

NorCal Sheltie Rescue

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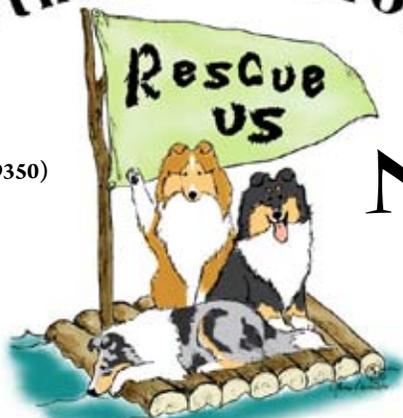
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Northern California



Newsletter Spring 2012

Sheltie Rescue

Shetland Sheepdog Companions of Northern California Rescue, Inc.
A 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tax-exempt charitable rescue organization
NorCal Sheltie Rescue, Inc.

NorCal Sheltie Rescue Newsletters in a black-and-white version are mailed out via US mail to our donors, veterinary offices, and special friends like Norcal Collie Rescue. We will also mail copies to those who request them, and we hand newsletters out at public events to those who are interested in learning about our mission. Newsletters are available on-line (<http://www.norcalsheltierescue.org/Newsletters.html>) in a glorious, four-color version that can be downloaded and shared. Please share the Newsletter with other Sheltie lovers and tell them to contact us if they would like us to include them on either our e-mail and/or snail-mail mailing lists.

Sheltie Rescue's 2011

NorCal Sheltie Rescue experienced another fulfilling year in 2011, celebrating our work with many public events and expanding our network of Sheltie lovers and supporters. This past year we took in 56 rescue Shelties, varying in age from four months to fifteen and a half years old. These Shelties became homeless for a variety of reasons: strays or runaways, behavior issues, in need of vet care, victims of divorce, owners lost their homes or jobs, or a death in the family. In some cases, owners recognized that their dog needed more exercise, activity, or attention than they were able to provide. In other cases, owners surrendered senior dogs who were not adoptable due to poor health. We are very proud that we successfully placed all these dogs in private homes with caring owners who joined our extended Sheltie family. Even the elderly and infirm seniors found a nice, quiet home with our wonderful hospice volunteers.

Although the number of dogs we rescued this year is slightly lower than last year (56 in 2011 compared to 64 in 2010), we are still struggling to balance our budget. Veterinary care is our biggest expense, since the younger dogs often need to be spayed or neutered and vaccinated and the older ones may need dental work, heartworm treatment, or surgery. We are looking for ideas to help us bring in enough income to cover all our expenses. Please read the article entitled "Balancing the Rescue Budget" – we welcome your suggestions!

We have been advised by many sources that the fall of 2011 and the warm winter 2011-12 have promoted the abundance of deer ticks. Please be especially careful if you live in or visit the lower elevations in Placer County and El Dorado County. It's important to examine your dog routinely and keep him on flea/tick preventive. Lyme's disease is a serious and debilitating illness for both canines and humans. Here's

the link to information sent to us recently: <http://parkwatchreport.org/article.html?pub=alert&query=&art=1504>

The Whole Dog Journal (www.whole-dog-journal.com) recently published its annual list of quality dog foods. This always serves as a reminder to us to be sure we're feeding our Shelties a premium food. Although it's a bit more expensive, you can find a good food at a decent price, and it will pay off in the long run with better health for your dog.

Not only does a quality food improve the dog's overall health, it benefits the dog's appearance as well, resulting in a shinier coat, trimmer waistline, and disappearance of certain skin problems. It doesn't hurt to experiment with different foods, either; in fact, some dog professionals are actually suggesting that a rotation of foods provides variety in the dog's diet.

We'd like to extend special thanks this year to our Web-master, Barbara Laird, who's been phenomenal in keeping our site up to date and encouraging us to post timely pieces about our operation and our many success stories.

She's also provided us with useful information from Petfinder and other sources that support nonprofit animal rescue groups. Always positive, she's a great resource and we appreciate all the effort she puts into making our site not only appealing but also user friendly. To see more examples of Barbara's talented work visit her at www.website2therescue.com.

We look forward to seeing you at some of our events this year. Please check our website for details. And thanks very much for your continuing support of our organization and our lovable Shelties!

Warm regards,

Gale Ann Morris
Director, NorCal Sheltie Rescue



FAMILY

Shhhh...don't tell her, but she's adopted

Balancing the Rescue Budget

Each year we take in Shelties of all ages, sizes, colors, temperaments, and health conditions. Regardless of their circumstances, our mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome them. It's a very rewarding job for all our volunteers, and we take great pride in our many successes. We love finding homes for all these special dogs and adding wonderful new adopters each year to our extended Sheltie network. We are a nonprofit organization, operating primarily through donations, which also include our adoption donations. Our annual raffles at our picnic in May and at our parade in October are successful, but they bring in only a very small percentage of the financial resources we need to finance our mission. To date, we do not have an ongoing revenue source large enough to cover veterinary expenses. For the last several years, we have been deficit spending. At this rate, we will quickly use up our savings and be out of business.

