessee. The event was advertised prominently so that all services could be scheduled by appointment only.

Just what did this heartfelt mission mean to the native people and their animals receiving care? One Navajo resident responded, "It's the only way people can afford it because of the costs and gas prices. It's good for the Navajo tribe." Another resident who was bringing in his stud colt for castration explains, "It helps with the cost and with us not having to travel so far. The nearest vet is about two hours away. It means a lot."

Native American pre-vet student Hailey Cohoe shared first hand, "Out here the horses are in-breeding....The studs are really over populating the herds. There's no water. There's no vegetation, so there's nothing to eat. They're starving."

Regarding the educational efforts, Rez-Q founder Glenda stresses the importance of the teaching component with students. According to Dr. Anderson, "The students get the opportunity to geld 10-12 colts before they ever get out of vet school. We look for programs like this to help mentor veterinary students."

Students rotated. They acted



Mare brought in for vaccinations. Her baby is along for the ride.

as floaters. Sometimes one was administering anesthesia on a horse for surgery, while another was learning to trim hooves or assist an equine dental specialist learning to operate the specialized equipment. The students all agreed that they are learning a lot. At the end of the day, they gathered around and discussed the day's happenings to share procedures and experiences.

"I enjoy helping the Navajo Nation," states Anderson, "but I also enjoy empowering vet students to be better vets. For me, it's pretty satisfying to just....pay it forward."

Another Navajo resident emphasized, "A lot of horses on our grassland are really depleting a lot of our good grass, all our natural resources. Castration is a really good population control."

"We get horses in here that you literally can't handle," explains Dr. Waitt. "And then we castrate them so they can become good equine citizens and actually do their jobs." Waitt continues, "Decreasing the population by castration of stallions and maintaining the quality of the horses is absolutely vital to safety and to horse health. We can't just let nature do its thing. Nobody wants to see a horse starve to death over a rough winter."

They all agree that the horses mean so much to these tribes. Glenda expresses that the Navajo consider the horses as the communication between the earth and the sky. "It's just a positive thing, and they are beautiful creatures."

"I think volunteering for the Navajo Nations is one of the richest parts of my life," confides Dr. Rich Fisher. "I treasure these moments more and more....Life is so short and fragile. Trying to make a path of beauty means a lot to me."



Dental specialist Dr. Fisher with an audience.



UC Davis vet tech Emma Orth administering anesthesia.

HEARTS FOR THE HERD

# Hiking with Lily: Cooper the Tripod

By Melissa Bowersock

While taking Lily out hiking on our favorite trail, we have often crossed paths with Lynn and her two dogs, Daisy and Cooper. They're both mixed breed, most likely heeler, and Cooper is a ... tripod. What's a tripod? It's a quick and easy way of saying a three-legged dog.

The funny thing about tripods is that years ago, some people might have put such an animal down. After all, a three-legged dog is mournfully handicapped, right? They can't get around as well as a four-legged dog, can't run as fast, can't climb as easily. People might have thought such a dog would be classed as "special needs," needing time-consuming extra care, kid-glove handling, or a special diet.

Those people would be wrong.

Lynn, like many people in the Kanab area, went to Best Friends Animal Sanctuary when looking for a dog to adopt. She'd lost her previous dog a couple years earlier and was ready to welcome a new fur baby to the family. Cooper looked similar to her earlier dog, but with the one exception—he'd lost a leg. Best Friends wasn't sure what exactly happened to him, but they suspect his leg was caught in a coyote trap. The wound was 360 degrees mid metacarpal with all bones exposed, painful, infected, and necrotic. The vet determined amputation was necessary.

After the surgery, Best Friends sent Lynn a video of Cooper, and shortly after that, she and her

husband went out to the sanctuary to meet him. They promptly took him home for a "sleepover" to see how he'd do. At that time, they had an older cat, Stewart, who wasn't used to having dogs around. Stewart very quickly demonstrated that he was boss of the house, and Cooper, although shy, listened and learned. Lynn knew she had a keeper.

Finding that Cooper loved playing with other dogs, Lynn later went back to Best Friends when it was hosting an adoption event for the Page Animal and Adoption Agency, and this time brought home Daisy. As soon as Daisy and Cooper met, he play-bowed to her, and they have been best buds since. Cooper, as the older dog, is very confident, and younger Daisy is a little insecure, so Daisy seems to find comfort in her brother's confidence. They have 3 cats as well, and everyone gets along beautifully.

