



Minnesota Wisconsin Collie Rescue

Finding new hope and new homes for homeless collies.

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MWCR's Great Annual Got-Together . . .

In celebration of MWCR's 10th anniversary, the annual dinner meeting and fundraiser took place on Saturday, November 17, at the American Legion in Wayzata MN. The event began with a social hour and opening of the silent auction, followed by the guest speaker, Caesar salad and lasagna, the evening's program and business meeting, and closing of the silent auction. Over 50 people attended, met and conversed with other MWCR members and guests, perused auction items, listened to the speaker, and scouted out the heavily laden dessert table—always a popular attraction at the annual dinner.



Guest speaker Ilga Cimbulis is a well-known and highly respected animal communicator and intuitive. Ilga is known for her warmth, down-to-earth approach, and personal integrity. She has been involved in animal communication for over 20 years, has attended the MN Collie Frolic several times, and has provided insight and advice to many MWCR members regarding their pets. Her goal is to help people understand their animals' health and behavioral issues, learn about their history, find lost animals, and assist as they prepare for the passing of their beloved pets. Ilga says that her primary resource for animal communication is "the oldest language we have—the language of silence." When she communicates with an animal she goes into a quiet state of sensing, feeling, and hearing. She believes that the ability to communicate this way is a gift that every child is born with but that is trained out of most of us by the time we become adults. Ilga has kept and trained her own gift of communication, using it for the benefit of animals and their people. Following Ilga's presentation, MWCR member Robin Kashuba told the story of Ilga's involvement in locating lost Sheltie Domino (see page 10).



Jewelry items from MWCR member Shayna Fineman's estate; Kitty's jams, dog biscuits, and jerky treats; MWCR merchandise, including the 2013 MWCR calendar, Jezebelle collars, and jar openers; handmade Christmas ornaments by Andi McAninch; and a huge array of silent auction items were on sale at the event. Marian Ridge, from Backus MN; Carolyn Sturdevant, from Duluth MN; Barb Heideman, from Grand Marais MN; and Douglas and Barrie Christman, from Clive IA, each won a gas gift card for the longest distances traveled to the dinner. Catherine Loveridge, Diane Struble, and Marian Ridge received Target gift cards for being the earliest registrants. Door prizes in the form of an Ilga

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MWCR's Great Annual Got-Together . . .

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Cimbulis gift certificate (<http://ilgacimbulis.com/>), Collie picture frames (from the MWCR Collie shop), an MWCR coffee mug, a pearl bracelet and earring set made by Colleen Baldwin, and a Kong toy with treat were awarded by drawing, and five dogs whose names were drawn by Molly Gale received tasty treats of Kitty's dog biscuits in cute mailbox-shaped containers. Barb Heideman received a Petco gift card as the most recent adopter of an MWCR dog (Fox, adopted in October).

MWCR thrives for many reasons, including everyone's dedication to the well-being of our beautiful Collies. Among the many other reasons is the generosity of our donors, several of whom donated matching funds during the recent Give to the Max Day (GTMD) event, during which over \$5,000 was donated to MWCR. MWCR is very grateful to the donors who made the GTMD fundraiser a success. Barb Gibson, Cat Olund, and Judy Roggow collected donations for the Collies during the No Kill Walk for the Animals last spring, and Catherine Loveridge collected over \$400 from co-workers, family, and friends to help with the medical bills for Chester, the Collie whose foot was caught in a trap earlier this summer.

Our foster homes are another of the reasons for MWCR's success in rescuing Collies in need. Special thanks this year go to three foster homes who recently took in special needs Collies: Jennifer and Scott Swanson, who fostered the blind puppy Ocean Blue (whose cute photo is on the cover of the 2013 MWCR calendar), Cody, the big, sweet farm dog who was afraid to come in the house and was terrified of leashes, and Chester, who stayed with them several days while foster mom Cat was out of town; Cat Olund, who is fostering Chester and has changed his bandages too many times to count, given him his medications, and watched him turn her back yard into a mine field; and Andi Wulff, who is fostering Milo, the dog who came in near starvation with an abscess and dental infections and has made many trips to the Skyline veterinary clinic.

