



New Beginnings Shih Tzu & Friends Rescue









www.nbstr.org / www.nbstr.petfinder.org

Companions for Life

New Beginnings Shih Tzu and Shih Tzu Mix Rescue is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. All contributions are tax deductible. The dogs profiled in our newsletters are in foster homes throughout WI, IL, IN, NE, OH, MI, AR, MN, and SD. More than 451 dogs rescued to date

January 2008 Hoping for a Home

The January newsletter is sponsored by the New Beginnings board and Robert Schoenecker: In honor of Robin Lloyd, Peggy Terl, and all our dogs: may we remember throughout 2008 that lives depend on what we do, and how kindly we share and communicate with others.

			
<p style="text-align: center;">Gizmo</p> <p>Gizmo is a sweet boy, less than a year old, who came into rescue from a breeder in the South. IL</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Teddy</p> <p>Teddy is also under a year old, happy, waggy, bouncy, and glad to be in rescue. He, Gizmo, and Oreo are all young males – they are not from the same litter.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Oreo</p> <p>Oreo is a sweet 5 1/2 month old Shihtzu with a fun personality. This cookie is a joy to have around so if you are looking for a playful puppy to love, check out Oreo. Oreo is smart, housetrained, cute, and happy. WI</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Buddy</p> <p>Buddy is a poddle-kleptomaniac mix. His hair is soft and curly. He came into rescue from a shelter in IL where they staff loved him. During his initial appearance at Petco, he managed to "find" a chew bone and liberate several packages of cat treats from a display. WI</p>
			
<p style="text-align: center;">Penney</p> <p>Penney was kept outside year 'round in OH. This winter, safe with her foster mom, Penny is warm. WI</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ringo</p> <p>Ringo sleeps next to his foster mom, and wants to be loved. Neutered, some teeth removed, he is healing on his way to being someone's special guy. WI</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mattie</p> <p>Mattie is a pretty, cuddly 7-year-old girl. IN</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ella</p> <p>Ella is a 1 year old purebred Shih Tzu who came into rescue because her owners kept her in a crate 10 hours a day and then complained she could not be housetrained. IL</p>

I hope everyone appreciates *how* these lives get saved ... they get saved because of the efforts of people who network, transport, foster, recruit their friends and adopters to foster, sew, create beautiful quilts, design calendars, do Petco, put dogs on Petfinder, write articles for the website and newsletter, pay our bills, schlep newsletters to vet clinics and grooming shops, talk to coworkers about rescue, handle dog records, fundraise, pray ... they are saved because of *you*.

Every dog in this rescue has every volunteer in this rescue standing behind him or her. And you. We couldn't do it without you. They wouldn't be alive without you. When you receive your newsletter, look carefully at each of the little faces. You transported, sewed, contributed, thought of us, spoke to a friend or a vet. You prayed for our dogs. *You* saved them. ~ Bekye Walker

Angels: Thanks to you for your generosity with time, funds, understanding, and / or special projects:

Alex and Deann Zoghlin, Noony's family, for their holiday gift to help our dogs. Terrie and Stephen Howe for their Christmas donation. Joanne Lamarre for helping Herbie write a check to help his friends.	All our friends using the We Care card at Pick and Save: we just received our first check of \$51.44. All our friends using GoodSearch on the Internet: we received our second check, this one for \$66.71. Thank you!	Agnes Schlick, for her continued generosity to our dogs. Arnold Ryba. Barbara Seidl, in memory of Suzy Crail.
Friends of the Dog Park who gave us a generous donation for our dogs.	Sharon Morton, CPA, who not only does our books, but who – with her husband Joe – also supports our mission and our dogs.	Don Rorschach, retired Irving, TX City Attorney, for his donation to Pepper Pete's care.
All of you: the friends who donate time, buy raffle tickets and chocolate bars, spend your weekends on the transport roadways, and open your homes, share your love. The vet clinics who give our dogs medical care and human compassion.		Dachshund Rescue of North America: and all our members – the Fearless Transporters – who drove dogs through the December snowstorm.

How to contact us: Use any of the numbers below; however if you want to contact someone closer to you, refer to the area code.

Wisconsin	Minnesota	Illinois	Indiana
Bekye Walker 414 801-3763 living_floor_mops@yahoo.com	Lisa Hatlestad 218 281-6917 lmhatlestad@hotmail.com	Nick 708 560-9678 DALLOYDS@aol.com	Margaret indyztzu@sbcglobal.net
Carol Pfeiffer 262 889-4046 carolpfeiffershiltzu@yahoo.com	Erinn 952-457-2909 eprischm@yahoo.com		Ohio Sharon 614 537-0651 grandmashines@aol.com
Mary Ann 608 217-1072 rarapeco2@yahoo.com	Nebraska Jayne jaynesamp@aol.com	South Dakota Lavina 605 359-6059 razziecat@sio.midco.net	Arkansas Mary 870 445-2741 rired613@bullshoals.net
Newsletter dates and information: Holly Schoenecker / nbnewsletter@hotmail.com			

<p>Online animal medical information: Information and photographs by veterinarians and a quick click guide to typical topics.</p> <p>http://www.thepetcenter.com/gen/faid.html</p> <p>Note: this site is intended as a guide, not a substitute for visiting your vet.</p>	<p>Online dog food information www.dogfoodproject.com Includes: "Identifying Better Products" and "Label Information 101"</p> <p>Online Heartgard and Frontline http://www.petsuppliesnet.com/shop.htm (allow 2-3 weeks for delivery)</p>
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Where to find us:

Petco Greenfield (WI)	1/6 2/10 2/24 3/2 3/9 3/16 noon – 2:00
Pet Supplies Plus Greenfield (WI) 76 th Street north of Layton Ave	1/20 noon – 2:00 NEW LOCATION! Inaugural Event
Petco Lake Geneva (WI)	1/5 1/19 1 st and 3 rd Saturday of the month 11:00 – 2:00
Petco Delafield (WI) Hwy I94 at Hwy 83	
Petco Kenosha (WI)	1/12 2/9 3/8 4/12 11:00 – 2:00
Petco Harwood Heights (IL)	1/6 1/27 2/10 2/24 3/9 3/30 noon – 3:00
Petco Skokie (IL) Touhy Ave	1/5 2/9 3/1 3/29 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Petco Bloomingdale (IL) 412 Army Trail Rd / Bloomingdale, IL 60108 / 630-307-1210	1/12 2/16 3/22 noon – 3:00
Petco Skokie (IL) across from old Orchard shopping center	1/19 2/23 3/8 11:00 – 3:00
Petco Romeoville (IL) Weber Road at Airport Road just south of the I-355/I-55 interchange	1/13 2/10 noon – 3:00
Petco Richfield (MN)	1/26 11:00 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Petco Grand Forks (ND)	
Pet Supplies Plus in Valparaiso, Indiana	Coming Soon



Time to anticipate Coming up:

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 2 – Great Lakes Pet Expo
Wisconsin Expo Center / State Fair Park / West Allis, WI

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 15 – Better in Show
Eau Claire Indoor Sports Center / Eau Claire, WI 4-9 p.m.

















