



Labs4rescue



www.Labs4rescue.com

"Save a Lab, have a friend for life!"

The Labbie Ledger

Fall 2013

Issue #15

SEMI-ANNUAL RESULTS:

Adoption Events

Clinton, CT
Deep River, CT
Durham, CT
Hartford, CT
Higganum, CT
Lyme, CT
Norwich, CT
Oradell, NJ
Portland, CT
Quakertown, PA
Southbury, CT
South Windsor, CT
Unionville, CT
Wallingford, CT

Info. Tables

Beach Haven, NJ
Cranbury, NJ
Mahwah, NJ
Manahawkin, NJ
Millerton, NY
Plattsburgh, NY

Fundraisers

Olive Bar
Pampered Chef
Polka Dot Collars
Snug Harbor

10 Harnesses
Donated from
Harness Lead,
Beach Haven, NJ

**ALL EVENTS
TOTAL: \$1,389**

**474 LABS
Adopted Since
April!**

**THANK YOU
VOLUNTEERS!**

The Sweet Sixteen by Karen Moore

It has been nearly three months since officials were called to a residence in Hebron, CT and made the horrific discovery of nearly forty dogs living on the property. Breeds from Labradors to Poodles were found in cages. With matted fur, fleas and noticeable dental decay, it was clear that the dogs had never received proper care. A sibling of the property owner alerted a retired animal control officer when she became aware of the staggering number of dogs and the unsanitary conditions. Since the animals were surrendered in an assisted intervention with the owner, charges were not pressed.

Within hours, several rescue organizations arrived to begin the process of evaluating and transporting the dogs to various facilities; Labs4rescue taking the majority of them, with a total of 16 dogs from ages one to eleven years.

"It was a labor of love, believe me. Getting all of those dogs onto a big trailer filled with crates and taking them to our boarding facility," said New England Intake Coordinator, Ann Hilchey. "At that moment you're not thinking about the money. All you're thinking about is the well-being of these dogs."

The vetting process immediately followed. Only a handful of the dogs had been given a single Rabies vaccination before they were rescued. During the three weeks that followed, Labs4rescue covered the



Before Rescue



cost of each dog's Rabies, Distemper, and Bordatella vaccines, as well as heartworm and fecal testing, deworming medications, microchipping, ID tags, and spay or neuter procedures. One dog, affectionately named Big Red for his stature and gorgeous reddish coat, needed cruciate ligament repairs in both knees. The total expenditure to properly treat and board all of the dogs in this rescue operation quickly reached several thousands of dollars.

"Once they were cleared, a plea was sent out for foster families. Many people came forward and I'm so grateful," explains Hilchey. A recurring comment she receives from all of the foster families is how the temperaments of the dogs are so incredibly sweet. The one behavioral condition that was required before Labs4rescue was able to intervene was the absence of aggression. Hilchey per-

sonally interacted with every dog and tried to hold back tears when describing them.

"There is one that I can't stop thinking about; her name is Angel. She's a 7 year-old that we knew had never been swimming before. We could also tell by looking at her distended undercarriage that this little girl had been pregnant most of her life. After proper introductions to her foster family, she went straight for their in-ground pool with her tail wagging so hard that we thought she might fall over," she fondly recalls.

There still remains one dog that is looking for a foster home - Jenny a 7-year-old yellow Lab. She and some of her other rescue-mates are cleared for adoption and waiting for their forever homes. This has been an emotional endeavor with a bright future. At this point, nine of the "Sweet Sixteen" have already been adopted.

If you would like to donate towards the medical costs, or foster Jenny, please visit our website at: <http://labs4rescue.com/index.shtml> or send a check to: Labs4rescue, P.O. Box 955, Killingworth, CT 06419.