So many people play a part in MWCR's continued success, including everyone who makes finding new homes for the Collies possible: our intake coordinators, transport coordinators, those who do home visits and application processing, and our foster home and adoption coordinators. Over the 10 years of MWCR's history, many different people have served in these various capacities, and MWCR is grateful to every one of them for their contributions of time, energy, and talent.

Thanks to Douglas Christman and Terry Libro, who donated an iPad for MWCR's use, we are now able to accept credit cards at events, so when the silent auction closed, purchases could be paid for in cash or by check, or via the "square reader" that came with the purchase of the iPad. Douglas is arranging for similar capability with PayPal in the future. Thank you, Douglas and Terry! Thank you also to KJ Norman, who lent his iPad expertise for the occasion.

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MWCR's Great Annual Got-Together . . . *(cont'd from page 2)*

During the meeting portion of the evening the Events Committee reported that MWCR took part in over 20 events and fundraisers during 2012, including events in 10 out of 12 months, ranging from the Great Lakes Pet Expo in West Allis WI to the Wisconsin Collie Frolics in the Milwaukee & Madison areas to the Pet Fest at the MN Renaissance Festival to Pause4Paws. At Pause4Paws, both Chester and Milo and their foster people attended to show off their "after" selves following the dreadful experiences that led to their being taken in by MWCR. MWCR treasurer Douglas Christman gave a financial report and thanked everyone for their generosity. Because of the expenses incurred by Milo, Chester, Andy (see MWCR's September and November newsletters), and now Laddie (who has a broken knee), MWCR's reserve funds are lower than in 2011, but thanks to everyone's donations and support, MWCR remains financially sound.

As part of the silent auction, several beautiful baskets donated by Laure Victor and containing a variety of dog-related items were available. Jan Van Sloun arranged for donation of gift bags containing Waterless Bath, deodorizing shampoo, and all-natural odor eliminator for dogs, all of which were available free. Jan also contacted several businesses and received donations that included Kong Toys and treats, along with several large, beautiful baskets she made. Carol Brandenburg donated multiple gift baskets and gift cards, a large MWCR cake and huge box of chocolates for the dessert table, as well as dog tugs available to everyone as they left the event at the end of the evening. Thank you to Laure, Jan, and Carol!

Thank you also to Sarah Rebernick for arranging MWCR's participation in the BonTon stores Community Days fundraiser. For \$5, buyers received a coupon booklet worth over \$400 at the BonTon family of stores, including Herbergers, Bon-Ton, Bergner's, Boston Store, Carson's, Elder-Beerman, and Detroit-area Parisian or Younkers; all of the \$5 purchase price went to MWCR, and with 63 sold, MWCR earned \$315 plus \$200 more in donations! Another Community Days event will be held in the spring that includes MN and IA.

MWCR recently engaged in partnership with Benefit Wines (www.BenefitWines.com/mwcr) to offer a line of wines from "Collie Isle Winery," with labels featuring six beautiful photos of MWCR Collies. The wines include Feelin' Smo-oo-othie Sauvignon Blanc, featuring smooth Collie Spike; Herd the Latest? Cabernet Sauvignon, featuring Nicholas; Lassie Come Home Chardonnay, with Rusty; Flock It To Me Malbec, with Finn and Vaughn; Barkin' the Blues Merlot, with blue merle Duke; and Sheep Ahoy Pinot Noir, featuring tricolor Gabby. The wines with these lovely labels prepared by MWCR's Webmaster Deb Smith were on display at the dinner.

Thank you to the many registrants who brought tempting desserts, a popular item as always. And of course, special thanks to the Planning Committee who made the arrangements for MWCR's annual get-together and made it a successful occasion: Barb Gibson, Cat Olund, Catherine Loveridge, Kitty Hilck, Arnie Hilck, Linda Riegger, Robin Kashuba, Estelle Willems, and Terry Libro. Thank you, everyone!



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More pictures of the Great Annual
Got-Together can be found on Page 16.



Collie-Amities: [events that bring terrible loss or great misfortune as a consequence of the actions of Collies; see calamities]



My foster brother, Bandit, and I found an opossum out in the garden one snowy night and it was doing what opossums do best. What fun is that, anyway? So I picked it up and shook the living daylights out of it. Next morning, Foster Mom wasn't thrilled when she had to pick up the opossum...that wasn't just *playing* anymore! Next time, maybe I'll work with a skunk.

