



DAWG Tales



Newsletter of Best DAWG Rescue, Inc.

Fall 2005

Best Dawg Rescue, Inc. • PO Box 34213 • Bethesda, MD 20827 • 301-407-BEST • www.dawg-rescue.org

Message from the President



Dear Friends,

So much has happened since our last newsletter. We were preparing to send a “fun edition” of pictures from DAWG Day Afternoon, a last look at Summer as we eased into Fall. Then Hurricane Katrina hit, and the lives of those who lived in the Gulf area, as well as our own, changed forever. Incredibly, Hurricane Rita was not far behind.

Was there anyone who didn't want to do “something” as each day's news reports revealed more horrors? Those of us who are concerned about animals were aghast to realize untold number of pets were the silent victims of nature. . . and man.

We channeled our anguish into positive action. With your help, we were able to rescue twelve dogs. In a way, we also helped twelve unknown dogs who took their place when our dogs left, giving them a chance to be saved as well as food, water and medical care.

Our “Louisiana Saga” started when my son, Jon, decided he was going to save dogs by going to a shelter that was desperate for help. Thanks to Sebastian's adopter, Nancy, we were linked with a young attorney who had just arranged a rescue convoy of dogs. She gave us her contact information for a shelter in Louisiana. The shelter, housing about 150 dogs, was managed by only one person! A volunteer named Cynthia flew in from Massachusetts to help at the shelter. She worked closely with us to select as many dogs as we could transport. This wasn't an easy task, as phone service was unreliable. When we said we were not able to drive to Louisiana but could meet in

Mississippi, Cynthia said she'd find a way to deliver the dogs to us there.

In the meantime, our volunteer, Cathy, offered the use of her spacious van into which we squeezed 12 crates. Jon and his passenger, Dolly, took off on September 13 to meet the shelter driver and our new dogs at the Holiday Inn in Clinton, Mississippi. Once the dogs were in the van, Jon and Dolly drove nonstop back to Maryland.

That is, except for endless stops because the dogs were ill and had diarrhea. Finally, hours after the scheduled arrival at College Park Animal Hospital, arrive they did. Soon the parking lot was littered with puppy pens, carriers, water bowls, people hugging dogs and Gazette reporters who covered our story.

Our new dogs—Jackson, Delta, Gumbo, Heidi, Katie, Louise, Anna, Lillian, Foxy, Beau, Jazz and Julep—arrived with a range of medical needs, some serious, but all treatable. Katie was in delicate condition, and Jackson needed treatment and time to recover from mange. Lillian suffered post-traumatic symptoms such as howling and pacing in the middle of the night, much to the chagrin of her patient foster. So “mending” our new dogs meant helping them, body and soul.

Today, the dogs are healing and are being shown to prospective adopters.

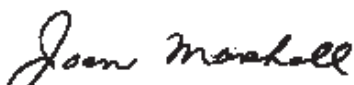


Louise, Anna and Heidi are the first to be adopted!

We celebrate the victory of saving these precious dogs, but victory is often bittersweet. We will always be haunted by the pictures of dogs frantically paddling in polluted water, or looking forlornly out of windows in abandoned homes or on top of cars and roofs. Were they saved? We'll never know, but we do know that hundreds of dogs and other pets died from poisoning, starvation and bullets.

This issue of DAWG Tales honors the heroes and heroines who helped victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Sincerely,


Joan Marshall

DAWG's Katrina Rescue

Heidi with Foxy



Jon with Jackson, Dolly and Heidi with Gumbo.

CONTACT! A Louisiana shelter volunteer, Heidi, drove future DAWG dogs to our waiting van and open arms in Clinton, Mississippi!



ARRIVED!

After a 24 hour trip and constant stops to help sick dogs, Jon and Dolly pulled into the College Park Animal Hospital parking lot. Our 12 new dogs were exhausted but happy to get out of their crates!

Weary Lillian in her new friend's arms.



Heidi (left) and Gumbo (above)

"I don't know where we are but we're not in New Orleans anymore!"