The only advice Lynn received from Best Friends was to keep Cooper's weight on the light side, which makes perfect sense. A sausage dog would have considerably more trouble getting around on three legs than a leaner dog. Lynn also helps Cooper in and out of her car and keeps walks to an hour or less. She says he runs fast (although can't quite keep up with Daisy when she gets the zoomies), plays rough with Daisy, doesn't tire easily, jumps in the car and on the furniture, and does not seem to have any emotional baggage from the situation. His resilience is inspiring and admirable.

I wondered if compensating for the lost leg might cause some spinal problems down the road, but Lynn has not noticed any issues like that. She also has not seen any need to investigate prosthetics, since Cooper does so well. If you've seen the TV show *Wizard of Paws*, you're no doubt familiar with the many pets that have needed prosthetics, but Cooper does just fine the way he is. That's the great thing about "handicapped" dogs: they don't know they're handicapped. You'll never see a dog sitting around feeling sorry for itself. They just get up and do what they want to do, and if they can't do it quite like a four-legged, they'll just figure out another way.

Lynn's advice to prospective adopters of tripod dogs is to acknowledge they may not be as physically capable as a dog with four legs, and to



Cooper and Daisy

honor their limitations while also allowing them to flourish. There's no need to be too over-protective or restrictive. Keeping their weight on the lighter side is crucial so they aren't overburdening the three legs they have. Lynn says every dog, regardless of having three or four legs, is an individual and will therefore have their own specific needs, strengths, and weaknesses. And they are all capable of showing love and being wonderful companions.

For more information about Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, go to [bestfriends.org](http://bestfriends.org).



Cooper with Lynn



Cooper on the Trail

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# Celebration of Life: Who Rescued Who?

By Loree Walden

For as long as I can remember, my brother and his wife have had dogs. They've always adopted the ones who were overlooked either for medical issues, age, or just needing too much care.

There was Tonshu and Shasta who were German Shepherds who needed extra care and attention. There was Sally, who's owner fell upon hard times and had to rehome her dogs. Sally was an Irish Wolfhound who was 6 years old and spayed, and thus nobody wanted her... until Loren & Erica met her!

There was Gandalf whose owner was a friend. Gandalf was not neglected or not wanted... he had an FCE (stroke in the spine) at four months of age & was paralyzed in the back legs. His owner got him up & walking again, then Loren & Erica brought him home at 6 months of age because they had the means and the facilities near their home where he could get the help he needed.

He went to various rehabs daily - physical therapy w/PT vets, hydrotherapy, & canine massage. He always walked with a limp but was the biggest love bug! Sadly, Gandalf crossed the Rainbow Bridge about two weeks before his fifth birthday.

Winnie was their first puppy and you'll read more about her and their story below.

## Destiny and The Dog with No Name

Our oven arrived at 3:17. It was to be delivered between 11:00 and 2:00. Erica was in the house crying. There has been a lot of that from both of us. Our 2-year Irish Wolfhound, Eowyn, "Winnie" died on the operating table the day before with complications from anesthesia and a compromised heart.

Winnie was our first puppy. We have had several rescue dogs over the last 27 years - all loved, and by choice we often brought home the "projects" or dogs that may get passed over. We have the experience, time, and means to help these dogs. But this time we desired a puppy that would be with us for many years.

Raising a puppy presents its own challenges, but she developed into a dream come true. The dog who ran out to the field to play with us and her four-legged friends with abandoned joy. She only knew joy in her short life. Her death left our legs with no lift and our hearts empty and aching.

The night of Winnie's death, as we consoled each other, we decided to foster a dog. Our

house is not a home without sharing it with a canine companion. We know every day there are animals that need a home, and often only one day can make a life and death difference. Besides, "What would we talk about if we did not have an animal with us?" an inside joke that helped break the sorrow if only for a moment.

The appliance installer sported a gray tattoo of a dog on his arm, and another tattoo on his shaved head of a dog snuggled over his ear and onto his temple.

I told him that our dog died yesterday and that I could barely keep it together. He looked at me and said that he understood, nodding to the tattoo on his arm. He was sorry for our loss and in soft tones we shared stories of dogs in our lives - averting each other's eyes as we spoke.

When he learned that our dog was an Irish Wolfhound, he said that at one time he lived next door to a breeder who had "too many dogs" and some were Irish Wolfhounds. He contacted her to see if she had any available.

We learned she had one, a 9-month-old who was paid for, but the people who wanted him kept postponing the pickup and eventually disappeared. The breeder said we could have him if we wanted him, and she would be glad of it as he was going to be destroyed. We made the drive there the very next day.

Perhaps you have watched videos of puppy mill situations. This pup had been out in a cow pen for months, was infested with fleas, scabs, a deep open untreated wound on his chin, hematoma on both ears, emaciated, skittish, filthy, and frightened.

"What's his name?" I asked.

"Name? Well, he ain't got one, but he is a handful."