-- Jackie Blue

One day I watched Dad paying bills, and when he was finished he put all the sealed and stamped envelopes on the kitchen counter and went out to dinner with Mom. Identity theft is so rampant, I figured he could use my help, so I got the bills and shredded them, leaving a nice neat pile on the floor. He spent days calling all the merchants, claiming "the dog ate my statements!" Yeah, blame the dog! Well, you just can't be too careful about leaving your sensitive information lying around these days!

-- Cody Mae



My brother Lance is a picky eater. A nibble here, a nibble there, and then he leaves the rest. Apparently Lance missed the, "Clean your bowl! There are thousands of starving dogs in China...." spiel! So, being a good sister, I try to help whenever I can. Mom tells me to leave his food alone, but when they aren't looking, I swoop in to clean up after Lance. Mom calls me a devious little dog, but I learned the Clean my Bowl (and Lance's too!) lesson very well indeed!

-- Lucy

Collie-Amities: [events that bring terrible loss or great misfortune as a consequence of the actions of Collies; see [calamities](#)] (cont'd from page 4)

Of all the sofas, in all the homes, in all the cities in all the world, these two porkers have to lie on MINE! Well, maybe if I just squeeze the dickens out of them, they'll take the hint!

-- Max



Foster Mom has lots of toys in her house, and I love to get out zillions of them and arrange them perfectly throughout the living room. I have quite discriminating taste, so when I have them the way I like, I just leave them there to add to the decor. But at the end of each day, Foster Mom picks up all of them and stacks them back where she @#\$%*& says they belong! Sigh...a dog's work is never done!

-- Liam

Editor's Note:

Please send us information about your Collies' antics—lovable or otherwise--and we'll use the photos and stories in future Newsletters. If you have an accompanying caption, that's fine, or our Webmaster Deb will create one. Please send photos and dog tales to Deb at webmaster@mwcr.org. Tales about un-Collies are welcome, too.

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Mark Your Calendar!

February 2, 2013

Great Lakes Pet Expo
WI Exposition Center
State Fair Park
West Allis, WI

**WI Event Coordinator
Needed!!! Email
BOD@mwcr.org for
information.**

March 23-24, 2013

Twin Cities Pet Expo
Minneapolis Convention
Center

MWCR will have booths at these events and assorted Collies will be helping attract visitors and offer MWCR merchandise. Come see us there!

Griffin Adopted 9-2010 Enjoying his Fur-Ever Home!



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Christmas at MWCR: Let the Season Begin!

■ from Webmaster Elf Deb Smith

Santa has named me MWCR's Tree Decorator and Chief Elf Wrangler, and I need lots of MWCR elves to help me make this the merriest Christmas ever for MWCR. If you have looked at the Website lately, you'll see that we are once again having a Christmas Tree/Fundraiser <http://www.mwcr.org/xmas-2012/xmas-2012.htm>. The features this year are slightly different than in the past:

First, the Angel or Star at the top of the tree will be selected by Auction. Submit your bids to Webmaster Elf-Deb (webmaster@mwcr.org) **no later than December 3rd**, as to what you are willing to pay to have your pet (or a small group of pets) featured on the Tree Top. The highest bid wins the coveted spot, and the Top Ornament will be posted shortly after the bids close. If two bids are tied, the first one received will be deemed the winner. Be sure to let me know if the pet(s) are Rainbow Bridge Pets or Living Stars.

1. Ornaments are available for a tax-deductible donation of \$8 or more. Special designs are available for Rainbow Bridge pets.
2. Snowflakes are available for a tax-deductible donation of \$10 or more.
3. Christmas presents are available for a tax-deductible donation of \$20 or more.
4. Samples of each (except the Tree-Top) spot are presently on the page.
5. Custom Christmas card graphics are once again available for a tax-deductible donation to MWCR. Check out some the graphics others have ordered in recent years. http://www.mwcr.org/Card_Samples/Xmas-Cards1.htm

Also, a number of our Collies have been working feverishly to make sure all dogs have a Merry Christmas. They have been helping Santa make toys and treats for dogs in Santa's Workshop. <http://www.mwcr.org/xmas-2012/workshop.htm> Be sure to check it out.

