



Siberian Husky Rescue of Florida, Inc.

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An Official 501C Not-For-Profit Organization

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THIRD QUARTER NEWSLETTER JUL - SEP 2009



SEPTEMBER 2009 COMMEMORATES THE TENTH BIRTHDAY OF SIBERIAN HUSKY RESCUE OF FLORIDA, INC. WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY SINCE THEN AND CAN PROUDLY CLAIM TO HAVE DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY SAVED 781 SIBERIAN HUSKIES. THIS IS STRONG TESTAMENT TO THE UNFAILING HARD WORK AND DEDICATION OF ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS, WHOSE ONLY REWARD IS THE SATISFACTION OF GIVING THE FURBALLS WE LOVE SO DEARLY A SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE.

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DOG HOUSE

**If your dog is fat,
you're not getting
enough exercise.**

~ Author Unknown

FROM THE SHRF BOARD

It was a big happy birthday to SHRF, in September – 10 yrs and hundreds of Siberian furballs have been saved in that time. Thanks to all of you who have been a part of that history and to those of you who have just joined in with us!

Please take a gander at our doghouse on the website. It's not been that full for some time yet sadly many dogs are in need around the state. Sure, several of our foster kids are in the middle age bracket, but it's a great age range to adopt. Just think of the advantages. For one, there can be great joy in being able to walk a Siberian Husky right by your side rather than him/her pulling you down the street. Another advantage is that there is less likelihood of boredom-inspired mischief when the older Siberian is left alone while you are at work. So if you are looking to add to your pack or know someone that is please consider one of our beautiful foster kids.

As always, in the winter time, we have oodles of events to help educate and raise money for the rescue. Please check out the events calendar on the website for our upcoming events. If you can volunteer your

time at any of them ... even if it is for an hour or two ... please contact events@siberrescue.com. Even if you can't help out, please feel free stop by and visit our volunteers. You and your fur ball friend will enjoy any of these events!!!

Also, we are excited to announce a new email communication program coming your way very soon. We will be inviting active volunteers, friends of the rescue and adopters to participate. This series of email communications will bring you updates on what SHRF is doing, where the rescue is headed, and share with you helpful tips and education about dogs as well as about the rescue world itself. Most important, we hope it will make life with your four legged family members more fulfilling.

If you'd like to opt in, please visit <http://eepurl.com/dNY8> or for more info email us at shrfinfo@yahoo.com.

SHRF Board

Board members can be reached at any time at 727-391-8934 or by e-mailing: board@siberrescue.com

"If there are no dogs in Heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went." Will Rogers, 1897-1935

THE SHRF NEWSLETTER IS A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION DEDICATED TO KEEPING VOLUNTEERS, FRIENDS AND SPONSORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SIBERIAN HUSKY RESCUE OF FLORIDA, INC. INFORMED ON THE NEWS, EVENTS AND GENERAL INFORMATION OF INTEREST. ALTHOUGH PRECAUTIONS ARE TAKEN TO ENSURE THE ACCURACY OF THE PUBLISHED MATERIALS CONTAINED IN THIS NEWSLETTER, THE SIBERIAN HUSKY RESCUE OF FLORIDA, INC. AND THE EDITOR CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR OPINIONS EXPRESSED OR FACTS SUPPLIED BY AUTHORS AND/OR CONTRIBUTORS.

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RESCUE PARTICIPATION

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or sponsor of the Siberian Husky Rescue of Florida, Inc., please visit the website and fill out the appropriate application OR call or fax us anytime.

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

Business card size \$20 per year

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SUBMISSIONS

All submissions and suggestions to this newsletter are encouraged and welcomed. Please forward to the mailing address at the top of page 1 or: events@siberrescue.com

From the Editors

Bob & Lorraine

Instead of my usual opinionated pro-dog and anti-human rantings I am going to take a chance and open this newsletter to accepting – are you ready ?? – “Letters to the Editor”!!!

As I write this I notice that 241 people have accessed the SHRF newsletter page since the last newsletter publication – presumably to read the most recent version so there are probably some number out of the 241 who may have opinions of their own and no way to get them to me. Well no more.

