



Minnesota Wisconsin Collie Rescue

Finding new hope and new homes for homeless collies.

Dental Game Plan.....	1	Up From Alabama.....	12	MWCR Newsletter, March 2013 Volume 2, Issue 3
Great Lakes Pet Expo	2	Max's New Life.....	13	
Better in Show	4	Novice 'A' Rally Winner.....	14	
Say Cheese!!!	6	Post-Adoption Updates.....	15	
Coming Events	6	What Our Stars Are Doing ..	20	
Collie-Amities	8	Milo Update	21	
Lucky's Legacy.....	9	More on Events.....	22	



Creating a Dental Game Plan . . .

By Dr. Ryan Speltz

February and March are Canine Dental Care months, and just like humans, dogs need regular dental care. Such care on a regular basis is hard to achieve, and as a veterinarian, I realize that. But plaque, which is an accumulation of bacteria and their waste, can build up and eventually cause periodontal infection. In addition to infections orally, infections under the gumline can spread to cause loose teeth, fractured teeth, tooth loss, gum growths, and damage to or destruction of healthy organs like the liver, kidneys, and heart.

I take a comprehensive team/family approach to dental care. We need everyone in the family to help out. I recommend regular daily brushing (with toothpaste intended for dogs or cats) by adult owners to remove plaque build-up. Brushing daily is best, though sometimes it's hard enough to get our teenagers to brush their own teeth. Having them help out with oral hygiene rinses, sprays, and/or gels like **Vetzlife**, **Petzlife**, **Maxiguard**, etc., may help educate teenagers about their own dental health, too. Little kids love to feed pets, and having them give tartar diet treats in food can help a dog's dental health. **Science Diet T/D** food as a supplement to regular food, or **CET oral treats**, work well too.

In cases where these options are not working, dogs and cats may require a dental procedure for a more rigorous, comprehensive cleaning or treatment of periodontal disease, fractured teeth, or oral tumors. I do recommend this for many pets yearly to help get started with great oral care, but it is a team effort. Without the whole family on board, you can expect yearly cleanings with higher dental expenses and/or more oral disease in your pet.

It's wise to contact your veterinarian to work out a team game plan and start making the best oral care possible available to your pets this month.



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 1600 18th Ave. NE, Box 68006
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Rescue Line: 612-869-0480
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Great Lakes Pet Expo . . .

MWCR Collies dispensed Collie kisses and an occasional face washing at Great Lakes Pet Expo in West Allis WI on Saturday, February 2. Baby, Zeus, Ranger, Spike, Brogan, Finnegan, Lady, Dice, Desi, and Leo served as ambassadors for Collies and Collie rescue along with their human companions. They reminded lots of people how much they love Collies and brought back memories of Lassie. An amazing number of kids still know who Lassie is, too. Part of the pleasure of the Expo is meeting so many people who love Collies and sharing stories about Collies. Thank you to Laura Michlig and Sarah Rebernick for coordinating MWCR's presence at the event, and to Julie and Kristin for the photo albums they posted. Some of their photos are included here. Thank you also to all the MWCR members who attended and helped out at the Expo.



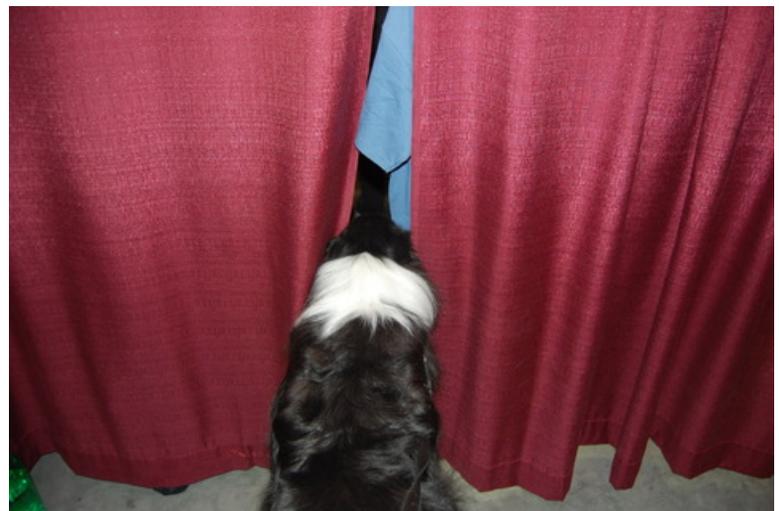
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(Cont'd on page 3)



Great Lakes Pet Expo . . . (Cont'd from page 2)



Better in Show . . .