To illustrate why we struggle, here are five examples of actual rescue dogs from 2011, from adolescent to senior:

Age	Vet service	Cost	Adoption donation	Difference
1-yr.-old intact male	Neuter, exam	\$686	\$400	\$286
3-year-old spayed female	Exam, tests, dental	\$535	\$350	\$185
5-y.o. intact male	Exam, neuter	\$381	\$300	\$81
10-y.o. spayed female	Exam, teeth cleaning	\$847	\$150	\$697
12-year-old neutered male	Exam, drugs, hospice care	\$706	0	\$706
			Total loss	\$1955

Occasionally, thanks to the efforts of the surrendering owners, dogs will come to us without extensive vet needs. However, those are the exceptions rather than the rule. We take in many more middle-aged and senior dogs than we do young ones, so the deficit is even greater than this chart reflects. When we have a dog with extensive medical needs, such as surgery, heartworm disease, or major illness, the expenses can be extreme. Similarly, we place some dogs in hospice care, which means ongoing expenses with frequent vet visits.

We don't have a central facility to house our rescue dogs; each one is placed in a private foster home. Since we cover the geographic area from Bakersfield to the Oregon border and from the Pacific Ocean to the Nevada border, our foster homes are widely spread. There's no feasible way to obtain deep discounts on veterinary services on any large-scale basis.

We have been fortunate to be able to cover all vet costs to date, but we are rapidly depleting our reserves, and we are in desperate need of an ongoing funding source or two to allow us to continue our good work. Looking at the diverse skills and talents of our extended rescue family, we are hoping that some of you can offer assistance, through your expertise, your volunteerism, or both. Any help you can give us in finding ways to increase our annual revenue would be greatly appreciated. We need ideas for grants, corporate sponsorships, fundraising events, or other ways in which we can bring in enough funds each year to pay for the number of dogs needing to be rescued. We also need volunteers to help implement and support our fundraising efforts. If you have suggestions or want to volunteer your services, please contact Terry at tgarycool@hotmail.com. Thank you very much for your ongoing support and for all you do for our Shelties!

—Terry Gary

Our unpaid volunteers welcome into their homes Shelties who have lost their families for a variety of reasons. Volunteers provide them with food at their own cost; exercise and train them; conduct temperament testing; and ensure that they see the veterinarian for any medical care they need—all in an effort to prepare them for adoption. All donations are used exclusively to help cover veterinary expenses, which include vet exams, vaccinations, lab tests, spays and neuters, dental cleanings/extractions, and any other necessary medical procedures. We need your financial support to do this. Your donation will help us achieve our fundraising goal of \$25,000. You can send a check made out to NorCal Sheltie Rescue to Gale Ann Morris at P. O. Box 581934, Elk Grove, CA 95758 or donate directly through a link to PayPal on our website. We are also going to team up with eTeamSponsor, Inc. again this year so be on the lookout for a letter that will ask for donations. And coming soon there will be an eTeamSponsor, Inc. link on our Norcal Sheltie Rescue Facebook page. Please know that no donation is too small. If anyone has questions, Sheltie Rescue is listed on GuideStar, a website that provides a list of legitimate nonprofit organizations. On behalf of the Shelties who cannot speak for themselves, thank you for your support.

Events for 2012

UC Davis Picnic Day,
Saturday, April 21, 2012

Annual Sheltie Picnic, Saturday, May 19, 2012
Location: Performance Dogs In Action, North Sacramento
www.performancedogsinaction.com for map and directions.

Rescue Parade and Raffle
Saturday, October 20, 2012
Del Valle Dog Club of Livermore
Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton, CA

Check the events page on our website for details and directions

Sheltie Health

Animal Poison Control Hotline, the best resource for any animal poison-related emergency, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year: <http://www.aspcaproapc.com> The toll-free number is: 888-426-4435 (a consultation fee may apply).

California Department of Public Health Tick Advisory

Black legged deer ticks carry Lyme disease in Placer, Yuba, El Dorado and Nevada counties. Read the rest of the article at <http://www.parkwatchreport.org/article.html?pub=alert&query=&art=2740>. One of our vets, Dr. Janet Lawson, at Coastside Veterinary wrote us: "The efficacy of Lyme's disease vaccine is still controversial. We are screening for Lyme's with every heartworm test and see a few positives every year. This only means exposure and not active disease. Keeping ticks off the dog is the primary focus for us as ticks carry many other diseases as well. It is still not considered a core vaccine for our area, but I'm keeping tabs on our advisory group's recommendations. [My husband] was taking care of his horse and eating lunch outside. He looked down to see a tick on the end of his fork! So ... ticks are thick this year."

