

The Labbie Ledger

Fall 2009

A Special Buddy by Missy Garnett

Big Boy seemed to be the dog that nobody wanted. Adopted and returned three times to the shelter, he was labeled destructive. Big Boy was 100 lbs. of high anxiety. He drooled constantly and paced, wearing the fur off his face by rubbing it against the bars. There were health issues, too; loose stools and a serious ear infection.

Fortunately, the shelter volunteers turned to a rescue group (thank you, Laura), who placed Big Boy with foster mom, Rebecca. Big Boy received individual attention, medical treatment and plenty of time to romp and play with his dog friends. Big Boy began to calm down. Two days after he was posted with Labs4rescue, a prospective adopter called.

Enter Frank. Frank decided to adopt Big Boy and soon he was known as "Buddy," in more ways than one. He is Frank's



Big Boy a.k.a. Buddy before adoption

constant companion. Buddy's life now has a plan - up at 5:30 a.m.; days at Frank's insurance office, where Buddy stays so close that Frank has to be careful not to run him over with his chair; and then home for a walk, and time to play fetch.

Sometimes Buddy retrieves in the water, but even better is the tall grass. The harder a decoy is to find, the happier Buddy is when he finds it, and the prouder he is when he brings it to Frank. And Buddy had a surprise for Frank. Not only does he know sit, lie down, stay, come, wait, and heel, but he knows whistle commands and hand signals, too.

Buddy is still focused and driven, but in a good way. Thanks to Frank and the others who saw his value and the love he had to give, Buddy's putting the hard times behind him. Frank says he wags his tail more and more every day.



Buddy's New Parents, Frank and Sherry

Rescuing Slick by Jessica Bacon

Weighing in at 47 pounds, Slick was starving. His front teeth were broken down to the stubs. most likely from trying to chew through his chain to find food or escape. His muscles were depleted and he needed surgery on both his eyelids. Not wanting to waste resources, the shelter that was housing him didn't feed him that week. But on the day that he was scheduled to be put down, Lisa Hume from | & L Golden Retriever Rescue was visiting the shelter and saw a dog who needed a second chance.

She rescued him for Labs4rescue, but he had to remain in Lisa's care for two-and-a-half months while they increased his weight and gave him entropion surgery. Slick was so grateful to be saved that he developed



Slick before rescue

"happy tail", a tail that becomes raw from wagging it so hard. A healthier Slick traveled to Maine to join his foster family, Jenn Wiles and Allen Baldwin. With constant love, consistent meal times and a bed to call his own, Slick flourished and was soon weighing in at over 80 pounds. When it became clear that Slick would have to have his broken teeth removed, Dr. Sanders and the staff from Brackett Street Veterinary Clinic took great care of him.

Six months after he was rescued, Slick found his forever family. His owner had professional pictures taken of Slick and his original rescuers and doctors did not recognize the happy young dog. Despite his sad history, Slick was able to overcome all the odds, thanks to so many people giving him an opportunity for a new life.



Slick with his foster, Allen

QUARTERLY RESULTS:

<u>Adoption Events</u> Avon, CT Clinton, CT Danbury, CT

<u>Info. Tables</u> Allentown, PA Colchester, CT E. Hartford, CT Manchester, CT Tuckerton, NJ Wethersfield, CT Worcester, MA

<u>Chico's Fundraiser</u> Saratoga Springs, NY

<u>L'Oreal "Because</u> <u>Your Dog is Worth</u> <u>it Too":</u> Cranberry, NJ

All Event TOTALS: July \$70 Aug. \$200 Sept. \$1,025

Special Donation: The Solebury Club Buckingham, PA \$420 + gift basket

630 LABS Adopted Since March!

> THANK YOU Volunteers!



Issue #4

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

Adoption Events: Sat. 10/3 Shagbark Lumber E. Haddam, CT

Sun. 10/4 Octoberfest Noden Reed Park Windsor Locks, CT

Sat. 10/10 Paws Pet Resort Cheshire, CT

Sat. 10/31 Crate Escape Wallingford, CT

<u>Info. Tables</u> 10/10-10/11 Von Thun's Monmouth Jct., NJ

For More Event Info. Visit:

http://Labs4rescue.com/events/





"Your Dog Counts Too" event in NJ supporting the Susan G. Komen Cancer Foundation



Why Crate Train? By Jenn Wiles

To the uninitiated, the term "crate" might just seem like a fancy word for "cage." Who wants to cage their dog? It's cruel, isn't it?

In reality, crate training, when done properly, is not cruel and actually works with the natural instincts that dogs have to relax in den-like spaces. There are many benefits to crate training, for example:

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- Your dog has a safe place to be contained when you cannot supervise him. A new dog or a puppy may be tempted to get into mischief when you aren't watching. A crate is a safe, secure place where your dog can be protected from dangers in your home, and your home can be safe from sharp teeth!
- Crate training is a helpful tool for house training. Dogs do not like to eliminate where they sleep, so providing a crate in the correct size will discourage your dog or puppy from having accidents in the house when you can't keep an eye on her.
- Crates keep everyone safe during the "getting -to-know-you" period. If you have current pets and are introducing a new dog or puppy, a crate can be used to give him a safe space during the initial transition period.
- Traveling is safer and more secure in a crate. If your car is big enough, a crate is a safe way for a dog to travel (otherwise, please use a dog seat belt!). Crates can also be useful

on overnight trips to keep your dog confined in a strange place.