Jackson (below)



Gazette reporter meeting our new dogs soon after they arrive in Maryland.



Joan with Anna and Louise.



Jackson—"Free food, life is good again!"



"Thank you, I'm safe now!"

Heidi (left)



"I'll be back to my handsome self soon!"



"I'm not getting in there again!"



Heidi hugging her new friend.



Foxy (top left), Katie (top right), Lillian and Foxy(above)



Beau (left), Jazz and Julep (below)



A kiss from from our happy girl Delta!



"Our First Adoption Show!"

FINALLY!

Our first adoption show with "hurricane dogs" was held at the Beltsville Petco two weeks later. Foxy was held close for reassurance, whereas smiling Gumbo was ready to roll!



Foxy



Gumbo

Foxy watching all the commotion at the show



A relaxed Louise



Delta greeting her new fans



Jazz is our feisty little princess.



Brendan Lipton, raising funds for Katrina human and animal victims is taking a well-earned "moment" with a fan!

"We Have Been Adopted!"



Anna with her new mom and "sister"



Louise with her new family

ADOPTIONS!

Lucky dogs Louise, Anna and Heidi have been adopted and are living the life they deserve.



Heidi loves her new family.

Heartfelt thanks to the following organizations and individuals who helped us save our "Katrina Dogs" as of October 1, 2005. (Subsequent donations will be noted in the next newsletter.)

Julia Abate, Diana Anderson, Bob and Barb Awtrey, Mark and Kathy Banfield, Danna Bell-Russel, Don and Barb Brehm, Adrienne Bull, Tom and Nancy Carruthers, Mary Ann Center, Coalition to Improve Animal Control and Welfare, Jeanne Coates, Dr. Tom McMichael and staff at College Park Animal Hospital, Lucille M. Covey, Elizabeth Dietz, Bette Dolan (in memory of Robin B. Poole), John and Karen Eskew, Shirley Ann Fisher, Nancy Fragoniannis, Betty Frey, Dolly Goldfarb, Candace J. Hamner, Steve and Anna Hays, Thomas and Jean Hefland, Robert and Lynne Herman, Paul and Marla Hewitt, Linda and Bob Hiner, Kathryn Hirst, Cyrillius Hogan, Jim and Toni Honeywell, Helen Honeywell, Li-Yun Huang, Marguerite Jerd, Tobias and Carol Ann Kagan, Mary Ann Kilbane, Larry D. Koenig, Cathy Komenda, Natalie Kramer, Marc E. Kronson, William and Patricia Lehman, Susie Leone, Stephanie Levis, Kathryn and Brendan Lipton, William and Betty Luzader, Joan Marshall, Jon Marshall, Suzanne S. Mattingly, Kassy Mattingly, Roger and Judy McClain (in memory of Bogart Richardson and George Gingery), Sean and Jennifer McVeigh, Joan Mora (in memory of Madison Mora), Jennifer C. Murphy, Georgia Niedzielko, Magalie and Harry Norman, Terri O'Brien, Barry O'Brien and Kim Rehfield, Virginia and Lou Pilato, Page Pratt, Iris Rainone, Pamela Richter, Kathy Rodeffer, Tom Rush, Jennifer A. Schwind, Gary and Mary Seale, Ingrid Springer, Elizabeth St. John, Eddie and Christine Suiter, David and Elizabeth Thede, Dianne Thompson, Robin Tierney, Jeffrey Weir, West End Travel, Carol Wettstein, Wheaton Animal Hospital Foundation, Frederick and Patricia Wilhelme, and E.C., Jr. and Karen Yegen.

Please support us TODAY, so we can help dogs when they need us!

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Interested in helping in other ways? Don't forget purchasing online through iGive.com. If interested in volunteering, please contact us at dawg@dawg-rescue.org.

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“When we do the best that we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life, or in the life of another.”

—Helen Keller



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Visit us at www.dawg-rescue.org

Please write-in Best Dawg Rescue when giving through the United Way Campaign, or designate Best Dawg Rescue, CFC # 7062, this fall!