Pet Insurance?

Editor's Note:

One of our adopters asked for advice on pet insurance, and so I turned the question over to our core volunteers. I also did a few minutes of web hunting and came across <http://www.consumersearch.com/pet-insurance> which seems to have nice review and a series of useful links. Some of us have had recommendations for or experience with Pets Best Insurance, VPI, Trupanion, Banfield, or VCA, but Liliane wrote the answer that seems to make the most of dollars and sense:

"My advice, in a nutshell, is to put money aside every pay period or every month, and do so when the dogs are young. You do NOT touch their account except for emergencies, and the account grows year after year, not unlike a savings account for college. By the time the dogs are older, which is when the high vet bills start, you are likely going to be able to cover their expenses.

"Insurance companies usually pay a percentage of the bills, but it is based on THEIR fee schedule. Then they "balance bill"

you for the remainder. Banfield (PetSmart's veterinary arm) is like a "Kaiser for dogs," so their model works differently.

"My dogs have had \$100 per month for years...that's \$1200 per year, and by the time they are ten years old, it becomes \$12,000, if no emergencies have happened, as they enter their senior years. However, if you don't have the discipline to leave the dog's savings account alone, and are tempted to take a trip to the Bahamas, then you should pursue pet insurance."

—Liliane Morin

Saving your pet with CPR

With pets increasingly being treated like a member of the family, many owners are learning emergency techniques like CPR to keep their pet alive before bringing it to a veterinarian.

Check for breathing and pulse. Check pulse using middle and index finger below the wrist, inner thigh (femoral artery), below the aricle or where left elbow touches the chest.

Look for other warning signs

- Gums and lips will appear gray-colored.
- Pupils will be dilated and not responsive to light.

If not breathing, give breath to animal

Cats and small dogs
Place your mouth over its nose and mouth to blow air in.

Medium-large dogs
Place your mouth over its nose to blow air in.

Heimlich maneuver
If breath won't go in, airway may be blocked. Turn dog upside down, with its back against your chest. Wrap your arms around the dog and clasp your hands together just below its rib cage (since you're holding the dog upside down, it's above the rib cage, in the abdomen). Using both arms, give five sharp thrusts to the abdomen. Then check its mouth or airway for the object. If you see it, remove it and give two more rescue breaths.

Start compressions if no pulse
Lay animal on right side and place hand over ribs where its elbow touches the chest. Begin compressions. Do not give compressions if dog has pulse.

Animal size	Compress chest	Compressions per breath of air
Cat/small dog (Under 30 lbs.)	1/2-1 inch	5
Medium-large dog (30-90 lbs.)	1-3 inches	5
Giant dog (over 90 lbs.)	1-3 inches	10

Repeat procedure

- Check pulse after 1 minute and then every few minutes.
- Continue giving CPR until the animal has a pulse and is breathing.
- Stop CPR after 20 minutes.



If Anything Happens to You, What Happens to Me?

Animals have these advantages over man: they have no theologians to instruct them, their funerals cost them nothing, and no one starts lawsuits over their wills. —Voltaire

Most of us have had various pets throughout our lives and have pampered and loved them deeply. But do we carefully consider what would happen to them in the event of our inability to care for them? We discuss all kinds of Sheltie health issues with

our vets, compare various dog illness symptoms with our friends, debate medical needs and the best possible care, even contemplate the inevitable when it come to our pets. We discuss our own disabilities, future living arrangements, estate planning, and funeral

options. But we seldom discuss what will happen to our pets if they outlive us. Without careful planning, your Sheltie may not have the quality of life you envision.

By law, animals are considered property rather than family members. They cannot be the beneficiaries of a will. People and organizations can receive bequests; animals cannot. But you can establish a trust for their care (the trustee will manage it) or you can name a new owner. Without a specific designee, your pet will usually go to next of kin. It is important to establish a legal contract, will, or trust to insure the well-being of your pet, not only for the long term but also for the immediate period necessary for probate. Generally, it's best not to specify the pets by name. Rather, state that any animals owned at the time of death will be provided for, by whom, and the amount of money allocated for the care.

We advise working with an attorney to be sure your pet has all the legal protection necessary to insure quality of life during your temporary or permanent absence. Watch for an upcoming article in *The Whole Dog Journal* <http://www.whole-dog-journal.com> focusing on estate planning for pets. In the meantime, here are a few suggestions to consider.

