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Editor Barb Beck



Indiana Petite Paws Rescue

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Giving Your Rescue Dog A New Name

By Bambi Adams

If you want to give your rescue dog a new start in life, you may want to give him or her a new name. If it is done correctly, your new baby will love the process. Giving a dog a new name is just like teaching a puppy their name. Lots of praise, a few treats and a bunch of kisses, and your dog's new name will be music to their



Starting Up 2008

By Barb Beck

The new year has certainly started out as a challenge for us. We helped orchestrate two puppy mill turn overs in which over a hundred dogs were taken out of deplorable conditions in southern Indiana. Twenty one of these dogs came into our care. They were in horrendous shape. Several of the girls have mammary tumors. They were filthy, emaciated, covered in fleas, lice, had ear mites, were matted to the skin, covered with sores, urine and feces. The smell was appalling. They were all an open and shut case of animal cruelty. We plead with you to contact you state representatives to change the laws to better protect our companion animals.

We took in several specials needs dogs including a little boy with liver shunt and a little girl with diabetes. We have had several cases of upper respiratory infections requiring numerous tests and rounds of antibiotics. Several of our babies are waiting for procedures and surgeries that are necessary but are non-emergencies.

Our funds have been critically tight and we have only been able to take care of what is absolutely necessary. If not for the support of many generous donators we could not continue our work however we still need more help. The sooner we can get these fur kids taken care of the sooner we can put them up for adoption.

We sure do not like to have to turn away a four legged friend in need, but we have had to due to lack of funds and lack of foster homes to care for them. Please dig deep, consider joining our team and thank you for your continued support. Keep an eye on our website for the progress of our special needs kids.

Support Us by Shopping

Visit our website and click on the many shopping links there. Each purchase you make brings us much need donations from all of our shopping affiliates. It's so simple.

Go to www.petitepaws.org/help.htm and thank you for your continued support.

Be sure to check out our EBAY and website boutique for many handmade doggie items made by our talented crafting volunteers.

Join Us!

You are allowed. You are welcome to join our team! Several of our forever families have signed on as Volunteers, some are even fostering. If you have just a little or a lot of time to spare, we need you! Several are crafting for us, making phone calls and transporting also. Interested? Email us at info@petitepaws.org

Adopting from Our Organization

By Amy Payne

I was reading an online forum the other day that complained that dog rescues are way too strict and their processes are too long for adopting dogs. From the outside, I can see why they would think that way. So, I thought I'd offer some perspective from inside the rescue.

Our dogs come to us primarily in three different ways. We either pull the dog from a kill shelter, accept the dog as an owner surrender or rescue the dog from a puppy mill. The majority of our foster dogs have had rough lives before coming to us. Even if the dog came from a loving home as an owner surrender, the home environment was not ideal for the dog. It is our job as a rescue to protect the dog and make sure we find the perfect forever home for them so that they can live the rest of their life in a loving environment that fits their needs.

People have asked us why all of the dog profiles state that the dog is not good with children. We mark that option because we do not adopt into homes with children younger than 8 years old. This is to protect the dog. Toy dogs are very fragile. A young child can very easily hurt a toy dog during their normal playtime. It is unintentional by the child, but the harm is still done.

It would be easiest to take applications on a first come, first served basis. However, that does not fit the parameters of finding the perfect home. If all applications received are equal, then it defaults to first come. Our application process can seem daunting when we detail all of the steps. But in reality, most of our applications are processed within two weeks.

We take important steps during our application process. Our first step is that the applicant understands and agrees to our policies and the adoption fee. We receive many applications daily. If we were to immediately begin the process without asking this question first, we wind up doing a lot of leg-work for many people who are not truly interested in adopting from us. As volunteers, we must use our time wisely.

Our next step is a vet check. If the applicant cannot adequately care for their current pets there is not much point of them adopting a new pet into the family.

The next step is crucial. The applicant talks with the foster mom about the dog. This is the step where we try to determine if the applicant would be a good match for that particular dog. It also allows the applicant to ask any questions they may have about the dog.

