



Smiley Dog Rescue

"Open your heart to an animal in need."

A Message From Our President

Dear Friends of Animals:

On one of my many rescue missions to a Bay Area animal shelter, my attention was called to the words of Ghandi that are inscribed over the main entrance. These words read, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." Although I have read these words hundreds of times as I pass through the doors of this shelter, I still find it rather ironic. An institution that is responsible for "sheltering" animals is also the institution that is responsible for their death. There is no such thing as a "no kill" public shelter. Companion animals standing behind bars waiting to be rescued or face certain death are a constant reminder that as a moral society we still have a long way to go.

Shockingly, Bay Area shelters have a euthanasia rate of well over ten thousand animals a year. Multiply that number by the hundreds of shelters that exist in our country and the numbers are mind-boggling. Beautiful, kind, gentle, and loving animals end up on death row because they are treated as expendable commodities. Old age, failing health, lack of time and even an animal's size are reasons owners give when they surrender their pets. Often, these animals are abused or neglected. Some of them have resulting behavioral problems that require only training and love. These are the dogs who rely on Smiley Dog Rescue to help them and give them another chance to lead a better life.

Since I began volunteering my time in animal rescue over 5 years ago, I am constantly asked by friends, family and acquaintances alike why I feel so compelled to give so much of my time and energy to help homeless animals? If those who ask this question would accompany to a shelter and gaze into the pathetic eyes of the dogs that are on the other side waiting for help, they would certainly understand why I do it and why Smiley Dog Rescue is so important. Shelters depend on us to help reduce the numbers of dogs that are put to sleep yearly. Without dedicated Smiley Dog Rescue volunteers, the euthanasia numbers would be even more staggering than they already are. So to those who inquire about why I spend my time, energy and money on these animals, I quote Ghandi by saying, "We must be the change we wish to see".

I am absolutely sure that the work of Smiley Dog Rescue can and does make a difference. Since our beginning three years ago, we have made life better for over 500 animals directly through our rescue and adoption program and through our shelter, owner assistance and rescue assistance programs. It is that knowledge that inspires all of us at Smiley Dog Rescue to continue the work of rescuing and finding loving responsible homes for needy animals. If we as human beings are able to destroy the spirit and physical integrity of an animal by abuse, neglect and abandonment, we as human beings can also make a difference in the lives of these animals by providing them with medical care, socialization, love, training, and a new home.

During this Holiday Season, I invite you to help us in rebuilding the lives of animals in need by making a generous contribution to our cause, and by volunteering your time, or by adopting one of our animals. Today's and tomorrow's Smiley Dogs are depending on us. Please, let us not turn our backs to them.

Respectfully,

Kathy Marks
President of the Board

Adopt Me!



Daisy
Basset/Pointer



Specs
Hound/Pit Mix



Lil' Punkin
Spaniel Mix

Check

www.smileydogrescue.org for
more adoptable pets.

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Senior Dogs Deserve Loving Homes Too

Not all Smiley Dogs have come to us as youngsters or even middle-aged dogs. In the past 3 years we have rescued many older dogs that have been short on time in local shelters. Although these dogs are harder to find homes for, we have found some extraordinary people who were willing to open their hearts and homes to them. Thanks to these special people, we have been able to reach out and include these deserving "senior dogs" in our program. Here are just a few dogs that we are currently helping out.

Georgia a beautiful brindle colored petite Boxer is about 8 years young. We rescued her from the Berkeley Animal Shelter in the spring of 2003. Since coming to us, she was adopted twice and returned due to severe separation anxiety. Georgia is gentle and affectionate and loves the company of both dogs and cats. But with such severe separation anxiety, she was quite destructive in her new homes. Since she didn't exhibit her destructive behaviors in her foster home, we never imagined that this problem would almost cost her her life. In September, Georgia's foster dad moved out of state and we were left with few options for her. In order to find her a permanent home, we needed a guardian who didn't have to leave her alone for too long. Just before this newsletter went to print, Georgia's angel arrived and she was adopted. She is doing well in her new forever home. Georgia can go with her new mom and spends her time there greeting the visitors at their store in San Francisco. We are thrilled and grateful to Sheri Sheridan for opening her heart and home to Georgia. This time we are hopeful, it will be Georgia's last home.