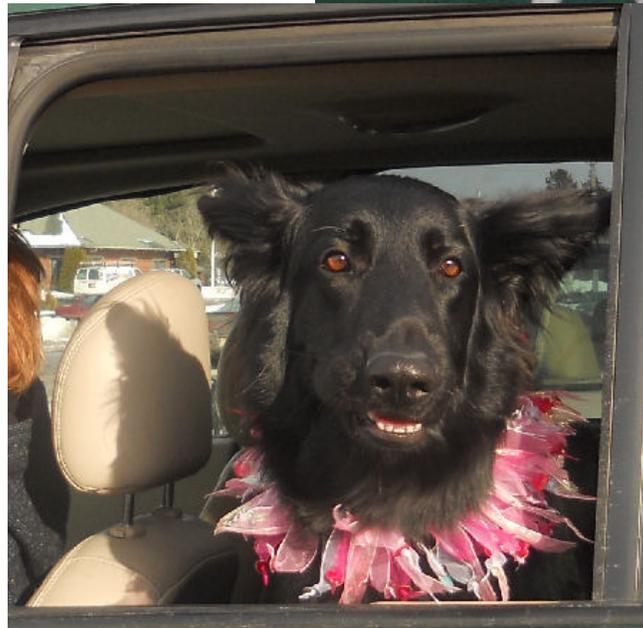
By Terry Libro

On Friday evening, February 8, MWCR had a table at the Better in Show event in Eau Claire WI, sponsored by the Eau Claire County Humane Association. We had a very successful event and sold a large amount of merchandise, largely due to the efforts of Mary Ann Statz and her long-haired black German Shepherd, Cindy. Cindy, who is an outgoing dog who loves people, wore her Valentine Jezebel collar to the event and charmed everyone. Our sales of Jezebelles did well!

Two visitors to our table appeared sporting Jezebel collars--a goat who had been adopted from the Humane Society and Maia, a tri-color Collie from Menomonie WI, both wore Jezebelles purchased in previous years. Their photos are below--the goat is quite striking.

Judy Kippenhan, who owns Pawsome Lodge Mobile Pet Grooming, stopped by to introduce herself. Judy is the groomer who went to the Dutters' home to groom MWCR foster Gabe and was featured in our February Newsletter.

Better in Show is a fun event, one we look forward to doing again next year.



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(Cont'd on page 5)

Better in Show . . . (Cont'd from page 4)



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Coming Events . . .

BonTon Community Days

Friday and Saturday, March 1 and 2, at any of the BonTon family of stores

10th Annual Twin Cities Pet Expo

Saturday and Sunday, March 23 and 24

Minneapolis Convention Ctr
Coupon for \$1 off admission available on our coming events page on the Web site

Collie Club of America National Specialty

April 3-6
La Crosse WI

No Kill Walk for the Animals

Saturday, May 4

Heart of MN Animal Shelter Pet Walk "Paws On Parade"

May 18

MN Collie Frolic

Sunday, June 9
Stone Mountain Pet Lodge

Take Your Dog to Work Day!

Friday, June 21

2013 Walk, Run, Wag for MADACC, and Central Bark Fido Fest

Saturday, June 22
Wauwatosa WI

MN Collie Frolic

June 2013 (watch our Web site for the date)

Milwaukee Pet Expo

Saturday, July 13
WI State Fairgrounds

WI Collie Frolics TBA

SAY CHEESE!!! . . . PET PHOTO-TAKING HINTS

By Joan Tadisch

It is often said that a picture is worth a thousand words. When trying to find a good home for your foster dog, those extras words are important. The better the photo is, the more words it is worth.

Here are a few things to consider when photographing your foster dog.