FEBRUARY 16 & 17 – Minneapolis Pet Expo
Mpls Convention Center, Hall D (Booth 1027)





MARCH 14 - MARCH 16 Chicago Pet Expo
(Arlington Park Racecourse)

New Beginnings Quilt Raffle
Quilt crafted by Rena Lewin (photo to the right)




<p>Duchess is a gentle, sweet 6 year old female who is recovering from leptospirosis. WI</p>	<p>Phoebe is Shih Tzu, 1 1/2 years old, and is very friendly too. She is black mixed with some white. IL</p>	<p>Jackson came from a puppy mill, and is working through health issues. He's a loving and gentle boy. WI</p>	<p>Sam is a Lhasa, a wonderful little guy about 3 years old. I named him Sam because the fellow who rescued him is Samuel. ~ Becky NE</p>
<p>Al, a Shih Tzu mix, came into rescue as a stray. Al is mischievous and happy. IL</p>	<p>Maggie (formerly Marie) is a Shih Tzu Maltese mix who came into rescue through a shelter. IL</p>	<p>Annie is a 3 year old delightful Shih Tzu Maltese mix who spent 3 years in a puppy mill and likes wearing clothes. Help Annie expand her wardrobe. IN</p>	<p>Griffin is 10 years old Maltese mix from a shelter in IN. He is blind. KY</p>
<p>Cricket is an affectionate dog who loves to play with the other dogs in his foster home. When his foster mom turns her hand in a circle, Cricket will dance like a ballerina. He is housetrained, and loves squeaky toys. NE</p>	<p>Mitzi is 13 years old. She came into rescue unwanted, and would love her own person to snuggle with. IL</p>	<p>Cinders is a funny, affectionate, wiggly, 26#, fluffy teddy bear, who wants to make friends and receive affection. She has the sweetest face, and the cuddliest body. WI</p>	<p>Cinders is a funny, affectionate, wiggly, 26#, fluffy teddy bear, who wants to make friends and receive affection. She has the sweetest face, and the cuddliest body. WI</p>

			
<p>Willie is 7 years old, about 15#, and houstrained. He came into rescue when his people moved, and needs to be an only dog. IL</p>	<p>Chelsea is charcoal and white, about 9 years old, and a gentle girl. She loves being with her people. WI</p>	<p>Rascal the Yorkie is a tiny cuddler, full of personality, loves attention, and needs soft food because he has no lower jaw due to an untreated injury. IN</p>	<p>Tex is great: houstrained, smart and obedient, he would be an excellent companion to an active adult or couple. He rides well in cars, and gets along with dogs smaller than he is. WI</p>
			
<p>Domino lost his daddy and is looking for a new daddy to love him. If you are a guy looking for a best friend, Domino is for you. WI</p>	<p>Bella is an oversize Maltese who is afraid of people because she was not socialized. In her foster home she is learning to trust. IN</p>	<p>Penny wearing booties to go outside in the snow.</p>	<p>Annie came into rescue from a puppy mill. She has a black spot on her back, one black ear, and a black spot around one eye. WI</p>
			
<p>Muffin is a sweet girl who loves to snuggle in for a warm winter nap. MN</p>	<p>Tiko is 5 or 6 years old, healthy now, and hoping to find a home where he will be cuddled and happy. He is a lively boy who needs a home with patience and kindness. WI</p>	<p>Precious is a Shih Tzu-Lhasa-Maltese mix found as a stray, with maggots in her ears. After vetting and care, Precious (now maggot free) is looking for a new home.</p>	<p>Tess is beautiful, gentle, and loving - also houstrained. She is a larger size girl and perfect. She loves going for walks and wants to be in your home, sharing her affection with you. IL</p>
			
<p>Prince Charming is now healthy and ready to find his family. AR</p>	<p>Davie is now safe and happy; he's hunting for a home with older children or adults only. He likes other dogs. IL</p>	<p>Sofie is very sweet and gentle, houstrained, and looking for a home that will love her. IL</p>	<p>Dolly is a plump 7 year old who just found her forever home. WI</p>

			
<p>Tommy is a Shih Tzu/Pom mix puppy who was born blind, in a puppy mill. IL</p>	<p>Emma and Elliott are 8 years old, a tightly bonded pair. They sleep curled next to each other and want to be with each other all the time. IN</p>		<p>Mikki is a snuggler, lap sitter, and kisses dispenser. WI</p>

Why is rescue worth doing?



Penny




Penny is one example of our commitment and our expenses. Kept outside year 'round in northern OH, 10 year old Penny had never been to a vet. Ten years is a long time to be without vaccinations, heartworm protection, and exams. Ten years is a long time to be without warm loving caresses and friendly voices.

At her foster home, Penny sat on soft blankets, played with toys, and ate healthy food.

She has visited the vet several times and also seen the specialists at the UM Veterinary school, for examinations and shots, for care to her infected ears, for concern about her best health. The vets all commented that Penny is a darling girl who accepted what needed to be done, and charmed the staff. From the time she came to New Beginnings, Penny's care has cost the rescue over \$1,200.

Is it worth it?
Ask Penny, whose skin is now soft, whose pads are now free of sores, and whose life had turned around since she came into love.



Maggie is a jewel. Despite horrible neglect she has a loving and playful spirit. She was rescued from an Indian reservation in SD. Kitra, her guardian angel, said it was one of the worst cases of neglect she had seen and on the reservation she'd seen plenty.

Irma's poodle is about her age and the two chase each other around the house. Good exercise for the both of them! I have been taking Maggie to work with me. Maggie lays at my feet or strolls around after she warms up to where she is. She still covers when she is around new people. ~ Sharon Cimino

Ways to help:

<p>iGive.com (Cause ID is 40105) Complete details are available at: http://www.iGive.com/html/causestats.cfm (You must log in as a member to view this page)</p>	<p>Pick N Save Grocery Stores Your Advantage card will result in a 1% contribution to New Beginnings, with no extra cost to you. Register your card to # 536625</p>	<p>GoodSearch Use this search engine and for each online search you do, New Beginnings receives money. Be sure you list New Beginnings as your designated charity.</p>
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Looking Back over 2007; looking ahead to 2008

State of the Rescue

2007 has been a year of upheaval, change, tragedy and, I believe, ultimate triumph for New Beginnings Shih Tzu and Friends Rescue. To not only survive but thrive after such a tumultuous year demonstrates the awesome power of this group's character and commitment.

