

Jacksonville Sheltie Rescue

Rescue is a Lot of “Things”!

Jax Sheltie Rescue
P.O. 23651
Jacksonville, FL
32244

Thing 1: “Keep Them in Their Homes”

The bad economy has hit many people and some of them own dogs. One of the things we do is try to find a way to help folks keep their dogs. Right now, there are two cute shelties here on a temporary shelter basis, one sable and a lovely tri-color. Their human mother’s husband recently died (quite young), their mom is living on a boat because she lost their home. The boat next door has rats. Not a great situation for anyone and the dogs bark (typical shelties).

The young woman contacted Darla to see if she could get the two female shelties into Rescue. “Of course”, Darla said. Up to Jacksonville from south Florida came the two nearly 8 y/o shelties and their mom, who was sobbing at having to leave them—yet another loss in her life!

Darla & Ernie talked to her about keeping the dogs with them until she could get back on their feet. They talked about ‘bark softening’ which would quiet the girls down and make them more appealing as neighbors to the other boat owners at the Marina. The mom said the “rat boat” was going to be exterminated. So solutions were found. It was agreed the girls would stay in North Florida until June and then go back to their own homes.

These loving little females have been vetted by Jax Rescue (heartworm test, teeth cleaning, etc.) and the mom is hoping to be able to pay Rescue back when she collects her furry friends. In the meantime, they are getting loved on and playing to their hearts’ content

THING 2: “Let Folks Know We Are Here”

The last Saturday in February, we attended the annual Scottish Games at the Clay County Fairground. We let folks know that Sheltie Rescue exists (“What!! I can’t believe Shelties ever need a Rescue organization!! How could anyone ever give them up!”). We show some of the dogs in Rescue and a couple of dogs who have been adopted. We let people visit with the dogs and see what lovely dogs Shelties are and what nice dispositions they have. There are usually some folks who fill out Adoption Applications, too.

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Your Editors:
Sandy Di Maio-Leach
Darla Duffey

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THING 3: "Search for Missing Shelties"

The past two weeks have been horrendous for Darla, Sheltie Searcher! She went down to Viera, FL helping in the search for a Sheltie that got spooked and ran. It was on Fiske Blvd and I95 if you are familiar with the area. The new folks had only had Parker for 10 days.

You know by reading How To Find a Lost Sheltie, that a Sheltie away from us, the owners, in strange circumstances do what we call go into flight mode. Flight and hide...Their little brains are scattered and they don't know anyone, man or dog., family or not. We attempt to get sightings from signs that we put everywhere, and when we get a viable sighting we place a humane trap to try to catch them passively. All of this was done for Parker, young and beautiful.

He was out there 12 days, and we all tried very hard to everything the right way. But, on the 12th morning I found him dead on I 95...and this has really rocked my world. This was actually the first time in many, many searches that the Sheltie was killed before I got him.

Everybody, please don't take any chances with your precious ones...It only takes a split second for them to be gone...and once out of your sight they are in flight and hide mode. It may not be macho to have your Sheltie on a leash but for his safety do it anyway!



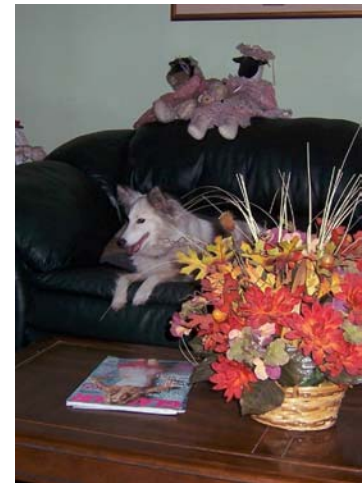
Parker 3years old

Thing 4: "If you can't keep them home, help to rehome them"

Last year, we had a charming double merle staying with us because her human father was terminally ill. Of course, Darla said she would keep Sadie (who liked to be called "Shady Lady" while she was with us) and Buddie (a mix) until they could back to their own home. When the gentleman died, they did indeed go home again.

Unfortunately, life has continued to be difficult for Sadie's mom and she just can't keep her anymore. She came back to Jax Rescue yesterday. We think she will be adopted on Monday by someone who has desperately wanted another dog; and wanted one over 5 years old. (God bless all adopters who take the older ones, giving them comfort and joy as they age.) We are pleased for Shady Lady because she is just a quiet bundle of happiness!!

Some of you may already know that a double merle is a sheltie who is mostly white with a few patches. It is all too frequently a problem when a double merle is produced. Most double merles are deaf. Many are blind or have eye problems. Fortunately, Shady Lady is perfectly healthy and had none of those problems. As you can see from the photo, she is gorgeous. But hush! Don't tell Darla that Sam allowed her on the couch one day!