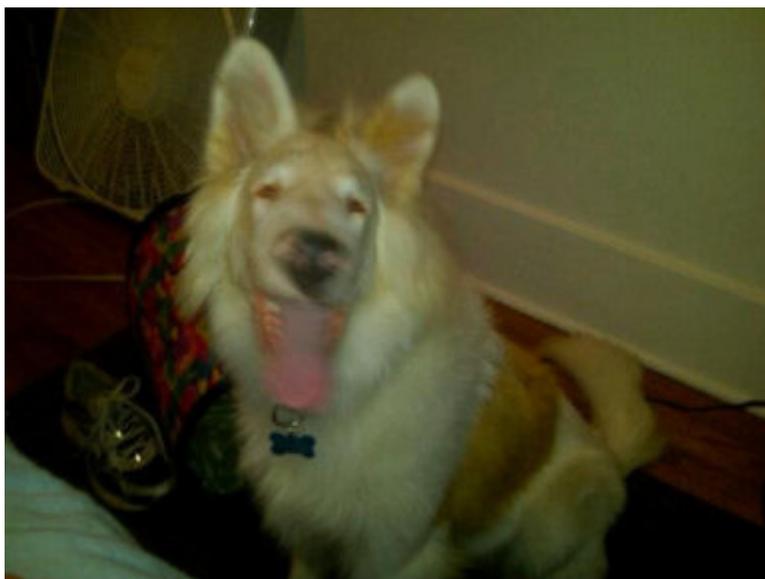
Good lighting – When the light is too low, the slightest movement by you or by the dog will cause a blur in the photo that cannot be fixed with photo editing software. Also, poor lighting distorts the colors. Turn on all the lights in the room and/or use a flash. If that is still not enough light, try taking your photos outdoors at mid-day.

High resolution – Though the camera on your cell phone is handy to catch a moment that you would miss if you had to go get a camera, the resolution/quality of the photos from a cell phone generally is quite low. Use your best camera when taking photos of your foster Collie. If your camera allows you to set the resolution, set it to at least the 'normal' setting.

Often our Webmaster needs to crop off much of the photo to get a close-up of the dog. Cropping reduces the resolution, but if the photo was taken at a high resolution, the cropped portion will still be of a reasonably good resolution. When you send photos to our Webmaster, do not reduce them. A file of 1 MB or larger gives our Webmaster more editing options than a 30 KB file.

Clutter free background – You want to highlight the Collie, so avoid cluttered surroundings that distract from the dog.

Directional angle – The best way to catch a dog's expression is for the camera to be close to the dog's eye level. When you stand over the dog and aim your camera down at him, the photo will often have a distorted image of the dog with the parts of the dog closest to the camera appearing too large and the parts furthest from the camera appearing too small. Be willing to get down to the dog's level.



The poor lighting, blurred face, and clutter do not show off this Collie as he deserves.

(Cont'd on page 7)



Contact Us . . .

To send us something for the Newsletter: newsletter-submissions@mwcr.org

To contact a board member: bod@mwcr.org

To foster a Collie: foster@mwcr.org

To apply for membership: memberships@mwcr.org

To apply to adopt a Collie: applications@mwcr.org

For a Collie in need of a new home: intake@mwcr.org

Say Cheese!!! . . . Pet Photo-Taking Hints . . . (Cont'd from page 6)



The photo (at left) was taken at a poor angle. The dog looks like a ball of fur with a large Collie head. Though the clutter around this Collie is not junk, it is still distracting.



The above Collie was just groomed and is a beautiful subject to photograph. Unfortunately the cluttered setting—unavoidable in this case—detracts from the beauty of the Collie.



This adorable photo of Jesse (now known as Rocco), by Laure Victor, was taken in good lighting at a high resolution. It is clutter-free and I'm sure Laure had her camera near the floor to look Jesse in the eye.

MWCR has an award winning website. Rather than just showing your Collie on the website, **show off** your Collie. Pretty photos of your foster dog not only invite potential adopters to linger on his Web page, they also help keep the Web site looking great.

MWCR Election Deadline:

The Nominating Committee is asking that all members who have received ballots in the mail for the upcoming MWCR Vice-President and Treasurer election please make sure to get them in the mail and postmarked by **March 2** (tomorrow!) so that your vote can be counted. Your support and participation in this election is greatly appreciated.

Barb, Mary, and Linda

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



When Mom and Dad dare to leave me alone, I drag the water dish (the fuller, the better) across the carpet, up on the bed, onto my dog bed, leaving a tell-tale trail. They have tried weighted bowls, water bowl stands, and all kinds of things, but I'm just too darned clever for these old fools. That will teach them to leave me alone!

-- Cassie (Mom's Devil Dog)

I'm camera shy! Whenever Dad pulls out the camera, I run and hide. My big brother Leo's butt hair is a very convenient hiding place, and he doesn't seem to mind! So I crawl under there. Dad, just TRY and get a picture of me now!

Can you see me now?

-- Penny



You have to believe us! It is not what it seems! We are innocent, innocent we tell you! We didn't kill Mom's demo dog. We are just the Crime Scene Investigation Unit, sniffing for clues to the true culprit!

Oh, is that incriminating cat spit I smell? I do believe it is! Aha! Case closed! Spike, the Evil Overlord (he with the glowing eyes), did it!