With all of the challenges we faced in 2007, none was more devastating than the unexpected passing of our friend, events coordinator, and board member Robin Lloyd. We lost Robin a mere three weeks after the passing of another dynamic and tireless friend of rescue, Peggy Terl of Furryfolks. While I knew it would be difficult to continue without Peggy's advice and support, I thought it would be absolutely impossible without Robin's. Yet I see Robin's spirit at work every day in this group. She is a part of everything we do, and every dog we save.

People have sometimes commented about the "power and glory" that comes with running a rescue. What I have learned in the past year especially is that there is no power and glory. What New Beginnings has shown me, more than anything, is that leading a rescue is very humbling. It's not just caring about the dogs; it's caring about the people who care about the dogs. People come to us – the board and the rescue – asking for help, for advice, for information. Dogs come to us for their very lives. I have learned that if I do not believe I have the strength or the time or the answer, I need to reach inside myself to find it. I have learned that the love, the time, the help that is needed do not come just from me – the answers come from the community we have created. If I lead the rescue, if the board guides the rescue, together all of us *are* the rescue. Together we have built an organization that spans ages, religions, occupations, geography, and time. Together we *are* new beginnings for those who now have hope, life, and a future.

2007 was a year of hardship, grief, and despair. Together, we came through it. We kept our focus and our faith through tragedy and adversity. Thank you for sharing, with us, for being part of our mission, for helping to create New Beginnings and hope for those who – without you – would have none. We are still together – we are still saving dogs.

Bekye Walker

President, New Beginnings Shih Tzu (& Friends) Rescue

"*We will either find a way, or we will make one.*" - Hannibal, 210 B.C.

Because they need us...we need you All contributions are tax deductible.

New Beginnings depends on the generosity of our foster families, our members, and our donors. Without funds and foster homes, we cannot rescue dogs. The average veterinary cost for one of our dogs is \$425. The average adoption donation is \$250. How do we leap the gap? Love, faith, donors, and belief that what we do makes the world a better place, not only for the dogs, but for the people they love.

How much do people give? The size is not as vital as the love that comes with it. Our donations have ranged from the dollar that someone puts into our donation box at Petco to more than several thousand. People give to the dogs from their hearts, and since we work from our hearts, **that** is what is important. You may not foster, you may not transport, you may not be adopting a dog from us; by sending your thoughts and donations, please know that you also are part of our organization.

Help our mission to rescue those who need us.

All our members are volunteers, so 100% of your contribution goes to the dogs.

And, since we are a charitable organization, donations are tax deductible. You will receive a letter acknowledging your donation.

Yes, I want to help the dogs. Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation.

Name _____

Address _____

Send your help to:

New Beginnings Shih Tzu and Friends Rescue

PO Box 63 / Greendale, WI 53129

Thank you.

Who we are...

The first I heard of puppy mills involved an expose on the television news one evening in the early '70s. I was horrified and determined then to try to do something to stop the cruelty of that industry, but I had no idea what to do or how. I had no idea that pet store puppies were born in the horrid mills, and still come from them.

Thanksgiving weekend 2000, my beloved, brave, warrior cat, *Kamakta*, succumbed to diabetes at the age of 10, leaving my Maltese, "Misty" (1988-2005), alone, lonely & grieving while I worked during the day. I knew sweet Misty, then 12, needed a companion, but at 58 years old, I felt that bringing a puppy into our home would be unfair to the puppy should it mature to outlive me.

I'd never heard of "rescue." I began researching, which led me to Ohio Maltese Rescue.

My OMR application to adopt approved, I received an urgent phone call in early December 2000, from an OMR rescuer. OMR had been notified of a "Lhasa" in trouble and dire need of immediate placement. Would I take her even though she wasn't a Maltese? On hearing her story, I immediately agreed to take her. The "Lhasa" turned out to be my wonderful "Shih Tzu," *Cuddles*.

Five-year-old *Cuddles* came into OMR covered with sticks, burrs, mats, fleas. She was brought to me December 15, 2000, groomed and decked out in a doggie Santa suit! So cute, so terribly sweet and so terrified was she, that if I moved too quickly, she flattened her little body on the floor and screamed.

In the first 5 months of her life *Cuddles* had been so severely abused by a man beating & kicking her that most of her teeth were missing and one eye was catty wampus. She ended up in a shelter from which she was adopted by a nurse who worked long hours, and had a crate constructed outside her northern OH home, where *Cuddles* lived 24-7-365 until she was 5 years old. An OMR rescuer was eventually able to convince the nurse to surrender *Cuddles* to rescue. Learning her story, I was determined to do whatever I could to save others from the pain of abuse and neglect that she had been subjected to.

How, I wondered, could I help this precious little golden & white ST learn that she was safe & loved and that no one would ever hurt her again? I had no experience with her type of terror. I soon learned that she was also a fear biter (such as her teeth were). I did the only thing I knew to do; I put soothing music on the radio, put *Cuddles* to my shoulder and danced with her. Her body rigid at first, I would soon feel her gently exhale, begin to breathe and feel her little body relax.

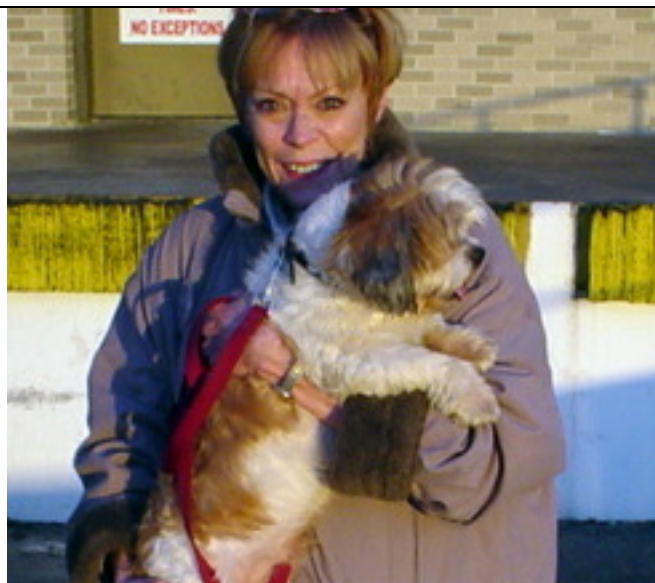
In time, *Cuddles* gratefully healed. Today the Alpha of the Hines pack, her typically Shih Tzu stubbornness & willfulness prevail. She is totally fearless and hasn't bitten in years. We celebrated 7 years with her December 15th.

I met Bekye Walker by way of cross posted transport coordination. Our rescue association became a great friendship, which has spanned the past 7 years as we have worked rescue together long distance "for the dogs!"