Pet Trust – a legal agreement that sets aside money or property for a trustee. Pet trusts ensure that animals are cared for even if someone contests the will. Trusts can be executed immediately after death or disability. The trustee would make payments to your designated caregiver to cover your pet's expenses. When setting up the trust, consider all of your Sheltie's annual expenses, including vetting, grooming, boarding, food, and supplies.

Power of Attorney – a legal document authorizing a designee to act on your behalf to care for your pets.

Designated Caregivers – a friend, neighbor, petsitter, boarder, or someone who knows you and your pet. These people can be counted on to take your pet in an emergency or during the time necessary to settle your estate. Contact your vet and boarding

facility to see if they will take your pet if your caregivers are for some reason unavailable.

Guidelines for your pet's care – a list of everything a caregiver would need to know about your pet in order to provide quality care. Include type of food, quantity, feeding schedule, treats, activities, toys, exercise needs, potty schedule, temperament issues, behavior issues, and sleeping arrangements. Include your emergency contacts. Place a copy on your refrigerator or other high-profile area. This is especially important if you live alone.

Emergency Plan – a plan for your temporary inability to care for your pet. Make sure a neighbor or friend (preferably both) has a key to your home and can access your home quickly. Place emergency stickers on front and back windows of your home listing how many pets live in the house so that they can be rescued in case of an earthquake, fire, or other emergency. Carry an Alert card in your wallet that has all your pertinent pet information and contact numbers.

You may also wish to consider releasing your Sheltie to NorCal Sheltie Rescue as part of your legal planning. In the event you have no relative, friend, or trustee wishing to accept the responsibility of caring for your dog, we would insure that a good home is found. Any reference to our organization should be as follows:

NorCal Sheltie Rescue, Inc
P. O. Box 581934
Elk Grove, CA 95758
Federal Tax ID: 20-4107630

If you have worked with an attorney recently and have good examples of legal language you included in your estate planning, we would appreciate hearing from you so that we can share with others either on our website or in a future newsletter.

Our pets are cherished and loved and, more importantly, are considered family members rather than property. Ensuring their quality of life after our death or disability is a vital step we need to take to protect them.

—Nancy Furay

The Art of Living with Shelties

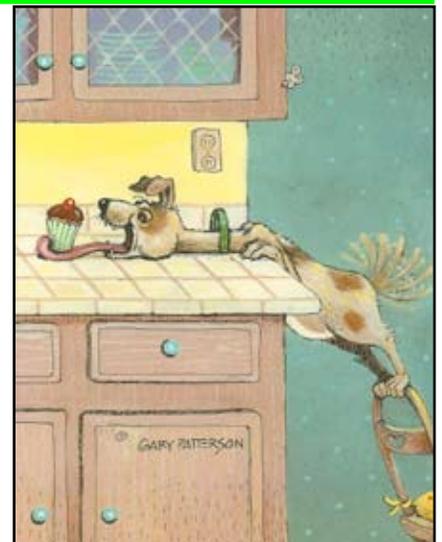
Parties and More Parties

There are Sheltie romps, public and private, going on all over Northern California. We published information about Marge Entwisle's Mill Valley "Sheltie Sunday" group in the last issue of the Newsletter (email mentwisl@pacbell.net). There is another set of organized romps on the fourth Sunday of the month (weather and holidays permitting) at Nola Jones's Performance Dogs in Action in Pleasant Grove (where we have our annual Sheltie Picnic). Nola has published a list of "meet-up



Ditto's first birthday party

days for various groups of dogs by type, large and small, and has set aside April 22 and October 28, 2012, for Collies and Shelties only. The fee to play on her wonderful 10-acre site is \$5; herding evaluations are available for an additional fee. You can find out more about these meet-up days at www.performancedogsinaction.com or by calling 916-655-1558. The newsletter editor also hosts romps in Woodside



when the weather is nice and the spirit moves. Diane Keitz put her video of our Fourth of July Sheltie Romp in Woodside on YouTube so all can enjoy it (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7zPa_SzS22E), and she has given us permission to put a link to it in the NorCal Sheltie Rescue news-



letter. I never tire of watching this; it's such a peaceful, happy video. It will be interesting to see how many hits it gets! Thank you, Diane!! Email me (vicki.doylejones@gmail.com) if you would like to be put on the mailing list for the romps in Woodside; and, if you know of other scheduled romps or want to start one of your own, please don't hesitate to get in touch so we can "advertise" for you.

Shelties in the Great Outdoors



Mindy's Charlie and Laddie moved with her to Virginia where they have discovered SNOW!



Shelby, Newman, and Basie



"Dilly had a great time in Yosemite. His new nickname is Dilly Goat because he climbs small rocks with a confident and nimble bounce. He has sore muscles today. He probably hiked ten or more miles."