-- Allie Mae and Willie (AKA the Queen Bee and King Willie, Therapy Dog Extraordinaire)

Lucky's Legacy: A Scrapbook of Wonderful Memories

By Dean Wattermann

After 7+ years with the best dog we could possibly imagine, our hearts were broken on 11/27/12 when we had to put our beloved Lucky to sleep because of multiple organ failure, having reached the point where our vet couldn't do anything further for him. He was our constant companion, accompanying us pretty much everywhere we went and he/we loved every minute of it -- going for walks, playing fetch, going for rides in the car/boat, or just hanging out in the yard together. Thanks to your organization for rescuing him, fostering him, and then letting him become our forever dog. I also wanted to say thanks for inviting me to write about him. I shed a few tears while going through all of our old pictures and putting this anthology together, and we still miss Lucky like crazy and sometimes can't believe he is really gone, but this was good "therapy" for me.



07/04/2006 - He loved jumping off the dock until he jumped off the very end of the dock once and found out he couldn't touch the bottom...that was his last jump off any dock.



04/15/2006 - Both sides of our families, including nieces and nephews of all ages, loved him...and the feeling was mutual.



06/08/2008 - He LOVED to go anywhere with us and would barrel past us down our two small flights of stairs if we asked him if he wanted to "go in the car" or "go for a ride." He was an amazing traveler and would sleep contentedly for hours in the back seat of our vehicles. If we had let him, he apparently would have driven also. *(Cont'd on page 10)*



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Lucky's Legacy: A Scrapbook of Wonderful Memories (Cont'd from page 9)



07/02/2009 - Hanging out at the cabin.



05/22/2009 - We bought a cabin on a lake in the Park Rapids area, and Lucky loved being there as much as we did. This is Lucky in our cabin yard the first year we owned it.



07/29/2009 - He could curl up into the tightest little ball when he wanted to.



10/02/2010 - One of my favorite pictures of Lucky at our cabin.
(Cont'd on page 11)



06/25/2010 - Lounging on the beach at our cabin.

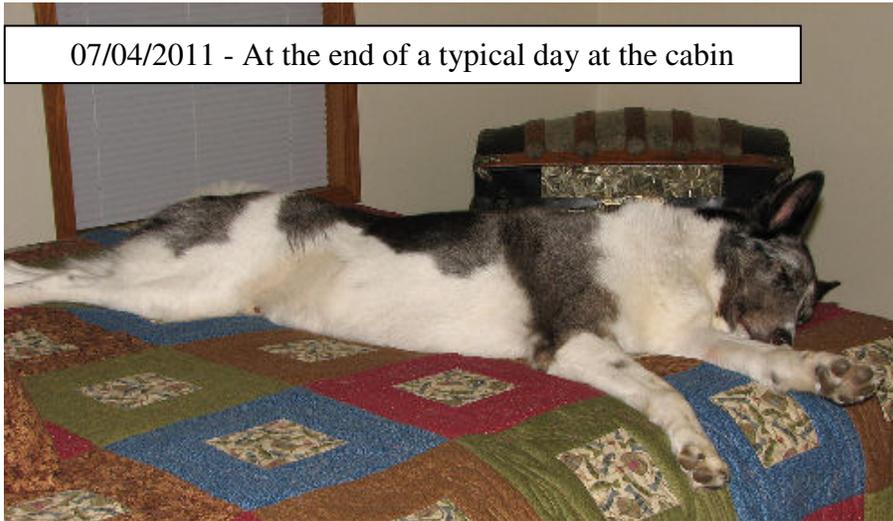
Lucky's Legacy: A Scrapbook of Wonderful Memories (Cont'd from page 10)



10/02/2010 - Kaye and Lucky



05/28/2011 - Lucky's favorite spot to curl up in for a nap in our boat.



07/04/2011 - At the end of a typical day at the cabin



Captain of the ship and his First Mate (you decide which is which)



Lucky's Successor



09/02/2012 - One of our last pictures of Lucky at our cabin and also one of my favorites, early bedtime with a nephew

A Dog's Last Will and Testament

(Author unknown)

Before humans die, they write their last Will & Testament, and give their home and all they have to those they leave behind. If, with my paws, I could do the same, this is what I'd ask....

To a poor and lonely stray I'd give:

- My happy home.
- My bowl, cozy bed, soft pillows and all my toys.
- The lap which I loved so much.
- The hand that stroked my fur and the sweet voice which spoke my name.
- I'd will to the sad, scared shelter dog the place I had in my human's heart, of which there seemed no bounds.