Jenny - After Rescue

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Adoption Event
11/10
PETCO
Clinton, CT

For More Event Info. Visit:

<http://labs4rescue.com/events/month.php>

Fundraisers
Holiday Photos
11/17 PAWS Resort
Cheshire, CT

11/30 Dog Cabin
Middletown, CT

12/8 PAWS Resort
Cheshire, CT

Brunch
12/15 Celebrate at
Snug Harbor
Staten Island, NY

CRATES NEEDED

If you have a crate you'd like to donate please contact:
Suzanne Latimer
sue_labs4rescue@yahoo.com



Check out Labs4rescue on Facebook & Follow us on Twitter:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/44758133480/>

<https://twitter.com/labs4rescue>



Happy Tails By John Kinsey

This is an update about a yellow lab named Bacon (originally Jackson #2). I adopted him in July of 2009 and renamed him Bacon, which seemed to suit him just fine. Ever since he and I have learned the best ways to communicate with each other: he taught me that he prefers to eat with the bowl in his bed or crate versus just on the floor. (Who doesn't like a good breakfast in bed?) His licks on my face in the morning are his indicator that it's time to go out. When I pick up my house key and wallet, he knows that we are going for a walk.

We have bonded thoroughly. Bacon has a gentle and docile personality. Everyone he meets fawns over him, and many people have encouraged us to consider training to be a therapy dog.

On Friday June 20, 2013, Bacon completed his training as a therapy pet with a group called Therapy Pet Pals of Texas. The picture of Bacon (and me) was taken in front of the sign at the facility we will visit a minimum of two times per month. He seems quite the natural walking the halls of the facility and smiling at all the residents.

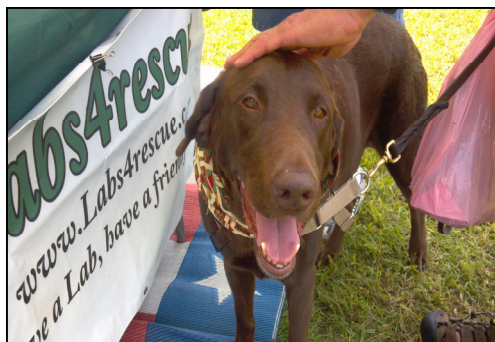
I'd like to thank Labs4rescue for helping Bacon and me find each other.

Editor's Note: Thank you, John, for sharing Bacon's story, and for your hard work to become a therapy dog team!



John & Bacon

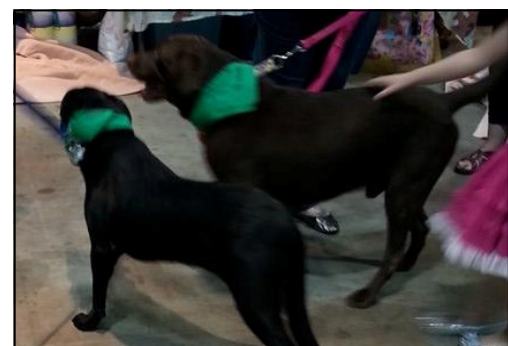
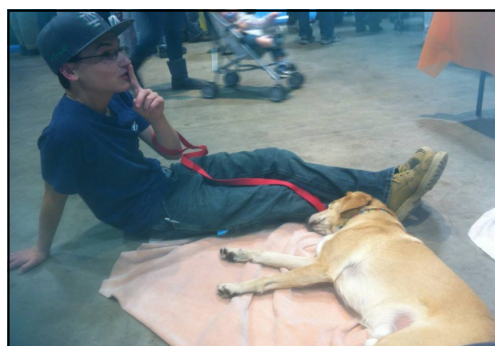
Event Photos submitted by Shana LaPointe/Elisa LaDue



Aldo & Labs4rescue Booth at "Because Your Dog Is Worth it Too" Event - Cranbury, NJ (Top)



Tyler & Myles and Labs Having Fun at the Hartford, CT Pet Expo (Bottom)



Labs4rescue, Killingworth, CT: info@Labs4rescue.com

To Join the Newsletter Staff or Submit Article Ideas E-mail: newsletter@Labs4rescue.com

Editor: Jenn Wiles Design By: Elisa LaDue

HOLIDAY SHOPPING REMINDER

Please turn your online shopping and searching into much-needed donations for Labs4rescue by visiting:

www.iGive.com/Labs4rescue

<http://labs4rescue.com/affiliates.shtml>

Lab4rescue's online shop has wonderful logo items and 2014 calendars are coming soon!