Trixie was 10 years old when she and her brother Mikey were surrendered to a local animal shelter. Economic hard times and the birth of their first child were the reasons given by their owner for giving the two dogs up. They had lived together since they were youngsters, but sadly, when the going got tough, the dogs were forced out. Because of their ages, these two dogs stood no chance of ever making it out of the shelter alive. Seniors are usually among the first to be euthanized. Luckily for Trixie and Mikey, Smiley Dog Rescue volunteer Alexis Lagos heard of their plight and rushed to the shelter to rescue them. After almost a year in foster care, Mikey was finally been adopted. With his new mom Mary, he is enjoying his senior years and doing very well! Trixie, however, is still waiting for her forever home. Although she is being well cared for and loved by her devoted foster parents, they are apartment dwellers and Trixie would love a house with a yard to play in. We are hopeful that someday soon this will happen. If you are interested in adopting Trixie (see our website for details), please contact us.



Simon is a 10-year-old Border Collie Mix with a beautiful thick black coat. He was surrendered to the shelter by his owner when she had to move to an apartment that didn't allow dogs. They had been together since Simon was just a pup. Simon is soft spoken and has a low level of energy. He gets along nicely with the other dogs in his foster home. Simon would love a home where he can just hang out and take the occasional easy stroll. He is really a very easy dog to have around. If you would like to give Simon a new home, please contact us. He is patiently waiting for someone to call his own. Simon is a good boy and deserving of another chance!



And finally there is Leroy. Leroy is an 18-year-old shepherd mix who was rescued very recently. His elderly owner, who was no longer able to care for him, surrendered him to the Oakland Shelter. It took the efforts of Smiley Dog Rescue and 2 other rescue groups (thanks to the relentlessness of Laurie Burke of Hopalong Animal Rescue) to get Leroy to safety. Fortunately, by networking with the volunteers of North Bay Canine Rescue and Placement, we were able to help him. Today, Leroy is safe in his foster home and waiting patiently for his forever home. Leroy is good with other dogs and although very old, he manages to get around very well. His sight and hearing are diminished but that doesn't seem to get in the way! Leroy is housebroken and easy on the leash. He really is a wonderful dog and we are hopeful that he will find a new forever home where he can live out the rest of his life with someone who will love and appreciate him, even at 18 years old! If you would like to extend your love to Leroy, please contact Hollielama@mindspring.com. Tell her you heard about him from Smiley Dog Rescue.



Tallulah Fund Succeeds in Helping Special Needs Dogs. There Are Still More To Help!

By Kathy Marks

When the Tallulah Fund was established last year we had no idea how much we would come to rely on it. Thanks to the generosity of the donors to this fund, we have been able to extend our life saving efforts to many special needs dogs.

In our last mailing, we appealed for your help to provide the medical and surgical care for three special needs dogs. Sadie, a terrier mix with mammary tumors, Metro, a border collie mix with a broken hip, and Stella, a Rottweiler with degenerative arthritis in her hips, all received their needed surgeries and medical care using funding from the Tallulah Fund. And, we are also happy to report, they have all found their forever homes! This would not have been possible without your encouragement and support. In addition to these three wonderful dogs, we have since been able to help several other special needs dogs who too, are deserving of a second chance. Here is who you have contributed to.

Ali, a seven-year old pit bull mix received treatment for heart worms which were discovered soon after he was rescued. The cost of treatment was over \$500.00 but without it, Ali would not have survived. Today, Ali is living in his new forever home and feeling like a youngster again. Another special needs dog and (almost senior dog), success story, thanks to our generous donors and of course his new family.



Blaze

Blaze, a one-year old pit bull mix came to us from the Pinole Shelter. Within days of arriving at her foster home, she began to lose hair all over her body. After treating her for mange, staph infections and food allergies, Blaze showed only slight improvement. It took almost an entire year and the help of three different veterinarians to finally get Blaze on the road to recovery. The cost of this treatment was almost \$1000.00. That may seem like an awful lot of money to spend on a dog, but for Blaze's new family it was worth it. Blaze is the second Smiley Dog to join the Jacinto family in the last two years. A special thank you goes to Blaze's foster mom Jodi Souders, who stuck by Blaze through all the turmoil of figuring out what was wrong her, and until she was finally adopted, almost exactly one year to the day that she came to Smiley Dog Rescue.