Scanning Petfinder.com nightly, I then discovered a little (6#) Maltese male in a high-kill shelter in Yonkers, New York (I was in Cleveland, OH). Surrendered with his companion, a Boxer, both were severely neglected, starved, underweight - in terrible condition. Securing *Sunny's* release to me long distance was a challenge, but a success. St. Patrick's Day 2001, *Sunny* came home and came to be known as *Sunny Delight aka. The Sunshine Man*, my heart boy. Getting him from Yonkers, New York to our home in Avon, OH a story in itself!

Cuddles and *Sunny* have been followed by *Higgins, Emma, Tye, Phoenix, Taz, Keisha & Meiko, Angeleo, Trixie, Byron, Molly, Snowball & Baby Girl, Punkin, Pepper Pete, Precious & temporarily by Liza & Cinders & tiptoeing through my heart, Tinker, Penney & Sammy.*

Since I retired, rescue has become my full time passion. Housebound with no vehicle, my rescue efforts today, on behalf of New Beginnings, are handled largely via my trusty computer and telephone. Miracles happen when our motives are in order, and help invariably arrives in order for me to help them. Of course, I have to doubt first then shift into believing, but I get there and the miracles happen, such as transportation for rescues and awesome foster homes for those I am asked to help here in Ohio. How then can I volunteer? By stepping up to do NBSTR Dog Records; Dogs in Foster database; & NBSTR Doggie Database.



This year I have been given the privilege of fostering 2 remarkable NBSTR hospice babies, *Punkin & Pepper Pete*. *Punkin*, a 3# T-cup poodle boy has inoperable deformed hind legs, the result of puppy miller mishandling as well as severe heart disease. *Pepper Pete* spent 10-14 years as a breeder stud in a horrible puppy mill and came to us blind, deaf and suffering severe heart/lung disease. These wonderful creatures will live out their lives with us in hospice foster care. They receive and enjoy love and tender care, feel the sun on their backs, the breeze in their hair, and enjoy God's gifts in their lives.

I have two granddaughters (4 & 5), who are learning through listening and watching, that dogs are God's creatures, too, to be loved, nurtured and cared for. The girls are fascinated and loving care givers to our pets & fosters. The oldest recently declared to her Daddy that when she grows up she wants to be a rescuer too! If I can pass nothing else on to these little girls I love so much, passing on the legacy of the principles of animal care and rescue will be a tremendous reward for me.

There are days when rescue issues become so frustrating I want to throw my computer at the wall and walk away from it all, but my heart won't hear of it because I'm in it "for the dogs." What if??? What if I walked away for my own peace of mind and missed a special little one out there who needed us? So, until I receive a missive from on high, rescue is my life, and I'm very grateful for the privilege of participating with what I consider to be the best darned rescue in the US today - New Beginnings Shih Tzu & Friends Rescue! ~ Sharon Hines, Upper Arlington, OH

Transport!

On December 15, 2007, 15 dogs left AR and headed north toward their much brighter future. The weather forecasters predicted snow. The transporters delivered hope.

Mary picked up the mill babies today; they are a matted mess and she cannot get grooming appointments for them before the transport. These dogs all look healthy and they are very friendly; they are shy but they will wag their tails and they want to trust. So with a little love and patience they will blossom. They will, however, need "the works" ... they have been vaccinated but there is no documentation so we'll need to have everything done once they are in foster care. So, if you have a breeder release foster coming on this run, you might want to go ahead and get your grooming and veterinary appointments lined up. ~ Bekye

Good Morning Gang, Well there is about 2 inches of snow on the ground in the Metro St Louis area right now. Very lightly falling, so the drive should be good. The heavy stuff will come in late this afternoon into tonight - another 4-6 inches by tomorrow!! It is suppose to go north/east from me. So glad we are driving today!! Everyone drive carefully & let's get these babies to safety. Please make sure that you have your cell phones on before & during your leg so we can talk to each other & Bekye can talk to us in case anyone is running late or early. Don't want anyone to be waiting with that precious cargo. Please give yourself an extra 10-15 minutes for take off, in order to arrive safely to the people you are meeting at your allotted time. Take care. Pat of Dachshund Rescue of North America

What a ride!! Only CRAZY-ASS RESCUERS would go on the road on a day like this!

Of course we are a Special kind of Crazy anyway to do what we do. The snow, the rain, the sleet & a mixture of all at times, is what I went through to get the Babies. It was mostly light coming down, but made the roads wet & slick in spots.

But I made it there to meet Mary in Rolla, MO & going back to meet Marissa in Troy, IL was mostly light rain. I had my Christmas station on & I sang to the babies all the way back. They told me to keep my day job!

All the kids did fine & we even managed to squeeze all 8 crates with 15 pups into Marissa's hubby's extended cab truck!!! I should have taken a picture. So, it was a good day anyway. Take care & thank you for taking your time out today to get these babies to safety - despite the weather. God Bless you & drive carefully. Pat of Dachshund Rescue of North America

The drive home was awful. The farther I got away from Joliet, the worse it was. It took me three hours to get home. The little girl decided it was fun to jump up and down on my lap so I had to make her go in the back with the boy (who was in the crate). They were so happy to get out of the car and romp in the snow!

My little girl is gold with a black mask. Almost the same color as my Emma, a little darker. She's maybe about 7 or 8 pounds. She's tiny. The boy was almost named Tank. He was so big. Almost all white. He has a gray spot on his left eye, and gray ears. Cute. After I shaved him down, he was not as big as I thought. I tried to salvage his coat, but his matts were down to the skin. Just awful.

Both of them had concrete consistency poop and hair between their toes. It was so hard for them to let me do anything about it. I finally got most of it cut out before they had baths. I can't believe they were in such horrible condition. I almost cried when I looked inside their ears. I pulled most of the hair out and got a lot of dirt and wax out. Neither one of them enjoyed bad bath mommy. They did okay with the grooming, surprisingly.

They don't have names yet! Can't think of anything. And I apologize, I forgot to take a before picture. I just couldn't wait to get them cleaned up. I was up until 12:30 last night and then about 6 hours today working on them. My other dogs are thoroughly disgusted with me. I am a traitor.