Nancy forwarded some pictures from Eric and wrote "Thought you might like to see Bella at her new sport of kayaking! Very glad to see her so happy in life...no more lonely backyard life for her. Can't wait until the day we can truly see that "No Sheltie Goes Without Love in Life."



Chris and her gang at the beach

Dilly at Sutter Buttes

And as for indulging in the pure fun of living with Shelties, one of our friends told us about an active Sheltie-lovers' webpage with different forums/threads that you may want to visit: "Sheltie Nation, for the love of the Shetland Sheepdog." Check it out at www.sheltienation.com.



The Director Recommends: <http://healthypets.mercola.com/>

I can't recommend Dr. Becker's newsletters enough. Dr. Becker is clear and informative about dog and cat care. She has wonderful advice in her articles and short videos. Examples from March 2012 would include: "If Your Pet is Overweight, Please Stay Away from These 'Fixes'" (March 2), "This is One Lump You Can't Ignore," (March 5), "Saying No to Poor Quality Pet Food... Even When It's Recommended by Your Vet" (March 9), and "If Your Dog is Bouncing Off the Walls, This Could be Why" (March 14).

Recent Adoptions

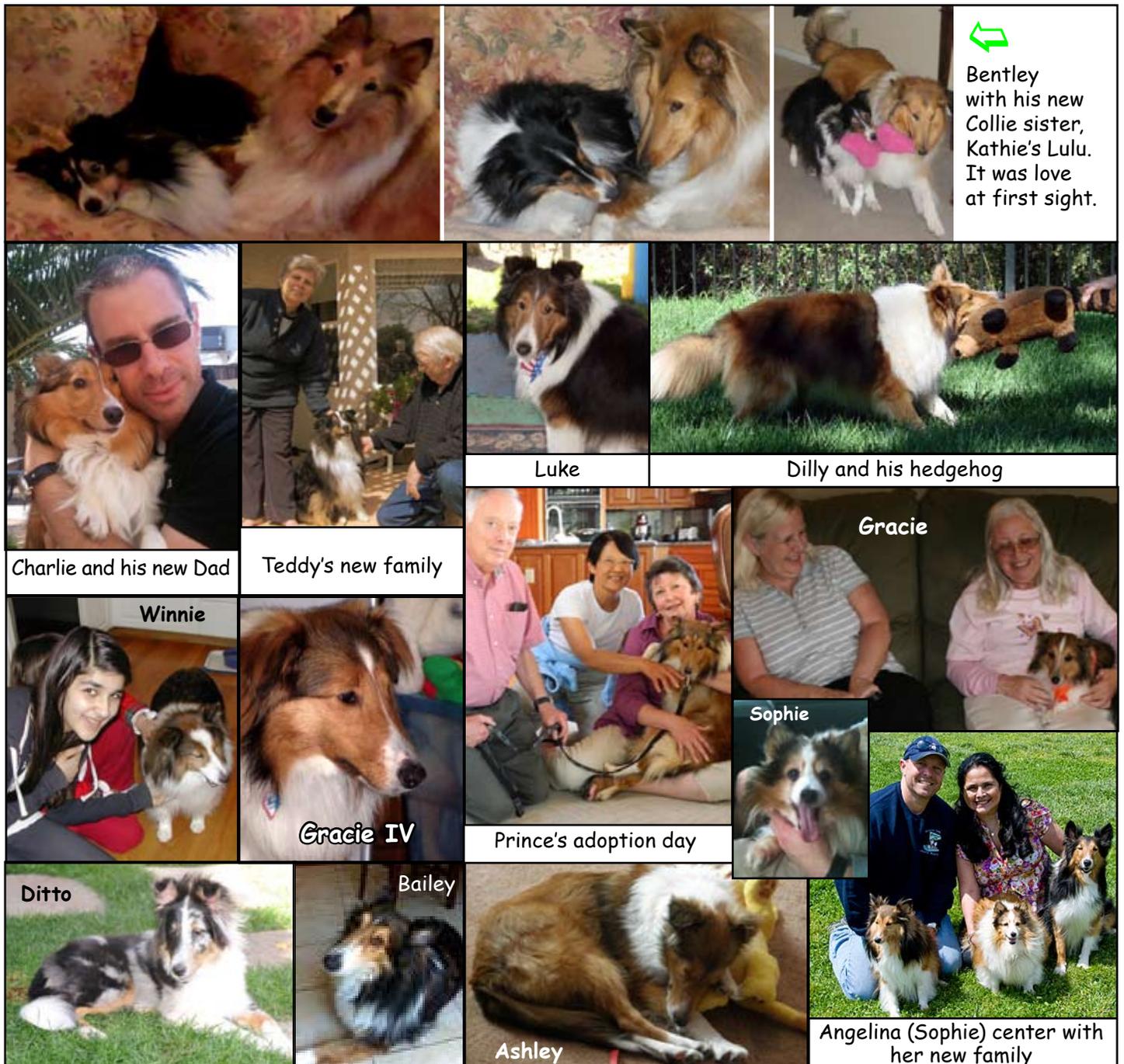
Sometimes foster families simply can't part with a foster Sheltie who was intended to be adopted out. It happens to the best of us—and for a variety of reasons. Sometimes, as in the case of Gale Ann's Charlotte, dogs come back into Rescue after being placed, and we promise them then and there that they will never have to leave us again. Sometimes the bond is so strong that it just can't be broken; there are lots of cases where that has happened. Or sometimes a particular Sheltie presents challenges or opportunities that an individual foster mom or dad just plain needs. As in my case, I knew that "Mischief" was sent to me to teach me humility: Every time I start to think I know something about dog training, Mischief blows me off, forcing me to rethink everything I thought I knew—and, besides, Mischief could never be adopted out: nobody else could tolerate her antics.