So when I die please do not say, "I will never have a pet again, for the loss and pain is more than I can stand." Instead go find an unloved dog; one whose life has held no joy or hope and give MY place to him.

This is the only thing I can give...the love I left behind.



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Up From Alabama . . .

By Marilyn Henrich

Almost eight years have passed since we adopted our Laddie (aka Lanny) through MWCR. The vet tells us other than very painful arthritis in his back and hips he's in great shape. He's almost 10 years old. His early life was rough; he was an outdoor dog in Alabama where he developed heartworm, ear mites, and other skin issues. Once he was rescued, it didn't take Laddie long to discover he rather liked the life of the spoiled indoor dog.

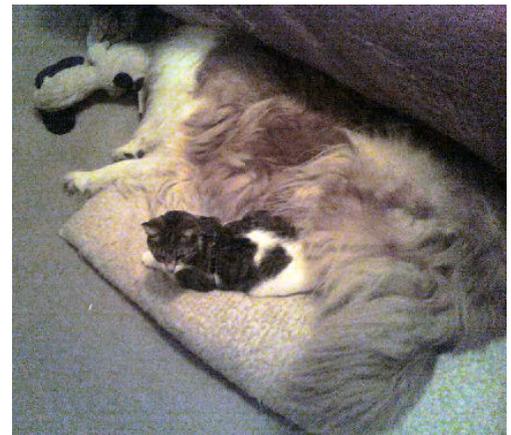
Like many rescue dogs, Laddie came with his own set of issues. He's outgrown all of them except he really hates car rides. He's fine until you hit the freeway, and then he cries. My husband Jack says I'm nuts, but I think he associates long car rides with being given away.

He still loves walks but can't do long ones anymore. We've started him on some new pain medication, so hopefully that will help. I know he misses seeing all his doggie friends on his walk.

He is the loyal subject of our cat Leo. We had Laddie first, but Laddie is a smart guy and realized quickly who the boss was. Considering how deaf Laddie is we're not sure how the cat does this, but when Leo wants to go out or come in, he has Laddie trained to go to the door and pretend he wants out. When we get to the door there is Leo, and Laddie simply walks away. Leo has also convinced Laddie that Leo should eat Laddie's food first. I think Leo somehow convinced him he's just making sure it's safe. Laddie just lies down and waits for the cat to finish. Laddie was originally trained by our very geriatric cat, Henry, who died two weeks before his 20th birthday. Henry found it too much trouble to walk around Laddie, so he just walked right over him. Henry had claws, but as long as Laddie lay very still Henry didn't use them.

Thank you allowing us to adopt Laddie. He's been a great addition to our family. Keep up the great work.

Editor's Note: An MWCR member who is originally from Minnesota was living in Alabama in 2005 and rescued Lanny from a truly dreadful life. She asked MWCR if Lanny could be an MWCR Collie and come back to Minnesota with her and her husband when they came home to visit relatives for the Christmas holidays. MWCR said yes, and Lanny arrived with a thin coat and lots of other issues. Vickie and Tom Dutter gave Lanny a coat when he arrived after the long trip from Alabama; he wore that coat until his own coat grew out and he adapted to the Minnesota winter. His bio page can be seen here: <http://www.mwcr.org/2004/Lanny.htm>.



Max's New Life . . . As told by Paula and Leo Anzures

Max, a Collie mix adopted in 2011, lives in Mankato with his new family, Paula and Leo. Paula recently sent MWCR a note saying that the last year and a half with Max have been wonderful and that Max is an awesome addition to their family. She says that Max is a character and he keeps her and Leo amused. He demands attention and wants to be part of everything they do and go everywhere with them, and when he finds out he can't go someplace with them—such as to church!—he pouts. When he's happy he wears a big smile.



Max loves squeak toys and chasing and chewing tennis balls. His game isn't fetch, though—it's keepaway. He loves charging out the back door of the house to chase squirrels and rabbits—Paula is grateful that he hasn't caught any. His other great love is snow; when Paula shovels he tries to catch and eat the snow, and roll in it. For some reason, Max likes best to drink water outside, and in the winter he eats snow instead. When he drinks water indoors, it has to be water that has been refrigerated or has ice in it. When he comes back from walks in warm weather, he loves to chew on ice cubes.