It was just sad to see these precious beauties in such a neglected state. They are sweet, velcro (!), waggy, playful dogs who love to kiss, even after all they've been through. I'm so thankful they didn't end up like so many do. They still have a chance to have a happy life! I will attach photo to next email. Maybe they'll have names by then! ~ Gina T

Thought I had the brindle and white, Snowball but I don't. Whoever was supposed to get a female and has a male instead, if you want to switch, I am fine with that and I apologize for the fact we didn't know the difference between a penis and a mat. ~ Joanne

Joanne and I took over Judy's house last night with clippers in hand...ice balls stuck to the little ones who were running outside...good thing Judy has wood floors. Thank you to Judy for letting the fur fly all over her house (we had 9 dogs in her family room!). Thank you to Joanne for coming back to Judy's and helping with these little ones...Joanne named her two males...oops I mean one male one female (couldn't tell till the matts were gone)...Guinness and Breeze. The 2 puppies are named Zak (Brown and white) and Greg (brindle) RJ will be temp fostered by Chris for the week. I have an unexpected canine visitor at my house...and he is causing HAVOC with everyone. I'll take RJ Friday from Chris. Gina H

For all of you who braved the terrible snowstorms today to get these little ones safely in new foster homes, thank you. Oreo is here safe and sound and he is a wonderful little sweetheart. He is not sure about all of these big dogs in this place but by tomorrow I predict he will be chasing them around. ~ Carol

This little girl is amazing. She is fighting/chewing on rawhides, tossing toys up in the air, engaging Sammy in play, running around the house and she peed outside. I am stunned and thrilled. Guinness, on the other hand, I found behind the kitchen waste can with his face in the corner. He has barely moved at all. ~ Joanne

HUGE HONKIN' THANKS to Mary, Pat, Marissa, Allison, Kim Willis (new transporter!!) and Joanne, GinaT, GinaH, Kaye, Carol & Tom, Daniel, Sue Steinbach, Laura and Heidi ... and John who flew in from Baltimore to shovel all this snow we weren't supposed to get!! ... Tonight 15 little ones are home safe!

And speaking of huge and honkin' ... I have a seriously huge honkin' puppy here! Not sure what breed of horse this pretty black and white girl is mixed with, but she is as tall as a baby gate and can get through one rather easily.

Pictures are of Rowdy, who went home with Daniel, a "smaller" black and white female who went home with Laura and Heidi, the XL female who is in my guest room, Tiko (Sue Steinbach's foster), Precious (Sue Strandt's foster) and Snowbunny who also went home with Laura and Heidi. We learned that some in our group have winkie identification issues ... remove the matt and then he was a she ... "hey baby take a walk on the wild side" ... !!

We are supposed to get 5-7 inches of snow tonight ... some reports say 9 inches ... thankfully everyone is home safely and we will see what tomorrow brings. THANK YOU to everyone who made today's transport happen. ~ Bekye

Photos from the transport



Foster Homes...

Being a foster home is hard – it’s hard to have them, it’s hard to adopt them out, but it’s harder yet to think of them being abused and / or neglected. That’s why we foster! ~ Char

Before and After: some of the dogs who have come into New Beginnings and into rescue

		<p>Buddy Madison His back was like raw meat. He was the nicest foster; even in his condition, he was always sweet and loving. Mary Ann in Madison</p> <p>He looked pretty nasty: he had no hair and sores on his little body. But that’s a long time ago. Now he loves his toys he put them all in his bed and then sleeps on top of them.</p> <p>I have to thank Mary Ann everyday for saving Buddy, because he is the most lovable little guy that you have ever seen. He sees the world in rose colored glasses; he loves everybody. ~ Marie</p>
		<p>Ransom came into rescue from a shelter in KY, and through the generosity and help of Bluegrass Shih Tzu Rescue. Two months in foster care have changed his whole appearance. Besides regular dog kibble, he is getting crushed flaxseed and fish oil to help with the hair. At the nutrition store, the salesperson said, "Oh, you're going to feel much better with these." I answered, "They're for the dog." The saleslady commented, "Lucky dog, he's going to feel much better." ~Erinn P</p>



The Sunshine Kids

They're older, they're wonderful, and they're in rescue in a dog world where it sometimes seems that everyone wants a cute, young, female puppy. Take a look at our sunshine kids, because any of them would bring life and sunshine into your heart. Bring one of these seniors home to have love in your life.



Miles is 11, turned in by his owners. He is OK with other dogs and cats but would prefer to be the only dog.. He's also a couch potato, loves attention and loves to be petted. He would love an understanding owner. IL



Digger is 9 years old, and the victim of a lifetime of abuse. He came into rescue after the family of his abuser turned him in to a shelter. WI



Punkin is an apricot colored Male Teacup Poodle, 2.5 years old, and 3#. He is the official greeter, dancer, and happy dog of his foster home. OH



Cody is 15 but he doesn't know it! He was turned in to a shelter with tumors on his neck and a bad cold; with love and good care he is now a healthy boy. WI



Caesar was dumped with Digger; they came from the same home. Caesar is 11. The boys are not a bonded pair, and can be placed separately. WI



Mr Max is obedient, wonderful, and looking for a new home at 14 because the family's schedule did not allow time for him. WI



Sight impaired Griffin was found wandering on a bridge. Carroll Co. (IN) Animal Support put out a plea for a rescue that takes special needs dogs, and New Beginnings answered the call. IN



Dolly is a young and sweet 15 year old who would love to stroll in the garden with you. WI



Ivy may have a sunshine birthdate, but this little girl hops into laundry baskets and follows her foster parents around the house with all the other dogs in her foster home. MN

Paws and Hands

Have you always wanted to help a dog but can't foster or adopt one yourself? Do certain dogs call to your heart? Do you value (as we do) the life of *every* dog and wish rescues and shelters could help even the older ones, the ill ones, the ones who require more "rehab?"

www.nbstr.org is now featuring dogs from our Paws and Hands program for sponsorship. For a small monthly fee (determined by you) or even a one-time donation, you can help New Beginnings maintain their mission of "No dogs left behind" and contribute directly toward one or more particular dogs' welfare and medical costs. We have an easy to use donation gadget attached to each Paws and Hands program dog's page that makes donations fast and simple, and keeps track of each dog's fundraising progress. Another new and fun feature is our Paws and Hands Dog Blog. Read about Isabelle, who came out of a puppy mill, into a foster home, and is now battling renal failure: <http://nbstr.typepad.com/isabelle/> Isabelle's story may seem sad, but you're also going to read about the good aspects of helping a dog facing medical problems. Meet Debby, one of our wonderful foster moms, and read about her foster adventures with Logan, who is a senior Shih Tzu mix who is both blind and deaf. This online journal lets you see first hand the love, dedication, patience, and (especially in Debby's case) humor that goes in to fostering a dog. To see what we're talking about, check out <http://nbstr.typepad.com/logan>

NBSTR also has an online blog, From the Heart, that will feature bits and pieces of news, information, photos, and fun from our daily dog rescue lives, as well as opinion pieces and articles. What a great way to check in with us to see what's happening with NBSTR! <http://nbstr.typepad.com>



Liza

Liza continues to do well, she is now back to sleeping in the big bed, except now she no longer sleeps at our feet. Last night she burrowed under the covers and came up with her head to rest under my chin. This morning she curled up on my husband's pillow, he rolled over to find her face next to his, to which he exclaimed, "There's a dog on my pillow! Oh, hi Gizmo (his pet name for her). She's on my pillow!" My response, "After what she's lived through, you're going to deny her a part of your pillow??" He patted her head, rolled over & went back to sleep!