"Thing" 5: "Help Them When They are Hurt"

There she lay. She had ghastly wounds around her neck where some dog or dogs had tried to tear out her jugular. She had bite wounds all over her body. She was limp, bloody and so badly hurt. Someone at an Alabama Humane Society took pity on her and took her to the vet. The vet worked hard and saved her life. Because she was so badly off, the Humane Society lady wanted to get a Rescuer involved. They called a lady in Alabama they knew had shelties and sometimes did rescue. The lady was a friend of Darla's so guess who got called!! Of course, the poor little mite came into Jax Sheltie Rescue.

It is incredible how much Annie B. looks like Cassie did when she first came into Rescue. Just like Cassie, Annie B is ultra-friendly, very loving, and much much happier than she used to be.

Annie B is an older sheltie, but she would still like a home of her own.

Dogs and Protein

Lew Olson, PhD Natural Health

While I have already written on this topic in the past, I am revisiting the subject due to numerous questions on protein I have received in the last month. There seems to be a lot of misinformation on protein in the diet, so I will try and give an overview on protein in this newsletter to help answer some of your questions and concerns.

Protein Sources

Protein is found in most foods, including carbohydrates. But dogs are carnivores and the best source of protein for them is found in animal products. This would include meat (pork, beef, poultry, lamb, rabbit, fish, dairy and eggs, just to mention a few). Animal based proteins contain a complete amino acid profile needed by carnivores. Plant based proteins are missing important amino acids, including taurine and carnitine. Both of these are important for heart and organ health. Heat also affects the integrity of these amino acids, so they can also be lacking in a processed diet (commercial dog food) or heavily cooked home diets. Do remember to not overcook the meats in homemade diets and do try to add fresh animal protein to dry dog food diets.

Too Much Protein?

The anatomy and digestive process of dogs are designed to most easily digest animal fat and protein. Dogs perform best on animal based products. Studies have shown you cannot feed a dog too much protein. (For more information about this, you can review the past newsletter on protein at <http://www.b-naturals.com/newsletter/protein/>.) I have had questions from people with concerns that protein can cause kidney problems. Some of this confusion results from the idea that dogs with renal issues need a low protein diet. This is not correct. Dogs in chronic renal failure will have some comfort with less *phosphorus* in the diet. It is possible to feed a low phosphorus diet, but still have a good amount of high quality protein. Protein is necessary for healthy kidneys. But feeding a high protein diet will not cause renal problems. For more information on this, refer to:

<http://www.b-naturals.com/newsletter/kidney-diet/>

<http://www.dogaware.com/kidney.html>

Also remember, senior dogs need *more* protein than adults. As our dogs age, proteins help with organ function, coat, skin, and immunity. Puppies also require high protein for good growth and maturity. Protein does not cause panosteitis or other growth problems. Read more:

<http://www.b-naturals.com/newsletter/feeding-puppies-seniors/>

Which Proteins are Good to Feed?

Most animal based proteins are good for dogs. This would include beef, pork, poultry, fish, dairy and eggs. It also includes a small percentage of organ meat, such as kidney and liver. I have seen recipes that included soy products such as tofu, but I would not recommend this. Soy products block the uptake of calcium, magnesium, iron, zinc and iodine. And soy is plant based, so it does not contain the full complement of amino acids needed for good health for dogs.

If you are feeding a dry dog food, it is easy to add quality protein to kibble. You can add up to 50% in animal based proteins and fats. For recipe suggestions:

<http://www.b-naturals.com/newsletter/mixing-fresh-food-with-kibble/>

Home cooking is also an option. In this manner, you can control the ingredients of your dog's diet, which can be helpful in cases of allergies, illness or managing weight. For instructions and recipes:

<http://www.b-naturals.com/newsletter/cooked-diet/>

Feeding a raw diet is also an option and raw meat diets can be simpler to make as you don't have to deal with the hassle of cooking. Here are some guidelines and recipe suggestions:

<http://www.b-naturals.com/newsletter/raw-diet/>

As you can see, there is no one way to feed your dog. There are many options available, and an important element is to insure your dog is getting high quality, easily digested animal based proteins. This can be done with a commercial diet, home cooked diet or feeding a raw diet. These methods can be combined to fit your time frame and lifestyle, and the improvement in your dog's diet will be seen quickly through your dog's energy level, coat and skin, cleaner teeth and their joy and anticipation of eating foods that are tasty and nutritious

HERE IN THIS HOUSE



Here in this house.. I will never know the loneliness I hear in the barks of the other dogs "out there". I can sleep soundly, assured that when I wake my world will not have changed. I will never know hunger, or the fear of not knowing if I'll eat. I will not shiver in the cold or grow weary from the heat. I will feel the sun's heat and the rain's coolness and be allowed to smell all that can reach my nose. My fur will shine and never be dirty or matted.