So it was with Gale Ann and Dottie. Dottie was a snarky little old thing who came into Gale Ann's life as a fosterling and never went anyplace else. Anybody who sees Dottie and Gale Ann together instantly recognizes that Dottie needs and lives for Gale Ann.

—The Editor



Dottie



Bentley with his new Collie sister, Kathie's Lulu. It was love at first sight.



Charlie and his new Dad

Teddy's new family

Luke

Dilly and his hedgehog



Prince's adoption day



Ditto

Bailey

Sophie

Ashley

Angelina (Sophie) center with her new family



Cody with his new family and brother, Lucas

Pat with Tony and Jack with Allie

Judy Lynn with Aaron

Toby

Chyanne (right) with her new brother, Colle, in their garden

Harley and Gracie

Willy and Linda

Acey adoption day

Nolan

Duchess

Bailey

Tina (now "Minnie") with Jeff and Linde

Tilly

Annie

↩
Tootsie, who spent the first five years of her life tied under a bed

Special Needs Shelties and Sainted Adopters

NorCal Sheltie Rescue took in two "Double Dilute" or "Double Merle" Shelties in 2011. These are terms for homozygous merles (dogs with two copies of the dominant merle gene). Many breeds of dogs carry the merle gene, and only one copy of that gene is needed to have a merle coat. When a dog inherits two copies of that gene, instead of producing only partial lightening, the effect is doubled, causing some or most of the coat to turn white. The breeding of two merle parents not only produces a defective white coloring, but their puppies are often deaf, sterile, and/or blind (the eyes of a double merle can be abnormally small [microphthalmia] or missing entirely [anophthalmia]). Double merles can



Willow

Copper

also be affected by various internal abnormalities that cause an early death. Responsible Sheltie breeders are fully cognizant of the dangers of this merle:merle cross and know the genetics of their lines, whereas many backyard breeders have no idea of the risks of that breeding. Two-year-old Copper, who is hearing impaired, and the 14-pound, deaf/mostly blind, little yearling dynamo, Willow, are examples of a merle:merle cross. Both have been adopted by truly wonderful families who saw beyond the infirmities of these two bright, loving, and very spirited, special-needs Shelties.

The Montana 6

Late in 2010, Dianne Garcia and Jackie Bertaina from NorCal Sheltie Rescue drove to Montana to pick up 6 out of 72 dogs who had been found running feral at a murder site at a ranch in Montana. The initial word through the national sheltie rescue network email list was that there were dozens of Shelties at the site, and news reports claimed that there were Shetland Sheepdogs and Pomeranians (two separate breeds, not mixes). It was soon evident to those familiar with the two breeds that all 72 were the progeny of one initial breeding pair, a purebred Shetland Sheepdog and a purebred Pomeranian. There was lots of interest in helping, but as the dust settled and the rescues learned that all of the dogs were actually Sheltie/Pomeranian mixes, only a handful stood by their offer to help. We were one of those who didn't back down due to the dedication of Dianne and Jackie and their willingness to drive all that way to bring six home with them. Diane gave our six movie-star names and dubbed them the "Montana 6 Shelteranians"—though "Pomtee" would also work. All were tiny and exceedingly cute, some looked more "Sheltie," some more "Pomeranian," some the perfect "designer dog" blend. Despite their feral start in life, the "Montana 6" have all now been socialized and trained under the expert care of our best foster homes and have found places with loving families.



Bonnie (left) daughter of Echo (the heartworm-positive pair adopted by Frank and Lucie Hock in 2010) shown with the Shelteranian, Quinn, (now called Wolfie), also adopted by Frank and Lucie.