Liza is being treated by both a conventional vet and a holistic vet. She gets medicated baths 1 x/wk plus is on Ivermec. I was going to wait to have her spayed until the first of the year but worried about her coming into heat which could cause a major flair-up because of the hormones. She was on antibiotics for about 4 wks after I got her and is on antibiotics now since the surgery.

I brought her to the holistic vet who put her on 5 different supplements. 1 is Missing Link Vet formula which is more concentrated & includes supplements for her joints, 2 is a iron supplement because she was severely anemic, 3 is a supplement for the digestive system, 4 is for her skin & coat (oil capsules) and the 5th one is a whole body supplement for the endocrine system. I talked to the holistic vet on Saturday & she wants to take a holistic approach to treating the mange. All these supplements are specifically geared to help different systems in the body function properly. Getting the organs to function properly will aid in going onto the next step which is boosting her immune system. I'm also looking into treating Liza's skin with a mixture of melaleuca oil (tea tree oil) and jojoba oil which will help soothe and heal the skin.

A lot of people think I go overboard with my dogs. They eat premium food. I feed a mix of Natures Variety raw, Fromms Duck & Potato kibble &/or Merricks canned food, the "Granny's Chicken Pot Pie" is a favorite. Liza has improved dramatically in 2 months time and I strongly believe a lot of it has to do with treating her holistically in addition to the conventional methods. I love my vet whom I've been with for 13 yrs but, I wish more vets would include holistic medicine when treating their patients.

Liza is definitely on the road to recovery but it will be a few months before we'll know how she'll be long term w/regards to the mange. I'm feeling really optimistic about her treatment, for Liza I believe this is the best route to take.

Liza saw Dr. Olivero the eye specialist: Liza has 50% vision loss in her right eye, her left eye is fine. Drops should help get back some of the vision. She was so anxious to get home she whined practically the whole trip (she didn't have to go potty). She ate and then proceeded to race around the house like her tail was on fire! She ran around the dining room table a couple of times, ran thru the living room, leaped onto the couch (and my husband), ran up the stairs & back down again!

I noticed her smacking a piece of lint on the floor so I emptied the toy box & threw a bunny at her, she grabbed it & away she ran....she's been playing with it ever since!!

~ Cindy Johnson

Why we rescue...

After the birth of their third child, things became chaotic at my son's house. The dog was jealous and started using the cat as a toy. My 11 year old granddaughter was more interested in helping with the baby and was neglecting her responsibilities to the cat. The dog would eat the cat's food so when she (the cat) could get to the food she would overeat and then throw up the food. She started eating the plants and throwing up became a daily event.

My son asked me to take the cat until they could find a home for her. On the third day I was patting the cat and looking in her face when it occurred to me that inside that little body was a brain, heart, lungs... she could feel and had lost her home for no other reason than she had become an inconvenience. I knew instantly that Snickers had a home, our home. She has been with me for 4 weeks now and has not thrown up once. ~ Char Klis

Sometimes after adopting a dog out, the tears are bittersweet. When asked, "Why do you put yourself through that?" I responded with, "I'd rather cry bittersweet tears of adopting out than tears of sadness knowing a dog was put to sleep because no one was there to help, or because a dog was just dumped outside and left. We'll put ourselves through the tears any time before any one of these little ones suffer." ~ Marsha Kuhl



Be at Peace, Live forever in Love

Suzy Crail, beloved of Debby and Jim and family

Death Is Nothing At All

All Is Well
 Death is nothing at all,
 I have only slipped into the next room
 I am I and you are you
 Whatever we were to each other, that we are still.
 Call me by my old familiar name,
 Speak to me in the easy way which you always used
 Put no difference in your tone,
 Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow
 Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together.
 Play, smile, think of me, pray for me.
 Let my name be ever the household word that it always was,
 Let it be spoken without effect, without the trace of shadow on it.
 Life means all that it ever meant.
 It is the same as it ever was, there is unbroken continuity.
 Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?
 I am waiting for you, for an interval, somewhere very near,
 Just around the corner.
 All is well.
 Henry Scott Holland 1847-1918
 Canon of St Paul's Cathedral

Welcome Home:

The Guys: The Radls adopted **Ace and Bogey**, but as usual, there is a story behind the story:

Double happy ending for the bonded pair of Ace & Bogey who abandoned their Bears bandannas for Viking purple!! And thanks to everyone who helped make this adoption happen, especially Road Warrior **CindyB** and **Erinn** who did the HV, helped with the transport, overnights the boys and did the adoption. ~ Bekye

Ace and Bogey's parents just moved to MN from Appleton, WI. I did their home visit during the Vikings/Lion's game (the TV was not on). Tim was asking why anyone would schedule a HV during THE GAME. I don't think Ace and Bogey will be wearing purple any time soon, if that makes anyone feel better. I think they will be Packer Backers - I'm not actually from MN, so I'm allowed to use that term. :) ~ Erinn

Ed Note: NB is an equal-opportunity group: we cheer for:

- Cambridge, Wisconsin native, 2003 NASCAR Winston Cup Champion and driver of the #17 DeWalt Ford, Matt Kenseth, and his crew affectionately known as the Killer Bees. :-) My nephew, Seth, now 12, was the one who got me into racing. I was the only member of my family (other than my mother) who didn't watch it, and when they came down for Thanksgiving in 2003, that's all they were talking about. Seth was 8 at the time, and he came up to me at one point and said "Aunt Leann, would you watch a NASCAR race so that we can talk about it afterward?" Well, what could I say? So he "assigned" me a driver and drew me a picture of a car with the number on the door so I would know who to root for. I watched the first Daytona race and was instantly hooked and have been rooting for the 17 ever since. ~ Leann Lund
- Little late in responding. Not at a computer all day. Team:Minnesota Twins! ~ Lavina Staab
- Da Bears and da Rose Bowl bound Fighting Illini of the University of Illinois!! (Yes, Debby and I sit on opposite ends of the couch on occasion during football season.) Oh yeah, that Gordon guy in NASCAR is one Debby and I both agree on...I think. ;-) Jim Crail
- My man was always Rusty Wallace. That man is a stud muffin and it's fun to see him all sexy in his race-caster suit on espn now. I really loved NASCAR in the "day" when the older, more experienced drivers still ruled the roost - not that long ago, either. ~ Lisa Hatlestad
- BBQ, fast cars, and fast women, It's good to be the King !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Nick Lloyd
 [Count me in! ~ Leann]

Parichat had crocheted a beautiful jacket for **Lucy** and they were all excited to see Lucy again. Lucy was busy getting a massage from Parichat and loving it. Heidi and I felt that Lucy will be very happy there. ~ Laura Craig

Jesse DePerre, and **Bandit** hit is off immediately at their home visit. ~Joanne Folkerts

Coco was adopted to Kris and Dayna Danielson of Waukesha. Kris' neighbor/landlord belong to Bassett Buddies so she is very knowledgeable about rescue. ~ June Evans

Betsy and Brandy found a home with Denelda Cobb and her sister.