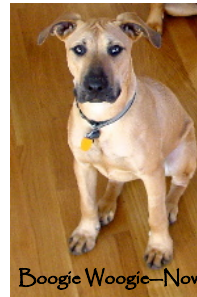
Boogie Woogie was just eight weeks old when he was found abandoned outside in a shopping cart. This little guy was horribly malnourished resulting in a severe physical defect in his front legs. The deformity, most likely caused by the malnutrition, prevented Boogie from bearing weight on his front feet (see above picture). A disability that might have been debilitating to most animals didn't get in Boogie's way. Instead, this special pup exhibited a zest for life and a will to survive. Because of his wonderful temperament and outgoing personality, we were anxious to rescue him from the shelter and give him a second chance to live a normal life. Through a series of splinting and weekly visits to the vet, and by feeding him a high quality dog food, Boogie began to gain strength in his little legs. Soon, much to our amazement, he

became increasingly more able to walk on his feet, instead of his ankles! Today, Boogie Woogie is living happily ever after with his new family. They tell us that he has continued to show improvement, and is growing like a weed! Although he will probably never be "normal", he is certainly not the same dog he was when he came to us. We especially give thanks to Montclair Veterinary Hospital in Oakland, who helped us every step of the way. Their financial help, encouragement, love and affection for Boogie helped make this a success story.



Boogie Woogie—Before

Thanks to the Tallulah Fund for special needs dogs and the generosity of our wonderful group of veterinarians, Montclair Vet Hospital, El Cerrito Pet Hospital, Claremont Vet Hospital, Animal Care Clinic, and Broadway Pet Hospital, and Encino Veterinary Hospital (all who provided these dogs with special care at a reduced cost), we were able to help many special needs dogs this year. Unfortunately, there are an infinite number of other special needs dogs still waiting for our help. In order to continue rescuing such dogs however, we need your continued support. Please, open your heart to a special needs dog by giving generously to the Tallulah Fund. Dogs like Ali, Blaze and Boogie, Metro, Sadie and Stella, are here today because someone in the past helped make it possible! You can help a future dog get a second chance too.



Boogie Woogie—Now



Ali

Preparing For Your New Dog

By Alison Smith, Professional Dog Trainer

It is important to think about why you wanted a dog in your life. To have a successful relationship with your dog it is important to understand what your expectations are. Picture a typical day with your dog. Who walks the dog? Where and what do you feed the dog? Do you let the dog on the furniture? Do you want the dog everywhere in the house or only in certain areas? Where will the dog sleep? Where will the dog stay when your not home?

One person needs to be the primary caretaker. Consistency is key whether you are housebreaking, training or just teaching the dog about living in your house. Remember this is a dog. The only thing your dog knows is that putting things in your mouth is good. Food is good, yours, his, on the floor, on the counter and in the trashcan. Chewing is good; shoes, chairs, toys, and pen caps... it's all good. After the initial training period others can be more involved.

Before you bring the dog home have a room set up with a water bowl, a bed, possibly a crate and gates or a pen to contain the dog. This room is typically the kitchen or laundry room because the floor is easy to clean and there are fewer things the dog is likely to destroy. Have toys and chew things (see the list), food, a leash, collar and an idea of how this is going to be. Getting the dog is very exciting for everyone, the dog included.

When the day comes bring the dog right home. Don't have any extra people around. Keep the dog on a leash and let him check out his new world. If you are not with him put him in his room.

Let the dog adjust for several hours before you feed him. Only the primary caretaker should be handling the dog. Just being touched can be overwhelming for a new dog with new people. Let the dog choose whether he wants to approach someone or not. Keep things very quiet for a few days.

For the first few days be prepared to keep the dog very restricted. During this time you will discover

how much your dog knows about living in a home. Is the dog housebroken? What happens if you leave the dog alone? Is the dog good with every one in the house? Respect your dog's limits. If he walks away from someone let him be. Don't force attention on the dog. Set up a schedule for feeding and walks. Take him out on a leash to where you want him to eliminate. Walk back and forth for 2 minutes chanting a potty cue like 'hurry up'. If he potties, praise and play or go for a walk. If he doesn't then go back inside for ½ an hour keeping him leashed to you or in a confined area. Keep trying until you have success. Even if he is housebroken this process

will teach him to eliminate in a specific place before his walks. Many dogs learn that eliminating causes the walk to end so they hold it as long as they can to make the walk last longer. Teaching him to go before he walks makes it easier to keep your schedules and to insure that he won't have accidents in the house.