If you have any opinion on the newsletter contents, design, editorial positions, or would just like to let our readers know what someone other than the editor is thinking about Husky rescue related issues, have at it. Send your comments to webmaster@siberrescue.com and let’s see what happens.

Bear in mind that I will be the judge of what “letters to the editor” get printed so there must be some relevance to rescuing dogs or SHRF in general. I won’t be printing complaints about individual volunteers or the decisions made by, or the way things are run by, the board of directors. If you have complaints or criticisms on those issues take them up directly with those with whom you have a problem.

I also must take into account the length of any particular letter to the editor. Space is not necessarily limited but I envision limiting these letters to about the same size as this column.

If someone has a LOT to say I would recommend they write an actual article for publication in the newsletter.

We have accepted articles from volunteers in the past and I will continue to consider their acceptance as long as they are relevant to the business of the rescue or the health and well being of dogs in general.

I am also willing to look at pointers to recommended articles in various newspapers, veterinary journals and other periodicals for inclusion in the newsletter. I have to surf the web for days to come up with a lot of these articles so items in this vein would actually save me time.

Lastly, just like in school, spelling and grammar will be taken into account. I’m not talking about common typos or occasional errors but if the letter takes an inordinate amount of time to make presentable for publication then I will just skip it. Like Mel Brooks says, “It’s good to be the King.”

Bob

Editorial opinion pieces by Bob and Lorraine reflect the opinion of the writers only and are not necessarily the opinion of Siberian Husky Rescue of Florida, Inc nor its Board of Directors and volunteers.

**“In order to really enjoy a dog, one doesn’t merely try to train him to be semi-human. The point of it is to open oneself to the possibility of becoming partly a dog.”
- - - Edward Hoagland "Dogs and the Tug of Life"**

A Dog's Purpose?

(from a 6-year-old)

Being a veterinarian, I had been called to examine a ten-year-old Irish Wolfhound named Belker. The dog's owners, Ron, his wife Lisa, and their little boy Shane, were all very attached to Belker, and they were hoping for a miracle.

I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. I told the family we couldn't do anything for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home. As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for six-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt as though Shane might learn something from the experience.

The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time, that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes,

Belker slipped peacefully away.

The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion. We sat together for a while after Belker's death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives.

Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why."

Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned me. I'd never heard a more comforting explanation. It has changed the way I try to live.

He said "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life — like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?"

The six-year-old continued, "Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long."

What I Really Know About Eternal Youth: Pet Lessons

By: [Sue McCrosky](#)

From the AARP Bulletin print edition | June 1, 2009

Three years ago my husband and I helped rescue two dozen malnourished and abandoned dogs. Many were young enough to recuperate, but one older male, a white husky mix, was destined for euthanasia. "Champion" was filthy, sick with heartworm and kidney infections, and at least 15 pounds underweight. He had lived his life bound to a tree by a six-foot chain. Flies had eaten off the tips of his ears, he had lost a middle toe, and his teeth were worn from chewing on his chain. He looked weary with life.

We first thought that death would be a kindness. But I patted his head, and he licked my hand. We had to try. So Champ spent a month undergoing rigorous treatment. The clinic's staff praised his gentleness and affection.

At home, he took easily to walking on a leash. He slept in my bedroom on his own bed. When he moaned from bad dreams, he responded to my pats and words of comfort. He loved riding in the car, his bright eyes staring at the sights as if making up for lost time. He became family.

We later fostered a litter of puppies that had to be bottle-fed. Champ sniffed and licked the pups, their eyes still closed. He became a surrogate mother, abiding the pups as they crawled on him and chewed his tail. He didn't mind.

One day I saw Champ on his back, wiggling like a puppy. He grinned, murmured sounds of satisfaction, rolled over and grabbed a toy. This big snow-white dog was acting like he'd never known a day of mistreatment. He was reveling in life.