And while you are at it, take a trip down Memory Lane and visit the Ghosts of Christmases past that have been celebrated by the MWCR Collies.

Our First Christmas Tree: <http://www.mwcr.org/xmas08/tree.htm>

Santa's Sleigh and A Visit from Santa Claus:

<http://www.mwcr.org/xmas08/xmas.htm>

The MWCR Christmas Wreaths: <http://www.mwcr.org/xmas08/wreaths.htm>

The Dickens Carolers: <http://www.mwcr.org/xmas08/xmas08.htm>

Santa's Little Helpers: <http://www.mwcr.org/xmas08/sleigh-elves.htm>

The MWCR Stockings: <http://www.mwcr.org/xmas10/stockings.htm>

The Twelve Dogs of Christmas: <http://www.mwcr.org/xmas08/12days.htm>

MWCR's Nativity Scene: http://www.mwcr.org/xmas08/Nativity_Scene.htm

Reindeer Auditions and The Kiss: <http://www.mwcr.org/xmas08/xmas-2011.htm>



Thor



Prairie



Sophie



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From a Dog's Point of View . . .

By Chris Norman

Editor's Note: Chris Norman, who is an MWCR board member, is also an active foster home for Collies in the Twin Cities area. Below, Chris recounts her experiences with communication with some of her dogs via Ilga Cimbulis.

I love having Ilga do readings on the foster dogs, especially when we don't know about their pasts. The information is something that I've been able to pass on to the adopters; whether they believe it or not, it's fun.

At the MN Collie Frolic in June 2012, I was talking about animal communication with Ilga Cimbulis, and my co-worker asked me if I believed in that. Yes, I do! Ilga sold me a few years ago when I had her do a reading on Thor [Chris's dog] at the Pet Expo. This was about seven or eight months after we first started fostering, so we had had three fosters by then, and had just gotten Rune, the bunny.

What Ilga does is sit quietly with the dog and then speak to us humans. About Thor, she told us, "Thor wants you to know he thinks you should practice a little population control." Funny! Thor was the kind of dog that wanted to control all the activity, the Collie cop. Ilga asked us if we used to do a lot of running with him because he was showing her how he loved to run and that he missed it, so could we please start doing that again. KJ [Chris's son] spoke up and said he used to take Thor on a leash while he rode his bike.

Then came the clincher. Ilga said that Thor wanted to let us know that the cat has peed on the couch. Before we heard about it from Ilga, we knew that Speedo had started revenge peeing on the couch every time we got a new foster. We had a leather couch, so it was usually just a puddle that was easily cleaned up, but apparently we had missed a spot!

At Twin Cities Pet Expo in 2010, we had Ilga do a reading on my foster Collie Prairie, who was being treated for Lyme disease. Prairie was doing a lot of moaning and I wanted to know if he was in pain. Ilga told us that his moaning was leftover as a habit of telling his former owner that he sympathized with her about her medical issues and that Prairie himself wasn't in any pain.

Sophie, my foster just this past spring, had bounced around among owners and had recently been picked up and kept in another foster home before getting to my house in Minneapolis. Sophie told Ilga that her time at my house was like summer camp, full of playing and going places, but my schedule isn't as consistent as she would like it to be. Via Ilga, we learned that Sophie's eyes don't bother her (they looked odd to us and to her previous foster) and she feels all this talk about them is quite humorous. She doesn't get sand or dust in them. She is healthy and happy. At her old house, she

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From a Dog's Point of View . . . (Cont'd from page 6)

wasn't abused or treated badly, but the people really only had her because she was pretty. They spent time arguing about who was going to let her outside.

Ilga told us that Sophie's new family would be the perfect family for her. They will work with her on the training she needs and will do a lot of activities with her, including walking, which she loves. They will be committed to her, making her comfortable. While they have a varied schedule, it wouldn't be as crazy as mine, and Sophie would like their routine better than mine! I still get updates every so often from Sophie's new family, and they love her and she loves them.

Pause4Paws . . .