Dogs go through an adjustment period. During the first 2 weeks they may seem like the perfect dog and then suddenly change. This first phase is sort the invisible dog

phase. They are getting to know their new environment and keeping a low profile. The 6 weeks following that are the testing weeks; the dog is figuring out how things work and what their role is. Being consistent with the rules and training during this time makes it easier for the dog to figure it all out.

Following these simple suggestions sets you and your dog up for success. Being prepared, planning ahead and being consistent are the keys to a long and healthy relationship with your dog. Along those lines you should find a veterinarian that you like; don't wait until there is a problem. Go in for a general exam. Make it fun for your dog, bring lots of treats and ask everyone

from the receptionist to the vet to give them to your dog. This way your dog will have a positive association with going to the vet. Also find a trainer who uses humane methods. Ask questions their methods and services. Find someone you feel comfortable with.

Again don't wait until you have a problem.

Now you have a dog who knows how to behave in your home. You know what you can expect from your dog. You know who to call for medical or behavior problems. All that is left is to enjoy your new friend.



Broadway On The Mend

By Georgia Cassel

Walking in Oakland recently, the exasperated expression of a woman caught my attention. She was standing beside a medium sized black dog, who was curiously still, but alertly watching people as they passed by. The woman explained that the dog had been hit by a car and although she had telephoned Animal Control over an hour earlier, no one had come. She refused to leave the dog until he could get help. I tried to walk by, but was somewhat taken aback by the idea of leaving an injured dog in the middle of the sidewalk. I felt compelled to run to my car and get a blanket for him. When I returned, two other people were standing there as this dog looked up and watched us. Although he had the look of a stray, (no collar and very skinny) he was trusting and unafraid of us. Even injured, this dog was gentle and appealing!

I left the scene of the accident after someone lifted the dog into their car and drove him to a nearby veterinarian. As the day wore on, I found myself wondering what had happened to this dog, so I phoned the pet hospital that had treated him. They had managed to stabilize the dog and then sent him, as required by law, to Animal Control.

The first few times I telephoned

them, someone took my name and phone number and said the vet technician would return my call. I was never phoned. Finally, after calling again, I was put through to the technician who answered several questions that I had. Apparently, and luckily, as we spoke, a



volunteer from Smiley Dog Rescue entered the animal shelter. I was put on hold briefly and then the volunteer picked up the phone and introduced herself to me. She made

time to answer all of my questions, although she had not spent any time with the dog at that point in time. She suggested that I call her later in the day, after she had time to meet the dog and evaluate him. Thus began a wild weekend of frantic phone calls so "Broadway" as we decided to name him, could be seen by a veterinarian and then be placed in a foster home to recover.

I began to call everyone that I knew who had ever shown any interest in the humane treatment of dogs. Before long, I had two potential foster homes lined up, three potential adopters, and a veterinarian who was willing to treat Broadway at a discounted price.

Helping Broadway has opened my

eyes to the plight of thousands of injured, sick and homeless dogs. I will forever be grateful to the support offered to me by the vet technician at the animal shelter for her willingness to help this dog in need. I am also grateful to her for connecting me with Smiley Dog Rescue who has offered those of us involved with Broadway unlimited support every step of the way. In return for their help, I have vowed to continue to help them help other dogs in need.

I am happy to report that Broadway is on the mend albeit underweight and still limping as he recovers from surgery for his broken hip. Through funds from Smiley Dog Rescue's Tallulah Fund, Broadway was able to receive the help that he needed. He is a gentle, sweet natured dog and I honestly think he is appreciative of those who have helped him. Smiley Dog Rescue literally saved this dog's life and offered us the help that we needed to rescue him and give him a new lease on life.

Want to join our lifesaving effort?

Email us at

smileydogrescue@yahoo.com

Thank You Smiley Dog!