Champ taught me that youth lies in endurance, the appreciation of respite from pain, and joy in the love of family. He'll spend the rest of his life in gratitude—and I will try to do the same.

FACTOID:

Dogs become loyal not because you feed them, but because of the companionship you give.

SHRF RESCUE VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER!!!!....

SHRF is proud to announce our Volunteer of the 3rd Quarter, 2009

Stephanie H.

Siberian Husky Rescue of Florida would like to recognize Stephanie H. as Volunteer of the Quarter.

Even though Stephanie works full time at a local Montessori School, is married with a young daughter Jordon and handles the demands of a busy home; she still finds time to volunteer for the Rescue. Stephanie is an excellent foster mom and goes about it cheerfully with no complaints.

Stephanie has a warm heart and has fostered various Rescue dogs for over a year. Even though she has 2 Sibes of her own, Sadie and Tundra, she adopted an older foster girl Cheyenne and a sweet pup named Zena BUT still fosters and currently has Angel Eyes. That gives her a grand total of 5 Siberian Huskies to care for.

Stephanie really promotes our Siberian Rescue and caring for abandoned dogs. Cheyenne goes to school with Stephanie daily and her pupils help with her care.

This teaches them the responsibility of owning and caring for a dog. The children have to brush her, feed her,

change water bowls and give her monthly heartworm meds. There is a rotation and every child helps, even picking up the poop.

They have studied the history of Huskies, the Iditarod race and have learned all about Rescue. One of the pupils has a jar and is collecting money for the Huskies.

The children even buried a time capsule with pictures of Cheyenne and information on Siberian Husky Rescue.

Being a Foster Mom is hard work; assessing, caring, training, helping the dogs adjust to family life, taking the dogs out to events, taking photos for the web page and writing Bio's.

When the day comes and a forever home is found Stephanie is right there helping with the adoption process then, a few days later, will take on another foster dog and then another. What a wonderful Volunteer.

We really appreciate everything she has done, and is doing, to help promote Rescue work and teaching the future generation what being a responsible dog owner is all about.

SHRF Board

Stray's Prayer

Dear God, please send me somebody who'll care!
I'm tired of running, I'm sick with despair.
My body is aching; it's so racked with pain,
And dear God I pray, as I run in the rain.
That someone will love me and give me a home,
A warm cozy bed and a big juicy bone.

My last owner tied me all day in the yard
Sometimes with no water, and god that was hard.
So I chewed my leash, and God I ran away.
To rummage in garbage and live as a stray.
But now God, I'm tired and hungry and cold,
And I'm so afraid that I'll never grow old.

They've chased me with sticks and hit me with stones,
While I run the streets just looking for bones!
I'm not really bad, God, please help if you can,
Or have I become just a "Victim of Man!"

I'm wormy dear God and I'm ridden with fleas,
And all that I want is an Owner to please!

If you find one for me God, I'll try to be good,
And I won't chew their shoes, and I'll do as I should.
I'll love them, protect them and try to obey....
When they tell me to sit, to lie down or to stay!
I don't think I'll make it too long on my own,
Cause I'm getting so weak and I'm so all alone.

Each night as I sleep in the bushes I cry,
'Cause I'm so afraid God, that I'm gonna die.
And I've got so much love and devotion to give,
That I should be given a new chance to live!
So dear God, please answer my prayer,
And send me someone who will REALLY care...

That is, Dear God, if YOU'RE REALLY there!

Unknown

**Dogs' lives are too short. Their only fault, really.
~ Agnes Sligh Turnbull**

All Alone, a chained dogs prayer

In Honor of Suki and In Memory of Little Dude

Why I have to stay chained up
And left alone so long.
They seemed so glad to have me
When I came here as a pup.
There were so many thing's we'd do
While I was growing up.

They couldn't wait to train me
As companion and as friend.
They told me they would never fear
Being left alone again.

The children said they'd feed me,
Said they'd brush me every day,
They'd play with me and walk me,
If only I could stay.

But now the family hasn't time,
They often say I shed.
They won't allow me in the house,
Not even to be fed.