MWCR was well represented by many Collies at Pause4Paws, an annual fundraiser highlighting the work of nearly twenty rescues and shelters in Minnesota, held at the Medina Entertainment Center on November 8. Making their event debuts were fosters Milo Wulff and Chester Olund along with Leo Wulff. Event veterans Tristan and Daphne Hilk and Maui Olund showed the newcomers how to wow the crowd. Milo, who was rescued by Red Lake Rosie's Rescue and came to MWCR with multiple health issues, and Chester, who came to MWCR with a severely injured foot, charmed the crowd and demonstrated the impact that great foster homes can have on rescued Collies. The event organizers included Milo's story on a slideshow that ran during the fundraiser and also made a poster featuring Milo and the work of Red Lake Rosie's Rescue (which also had a booth at the fundraiser) and MWCR.

A big thank you goes to our Collie stars, Milo, Chester, Leo, Tristan, Daphne, and Maui for representing MWCR so well and to KJ Norman, Mary Ann Statz, Cat Olund, Andi Wulff, and Kitty and Arnie Hilk for participating in the highly successful and well-attended fundraiser.



Pause 4 Paws . . . Milo Presentation

COLLIE - MILAN

- Just saved from getting shot by owner
- Mangled right ear, abscess on neck, eye infection and matted coat
- After being shaved, nests of ticks found under matted coat
- Probably never lived indoors and was scared of everything
- Being fostered by experienced Collie owner

MILAN Before



Red Lake Rosie's Rescue & MN-WI Collie Rescue

MILAN After



Red Lake Rosie's Rescue & MN-WI Collie Rescue

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Pause4Paws . . . (cont'd from Page 8)
Milo & Chester working the crowds



The Adventurous Domino & Ilga!



Babe with his Fur-Ever Family



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Back Home, with Ilga's Help . . .

Last summer, winds from a strong storm blew open the gate in Robin Kashuba's back yard without Robin's knowing what had happened. When she let her four dogs and her foster Sheltie Domino out after the storm was over, all five dogs found the open gate and ventured forth from the yard. Robin's own dogs came back on their own or were brought back by neighbors who knew the dogs. Domino, being a relatively new foster boy and a frightened, insecure Sheltie, was nowhere to be found when Robin discovered that the dogs had gotten out of the yard

Robin immediately called MN Sheltie Rescue to let them know that Domino was gone, and she also alerted the local police and humane society. She went searching on her own for Domino and was soon joined by a cadre of MNSR searchers who brought flyers, helped in the search, and otherwise lent their support. Then Robin thought of contacting animal communicator Ilga Cimbulis, whom Robin had heard speak and had previously taken classes from. She called Ilga and told her about Domino's escape from the yard in the aftermath of the storm.

Ilga envisioned Domino's running past a church and a beauty shop, and down the street. Robin knew about the church, which was a short distance away, but she didn't know of any beauty shops in the area. But as Robin continued to search, she saw a beauty shop a bit farther away in the neighborhood, though she hadn't known it was there. There was no sign of Domino in the area.

A few days later, Robin spoke with Ilga again, and this time Ilga had more detailed information. She mentioned a specific street name, a street Robin hadn't heard of and couldn't place, an area where there were several 60s and 70s homes, and a marshy area. When Robin located the street on a map and went to the area, she saw the houses Ilga had mentioned, and near them was the marshy area Ilga had described. Robin took one of her Collies to the area and walked around without sighting Domino.

Four days later, Robin received a call from a city employee saying that he had seen Domino pop out of the marsh area behind the city park maintenance building near the river. Robin raced home from work, grabbed her Collie Harley, went to the area, and walked up and down the riverbank calling for Domino. But Domino was too frightened to come out.

The next morning, Robin got another call from a park maintenance worker who said Domino had just popped out of the marsh again but ran back into the tall reeds when the worker tried calling him. Off Robin and Harley went again, calling to Domino to come out, but he was still too scared. At that point Robin called Estelle at Sheltie Rescue to let Estelle know about the two sightings, and just as she was walking back to her car, Domino came running out of the

(Cont'd on page 11)



MWCR Contact Information:

To contact a board member:
bod@mwcr.org

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foster@mwcr.org

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intake@mwcr.org

Adoption Coordinators:
applications@mwcr.org

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 Douglas Christman,
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Back Home, with Ilga's Help . . .