Spencer Tracy & Marie



Newman & Puppy, Vaughn



Redford



Buddy (formerly Brando)



Greta

... and The Visalia 5

In July of 2011, Liliane wrote the group: "So all of us know about the Montana 6, but have you heard of the Visalia 5? Today I went to pick up 5 (yes, 5) Shelties that were being surrendered by a backyard breeder in Visalia whose neighbors were complaining about too many dogs in her "city" neighborhood. Everything went well, but these poor little guys were in deplorable condition. I arranged for Petco to groom all of them, and they gave us a "cheaper than Chihuahua discount" because we are a nonprofit rescue group. Awesome! The siblings include 10-year-old sables Mister and Missy, 6-year-old bi-black Kyleigh and sable Tina, and 2-year-old sable Shadow. All five dogs have superb temperaments—no barking, no howling, no aggressiveness, and no resource guarding." And all have now found loving homes thanks to Liliane, Terry, and our core volunteers who fostered them.

Kyleigh, one of the Visalia 5, has moved to her 'forever' home with Janice and Marvin and bi-black Sheltie brother, Dynamo. Janice and Marvin adopted Dynamo in January 2010; he was their first Sheltie and also their first family pet! Dynamo and Janice have a very strong bond, so they were hoping that their next dog might develop a similar relationship with Marvin. Well, Kyleigh met her new family and immediately took a liking to Marvin; Marvin fell madly in love with Kyleigh, and the rest is history. The two dogs are a very nice fit—not only are they both bi-black, but they have complimentary personalities and seemed to adjust to each other very quickly.



Mister

Missy

Shadow

Tina (now "Minnie")

Kyleigh

Hospice Care for Some "Throw-away" Shelties



Fourteen-year-old Becky Sixteen-year-old Chip

"We need another and a wiser and perhaps a more mystical concept of animals. Remote from universal nature, and living by complicated artifice, man in civilization surveys the creature through the glass of his knowledge and sees thereby a feather magnified and the whole image in distortion. We patronize them for their incompleteness, for their tragic fate of having taken form so far below ourselves. And therein we err, and greatly err. For the animal shall not be measured by man. In a world older and more complete than ours they move finished and complete, gifted with extensions of the senses we have lost or never attained, living by voices we shall never hear. They are not brethren, they are not underlings; they are other nations caught with ourselves in the net of life and time, fellow prisoners of the splendour and travail of the earth."
—Henry Beston

Special, heartfelt thanks to our compassionate foster families who have taken in five oldsters (Terry, Lexie, and Jenny are not pictured) so that they can live out the rest of their lives basking in love and pampering.

Rainbow Bridge 2011

http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/ccah/petloss_resources.cfm

Charlotte came into rescue in August 2005 when she was maybe 5 years old from a couple who adopted her from an L.A. shelter and then moved to the Natomas area. They didn't really have a good reason for giving her up, but you know that doesn't matter to us. I fostered her and placed her with a Turlock couple and their almost-grown kids. A couple of years later I was contacted by the oldest daughter who told me that her dad ran off with his secretary and she and her mom were living in a duplex. She wanted me to know that she had Charlotte, not her dad. Several months later the daughter contacted me again, asking if I had a dog house she could use for Charlotte. They were living with her boyfriend in Turlock, and he didn't believe in allowing dogs in the house. I kept working on her to return Charlotte to me, which she did a few weeks later.

Charlotte came back a mess. She weighed 45-48 pounds, had a huge fatty deposit at the base of her tail, and a raging *e-coli* bladder infection. Her coat was dull and nasty. I vowed she wouldn't have to leave me again. She stayed with me until she passed away, living the good life. When she died, her coat was a rich, glossy black, soft and full, she weighed 28 pounds, and her eyes showed me her love until the very end. She was a good girl. I miss her.



Charlotte

—Gale Ann

Last June, core volunteer, Tonya, wrote our group: "Today was the first time I have had to tell a shelter that NorCal would NOT be taking in their impounded sheltie. I am very sad that this poor girl was abandoned by some neglectful person who allowed her to get into such a poor health state that she is beyond what Rescue can do. Fortunately, the woman I spoke with [at the Calaveras Shelter] once owned a sheltie. I am assured that this sheltie girl, who probably has Cushings and hypothyroidism, along with maggots in her hair and hot spots and the inability to get up because she weighs a squishy guesstimate of 60#, will be

sent to the Bridge with love and understanding."