Hi Smiley Dog,

I just wanted to say thanks for the wonderful dog you (Lynne) found for me. I'm talking about Verona (I renamed her Zoe). I adopted her in July and she has been a wonderful addition to the family. She is very happy here with her sister Mona, they get along great and play every day. She is very smart and has learned all the basic commands quickly. She loves to watch the squirrels that live in the big tree next to the house. I'm thinking about bringing her to the next Montclair adoption event to say hello. Anyway thanks again. We love her dearly!



I hope all her puppies are doing well too.
Emily

Dog Adaption

By Eric Morrow

I adopted a dog for silly and selfish reasons. I wanted a dog to greet me at the door, retrieve Frisbees in the park, impress women, and respond only to my unique high-pitched whistle. I found Koffi, a three-year old Italian Greyhound Mix, from Smiley Dog Rescue.

When Koffi and I first met, he was an emaciated 8 pounds, barely more than a skeleton on stick legs. I thought adoption was something I was going to do for me, to bring a dog into my life. Ultimately, we ended up adopting each other.

Our first week together was hard for both of us. I wanted Koffi to live inside the house and relieve himself in the yard. Koffi, on the other hand wanted to live in the yard and relieve himself in my kitchen! My human views clashed decidedly with his animal, street-dog instincts. For that first week, we were total strangers to one another.

As time went on, I realized Koffi was not going to change immediately into the perfect dog that followed at my heels and lie down upon command. He had been abused, neglected, and finally abandoned by his previous owner. He had survived living on the streets, fighting for scraps of food and makeshift shelter. I began to understand that we would continue to be aliens to one another until I could convince him to trust me.



Koffi

After looking through countless dog books and websites, I was unable to find a step-by-step guide to adopting a stray; no simple 1-2-3 plan to make him trust me. If I were going to gain his confidence, it

would have to be me that changed. Instead of Koffi being my companion, I was going to have to become his.

The first steps to making room in my life for him were easy; a water bowl, doggie bed, and box of milk bones got him in the door. The second step was the harder one. I had thought a dog

would be there to fill up my free time, to play with when I wanted.

Most of Koffi's life is spent waiting for me to come home; it was **me** that had to make the time for **him**.

Time became the most precious currency with which to earn Koffi's trust. After being abandoned, he wasn't ready to play in the park and go meet all my friends. I had to learn how to operate on his terms and how to take care of another living creature. I was very good at telling Koffi what I wanted, whether it was to come to me or sit or go fetch a ball. However, I was not very good at hearing when he needed to out for a walk or be picked up because he was afraid of being left alone. Gaining his trust meant I had to become sensitive to what he

needed, even though I adopted him to satisfy my wants.

Since Koffi's main concern was to be around someone who would protect, shelter, and love him, I began to take him everywhere with me, from classes to dance practice. As I learned to listen to and hear his wants and needs. What my needs were, were changing too. I did not need Koffi to become the ideal Frisbee fetching and obedient dog I had previously envisioned. Having my own quirky dog, that likes to tunnel into his blanket and curl up with his head on his hind paws, was very satisfying in its own right.



Taking in a stray has been a challenging experience, and there were many times during the first month that I was ready to give up.

However, adopting a dog is not about keeping a dog for a few months or even a year.

August 20th is Koffi's adopted birthday. In the space of one year, he has learned to come when called, sit when told, and only relieve himself outside. I have learned that owning a dog is not just about Frisbee time or showing him off to my friends. I needed to step outside of my comfortable shell and into the life of an abandoned and neglected dog. Alexis, the foster mom from Smiley Dog Rescue, told me that adopting a dog would not change the world, but it would change his world. She forgot to mention how it would also change mine.

Thank You Smiley Dog!

Hi! Just wanted to give you an update on Rocky.

We are so lucky to have found such a great family member. He truly is the sweetest and most gentle dog we have ever had the pleasure of knowing. Our day is always complete when we come home and find Rocky waiting at the door with his tail wagging because we're all so happy to see each other. He is the love of our lives. Thanks for all your efforts and all the hard work you do and many, many thanks for letting Rocky into our lives.