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marsh. She immediately ran back down to the marsh and tried to entice Domino to come out. He still wouldn't come, so Robin decided to sit down in the grass next to the marsh with Harley. After about 15 minutes, Domino popped out of the tall grasses again. At first he seemed stunned to see Robin and Harley, and then he ran over to Harley expressing his joy over spotting the Collie he knew and was friends with. But he wouldn't come to Robin, staying just out of reach. Finally she decided to lie down on the grass and just wait with Harley on the leash to keep him near. After several minutes passed, Domino came closer, but not close enough. And then he did come close enough; he came over to sit by Robin and Harley and heaved a big sigh, as if to say, "There! That adventure is over."

Thanks to Ilga's guidance, Domino was soon safely back home with his foster mom. And later Robin adopted Domino, who is now hers for good.

Vaughn, Melvin, and the Deck Launching Pad . . .

By Bonnie Ansley

For a retreat (did you say treat?) from downtown Chicago, we go to my parents' in Janesville WI where the squirrels and neighbor dogs take center stage in the backyard. The old wood deck acts as a wonderful launch pad into the yard where the dogs can run free in the grass, and the deck offers all the grip Vaughn needs to reach his target at top speed. On an early spring day, after accosting Melvin, the chocolate Lab puppy, through the iron fence, Vaughn limped his way back to the house and lay down. Game over. Off and on he limped, and we thought maybe he had a splinter or twisted his foot wrong with the cartoon peel-out on the 30-year-old deck. In the night, he started whining, and the next morning we found out he'd broken his toenail and had to have it removed pretty far up.

We all blamed the old deck and the poor, poor puppy suffered because of it. Something had to be done and we certainly weren't going to train the dog not to run after squirrels and Melvin, so we replaced the deck: a beautiful new cedar deck with screws and boards secured just in time for summer. Solid as a rock, Vaughn's new launch pad was ready and waiting. Melvin got bigger and became even more fun to chase and bark at. As summer's good weather allows for enjoyment on the family's new deck, Vaughn's running start was a bit more subdued but once he hit the ground he took up full speed to greet Melvin, right at his favorite spot at the fence....where his foot hit the exposed roots of a tree and broke off another toenail.



Honey, RIP



Sophie, FKA Tobi



Big Paw Prints to Fill . . . By Darcie Luhman

I just wanted to share and submit a picture/tribute of my beloved companion, Honey (left), that I adopted from MWCR in 2002 (or 2003...I can't remember), and how amazing the Collie dogs are. But I lost her this past July and she was the most amazing companion anyone could ask for and proved what amazing companions Collies truly are. I ended up posting this on Facebook the night I lost her because I was so blue and everyone (relatives, friends) who live all over the USA knew how Honey's amazing strength and our special bond saved my life when it took a difficult turn in 2008. Honey received over 100 comments/tributes regarding how amazing she was and they were all devastated by her passing. ☺



I came back to MWCR and adopted Sophie (right) (FKA Tobi) at the end of August of this year, and she reminds me every day how special these Collie companions are!

Sophie, you have big paw prints to fill!

Zia, FKA Miri



'Tails' from the Ranks of Adopters . . .

Miri, now Zia's family reports: We love our new Collie. She was just the right addition to the household. My niece and I have been extremely happy. Miri, now Zia, is a happy dog; her foster mother did an incredible job working with her. We have continued to take her to obedience classes. She is a wonderful dog and a great cuddler.



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We Oughta Be in Pictures!

MWCR's 2013 calendar is here! This year's calendar features recipes for tasty dog treats along with gorgeous photos of Collies, using the theme "We Oughta Be in Pictures." Doggie treat recipes include Super Simple Sweet Potato Treats in January; Peanut Butter Puppy Poppers in March; Blue's (Rebernick) Favorite Cookies in July; and Apple Cinnamon Dog Biscuits in October--all recipes submitted by the Collies and their people. For the first time, the calendar features Rainbow Bridge memorials to beloved canine friends such as Babe, Sienna, Scootzie, Chloe, Baxter, and Asa. Reminders for heartworm prevention and events such as Twin Cities Pet Expo on March 23-24 are also included. The best part, of course, is beautiful photos of beloved Collies. A few of the featured pets are shown here. Calendars are \$22 for one, \$19 each for two, and 10 for \$16 each plus \$2 shipping. Email webmaster@mwcr.org for pricing on different quantities.