The children never walk me.
They always say, "Not now!"
I wish that I could please them.
Won't someone tell me how?

All I have is love, you see,
I wish they would explain,
Why they said they wanted me
Then left me on a chain.

-anonymous



ALL IN ALL, IT'S JUST ANOTHER BARK IN THE WALL

HAMPSHIRE (UK)—So you think you've got troubles? A 6-month-old Husky named "Keano" somehow got his entire face stuck in an ornamental wall. A neighbor alerted the pup's guardian who called Hampshire Fire Service. Rescuers arrived and were able to chisel away the wall, freeing the dog without any injuries.



SHRF Events 3rd Quarter 2009

3rd Quarter events and Upcoming 4th qtr events

Due to the heat of the summer, there were only a couple events held during the 3rd quarter.

We went to **Woofstock 2009** held by Happy Paws N Tails in Riverview on August 15th. It was a fun event that included pet vendors and other rescues. Thanks to Joann K and Jennille L for representing SHRF at this event.

On September 12th, SHRF attended the **AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day** at Harborview Center in Clearwater. The event was sponsored by the Clearwater Kennel Club. There were tons of vendors (dog clubs... rescues... pet vendors). They had demonstrations going on all day. This event was interesting and a great place to see breeds that you don't see very often. Volunteers even saw Pharaoh hounds... Bloodhounds... Sheep dogs...etc. Attendees could also get their dog tested for the AKC's Good Citizen Test. This was an excellent venue to show your dog's best behavior. It was a fun event all around and look forward to attending next years event. We hope to see you there as well.

**Please recognize and support these great professionals who help
Siberian Husky Rescue of Florida, Inc.**

Altamonte Animal Clinic

510 East Altamonte Drive
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701
(407) 834-0202
altamonteanimalclinic@yahoo.com

Amazon Animal Hospital

5300 East Bay
Clearwater, FL 33764
727-535-5433
www.amazonanimal.com

The Day and Evening Pet Clinic

3206 Alt 19 Hwy
Palm Harbor, FL 34683
727-785-7200
www.dayandeveningpetclinic.com

Florida Veterinary Specialists

3000 Busch Lake Blvd
Tampa, FL 33614
813-933-8944

Happy Tails Grooming and Boarding

Joanne Gibbons
11996 Seminole Blvd
Largo, FL
727-397-3581

**Millhopper Veterinary Medical
Center, Inc.**

4209 Northwest 37th Place
Gainesville, Florida 32606
352-373-8055

North Bay Animal and Bird Hospital

9801 W Hillsborough Ave
Tampa, FL 33615
813-885-4477

Pet Luv Spay/Neuter Clinic

7348 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34601
352-799-9990

Shores Animal Hospital

Dr Shores and Assoc
3811 N.W. 13th Street
Gainesville, FL 32609
352-372-8387

Steele Animal Hospital

Rita Manarino, DVM, PA
5305 Seminole Blvd
Seminole, FL 33708
727-398-7601

Tampa Bay Veterinary Specialists

Thomas R. Miller, DVM, MS
1501-A Belcher Road S
Largo, FL 33771
727-535-3500

Temple Terrace Animal and Bird Hospital

Link V. Welborn, DVM
5023 Busch Blvd
Tampa, FL 33617
813-988-1189

Underhill Animal Hospital

Dr. Kelly Cole
4900 Lake Underhill Rd
Orlando, FL 32807



WEB SITES THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST

Dog Genealogy Kit <http://www.hammacher.com/Product/77449?promo=search>

GoD and DoG http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H17edn_RZoY

Tax Deduction for Pets <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/995438286>

Take The Best Siberian Husky Pictures Ever

There's no need for you to buy expensive 35-mm. camera equipment to take pictures of your Siberian Husky. The way technology has advanced, and the way prices have dipped, you can take high quality pictures of your Husky with an inexpensive or reasonably priced camera phone or digital camera. Digital photography technology makes taking stunning photographs of your Husky easier than it's ever been. By following just five easy steps, you can take Husky pictures like a pro.