By this point in the application process, the rescue and the applicant are fairly sure this is the right dog for this family. We ask for a \$20 application fee to ensure that the applicant will follow through with the adoption. Before we had this policy, I cannot tell you how many people got impatient and went and adopted another dog thus negating all of the time and energy we had invested in processing the application. The application fee is deducted from the adoption fee, so the applicant is not out any additional money unless they stop the process.

We call the personal references next. We have actually learned that some dogs would not do well in the home during this phase.

Lastly we do a home visit. It could be viewed as invasive. However, our main concern is that your home is truly how it was described on the application and that it would be a safe environment for a dog. We do not expect your house to be spotless. We just want to have an informal chat with you before the adoption.

And now all of the patience pays off when the applicant is approved for their new dog. It is a joyous occasion for both parties. Our end goal is to find a forever home for our foster dogs. Our foster moms may cry on adoption day. They become attached to the fosters, as they should. But they also cry with joy for helping the dog and the new family find each other.

So, when your friends, relatives, neighbors and co-workers ask you about rescuing a dog you now have the inside scoop about why the process is so thorough.

Teen Corner

by Janis Burns

The Northwest Indiana Teen/Tween group has expanded to around 18 members. Add those to the number of teens we have in Southern Indiana, we have about 25 or so, eager teens helping us out at events and at home.

Just recently one of our teens, Andi, made some cell phone holders, belly bands, foster blankets, and tied some other blankets. Darby and Taylor K, brought a book of crafts to show us at an event and asked if they could make some to sell. Sabrina, Micah, Darby and Taylor could not make it to help all day at the Ogden Dunes Fire Station event because they were at an athletic learning clinic, however, they surprised us by showing up towards the end and dove right in to help clean up, break down tables, and load the vans. Andi was there helping us all day and also helped with clean up.

Some of the new members, Lydia, Alyssa, Marissa, and Lisette have also been coming to events regularly, helping hold and walk our furbabies, sharing information about them and of course cleaning up after them. Our younger members, Ashley and Ellie have also come to a few events and have jumped right in to walk and talk about our fosters. Their help is so appreciated and needed.

We are gearing up for several events coming up over the next several months. The teens are ready and willing as well as our adult volunteer adult crew. There is always room for more volunteers. If anyone has any fundraising ideas the teens can do, please let us know. We are really full and desperately need funds for all the furbabies vetting that needs to be done so we can find the perfect home for them.

We are proud of our Teens and Tweens, and thank them very much!

Upcoming Events

by Theresa Allen

CENTRAL INDIANA

The central Indiana team for Indiana Petite Paws Rescue has been very busy beginning to get regular monthly adoption events up and running. We now have two events that we participate in every month. We are at the PetsMart store on south US 31 in Indianapolis the second Sunday of every month and we are at the Petco store on Crawfordsville Road in Speedway the third Sunday of every month.

This year we will be participating in the Annual Dawg Gone Walk and Fiesta being held at Deer Park in Nashville on Sunday, May 18th. We will also be making it to PetFest at the Indiana State Fairground on Saturday, April 26th. We will be selling crafts and will have available dogs for adoption at both events.

As we continue to grow our organization and add more foster homes in the Central Indiana region, we hope to be able to schedule more events. The more events we schedule, the more exposure we gain for the rescue and the more money we are able to raise so we can help more furbabies!

Upcoming Events

by Fran Ranger

NORTHWEST INDIANA

As we all know fundraising is a necessity in rescue work. In Northwest Indiana we have a minimum of five events each month, Petco – Merrillville, Petco – Highland, PetSmart – Hobart, PetSmart – Lafayette, and Pet Supplies Plus – Valparaiso. In addition to those events, we participate in fundraising craft events.

In February we participated in the Independent Cat Society's "Open Your Hearts" fundraiser at Ogden Dunes. In March we had an event at the Hungry Hound in St. John. With the arrival of spring, our craft fundraising events greatly increase. The Porter County Pet Expo is scheduled for April 26th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Porter County Expo Center in Valparaiso. We will be again participating with the Independent Cat Society this time at their annual Book Sale event in Valparaiso on April 27th where we will be selling crafts. The Kites and Canines Festival is scheduled for May 3rd from 11 am to 5 pm at Sunset Hill Park, Valparaiso, Indiana, and the Humane Society Calumet's annual "Paws in the Park" in Highland, Indiana, is scheduled for June 21st from 9 am to 5 pm.