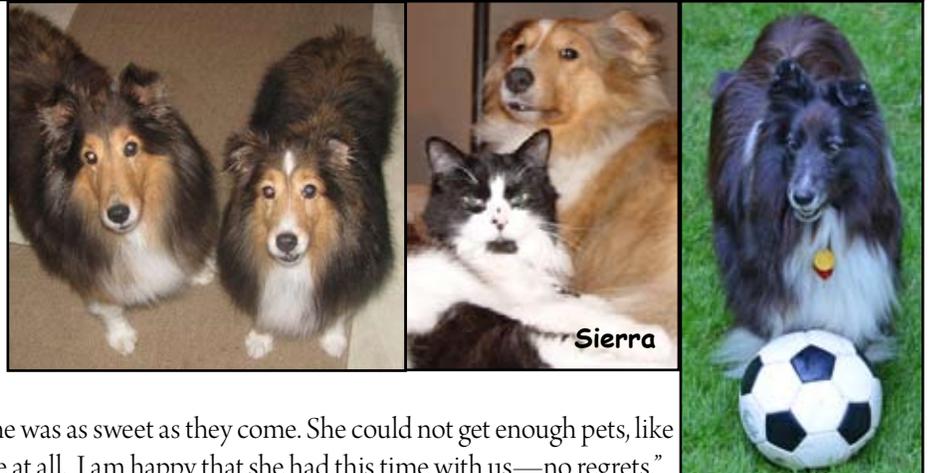
Roger, ever kind hearted, drove to Calaveras to pick up the remains of this sad little dog and have them cremated so that she wouldn't be forgotten. Trent Thompson, the owner of *Caring Pet Service Animal and Pet Cremation*, 30 North Santa Cruz Ave, Los Gatos, CA donated the cost of the cremation and gave Roger a tile for the top of the little box saying "Not Forgotten." Calaveras Girl will be with Roger and Susan forever, joining the little caskets with their Blue and Bonnie and living on in their memory.

—Newsletter Editor



Thirteen-year-old Echo (left), mother of Bonnie (right), went to the Rainbow Bridge on October 18, 2011. This mother-and-daughter pair of Shelties came to us with advanced stages of heartworm disease. Lucie Hock pulled them through the brutal immiticide treatment and long convalescent period that follows it, but Echo never completely recovered and her lungs finally gave out.

Lucie wrote us, "After all she went through, she deserved more time to enjoy her new life. She was as sweet as they come. She could not get enough pets, like she was trying to make up for 13 years of no love at all. I am happy that she had this time with us—no regrets."



SPECIAL FRIENDS

Below is a list of veterinarians and clinics around Northern California that our core volunteers and foster homes used in 2011 to care for our rescue Shelties. Some offer a very nice discount to NorCal Sheltie Rescue for the care of our Shelties, all are experts in every aspect of Sheltie (and Collie Family) health issues, vets who have helped us in special ways, or those who have gone beyond the call in caring for the creatures we love. If you have a wonderful vet to recommend to your fellow Sheltie family members, please share their contact information with us.

VETERINARY CLINIC	LOCATION	VETERINARY CLINIC	LOCATION
Adobe Animal Hospital	Los Altos	Cool Animal Hospital	Cool
Airport Pet Clinic	Cameron Park	CritterCare Mobile Veterinary Clinic	Truckee
Animal Clinic of Benecia	Benecia	Devotion Animal Hospital	Santa Rosa
Animal Hospital of Sebastopol	Sebastopol	Meridian Veterinary Care	Fair Oaks
Animal Wellness Center	Davis	Missouri Flat Pet Clinic	Placerville
Blue Oak Veterinary Hospital	Jackson	Northpointe Veterinary Hospital	Yuba City
Bradshaw Veterinary Clinic	Elk Grove	PetCare Veterinary Hospital	Santa Rosa
Cirby Ridge Animal Hospital	Roseville	Standiford Veterinary Center	Modesto
Coastside Veterinary Clinic	Half Moon Bay	Waterhouse Animal Hospital	Fresno

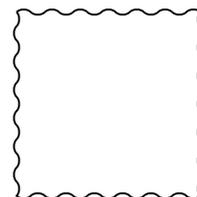
We would also like to thank Pet Food Express, a Northern California holistic pet food and supply company, for what is soon to be two decades of excellent service and support. PFE has helped NorCal Sheltie (and Collie) Rescues in many ways since the early 90s when "Danny" was the manager of their Fremont store, one of the first stores they opened. The chain has since grown to 43 stores; and their newest store in Roseville just hosted a Sheltie Rescue Day staffed by some of our volunteers and featuring a book signing (*English for Dogs*) for our adoption coordinator/author, Terry Gary.

Our mailing lists have lots of blanks and/or defunct e-mail addresses. Please make sure to update your e-mail and US mail addresses with us, and please ask other Sheltie families you encounter to do the same. Thank you for staying in touch with NorCal Sheltie Rescue (<http://www.norcalsheltierescue.org>).

— *Gale Ann Morris* (sheltieroses@frontiernet.net)



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FIRST CLASS MAIL
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