Clockwise from top left: Boromir (who was mislabeled as Jill in the 2013 Calendar)

Sophie Marie

Unknown Diva celebrating Mardi Gras

Zoe Monet & Georgie Girl

Cooper (Sheltie) & Leo

Spike & Ranger



Lassie and Frosty the Snowman . . . er Great Pyrenees

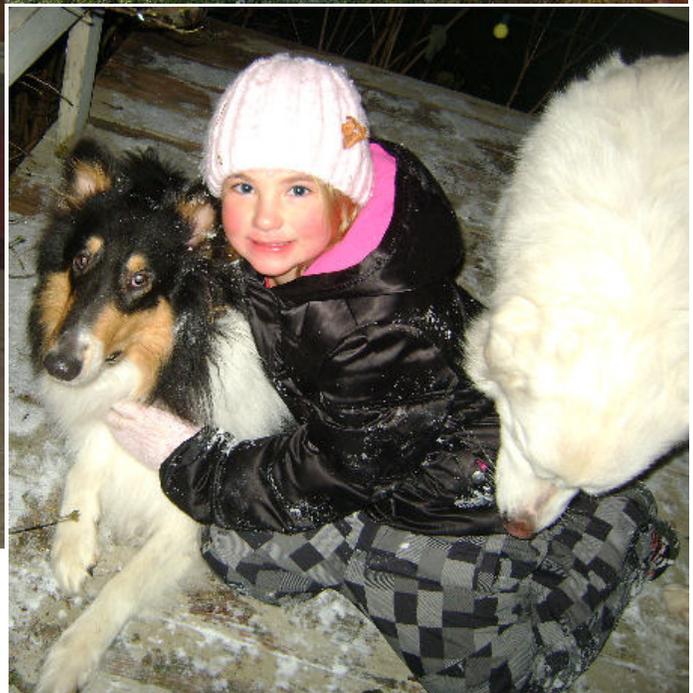
By Nicki Schumacher

We adopted Lassie in early October. We had been looking for another dog, preferably a Collie, since early 2012. Our previous collie, Clairece, was 14 years old when she passed away, and was the perfect dog, which I'm sure everyone says about their dog. We rescued a Great Pyrenees in May, but I had always wanted two dogs, and knew that a Collie was my breed of choice because we had such a great experience with Clairece.

When I started looking for a Collie, it was hit or miss---either I was too late, or the dog wasn't the best match for our family, which also includes a husband, two children, and a cat. What attracted me to Lassie after reading her profile and seeing her photo on the MWCR website was her looks, as Clairece was also a tri-color.

After talking to her foster mom and meeting Lassie in person, I was impressed with her disposition and behavior. She was very laid back, much more so than Clairece. I felt she was able to easily get along with other dogs and pets. My cousin (who is also a dog lover) and six year old daughter both gave the "thumbs up" after meeting her as well.

Fast forward to a month and a half later and everything is going great. Aside from some very minor issues that both dogs had, they are getting along so well. They play together and play with the kids, sleep together, run and chase each other, and have now even shared toys and bones (a milestone!). Lassie came to us with very few issues, which has helped Frosty improve in her own behavior. She is one smart girl, has already given our family more than we could give her. Thank you to the MWCR and Rhonda, her foster mom, for helping dogs like Lassie find forever homes, like ours.



**Minnesota Wisconsin Collie
Rescue
1600 18th Ave. NE, Box 68006
Minneapolis, MN 55418**

**Rescue Line: 612-869-0480
mwcr.org**





What Our Stars Are Doing Now...

Duke: of Collie Isle Winery Fame (pictured at left & below)

By Tressa Soressi

Duke is hanging in there considering that he will be 13 yrs old this spring! He still gets into trouble like raiding the garbage and getting into things he's not supposed to--I take that as a good sign. He has 7 other brothers and sisters, and since he's the old one of the pack, he gets priority to lie on the comfy spots in the house...he'll even bark at them to move off the couch or wherever because he wants to sit there--and they all get up and move for him.

