

Jacksonville Sheltie Rescue

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

“Regal” Pick of The Month

REGAL – The newest sheltie to enter Jax Sheltie Rescue

Regal is a ‘super-sized’ sheltie, larger than normal. His proud bearing is what made us think “Regal” might be his name, and he answered to it the first time we called him.

We think Regal is between 5 and 7 years old. He is housebroken and has the usual gentle sweet temperament we expect in a well-bred, kindly treated sheltie.

We will never know why Regal was found wandering the streets without a collar. There were no lost ads or posters for him. Of course, this isn’t the first time we have been amazed to have a lovely sheltie turned into us and wondered why no one missed them!

Regal is housebroken. He gets along with other dogs. He takes a treat from our hands with such gentleness and he adores attention. He is very friendly with every person he meets, hoping one of them will give him a forever home.

Regal is a tiny bit nervous during thunderstorms and likes to sit near you then, or he will sit quietly in his crate. He also has a mild case of heartworms, which should be cleared fairly quickly with a dose of HeartGard each month.



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Your Editors:
Sandy De Maio-Leach
Darla Duffey

Special points of interest:

- *Sheltie of The Month*
- *In The Kitchen*
- *Training Tips*
- *Dogless Adoption*
- *What to do if your Sheltie is frightened and escapes on the 4th.*

Sadie: The Not Sheltie

Sadie – sweet, loving, “I want to play fetch, please and if not, could you scratch my tummy instead?” Sadie!

Sadie is not actually a Sheltie. She is a Sable Border Collie. However, when a shelter called and said “We have a sheltie, could Jax Sheltie Rescue help?” Darla naturally flew to the rescue. She knew right away Sadie wasn’t a Sheltie, but she just could not resist the plea in Sadie’s eyes. Darla knew she was old. Darla knew she would probably not be adopted, and certainly not from the shelter – she was just a bit too old!!

There is a lot of life left in Sadie, though, and she will chase after a ball and drop it at your feet until your arm is sore!! If she knows you, she will drop to the floor in seconds and roll over for a tummy



In The Kitchen With Lily



Ice-Pups—Ice Cream

32 ounce container vanilla yogurt

2 pureed bananas (or 2 jars of pureed all natural baby food fruit varieties)

2 tablespoons peanut butter

2 tablespoons honey & 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

Blend all together and freeze in either 3 ounce paper cups or ice cube trays.

Microwave a few seconds before serving to soften. Decorate with fresh blueberries and strawberries for a festive 4th of July treat.

Babys' Training Tips



Collar Recommendations / Training Aids

Shelties are very prone to backing out of their collars when startled or frightened! We always suggest adopters use a training collar (formerly called a choke chain -- see picture below) when outside of a fenced yard. Be sure the chain is nestled into the Shelties thick neck fur and not riding on top. This will keep him from slipping loose!

There is also a collar that is part nylon collar and part chain that is a very good choice (see picture below). It closes quickly to keep the dog from backing out of it, but stops at a certain point and does not choke the dog. Your local PetsMart carries them. Again, be sure the collar is nestled into your Sheltie's fur, and it is adjusted appropriately to keep him from slipping out of it! **Many** owners are left holding a leash and buckle collar with the dog's ID hanging from it when something frightened their dog and it slipped it's collar! Use the buckle collar for ID tags only -- not to walk your dog on! Always list at least two phone numbers where you can be reached in an emergency! Microchipping is strongly suggested!

(Should your Sheltie ever become lost, please contact the local rescue organization in your area! Many times, shelters/ animal control call them first when one is picked up! Please read the guidelines on How To Find A Lost Sheltie. Know what to do before your Sheltie becomes lost!)

If your Sheltie is a puller, please try a Gentle Leader (see picture below). It works on the principle of a horse halter and will not choke the dog. It is not to be used for corrections! Please read the information link carefully and use in combination with a training collar should your dog manage to slip out of it. (The "backup" safety collar).

Training Collar

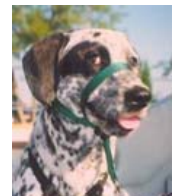
Pictured is the appropriate way to put on your dog. Think "P" for puppy!



Light choke chain



Martingale collar



Gentle leader

WHAT TO DO IF Your Sheltie Bolts

Most important is to "get the word out" on foot to every household in the area. Not everyone gets a newspaper, nor do they read the LOST ads. If there are signs out, attention is drawn to the fact that there is a lost sheltie. On any posters/notices/ads place the information that the dog is microchipped or tattooed (hopefully they are). I had one returned almost immediately after I added that. The dog we believe had been "removed" from its yard unwillingly and when it was known that the dog could be positively identified even at a later date, it was returned. Could help.