<http://www.cafepress.com/Labs4rescue>



Fleas & Ticks By Elizabeth Rountree

Did you know that fall is the peak season for adult deer ticks in New England? If you're like our family, you have likely already had to pull a few ticks off your dog at this point in the year. Not only are ticks – and fleas – uncomfortable for your dog, but they can also spread illness and disease. So what can you do to protect your Lab from these pesky parasites?

Invest in a good quality flea and tick preventative. Products such as Frontline and K9 Advantix are administered topically onto your dog's skin once a month, generally between his shoulder blades. Be sure to put the reminder stickers onto your calendar to help from missing the next dosage. These topical treatments work to kill fleas and ticks as well as flea eggs and larvae. Oral preventatives such as Program and Sentinel

work to prevent flea eggs from hatching, but do not kill adult fleas or ticks. It is very important to read the labels of these products so you can be sure your dog is fully protected. Though many flea and tick preventatives are available over-the-counter, you should always check with your Vet before administering any medication to your Lab.

Try to avoid areas known to harbor fleas and ticks.

Walking through tall grass or heavily wooded areas carries a high risk of picking up these parasites. If you cannot resist hitting the hiking trails, it is very important to conduct a thorough "tick check" at the end of your walk. Inspect your pet (and yourself!) including inside his ears and in between the pads of his paws. Remember, any ticks you miss could wind up in bed with you!

Maintain your yard. By keeping your lawn short and bushes trimmed, you help to create a less inviting habitat for fleas and ticks. Inside your home, be sure to periodically clean your pet's bedding to reduce the risk of infestation.

Keep your grooming appointments. An experienced groomer will be able to identify any potential problems with fleas and ticks, and may be able to help with special shampoos if necessary.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure! If you have any concerns about the best way to prevent your pet from being a victim of fleas and ticks, remember to talk things over with your Vet. Have a happy, safe, and pest free fall!



The Joys of Fostering by Nicole Keating/Donna Balkow/Elisa LaDue

For this newsletter we asked a couple of fosters to share their experiences. Nicole Keating explains why her family fosters: "Well the easy reason is- I love helping dogs. I started my fostering experience around 1995 when I lived in Dallas, TX. I've lost count, but I'm fairly sure I'm well over 200 fostered dogs.

I started fostering because I pondered...what would it be like to own 2 dogs? A friend suggested I try fostering and soon thereafter I did. Some of the things I enjoy about fostering: getting that "new dog" high over and over again, my kids learn that it is good to help others/animals, getting extra exercise, learning dog training and having all of the benefits of a second dog. Foster dogs are like potato

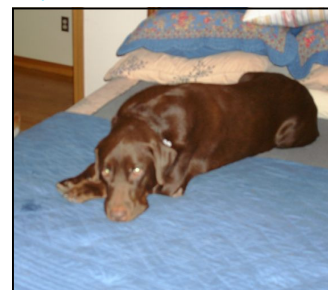
chips...you can't foster just one and be done. Because, after all, the best remedy for "Gotcha Day" is to immediately get on-line and see who your next potential foster dog will be! Some are bouncy and wiggly, some are slow and couch potatoes, some are whip-smart and need a job. Fostering fulfills something in me that goes to my core. It's easy to think because we only see the happy smiling face of a thankful dog arrive in our home that we aren't really doing much. But without fosters- the whole effort grinds to a halt. The more fosters available - the more lives that can be saved. People ask how do you let them go? Sure, it hurts a little, but then, if you're lucky, your adopter sends you a photo or e-mail saying how awesome their

new dog is...and your heart fills, ready to pour out onto another furry soul."

Donna Balkow explains why her family fosters: "Shortly after adopting our first Lab from Labs4rescue in March 2007, a 10-month old black female named Faith, I had this yearning to help out. I saw a senior chocolate boy named Major who had absolutely no interest, got in touch with the Adoption Coordinator, Jennifer Wright and have consistently fostered from then on. Major was my first and he was a very hard boy to give up. I now have my 69th foster, Breezie Boy. I always look forward to picking up my fosters and the excitement does not subside. They are always very happy and can sense they are going to a safe

place where they will be taken care of and loved and be part of a temporary family. Yes, there will always be challenges and heartbreak when fostering, but it is so worth the time and effort when they do find their forever homes and you move on to help another. It's a wonderful feeling!"