Max and Paula take long walks, and they are going to obedience classes together. He's been doing very well with the classes, and now Paula is going to enroll him in a Practical Obedience class. Last year on Paula and Leo's anniversary they took Max with them to Red Wing MN, where they all enjoyed an area near the train depot (below) and a lookout area up in the hills. Last fall, Paula and Leo and Max visited friends in Colorado (left, in front of Pikes Peak and at the Garden of the Gods) who have a Lhasa Apso and two Puggles that Max loved to play with and who taught him to use their doggy doors. When they visited their son, Max loved playing with their 2-year-old granddaughter, and the two became great friends, playing tug and chasing each other.



Since Leo, a Viet Nam veteran, is disabled and unable to work, he especially enjoys Max's companionship; Max keeps Leo active and gives him plenty to do during the day. Max is very protective of both Leo and Paula, their home, and the car, and he loves having Grandma come to visit. In Paula's words, Max has been a blessing in their lives.



One of the photos on his bio page <http://www.mwcr.org/2011/max-2011.htm> shows Max arriving at his foster home via airplane, courtesy of MWCR members who pilot their own plane.



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Emily Ester Rose Gibson - Homeless to Rescued to AKC Novice 'A' Rally Winner

By Barb Gibson

Emily was found starving, wandering the streets when she was a little over 1 year old. The police took her to the pound, and a rescue group put her in a foster home. She was placed on Craig's list where a friend of her Mom saw her, and said to her Mom "You have to look at this dog!" She is now 5 years old, and has come a long way. Not only was she shy, but she refused to eat, and was terrified of car rides, so much so she foamed at the mouth, and threw up every time she was in the car. Now she knows she is only going someplace fun when she gets in the car, and she no longer requires coaching to eat. In fact, she discovered that eating and treats are wonderful! Now she thinks she is entitled to treats every time she does something she is asked to do. This is why her Mom was worried about her being in a trial because treats are not allowed during it.

Her first trial was 2/10/13 at Animal Inn in Lake Elmo. It was sponsored by the Collie Club. Emily had an outstanding performance, sitting every time, doing everything she was asked to do without hesitation, and paying attention the whole time. Everyone that watched clapped and cheered for her! She won 3 ribbons, second place, qualifying, and the best Collie in novice A. Laddie Luke, her new brother of 6 months, was on the sidelines cheering her on. Having a backup has helped her feel more confident, and happier, and I think she may have wanted to show him this is the way you do it. Laddie Luke is awaiting his AKC PAL number so he, too, can join the fun.



Congratulations, Emily!!! Your fans in MWCR are all very proud of you!



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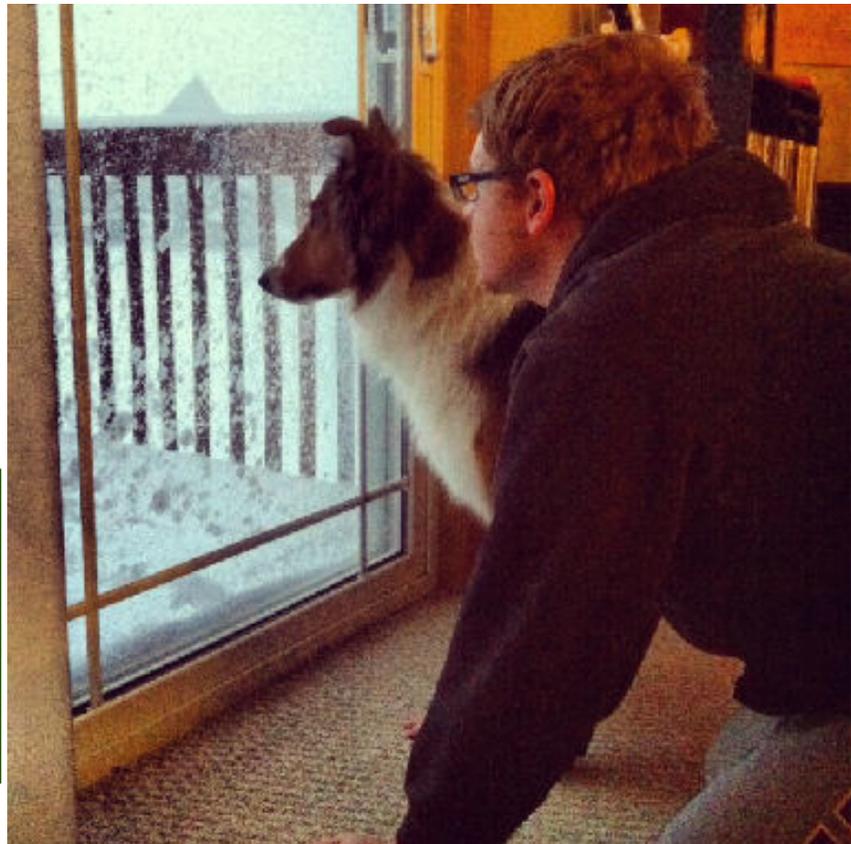
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Post-Adoption Update: Max in 'Winter' – Cedar Rapids Packers Fan . . .