Here in this house. There will be an effort to communicate with me on my level. I will be talked to and, even if I don't understand, I can enjoy the warmth of the words. I will be given a name so that I may know who I am among many. My name will be used in joy and I will love the sound of it!

Here in this house. I will never be a substitute for anything I am not. I will never be used to improve people's images of themselves. I will be loved because I am who I am, not someone's idea of who I should be. I will never suffer for someone's anger, impatience or stupidity. I will be taught all the things I need to know to be loved by all. If I do not learn my lessons well, they will look to my teacher for blame.

Here in this house. I can trust arms that hold, hands that touch. knowing that, no matter what they do, they do it for the good of me. If I am ill, I will be doctored. If scared, I will be calmed. If sad, I will be cheered. No matter what I look like, I will be considered beautiful and known to be of value. I will never be cast out because I am too old, too ill, too unruly, or not cute enough. My life is a responsibility, not an afterthought. I will learn that humans can almost, sometimes, be as kind and as fair as dogs.

Here in this house, I will belong. I will be home.



Monthly

Peter & Velma Stuart (Pace, FL) Cocoa, chow lab mix, the one and only Skip, a Jax Sheltie rescued by Pete and Velma, he's 5. Callie who is 7 and Cricket and Grady, (who is now B-Ray.) Two of the Pennsylvania 22 rescued last year.

Norma & Peter Dearing (Jacksonville)

Owned by Gus, Dana and Honey

Carrie Andolina who has 2 of our rescue kids.

Jacksonville Sheltie Rescue is a 501 c 3 Charity. This means if you donate to help our Shelties the amount can be taken off your taxes as a donation. We will send you a Letter of Donation for your records.

Another thought we had, if you'd like to make a donation in Remembrance of a beloved dog who has passed, we will note that on the Jax Sheltie Rescue web page as well as in future newsletters.

We accept checks and "paypal". The paypal account is dduffey@aol.com, the same as my email address.

Help us pay our vet bills for our rescued Shelties by:

Searching the Internet at www.goodsearch.com -- powered by yahoo.

Or "www.Goodshop.com"

Type in 'Jacksonville Sheltie Rescue'(Jacksonville, FL)

They donate to charities like us every time you search thru "Goodsearch"

or a portion of your purchases at online stores are donated back to us. When you shop thru "Goodshop".

Shortlist of Online stores that participate are:

Amazon

Dell

Overstock.com

Walmart

Barnes & Noble

Staples

PetSmart

Best Buy

Lands' End

Target

Itunes

Lands End

Macys

Old Navy

Office Depot

Quill

Staples

Sears

QVC

Flowers.com

Apple

Bananna Republic

Ebay

Drugstore.com,

Gap

Home Depot

Expedia

Kohls

L.L. Bean



JUST A DOG

From time to time, people tell me, "lighten up, it's just a dog," or, "that's a lot of money for just a dog."

They don't understand the distance traveled, the time spent, or the costs involved for "just a dog." Some of my proudest moments have come about with "just a dog." Many hours have passed and my only company was "just a dog," but I did not once feel slighted.

Some of my saddest moments have been brought about by "just a dog," and in those days of darkness, the gentle touch of "just a dog" gave me comfort and reason to overcome the day.

If you, too, think it's "just a dog," then you will probably understand phrases like "just a friend," "just a sunrise," or "just a promise."

"Just a dog" brings into my life the very essence of friendship, trust, and pure unbridled joy.

"Just a dog" brings out the compassion and patience that make me a better person.

Because of "just a dog", I will rise early, take long walks and look longingly to the future.

So for me and folks like me, it's not "just a dog" but an embodiment of all the hopes and dreams of the future, the fond memories of the past, and the pure joy of the moment.

"Just a dog" brings out what's good in me and diverts my thoughts away from myself and the worries of the day.

I hope that someday they can understand that it's not "just a dog", but the thing that gives me humanity and keeps me from being "just a man or woman."

So the next time you hear the phrase "just a dog"
just smile... because they "just don't understand."

"But ask the animals and they will teach you, or the birds of the air and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish of the sea inform you. Which of all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In His hand is the life of EVERY creature and the breath of all mankind." --Job 12:7-10