Want more information on how to get started with crate training? Check out the HSUS's handout for step-by-step guidance and Lab4rescue's helpful hints for new adopters: http://www.hsus.org/Crate_Training_Your_Dog.pdf http://labs4rescue.com/helpfulhints.shtml

If you have a crate you are no longer using, please consider donating it to Labs4rescue; we are always in need of crates.



Remembering Your Pet by Elisa LaDue

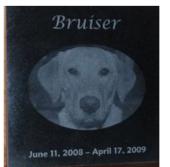
Looking for a unique way to memorialize your pet? Laurie Fay, of Designer Engravings can help. This home based business offers engraving on various types of surfaces including: stones, pavers, granite, marble, agate, slate and brick.

Laurie's engravings are handcrafted using a sandblaster powered by air for deep carvings with detail and precision. A stencil is prepared and attached to the desired surface before the engraving process begins. This stencil is produced using a photo of your pet. The design and preparation phase is done with special computer drawing software.

Each project is customized to your specific requests,

ensuring that the result is special and personalized. If you would like more information or to view more examples of Laurie's work, please visit her website at: <u>http://designerengravings.com</u>

Designer Engravings will donate 10% of each order. Simply type Labs4rescue under order comments.



Example of Pet Memorial on Granite Background



The Animal Rescue Site and Petfinder.com are offering several monetary awards to rescue groups and shelters.

Voting ends December 20th, so hurry up and cast your vote for Labs4rescue. The more votes, the better the chance of winning one of the cash awards.

For more details visit:

http://www.theanimalrescuesite.com/dickToGive/ shelterchallenge.faces?siteId=3

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Unique Ways to Give by Elisa LaDue

The recession has forced all of us to find innovative ways to manage our finances. With some out-of-the-box thinking our supporters have come up with several unique ways to continue donating during these tough times. For instance, Kim Watson, a NY foster, did some pet sitting for her neighbor's dog; instead of receiving payment or a gift, she requested that they make a donation to Labs4rescue. Bethany Asselin. is having a wedding this Fall; instead of buying party favors, she is going to make a donation to Labs4rescue in the name of her wedding guests. Each guest will be given a note card explaining the donation.

Social networking has also helped establish new ways to give: Set a donation goal on our Facebook cause: http://apps.facebook.com/causes/cause_goals/ and ask your friends to match.

Or, instead of a birthday gift, you may send out a Facebook request asking friends to make donations to Labs4rescue.

Several other interesting ways to donate proceeds include joining igive.com: http://media.causes.com/ribbon/591488 a donation will be made each

time you search or shop; having a bake sale, garage sale, selling arts and crafts, shopping through our affiliate vendors, babysitting, dog walking, house sitting, recycling your old cell phones, recycling plastic bottles and asking friends to make donations instead of gifts.

Every little bit counts towards helping Labs in need.

Dear Family & Friends,

Cahs4rescue

We feel the finest gift is one that helps a worthy cause. Thank you for being part of our special day.

Example of Bethany's note card Featuring "Abby"

Show Your Support with Social Networking by Amy Bender

Afraid you don't have enough time or money to help homeless Labs? Never fear, there's a fast, easy way you can make a big difference in the lives of the Labs4rescue dogs, and it's as close as the tips of your fingers!

If you use any of the social networking sites, such as Facebook, MySpace, or Twitter, you can help us get the word out. Simply take a few minutes each week to post something to your social networking page about Labs4rescue.

You can post:

- Dogs for adoption. Post the photo of a Labs4rescue dog waiting for a home and a link to his or her information on petfinder.com.
- Upcoming events. Notify friends of adoption events, info. tables and fundraisers, so they can come out and show their support.
- Items from the Labs4rescue wish list.
- Information on how to volunteer

A link to the newsletter.

It's as easy as that! In just a few minutes you can make a big impact on the lives of our Labs, and spread the word about Labs4rescue to thousands of people. And while you're at it, don't forget to join our cause on Facebook at: http://www.causes.com/labs4rescue



Cassandra



Deb Cook Earns Volunteer Award

Congratulations to Deb, who earned the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation Employee Volunteer Award. In honor of Deb's hard work, Bristol-Myers Souibb donated \$500 to Labs4rescue!

Thank you Deb for choosing Labs4rescue as your charity to receive the BMS donation. We appreciate your generosity and dedication to helping Labs in need.

Way to go Deb!



Deb Cook

Photo of the Season

In each newsletter we will showcase a photo. Please submit your photos to the Labs4rescue photo gallery: http://labs4rescue.com/forms/photogal/photoform.php

Four photos will be chosen by the newsletter staff and featured on the Labs4rescue Facebook cause page: http://www.causes.com/labs4rescue

Members will be asked to vote for their favorite photo. The winner will be in the upcoming newsletter.



Noelle



In celebration of our support of Labrador Retriever rescue, donation has been made in lieu of a wedding favor in the name of "The Guests of the Asselin/Torello Wedding"