In addition to the above we anticipate participating in the Furry Faire put on by the Humane Society of Northwest Indiana, Inc., the Wolcott July 4th festival and the Popcorn Festival put on by the City of Valparaiso on September 6th. We also hope to have a rummage sale sometime this spring and a second one in the fall. My goal this year is to be somewhere at least one day of every weekend, if not both Saturday and Sunday, to sell crafts, show our dogs, and get donations to support the rescue. With your help, I know we can do it.

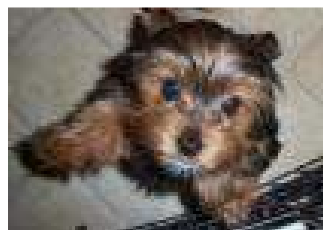
Visit our website for dates and times!

Visit our Boutique for all your doggie needs. <http://www.petitepaws.org/boutique/>

Special Thanks to Our Generous Supporters

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 Diane M St Jean
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 Jody Ferro
 Jennifer Simpson



Baby Gus is
 our little Liver Shunt boy.
 Visit our site to read his story.

Happy Tails



From Our Happy Forever Families!

We LOVE hearing from you, it makes us pawsitively happy. Please keep the updates coming.

In the past year, we have really settled into the routines of our forever home and are bringing mom & dad a lot of joy.

The first couple of months in the spring, we have explored the backyard thoroughly and since Faith could fit thru the fence in places that Charlie could not, she decided to explore some more of the neighborhood. Mom & dad were happy that we were chipped and had that tag on our collars with an 800 number. Some of the neighbors don't even need to call the number 'cuz they recognize Faith now. But mostly we don't even try to run when a door gets opened anymore. We go far enough to greet people and come right back in when mom or dad tell us to - hey, we know when we have it good!

This summer, we got our very own doggie life vests and we got to go out on the boat with mom & dad whenever they went. Mom and dad are glad that our vets have handles 'cuz Faith would have jumped from the moving boat to chase ducks, skiers, other boats or anything else that got up her curiosity.

Faith has so much energy & is quite demanding about wanting her playtime. She uses her back legs a lot and hardly has any noticeable limp. Faith, Kendell & Dana



I wanted to let you know that my little Bennie and I escaped the 'big flood' on Jan 8. We are staying at my son's at this time and I lost my computer, and nearly everything in my home.

The good news is that I held on to my little Bennie and waited for hours for the rescue boat and finally, we were rescued when the water had reached my waist! I took nothing with me but my little sweetie and know that I receive your emails, news letters, etc., and if they come back to anyone, you would wonder what happened! He was a little champion throughout it all.

Benji or Bennie, is doing well--everyone I know thinks he is special, and of course I agree. - Joyce

Thanks for our anniversary card. We got it today.

Here are a couple of pictures of Debbie & Dudley. I don't know what we would do without the babies.

They sleep with us every night and they are just absolutely loved to death.

Kim



Lily is alive & very well. She has been the joy of my life since 3/1/06. She is still very shy, when people come to our home. She has a very sweet & cute personality. I have a couple of friends, who she dearly loves. One of them took care of her last year when I had surgery. I missed her so much, I think that is why my recovery was so quick. She is very friendly with the other dogs who live in the apartment complex. Her house-training is not the greatest in the winter but she does very well when it warms up. She dearly loves her groomer. As soon as she sees her, that little stubby tail goes a hundred miles an hour. She has taken over my bed; takes her half out of the middle. Thank God for your rescue center, I still tell people about you.

Love Lucille & Lily

Attention Petite Paws Rescue Forever Families

[Come join our Google Chat List](#)

This group is for the Forever Families that have adopted a dog from Indiana Petite Paws Rescue.

We gather here to share our love, pictures, stories and updates about our new forever friends.

[Visit our site to Join!](#)

www.petitepaws.us