In no time at all, you'll have Husky pictures so clear and vivid, you'll want to upload them into a digital photo frame and display at your office or in your home. You'll have pictures worth printing and putting in your scrapbook. You'll have pictures that will be perfect for your computer desktop wallpaper, pictures perfect for screensavers and pictures worth sharing with your friends online. Your dog is always there for you, and these five tips for taking digital pictures of your Siberian Husky dog will help you capture your Husky's personality in pictures.

Tip number one is to use a checklist. The better prepared you are when you start to take your Siberian Husky pictures, the better the pictures will turn out, because you can focus on how the dog looks and getting the best possible picture instead of worrying about details of the shoot. Get out all the cameras you're going to use. Check their memory cards and make sure they are fresh, with plenty of room on the card. Load fresh batteries in each camera and have plenty of extra batteries nearby. Select the area where you will take your pictures, and gather any backdrops or props you will be using.

Tip number two is to ask for help. You'll have your hands full once you start taking pictures of your Husky. Your attention must be focused on your work behind the camera so you can take those great Husky pictures. You will need at

least one extra set of hands to manage your Husky, fluff its coat, wipe its eyes, arrange the backdrops and watch out for its safety, especially if you are taking your Husky pictures outside.

Tip number three is to use a backdrop for the best Siberian Husky pictures. The Siberian Husky, with its white coat, looks great when photographed against a dark colored background. On the other hand, the Husky also looks spectacular photographed in its natural habitat, like a snowy landscape. Your backdrop should be uncluttered so all the attention is focused on your Siberian Husky.

Tip number four is to use physical objects. Props are fun when taking pictures of Husky puppies, because they can emphasize the dog's youth and small size. Colorful dog toys are popular choices for props, as are stuffed animals, oversize shoes and potted flowers.

Tip number five is to get down to your dog's level. Don't take Siberian Husky pictures while you are standing up. Get down in height to get to eye level with your dog, and then start taking your pictures. Both candid shots and portrait style shots of your dog gazing into the camera at eye level will look better than a view of the top of your dog's back, which you get when you photograph your dog from standing up.

With these quick, easy tips, you'll soon be taking professional quality pictures of your Siberian Husky.

Your Siberian Husky pictures will come out better if you plan ahead and get organized. Enlist the help of an assistant who likes your dog to handle the Husky while you take the pictures. After you photograph your Siberian Husky, information about a career in digital stock photography might interest you. Many Siberian Husky owners sell pictures of their pets for use online or in brochures, calendars or other publications.

A Dog's Prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep,
The king-size bed is soft and deep..
I sleep right in the center groove
My human being can hardly move!
I've trapped her legs, she's tucked in tight
And here is where I pass the night
No one disturbs me or dares intrude
Till morning comes and "I want food!"
I sneak up slowly to begin
my nibbles on my human's chin.

She wakes up quickly,
I have sharp teeth -
I'm a puppy, don't you see?
For the morning's here
and it's time to play
I always seem to get my way.
So thank you Lord for giving me
This human person that I see.
The one who hugs and holds me tight
And shares her bed with me at night!

Interview at a Shelter

by: Sally Hull, July 6th/2006

As a journalist, I decided to go to the animal shelter, and interview some of the "inmates". I wanted to know what it was like in there from their perspective. What follows is not for the faint of heart.

Animal Shelter

I entered the building, and one of the workers accompanied me to the holding area. This is where dogs are kept before they are allowed up for adoption. IF they are allowed up for adoption.

If the dogs are found to be slightly aggressive in any way, euthanasia s employed. Fortunately, if "fortunately" is the word to be used here. In this establishment, they use lethal injection, not a gas chamber.

The shelter worker led me past a big steel door that says "Employees Only". "What is in there?" I asked. From the look he gave me, I knew that this is where dogs go in, and never return.

We moved on to a row of kennels. The dogs were barking loudly, there was the acrid smell of urine and feces, and a feeling of despair seemed to permeate the room. "Go ahead," the worker said. "They're all yours."