By Betsy Winter

Max (adopted 2013) has adjusted very well to his new home in Iowa. When he's not playing tug of war, chase/keep away, and looking for rabbits outside with his new dad, Max is cuddling with his new mom, snuggled up with his favorite blanket. Max enjoys having the house to himself all day and LOVES his new bed which he graciously shares with his new mom and dad! 🐾 He gets all the attention and belly rubs a Collie could ask for. And look! He's a Packers fan. What more could his Wisconsin friends hope for?



Be sure to connect with MWCR on:



<http://www.facebook.com/MWCRcollierescue?sk=wall>



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More Post-Adoption Updates: Cowboy, JarJar, & the Banana Toy

By Tim Bush

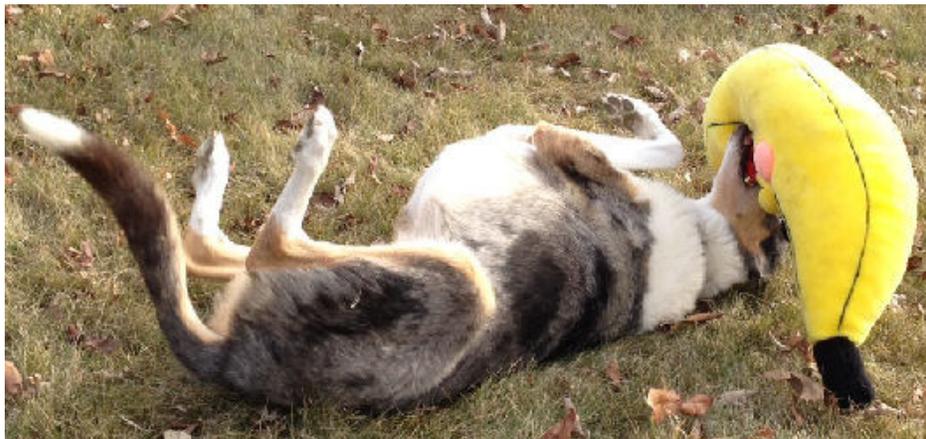
Here are some action pictures of my two Collie friends. Cowboy (Blue Merle adopted 2005), with the banana toy, and JarJar (adopted in 2002, FKA Sly) trying to get it away from him! Both came to our home through MWCR. JarJar is 11 years old now and still plays hard. We very nearly lost him 2 years ago when he had GDV (bloat) and complications from surgery. It was a long road to recovery. He made it back to 100%.

During the week both dogs are with me at the office supervising my work. They are benevolent bosses. Lucky for me they allow frequent breaks for petting, treats or squeaky balls. We should all be so lucky!



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Yet More Post-Adoption Updates: Finn, FKA Pippin

By Deb Oelrich-Todd

I wanted to give you a quick update on Finn (Pippin) whom I adopted a couple of years ago! It was the best decision I could have made to adopt Finn and bring him into our family! He has the greatest personality and is just so much fun to be around. He is VERY vocal and VERY smart and the two together are hysterical! He loves living in the country...loves everything and everyone! Thank you, thank you, thank you for all you do for these wonderful Collies! My very favorite breed!!!



Vito, FKA Mozart, Adopted 12/2007
He is a frequent summer visitor at the Scopp household



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Even More Post-Adoption Updates: Shadow, Rockman's new BFF ***By Eileen Stephenson***

Did you know I adopted another Sheltie for Rockman? I didn't want him being by himself while I was gone to work. Shadow (left) is actually a 12-year-old Sheltie-Collie mix, so a little bigger than most Shelties, but they are now the best of friends. Where would we be without our dogs?



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Announcement for April Newsletter!



Due to the travels from March 23-28 by one of the Newsletter Editors, we would like to have all of the major articles submitted no later than March 18th. Please send all submissions to newsletter-submissions@mwcr.org.

Still More Post-Adoption Updates: Rocco & Baby in their Fur-Ever Homes



Rocco (FKA Jesse) above, and Baby, right, recently went to their fur-ever homes. As you can see, both appear to be matches made in heaven!