He had quite an injury to his right front wrist/foot where ligaments tore away from the bone. The vet didn't think he would walk again, and I didn't want to have him put under at such an old age (10 yrs at the time). So, he was in a brace-like boot for about a year and things grew back, and with scar tissue in there he is now walking w/o any brace, which is really a miracle. He can't really run but he does just fine and complains about how little food he gets in order to keep his weight managed. ☺

Editor's Note: A reminder that wines featuring MWCR Collies can be purchased from <http://www.benefitwines.com/mwcr>. They make excellent gifts, especially during this giving season!

Danny Baldwin . . .

5-year-old Danny enjoys a romp in the Canadian snow before heading to Arizona in December. He loves the snow, but when it gets between his toes...eh, not so much!



**Duke: in 2012
Enjoying his
newfound fame as
the Barkin' the
Blues Merlot Label
Cover Dog!**



For the Love of Collies Pledges . . .

Shortly before Christmas, pledge bills will go out to those who pledged \$X for each Collie adopted in 2012. In order to get your tax deduction for 2012, bills will need to be paid in 2012. Payments received after January 1 will be eligible for tax deductions in 2013.

This has been an extremely successful venture, and we hope to continue it in the coming years. Announcements will follow in the January Newsletter about 2013 Pledges.

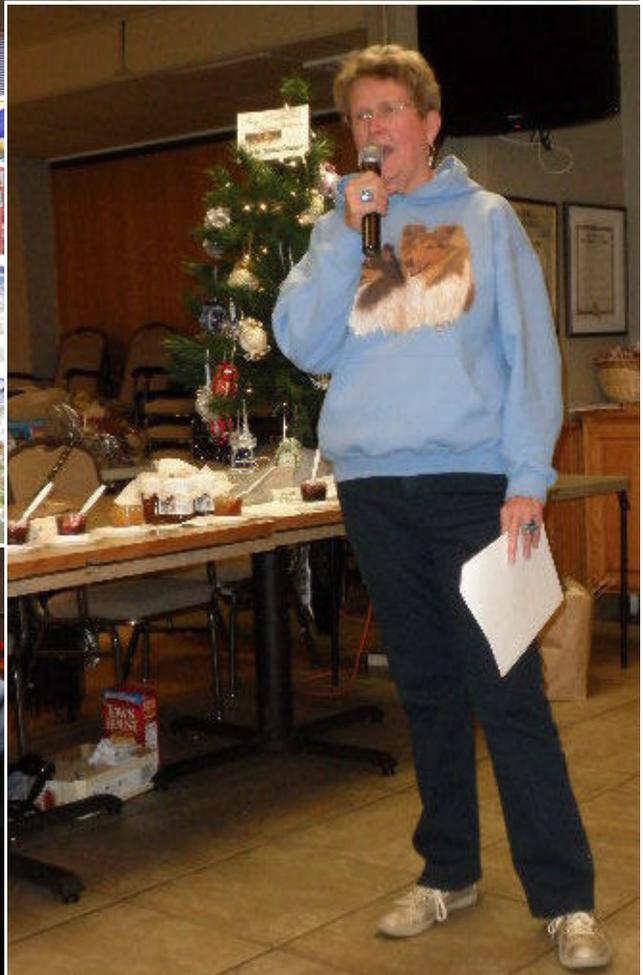
Thank you to all who participated. It is NOT too late to pledge for 2012!!! Simply go to: <http://www.mwcr.org/events/pledge2.htm>

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More Pictures from the Great Annual Got-Together



Still More Pictures from the Great Annual Got-Together



Give to the Max Day . . .

Thanks to several very generous Matching Fund Sponsors and our always generous donors, MWCR brought in \$5,105 on Give to the Max Day on November 15th! Our most urgent need at that time was to fund Laddie's surgery, the Collie surrendered with the torn ACL that actually turned out to be a far more serious fractured knee. He has since had his surgery, and is recovering in his foster home. He will require 3-4 months of rest, recovery, and rehab before he will be ready to adopt. Thank you to everyone who made GTMD a big success for us!

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Be sure to connect with MWCR on:



<http://www.facebook.com/MWCRcollierescue>