Pete –The Pit Bull

I looked into the first kennel, and saw only the back of a medium sized dog who was curled up in the corner of his kennel, shivering. He was mostly white, with some black spots. "Hello?" I said. "May I come in?"

He lifted his head, as though it weighed more than he could bear. When he looked at me, I could see he was a Pit Bull. His eyes were gentle, but filled with grief.

"Enter," was all he said.

I stepped in, closing the gate behind me. He put his head back down, facing away from me. I crouched down a few feet away.

"My name is Pete. Petey my Master called me," he said, still not looking at me.

"Why are you here Pete?" I asked.

"I am here because Master cannot afford to move. I am here because someone with power said I am vicious, and a killer. Someone who never met me. Master took me for a walk one day, and some lady started to scream when she saw me. I got frightened, and barked at her. The dog police came, and they took me away. I have been with Master for 10 years. The last time I saw him; he just held me and cried. He kept telling me he was sorry. I worry for him. Whatever will he do without me?" Pete shivered even more.

A tear slid down my face. I am supposed to remain objective, but this was wrong. So wrong.

"Thank you Pete." I said. He said nothing as I got up and left his kennel.

Popper – The Border Collie

The kennel next to Pete's held a very young looking dog. Pure Border Collie by my guess. He stood on his hind legs, looking at me through the gate.

"Hello. My name's Popper. He tilted his head. "Are you here to take me home?"

"No, I'm sorry," I replied. "But I would like to talk with you."

"Sure. What would you like to talk about?"

"Popper, how did you come to be in this place?" I asked.

Popper dropped down from the gate, with a perplexed look on his face. He walked to the back of the kennel, then back to the front. I noticed he had one blue eye, and one brown. He was quite beautiful. His black and white coat was shiny and thick.

"I am not certain WHY I am here. I think maybe my family

(Continued on page 9)

"Our perfect companions never have fewer than four feet."
- Colette

(Continued from page 8)

will come back for me. They bought me when I was only 6 weeks old. I remember they said how smart Border Collies are, and how it would be so easy to train me.

They were very excited at first. The little ones played with me all the time. But the trouble with little Masters is they refuse to stay in a group. I constantly had to nip their heels to keep them together." He looked confused. "Why won't they stay in a group?" he sighed. "So I did what I thought I should do. I am not quite sure why the little ones screamed when I did my job, but they did, and the Masters got very angry at me. They also got angry when I had to relieve myself, and did so in the house. I am not sure where they expected me to go. All they said was that I was the smartest breed in the world, and I should just KNOW better. Then they left me in the yard for a month or so. I got bored a lot, and I dug holes in the grass. The next thing I knew, the Masters brought me here."

Popper jumped back up on the gate, his white paws protruding through the links. He looked at me with his lovely eyes, and asked "Will you please let them know I want to come home? Please tell them I promise I will be good?"

"I will Popper," I said.

Spartan – The Rottweiler

My heart was breaking. I was beginning to regret coming here, but their stories had to be told. I moved along. The next dog I saw looked to be easily 100 lbs., a Rottweiler. He was handsome indeed, except for the scars on his face and back. He tilted his head, and looked me right in the eyes.

"Hello. Who are you?" he asked.

"I am a reporter," I replied. "May I speak with you for a little while?"

"Most certainly. My name is Spartan. You can come in, I won't bite," he said.

"Thank you Spartan. I will."

I entered his kennel, reached out and stroked his giant head. He made a loud grumbling noise, and closed his eyes.

"Spartan, why are you here?"

Before he could answer my question, he was suddenly in the grip of a nasty coughing spasm. It sounded painful.

"Please excuse me," he said when it passed. "Kennel cough". It seems all of us who come in here get it. "Why am I here? Well, about two years ago, I was born in the backyard of some person I can't even recall. I had 11 brothers and sisters. I recall a day when a big man came and gave that person some money, and took me away from my mother. They had to chain her up, as she was very angry that he took me. They chained her and beat her. I came to know the man by the name of Jim. I overheard him telling his friends that I would grow up to be big and mean like my mother. But as I grew older, all I wanted to do was play and be friends with everyone. Jim said I needed to be taught how to be mean, so he chained me up in the yard. No more house for me, he said, I was too spoiled.