Woody, the darling senior sweetheart from McHenry County Animal Control who has been fostered by **Debby** since May, has found his forever home ... with Debby! Woody has a laundry list of issues including diminished vision and hearing, GI problems and Cushings, but none of his health challenges made him any less lovable to his mom. Thank you Debby for the wonderful care you have taken of this special boy and congratulations to you and to him!!

Gabriella went to her forever home, and now has 2 sisters; April (Peke mix and a princess) and Chica (Poodle mix and a 'street dog' according to her mom). Gabby explored the fluffy beds and rugs very carefully...then picked a bed and laid down! ~ Gina Hoener

3Gs: Gail adopted **Gizmo and Gadget**.

Babe found a home with Char. So did Logan.

Judd is adopted. Vickie braved whiteout conditions in December to meet Bill Kelley and Cheri Lasek (adoptive parents of Snickers fka Scrappy) and introduce them to Judd. It was love at first sight. ~ Leann Lund

Chewie found a home with Sueling and Thomas Schardin. His new family was out of the country for almost 3 weeks and just got back yesterday. They wanted to pick him up today though, so he could be at the birthday party for their other dog! His mom also made a vet appointment for this afternoon just to get him checked out. Apparently, a great number of people in China were made to admire his pictures! They are naming him Jedi, since their current dog is named Chewy. I would say he's going to be adored, but I think he already is. ~ Erinn

Herbie went from puppy mill victim to prince, galloping into his foster mom's heart. Hooray for Herbie!

We are happy to announcement that we have an addition to our family. The only perfect present for me is a critter, so Herbie is now a Staab and has a home for Christmas & Steve doesn't have to shop. My poor Boomer will never have a dog bed again, but I don't have to vacuum anymore because Herbie is a very fearless defender against the vacuum & lawn mower (he will actually attack it while it is running). He also likes to watch baseball and commercials with dogs in it (favorite is the cat litter commercial with the bloodhound). He goes up to the TV and stands and puts his feet on the bottom of the TV while watching. (He could try a little harder with the MN Twins). ~ LaVina

Chewie: Tom and I made the snowy trek to Kenosha on Dec. 15 to meet the transport a couple hours early so that we could take Chewy to the Wojnicz home for the home visit. It was a wonderful place for this big lug and he has been adopted. His Cocker Spaniel brother was not so sure of this big puppy infringing on his territory, but I think they will do fine. This is the first time we ever did a home visit and stayed for dinner. They had ordered a huge pizza before we got there because we had not had dinner so we had to have some before we left. ~ Carol Pfeiffer

Marco's last name is Mueller! Yeah Jennifer and Jason!!!! And WTG Marco!!!! He charmed the pants off those guys and their ferrets!!!!!! I'll have to have Jim send the video of him figuring out this cat toy they gave him. ~ Debby

Good Wishes and Thanks... Our dogs in their forever homes; our friends and supporters

One of the most heartwarming aspects of rescue, is the love between people and animals, the homes who welcome animals with love. From people who believe in us, our dogs, and rescue:

Attached is my donation and a self-addressed, stamped envelope for my receipt. Seeing as you are doing such wonderful work I wanted to save you the cost of postage also. ~ Jack Dobrovolny

I learned about New Beginnings from one of your volunteers, Joanne Folkerts. Several years ago, Joanne arrived at our door with our little rescue dog, who we named **Maggie**. Maggie was a puppy mill dog, bred at 6 months old. We love her unconditionally. She is so sweet and gentle. We have always been supporters for rescue groups, and this year we chose you as one of our selections. Please accept this donation to help bring another little fur bundle to their forever home. We hope the coming year will fund that us human beings can be more thoughtful to our animals and give them what they want most in life, to be loved and fed. They ask so little and give so much in return. ~ Richard and Hazel Patala

Thanks to Foster Mom Sheila S. of New Beginnings, we have a happy, healthy senior dog named **Candy** who doesn't act her age. May 2007 we fell in love with her in Wausau. She can go 3-5 miles and still have pep when she gets home. Not bad for a 9 1/2 year old! She is very affectionate. She has the run of the house and is a well behaved little lady. Her favorite place is sleeping with my 16 year old son on his comfy Futon with her leopard fleece blankie. Thanks for letting us share our thoughts and express our gratitude for this opportunity to adopt a dog through this great organization and put her picture on the board. ~ Tom Marx

Blossom has learned how to give high fives now (after the encouragement of A LOT of treats). I sometimes find her sitting next to me with her paw up in the air waiting for me to high five her instead of the other way around! I consider her my greatest blessing of 2007. I hope you and Tom have a happy holiday and many blessings to you, your dogs, and the rescue in the new year! Merry Christmas! ~ Dawn & Blossom

Sent to Carol Pfeiffer:

Dear Mom #1 - Right now I'm sitting on Carol's lap and she is helping me write this. Wow- is it great here. They treat me like a queen. The best news is my vision is getting better. I see Dr. Brey about once a month. I'm on a special ointment for the pigment forming in both eyes, it's working!

I don't wear the panties anymore. I wore them for about 2 weeks and then I started taking them off in the middle of the night. When Carol came to put them, I hid behind a chair and I haven't had them on since then and I haven't had any accidents, YEAH! Treats are my favorite things. They used to keep the treats under the sink but one day when Carol was hanging wash outside, I somehow got in that cupboard, dragged the treats out and helped myself. Wow - was that fun! I can't do that anymore though - they put the treats in the cookie jar on the counter. Bummer! I know the dog I am now is because of you, Carol Pfeiffer. We all know you took great care of me and helped me be the loving, funny dog I always knew I was. Carol and Bob are grateful for all you did for me. They feel lucky and blessed to have me and I was lucky and blessed to have you, Mom #1. ~ With love, **Goldie** (and Carol and Bob)

Here is a picture of **Finnegan** with his new sisters Caitie & Nicki. We all love Finnegan so much, and he is very happy in his new hme. He loves to cuddle with us and he really had fun in his first snowstorm, but he gets a little cold so St. Nick left him a sweater in his stocking. ~ Kelly, Caitie & Nicki Ott

Hope you, your family and puppy friends are doing great. I saw Santa last week and got everything I wanted because I am purrfect! At Halloween, I went to Doggie Playhouse and my tee-shirt read "Too Cute to be Scary". Love, **Herbie**, Ed, and Joane LaMarre

Scrappy came in with his forever family. They love him so much and it's obvious that he loves them right back. Get this, his cataracts are being absorbed back into his body! They are shrinking! The eye drops are \$120 but they say it's worth it. The vet told them he was the cutest ugly dog they've ever seen. He's beautiful and he's happy and his parents are fantastic pet owners! ~ Joanne Folkerts