John & Diane McDermott

Grants Help Us Save More Lives

By Jean Shirk

Smiley Dog Rescue's animal rescue mission got a very important endorsement this year when it was awarded the first foundation grants in its three-year history. We received a grant from The Glide Foundation in Davis for \$15,000 to purchase a passenger van, which we are using to



transport homeless dogs from Bay Area shelters to foster homes and to public adoption events. The van is key to Smiley Dog Rescue's ability to rescue and make available for adoption as many worthy dogs as possible.

The PetCo Foundation awarded Smiley Dog Rescue \$2,000 for operational expenses such as routine medical ex-

penses, dog food, and collars and leashes.

Smiley Dog Rescue has applied for new grants from the Glide Foundation and

PetsMart, which would support our efforts to rescue "special needs" dogs, or dogs with unusual medical needs, via our Tallulah Fund. We expect to hear if our grant request has been approved in December.

In the meantime, if you have grant writing skills or would like to try your hand at writing grant proposals, Smiley Dog Rescue could use your expertise! Please contact us if you're interested in helping us out.

A Special Thank You To.....

Pet Food Express
Nitro Dog, Lafayette
Redhound, Oakland
Tail Waggin Inn, Oakland
Wag and Go Dog Training
K-9 Development, Lathrop
Canine Culture, Oakland
Montclair Veterinary Hospital, Oakland
Claremont Veterinary Hospital, Oakland
El Cerrito Pet Hospital
Animal Care Clinic, El Sobrante
Broadway Pet Hospital, Oakland
Planet Pooch, Redwood City
Dogs By Dianne, El Cerrito
Pride and Groom, Oakland

And Life Goes On....

By Ann Busse

Have you or someone you know lost a friend, two- or four-footed, you'd like remembered forever? Donating to Smiley Dog Rescue offers a perfect opportunity to give a gift that will perpetuate the spirit of your loved one. A donation will save precious K-9 lives and give endless joy to those who adopt them. What better way to memorialize a beloved being? Your contributions are tax-deductible.



Mark Your Calendars!



4th Annual Santa Paws Santa Photos \$25 Donation

New this year:

Same Day Service—Instead of camera store prints, everyone gets a CD with multiple photos!

Saturday, November 22nd

Redhound

5522 College Ave, Oakland

11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Saturday, December 6th

Nitro Dog

61 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette

11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Saturday, December 13th

Pet Food Express

2220 Mountain Blvd, Montclair Village

11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Sunday, December 14th

Redhound

5523 College Ave, Oakland

11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Call 510-530-5030 for Information

Proceeds benefit

Smiley Dog Rescue

&

Pets Are Wonderful Support East Bay

Name _____ Yes! I want to help Smiley Dog Rescue save the lives of deserving dogs. I've enclosed my check, made payable to _____

Address _____ "Smiley Dog Rescue".

City _____ \$25

State _____ Zip Code _____ \$50

E-mail Address _____ \$75

Phone _____ \$100

_____ Other

 **Smiley Dog Rescue**
"Open your heart to an animal in need."

Smiley Dog Rescue
P.O. Box 2728, Oakland, CA 94602
(510) 496-3484
Or donate online at
www.smileydogrescue.org

Mark Your Calendars!



4th Annual Santa Paws

- Saturday, November 22nd
- Saturday, December 6th
- Saturday, December 13th
- Sunday, December 14th

*See page 7 for more details

1st Annual Family Reunion A Blast

by Dave Hart

On a sunny Saturday this past July, several dozen of our graduates and their families got together for our First Smiley Dog Rescue "Family Reunion". The dogs had a wonderful time romping around Berkeley Marina's park while their families enjoyed a vast pot-luck selection of gourmet dishes (and great brownies).

After eating, the dogs and their people enjoyed an array of activities. Montclair Veterinary Hospital offered micro-chip protection, our professional dog trainer Alison Smith offered tips & assistance, and a great "dog store" with some fabulous dog accessories helped to keep the shoppers happy. Throughout

the afternoon there were contests and prizes, capped off by the very popular dog-owner look-alike contest.

Our raffle and silent auction, along with the "doggie store" helped to raise over one thousand dollars. Proceeds from the event will of course, go to rescuing and caring for future Smiley Dogs!

We hope to have more "Family Reunions" in the future. We'll let you know when the date for the next one is chosen.

Hope to see you all there!