We knew we had to get him out of there.

It took cautious and practiced patience to get a leash on him and out of the kennel where they had "corralled him with a rope". It took time to get him to move a few feet towards our vehicle without bucking and straining at the leash.

We took it slowly and carefully, not knowing the dog. Not wanting to put any of us in danger or to set further trauma upon him.

It was on this twenty-foot journey to the car that he stopped and refused to move—mind you, even a malnourished nine-month-old Irish Wolfhound is a formidable being.

After several frustrating minutes I cautiously knelt down near him and tearfully in a choked voice whispered aloud "Winnie, I need your help. I think you brought us here to help this guy, and I don't think we can do this without your help."

A moment later this pup lifted his head a bit and moved tentatively towards my wife and the car. With a little more coaxing he stepped in and curled tightly upon the bed not to move for the two-hour drive to his new home.

Liam now has a name, love, a quiet home, veterinary care, nutrition, and is learning about his new family routines. After three weeks he lets us gently touch him and takes food from our hands.

We are reminded that transformations take time, and we are going to give him all the time he needs. He is a challenge, he is a joy, and he is a gift from Winnie to help us all heal.

Thank you for letting us share our story. We encourage you to look past some of the challenges that come with some dogs, and to look into your heart and realize what you can do for that dog, and more importantly what that dog may do for you.

No animal should have to go through what Liam did. To not even have a name? To never have been inside a home? To never have had a bed of his own? To have only known pain and suffering? To not know what it's like to be loved and taken care of?

Sadly, we all know it happens every day, and as much as we wish we could, we can't save them all.

But we can be their voice. We can share their stories and hope that someone will hear them and help. We can advocate to stop these puppy mills and breeders who treat their animals like a commodity instead of a living being.

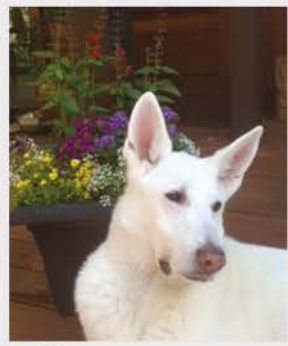
The old adage of, "If you see something, say something" can be a lifesaving decision for an animal. (By the way, this puppy mill has been reported.)

Our message is that all dogs deserve a home of their own, and to be loved and taken care of. Luckily, my brother and sister-in-law are able to provide this to the dogs who have come into their lives for one reason or another.

Was it because Loren and Erica needed them, or they needed Loren and Erica? I think it's a little of both, and it's why I say... with every adoption/rescue I see, "Who rescued who?"



TONSHU



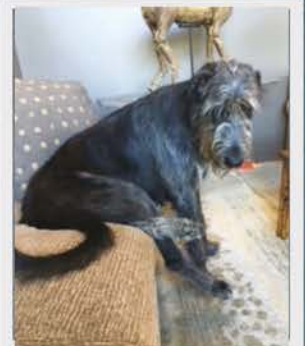
SHASTA



SALLY



SALLY & SHASTA



GANDALF



WINNIE



WHO  
RESCUED  
WHO?



WINNIE



UN-NAMED DOG  
IN HELL



LIAM  
1ST DAY HOME!



LIAM  
2ND DAY HOME!



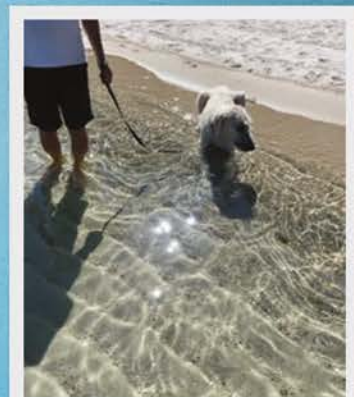
LIAM  
2 WEEKS HOME!



LIAM  
FIRST HIKE!



LIAM  
KNOWS HE'S HOME!



LIAM  
1ST DIP IN A LAKE



# Paw-some Florida Cities for Pets

By Stacey Wittig

Orlando, Florida, was named in the top dozen “Most Pet-Friendly Cities” by a recent WalletHub study. Delightful dog parks near Disney and Universal Studios make the “Theme Park Capital of the World” one of the best places to escape with your four-legged traveler this winter.



Tail-wagging fun at Brohard Beach Paw Park. Photo by Eddie Kirsch-Visit Sarasota County.

Sniff out the concrete tunnels in the off-leash areas, roll on a sandy hill, and then wash up at a hybrid fountain at Park of the Americas.



Kraft Azalea Garden in Winter Park. Photo by Stacey Wittig.