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What Our Stars Do in Their Down Time...
Gabby: of Collie Isle Winery Fame
By Paul Hanson

Go to: http://www.benefitwines.com/mwcr_s/461.htm?Click=4667
for Gabby's wine and those of our other Spokesdogs



Wait for me, Dad! I wanna get the paper!



You need to rest already, Dad?
Goodness, hurry up! You are so slow!



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Milo: Lookin' Good

By Andi Wulff

We received custom blended herbs which have been prescribed by the U of MN vet school to see if we can help turn around Milo's immune system. Blood tests had revealed low neutrophils and high monocytes and after ruling out things like other tick borne diseases and fungus, we are giving this a whirl. He still breathes heavily after exercise and coughs periodically - don't know if that is related to the immune system issues or possibly as a result of trauma to his throat. You might recall the large abscess on his neck when he arrived in rescue last June, which may have originated with a puncture. After the herbs are finished in about a month we

Despite what is going on in the inside, Milo is thriving by all outward appearances. His coat is amazingly lush and soft. It cracks me up that he has such perfectly tipped ears. I've never had a collie at the house in all my years of fostering that had tipped ears so it is quite a novelty. He has had a couple of professional grooming sessions and relishes the attention, leaning into the groomers and brushing.

He has a few "fraidy cat" issues which surface periodically, but we've been working through them nicely. I've had him on sheep and goats several times and he is crazy for it. He takes his job of "minding" Leo very seriously and they are like yin and yang when playing outside. After a summer/fall where Milo was too ill to want to play, he plays rough and relentlessly with Leo. Leo - be careful what you wish for! Leo has been a good mentor to him after all. Milo loves everyone he meets and makes friends everywhere he goes.



**Above: Milo in Dec. 2012;
Right: Milo at Dog Day**

**Above: Milo in
February 2013**

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The Next Big Things . . .

MWCR is looking forward to another busy event season in 2013.

Our next two big events are the Twin Cities Pet Expo in Minneapolis on March 23-24 and the Collie Club of America National Specialty Show in La Crosse WI on April 3-6. Information about both events is located on MWCR's Web site under Upcoming Events.

This year, the Pet Expo is offering \$1 off admission coupons. For each coupon used, the event organizers will donate the dollar to MWCR. So, get your coupons on MWCR's website and share with family, friends, and coworkers.

For the first time, MWCR will have a table at the CCA's National Specialty Show. This is a large show with attendees from across the United States and abroad. It is a wonderful opportunity to showcase MWCR and our beautiful rescue dogs. MWCR's Web site has information about the show, lodging in La Crosse, etc. We will need volunteers to staff our table, so please consider being a part of this event. Watch for future emails as we get more details about the hours and other aspects of the show.

[MWCR is now able] to accept credit card and PayPal payments for merchandise and donations at these events. We hope to make a nice sum for MWCR and our wonderful Collies!

Terry and the MWCR Events/Fundraising Committee

The Collie Club of American National Specialty—A River of Dreams . . .

The CCA National Specialty is held annually and moves around the U. S. from one geographic area to another. This year's opening ceremonies are on April 3, and the theme is River of Dreams. The last time the event was in La Crosse was in 2008 when the theme was Collies Under the Big Top. More recently, the sites were West Springfield MA in 2009; Pomona CA in 2010; Tulsa OK in 2011; and Philadelphia in 2012. The Specialty includes events in agility, herding, conformation, obedience, and rally, and on Saturday, the final day of the show, awards are presented for Most Versatile Collie, Rough Best of Variety, and Best of Breed. The show includes events such as the breed seminar, junior showmanship, the Collie Health Foundation dinner, and a community project. The 2013 community project is collecting and distributing children's books to various locations such as schools, libraries, and hospitals. Attendees are asked to bring a book or two to pass along to La Crosse children. The schedule for this year's event can be found at www.collieclubofamerica.org/national_2013/index.html.

As Terry noted above, MWCR will have a booth at the event, and volunteers are needed to staff the booth. Anyone who is interested in helping out at the booth, bringing a Collie, etc., please contact Terry at tlibro@hotmail.com. More information will be forthcoming via e-mail once we have details about the hours that need staffing. Come and join us and the Collies!

If anyone is thinking of taking an RV to the event, parking is available near the venue, although vehicles must be self-contained since no hook-ups are allowed. Sometimes it's easier to take dogs along in an RV than to find a hotel that takes dogs -- and also easier to socialize with other attendees during the event. Contact John Haddon at larisacollies@centurytel.net for details.

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