Do large posters 14X21 in very bold print, that could be seen by a passing vehicle, with a telephone number of someone immediately available to check out a sighting. Make it brief, no long explanations on why the dog got loose, etc. No small size signs. You want someone driving by to be able to see the phone number easily, so that if they spot the dog they could call from a cell phone. Put "PLEASE DO NOT CHASE!" on your signs, as a chased sheltie will run like the wind! Try writing big red letters on poster "BELOVED Child's PET." Maybe you'll tug at someone's heartstrings if they think the dog belongs to a child. We all have this feeling of sadness and helplessness. People almost always will try to help a lost "sheltie"...say "sheltie" on your advertising mode, but also in smaller print say "miniature collie"...because some people are NOT smart enough to know what a sheltie is. We care not about semantics at this point in time, call it a miniature collie!

POSTER ATTACHED..... we use two 8 1/2 x 11 sheets of paper, one on the top and one on the bottom with a picture of the dog in the middle. We cover the whole poster with clear "Contact" shelf paper. This makes the poster waterproof and it'll last for weeks.

If this dog was a timid dog to begin with...he will be hiding, petrified. When hunger finally overtakes fear, he will venture out of his hiding place. That is when the mass notification of the whole area will pay off. Hopefully, somebody will see him and call a phone number from a sign or one of those business cards. At that point somebody needs to GO, right then... because the dog is going to have fear overtake hunger and go back to hiding somewhere.

Keep a list of everyone who calls with a sighting and a phone number so that if you get to that place of the sighting and can't figure out what they said, you can call them back and maybe they can meet you there and tell you which way she was headed, etc. **Get a map of the area (Mapquest) and mark the sightings on the map....**

When someone calls with a sighting, you must go NOW, not hours later...Dogs, especially shelties, do not meander around the same place usually, they seem to be "going" somewhere. Either back to their hideout or a new hideout.

If you get sightings don't chase him, you'll just chase him out of the area. Try to keep him comfortably in the area he is spotted in. Find a place to feed him, so that he feels he can comfortably come back to that spot for food...and then try to beg, borrow or steal a humane trap. Because he is a sheltie he isn't going to go to a stranger to start with, and with his mind set now EVERYBODY is a stranger. The only way you are going to get him is if he happened to run into somebody's yard and gets cornered, or he goes into a trap.

Lost shelties are in "flight" mode. If you think they will come to you when you call them, that has not been my experience. They see a human or a dog and they are gone. They don't wait to see who it is. Don't take a dog with you looking. That has not worked for me ever. The dog is now scared to death... he is in flight mode. IF he did see you he would not hang around to see who it was, he would take off running to find a place to hide.

Be diligent in your search... Don't think he will come home on his own. Sometimes they do, but you cannot take a chance. Make sure everyone knows this dog is being searched for and continually be seen "searching" so if anyone does have the dog, they know you are not going to give up and go away!

If you are thinking someone "has" the dog, because there have been no sightings...Two things. As you are driving around looking...Tape one of those large posters to the back of your vehicle, so everywhere you go, "people" know "somebody" is still looking for this dog, as is not going "to just go away!"

Words of advice from a dog officer - make sure you keep calling dog officers (I believe you **MUST physically check the Animal Control facility** and Humane Society yourself. Do not leave the decision as to whether a dog in the 'jail' is a Border Collie, Aussie, or a Sheltie up to an inexperienced \$1.95 shelter worker, (JMHO) and vets to check - yes you'll drive them crazy, but better safe than sorry.

When you are on foot searching you need to think like a dog. What does she like? Which direction would she be most likely to head? Is there another house/yard in the neighborhood similar to yours? She might be there. If she's crossed a street, she might have a visual barrier preventing her (in her mind) from returning. Follow the lay of the land - which way would you be most likely to go if you were she? Take the path of least resistance. If you come to an area where there is a drainage ditch, or railroad tracks, or high power lines... that is like a highway! Walk it and "quietly" look for the dog. Do not take a chance on scaring her out of the area.

BUT DO NOT GIVE UP! It is perseverance that gets the dog!

Good Luck!

Darla Duffey and Ashley the searcher dog!

Call me if you need me. 904-262-5420



Holiday Hazards

4th of July

Fireworks— Fireworks can scare your pets making them run off, or cause serious injuries if detonated near them. Many formulations are also toxic if ingested.

“Dog-less” Adoption”

Do you wish you could help one of the dogs in our Rescue but just can't adopt one right now - or maybe ever? Somehow, when we weren't paying attention, we became a mostly "hospice" rescue. Almost all the dogs in our Rescue these days are older shelties - dogs whose owners died, whose owners divorced, whose owners had to move into a nursing home, or who were - for some unknown reason - tossed onto the street or left to their fate at a shelter.