Or get your splash on in the dog-friendly swimming hole at Lake Baldwin Dog Park in Winter



Some Orlando area hotels offer dog welcome baskets. Photo courtesy The Alford Inn at Rollins.

Park. Afterward, hit the doggie showers to clean up for lunch at one of the many dog-friendly restaurants in the charming suburb.

We enjoyed gastropub fare at The Ravenous Pig, which just earned “The Best Brunch in Orlando” by the prestigious Michelin Guide.

Later, walk off the calories at the gorgeous Kraft Azalea Garden on the shore of Lake Maitland. You and your leashed pups will love exploring the secluded park, an authentic secret garden.

On top of all this, there are at least a dozen doggie daycare and boarding services in the area for those who want to spoil their fur babies while visiting Disney World, “Most Magical Place on Earth,” or other theme parks in the area.

Mix beach time into your magical getaway by exploring Sarasota County, another ‘paw-some’ Florida destination.

Frolic in the white sands of Brohard Beach Paw Park in Venice, one of the most loved Florida dog beaches by local and visiting pup lovers alike.



The shady Sarasota Bayfront. Photo by Stacey Wittig.

What makes it unique are the doggie showers, and that it’s the only beach in all of Sarasota County where Fido can run free on the beach. (A gated play area is also on-site.)

In downtown Sarasota, stroll under the shady trees of Sarasota Bayfront with your leashed furry companions. The park affords impressive views of the marina and the John Ringling Causeway, connecting the downtown historic district to St. Armands Key.

There you’ll find St. Armands Circle, an upscale, pet-friendly shopping, gallery, and spa area where four-legged guests enjoy a wide choice of outdoor patios.

Our favorite is Crab & Fin, which serves ever-changing menu items created from the freshest food from around the world and water bowls for dog-accompanied patrons. Finally, don’t miss Beach House boutique, which sells Puppie Love™ apparel that supports rescue dogs.

Another must-visit, dog-friendly spot is Rise & Nye’s coffee and ice cream shop, run by people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

“Eighty percent of these guys never get a job, but here, they’re running the place,” says cofounder Beaver Shriver, who has a long family history with the Special Olympics.

The café is located in the heart of downtown, where the Sarasota Farmers Market takes place every Saturday. “During the farmer’s



Beaver Shriver, cofounder of Rise & Nye’s with Neko. Photo by Stacey Wittig.



Sarasota Farmer’s Market.

market, there are more dogs down here than people,” laughs Beaver. Maybe that’s why baking dog biscuits is the next project at Rise & Nye’s.

Duval’s, a local’s lauded seafood eatery, is three blocks away, where the outdoor seating is Fido-friendly. (The community voted them Best Seafood Restaurant, Best All-Around Restaurant and Best Lunch.) We recommend the oyster Po’Boy sammie and the seafood bruschetta.

With almost 500 pet-friendly hotels and campgrounds in Sarasota County, it’s hard to choose, but we stayed at the art-inspired Art Ovation Hotel right in historic downtown. It’s within walking distance of Sarasota Bayfront and the landmark Selby Five Points Park.

As always, check dog park websites for open hours, and let your hosts know ahead of time when you bring your four-legged pal.

Stacey Wittig is a travel writer based near Flagstaff. Enjoy these tips? Then follow her adventures at [UnstoppableStaceyTravel.com](http://UnstoppableStaceyTravel.com).



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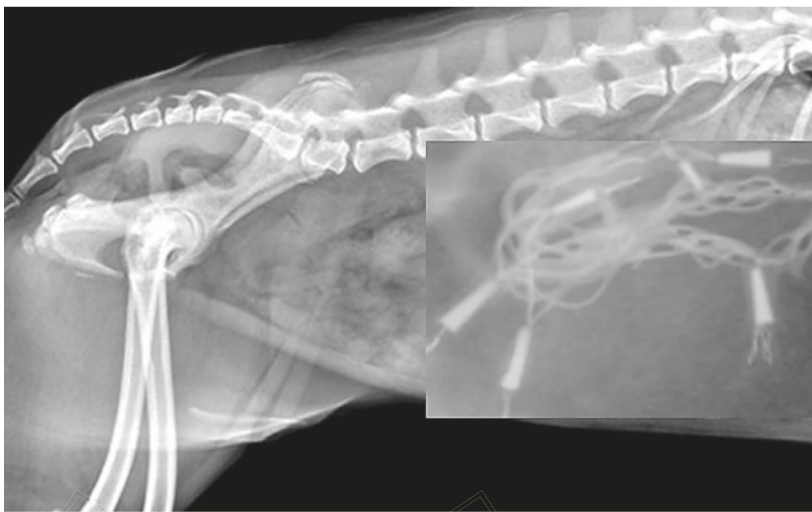
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