Joanne, Happy New Year! And thanks again for giving us **Gus**. He's the best! He opened my heart wide open! ~ Barb

Marco warmed up to company really quickly. He is an excellent walker and almost seems like he knows how to heel. We've really enjoyed walking with him. He has tons of toys, some plush and many chew toys. We've been getting all kinds of different types of chews and toys to try to figure out what he will be willing to chew for more than 5 seconds. ~ Jennifer

Gabriella is doing WONDERFULLY well! She is, truly, no problem at all to have as my 3rd dog (uh, child!) She seems happy and is actually the easiest of all 3 when it comes to going out and doing her business! She thinks that *I* am helping her out.... but, rather, she is helping ME out! She sleeps on the pillow next to me, along with April, Chica being farther down on the bed. Oh how her tail wags and how she gets excited when still in bed in the morning when she sees that I am waking up! You should see her 'bed head' NOW! Wishing you a healthy, happy, Shih-Tzu loving year... and may all of your family-less little friends who come through your door find their forever homes. New Beginnings is a WONDERFUL organization.... and it's nice to know where I can always go to have a forever Shih Tzu around! ~ Keep in touch, Nancy

I called Nicole and asked her how **Angel** was doing. She said, "Are you kidding? She's wonderful!" She said that Angel is a perfect fit and has bonded with everybody in the family. She said that her daily routine is so funny, they all laugh. Each morning, Nicole opens up the bedroom door and lets Angel out. The first thing she does is go downstairs to greet Nicole's mom who lives with them. Then, she comes back up, wakes up her husband. When he gets into the shower, she then goes and wakes up the kids for school. Nicole says Angel never waivers on her daily routine. She said that every day, her husband, Kevin, says, "Man, did we ever luck out". She said that I could not have picked a better dog for their family and she will be forever grateful. ~Joanne and Heidi

And our members:

I was just adding up donations and filling out a form for the Harris Foundation to match funds. We should be getting a check from them in the first quarter of 2008. Yahoo!

Since I began fostering again this year, I decided to start keeping track of mileage and tolls for income tax purposes. This year was 20 Foster dogs who peed in my home and slept in my bed 6696 miles put on the Hyundai for vetting, hv's petcos and transports \$142.55 in tolls. I know I'm missing mileage and tolls but, you multiply this by the many volunteers who do the same and even more and it's no wonder why our group is so successful.

I had to think of the number of hours one donates to rescue and when you're fostering, it's the hours at work when you're NOT rescuing and the few hours taken for yourself when you can squeeze in some fun time and the rest of it is volunteer hours for rescue.

To me, it's just life....this is what matters, Once in awhile, it gets to me but all in all, it's just life and what needs to be done. When you put it on paper for Uncle Sam, you realize why you don't have a lot of time for other things. We did good this year and I'm honored to be associated with all of you and all the parts you play in rehoming our many dogs and making this world better. ~ Joanne Folkerts

I am also honored to be associated with everyone in New Beginnings. It's been a good year for our dogs and our friendships. Happy and Prosperous New Year Wishes to my friends at New Beginnings! ~ June and Roger (Tybalt, Franklin, Lily, Tommy, Ralphie, and Ella)

From us to you: Thank you, more than we can ever express.

Paws for Santa: During December our members appeared at many Petcos, both in and out of costume, to share goodwill and spread the word about rescue.





No dogs like snow dogs



Tess walking in the snow



Tess eats her way through the drifts



Ruffles and Clover, ignoring snow



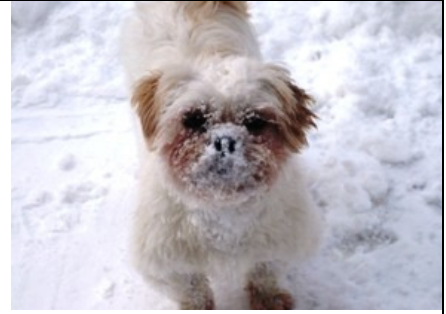
You can put this stupid coat on me, but I'm NOT goin' out and you can't make me!



Tommy in the snow



Ralphie in the snow



Ella in the snow



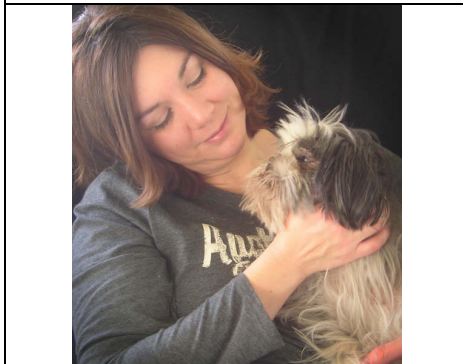
Gabriella and her new family

Some come into and out of your life like shooting stars, leaving a lasting imprint. ~ Carol



Finnegan, Caitie, Nicki

Thank you.



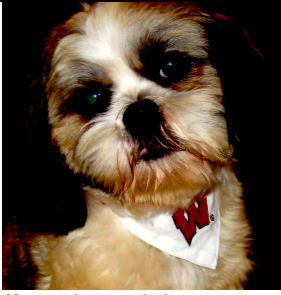
Lisa and Faith



Angel with mom and Bret



Chewey and his new family



Max (formerly Zeppelin) BADGER Backer



Candy and her adoptive dad



Coco and her new family



Sueing and Chewie – now Jedi



Angel with her children



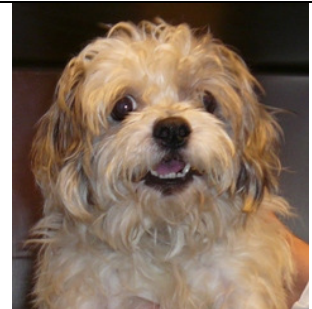
Marco and his dad



Christopher Pugsley, Rock Star, being an Elf



Feeling safe and loved



Al



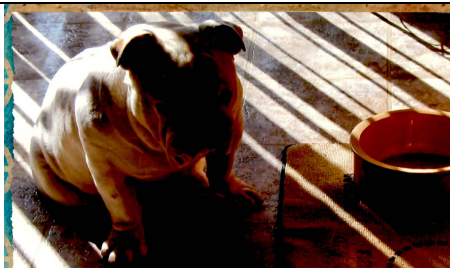
Three girls



Angel



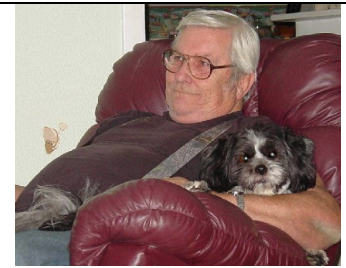
Franklin



"and you were expecting Shih Tzus? Here's my Bull shih, Dozer!" ~ Cindy Bonato



Faith and Izzy



Resting up for the next transport, the next foster, the next thing we need to do