It is doubtful that few, if any, of these dogs have a true adoption in their future. However, they will always have a loving home with us.

You could help by being a "Dog-less Adopter", a sponsor for one of these dogs. Here are just 3 of our rescued Shelties who need sponsors.

Tyler – Tyler is small sheltie. He has DM and has a low thyroid condition, which is easily controlled with one pill twice a day. The DM, a genetic condition, has left scars on his face and his legs. His face is misshapen. He is not at all a pretty little guy on the outside. Inside, though, Tyler is made up only of love! When you pick up Tyler and let him snuggle on your lap, you can feel his heart practically burst with the joy that comes from knowing someone cares. Tyler has been in Sheltie Rescue for many many years. Just 10 cents a day would supply Tyler with his Thyroid medication. Or for \$1.00 a day, you could supply Tyler's food.



Shelley – A lot of folks think shelties are only brown and white. Most of them are. However, some of them are colored like Shelley, who is a Tri-Color. Miss Shelley came to us when her owner became ill and could not care for her any more. She is sweet. She is smart. She is affectionate. Shelley is starting to develop some arthritis. For 70 cents a day, you could sponsor Shelley's Glucosamine supplement



Cassie -

In mid January 2008, we received a call that a Shetland Sheepdog, in bad condition, had been dumped in the overnight bin at Clay County Animal Shelter. She had many wounds on her body, had hardly any hair, was lumpy and bumpy and not exactly beautiful.

As soon as she was released, we drove to our vet where they told us they thought the wounds were caused by burns – perhaps from a cigarette. Her ears were infected. She had an open wound that was horribly swollen & infected on her stomach. She was filthy. The vet staff bathed her (twice!) and prescribed antibiotics, flea medication, deworming medication (she was full of every possible worm) and we took her into rescue, naming her Cassie.

Later, we had Cassie checked for hypothyroidism (low thyroid, not uncommon in Shelties). She definitely needed thyroid supplementation. By mid-March, Cassie's ears had cleared up. Her wounds had healed. She grew a little hair and her potbelly reduced a bit (probably from getting rid of a belly full of worms). However, there were indications that perhaps something further was wrong with Cassie so we began testing for Cushing's Disease.

The results were positive – Cassie does indeed have Cushing's Disease. Untreated, this disease will lead to a multitude of complications including liver disease, heart issues, kidney failure and possibly SARDS (a form of instant, irreversible blindness) as well as diabetes. The list of possible complications is long and quite serious.

Although Cushing's Disease cannot be cured, it can be controlled; but only through the use of powerful and expensive medications. Frequent testing is required to insure the level of medications is adequate without overwhelming the dog's system. Cassie began treatment the second week of April

It is now July and Cassie has responded wonderfully to her medication. You can practically see her hair grow as you watch. Her eyes are bright and sparkling. She is no longer searching the trash for anything edible (extreme hunger is one of the symptoms of Cushing's). Cassie will need medication for the rest of her life. She gets ½ tablet of Lysodren 3 times a week – for a cost of \$7.50 per week. Would you like to sponsor her medication?

Cassie's ACTH Stim Tests, required to insure she is on the proper amount

of medication, are sponsored by Samantha. A member of Jax Sheltie Rescue



NOW

From the desk of the Directors:

Today's economic situation is hitting every one of us in our pocket. 2008 has truly become an economical crisis for rescue. With the average cost of medical care of rising from \$75.00 to \$125.00 per dog and daily care \$50.00 to \$90.00 each month, depending on size, rescuers are finding themselves in a financial bind. With the cost of gas rising daily, it is even harder to schedule adoption events and transport animals. It has truly becoming a burden on the bank accounts of those that are trying their best to make a difference.



Many rescues can no longer take in any more dogs, while trying to maintain their own population of animals that they already have. Many have been forced to close their doors to new intakes. Others are looking at how much more, they can possibly take away from their families in order to continue to do rescue and transports. We are in tough times, and more than ever, we need to work together and support each other and rescue in general.

With families already dealing with the fact that they have to make the decision of having health insurance or gas to get to work Shelties are being turned in in droves across the U.S. Although we can logically understand what is happening, it is also hard to look into the eyes of these babies being turned in. In an effort to try and work with all rescues and to help all rescues move forward with their more serious cases, we have set up fundables for several rescues.

I know it is a tough time for everyone, but **if** you can help us with any of the dogs in our rescue it would be a great blessing to them and to us. As Sandy said, seems we are now a “hospice” rescue with 15 Shelties over the age of 10. We’re getting no adoption fees because we are not adopting any dogs out. We are simply trying to care for these old critters...

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 take checks and “paypal”. The paypal account is dduffey@aol.com, the same as my email address.

Thank you and Happy 4th....

Watch your loved Shelties carefully the next few nights.

Ernie & Darla