For more information on fostering visit:
<http://labs4rescue.com/foster.shtml>



Major

One Year Later: A Lab's View Of Super Storm Sandy by Leslie Houston

How many times have you asked yourself, "I wonder what he is thinking?" as you look into the soulful eyes of your loving Lab? Well, I asked that many times during and since Superstorm Sandy crossed our path here on Long Beach Island, NJ. I sheltered in place with my two Labs, Remy and Ranger (adopted April 2008). I was equipped with a generator, plenty of fuel, batteries, portable WiFi hotspot, water, food, and dog supplies. The decision to shelter in place was not made lightly, but there was limited access to pet-friendly shelters and I knew that my "boys" needed to be with me.

I would be taking as much comfort in being with them as they were in being with me.

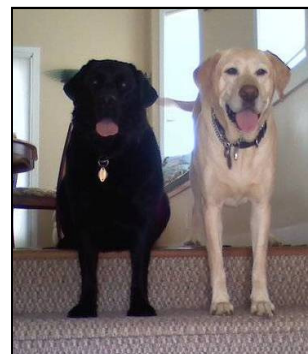
Despite several high tides and water in my foyer and 42 inches of water in my garage, my first floor – elevated 6 feet above sea level – stayed dry. The biggest challenge was keeping Remy out of the flood waters outside! He thought I was the best mom ever, installing a pool in his garage as he swam to the side door, chasing tennis balls of course. To him, it was a great adventure, to me...not so much. Ranger crossed the garage water and looked at me with questionable eyes, as if he was saying, "This doesn't seem right, Mom." They have always been adaptable, as I travel in a RV and they are exposed to all kinds of camping experiences. But this time, they kept their noses in the air and kept sensing things were not all fun and games.

Each time we ventured outside and walked around the neighborhood along the flood-dried streets, they kept sniffing for familiar smells. The new normal involved wiping their paws each and every time we went out, as the area was contaminated with dried flood waters. My goal was always to keep them safe and with me.

Things are in recovery now and people are rebuilding their lives. The dogs are enjoying beach runs again, cleaner streets, and known scents are also returning a few rabbits and squirrels in the yard helped!

During that time, when I looked in their bright eyes and asked myself, "What are you thinking?" I could hear

them say, "Thank you for keeping me safe and keeping me with you!"



Remy & Ranger



Photos of the Season



Charlie & Bosco



Georgia & Katie

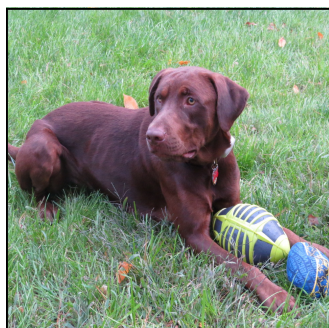


Catie

Happy Tails: Rudy's Story by Elisa LaDue/Marla Cox

Imagine losing your home and having to give up your beloved family dog. That is exactly what happened to Rudy's original owner.

He walked 5 miles to bring Rudy to the local humane society so he could be safe and put up for adoption. When he got there he was told it would be \$40 to surrender him. The man did not have \$40 so the ACO was called to pick up the Lab and take him to the local shelter. The officer said Rudy would be euthanized immediately since the shelter was full. His owner cried, "I can't give Rudy to you, but I can't take him either." Just in the nick of time, a woman who knows Marla Cox, a Labs4rescue Adoption Coordinator, watched the



Rudy

scenario unfold. She could see Rudy's owner loved him very much and was distraught. She intervened and told the man she'd find Rudy a home. She contacted Marla who already had several fosters at her home, but she quickly made room and got him into the Labs4rescue adoption program.

Meanwhile, Mollie's family was searching online for a new Lab. They saw Rudy's listing and he sounded like a perfect fit for their family, so they went ahead with the adoption process. Rudy is now in his new home and enjoys playing fetch in the fenced yard and spending time with his forever family; especially the kids.

Mollie has since written to the original owner to let him know that Rudy is safe and happy. He was thrilled to hear this news, and said it put his mind at ease.

This true story demonstrates what rescue is all about – passionate people with big hearts, doing whatever needs to be done to help animals in need and sometimes humans too!