When people came by to visit, I was so happy to see them. I wanted them to come and play. But that made Jim angry, so he beat me with sticks and chains. When he came near, I would roll onto my back so he would know I wasn't a bad dog. That made him beat me more." Spartan's eyes clouded with grief. "Then he brought me here."

I reached out and stroked Spartan's massive gentle head once more. "I am so sorry Spartan. Some people are just plain evil." I gave him a kiss and left his kennel.

As I walked away, Spartan called out, "What will happen to me, nice lady?"

shook my head. "I can't say Spartan. Maybe someone kind will come and get you. We can only hope."

Patsy – The Jack Russell Terrier

I walked a little further down. I could see a shape moving at the back of the next kennel. "Hello?" I called out. Suddenly the shape lunged at the gate in a fury, barking and gnashing its teeth. I stumbled backwards, and crashed into an adjacent kennel.

The other dogs began barking loudly and jumping at their gates.

"Don't go near her," a small female voice came from behind me. "She's mad."

I gathered myself back together, and saw a little Jack Russell Terrier behind me.

"Thanks for the warning," I was still trembling. Across the way, the other dog, apparently a Husky and German Shepherd cross, was glaring at me; lips curled back revealing

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

brown stained teeth. Her ribs and hips showed through her dull, matted grey coat. The little dog invited me into her kennel, and I gladly went in.

"Who are you?"

"My name is Patsy." The little brown and white dog held a paw up to the gate in greeting.

"My owner surrendered me. She said she wanted a cute little dog like the one on the TV show, Frasier. She didn't bother to look into the type of dog I am." Patsy heaved a sigh.

"I suppose she expected me to just lie about and only need a short walk each day, just like Eddie, but my energy was so high that I needed to run and play." She glanced at her surroundings. "Now I am here. I suppose it could be worse. I could be like her." Patsy looked towards the still growling dog across the way.

"What happened to make her so vicious?" I asked.

"From what we could gather," she replied. "she was found tied in a back yard. She only had a three foot chain. Some days there was no water. Rarely was there any food. One day a nice neighbor came by and brought her some meat. By then it was too late. She was already mad. She broke off her chain, and bit the poor man badly. We know she will be going behind the steel door. I am sad to say, I think it will be best. Perhaps then she will know some peace."

Just then, the door at the end of the building opened, and a woman stepped inside. All the dogs began to bark wildly, then one by one, they went quiet.

I whispered to Patsy, "Who is that? Why have all the dogs gone quiet?"

Patsy breathed deeply through her little nose, and closed her eyes. "SHE is a Rescuer. Can't you smell it?" she asked.

"Smell what?" I was confused.

"Compassion. Love. Sorrow. It emanates from her pores. She is here for one of us, but nobody knows who just yet." Patsy looked hopeful.

The Rescuer moved from kennel to kennel, looking at each dog. I sat quietly watching. I could see tears in her eyes as she made eye contact with each one. She stopped at Spartan's cage and spoke quietly to him.

"No more beatings my man. No more. You are coming with me. From here on in, it's all going to get better."

The Rescuer produced a leash, opened the kennel door, and took Spartan away. As he walked beside her, his little stubby tail wagged with delight.

Patsy sighed again. I could see the disappointment in her eyes, and it grieved me. They all had the same look, as they watched the Rescuer depart.

"I am so sorry Patsy," I said in a whisper. "But you are a little dog, and everyone loves little dogs. I am convinced you will be rescued soon." Patsy's brown eyes twinkled at me, a little bit of hope returning.

I had heard and seen enough. I needed to tell people how it was for these unfortunate creatures. They were all here through no fault of their own. I stood to leave. I passed by many other dogs I did not interview, looking at each one, wishing I could take them all home with me and give them the love they deserved. I stood by the door taking one last glance back, when it opened, and one of the pound workers came in.

His face was drawn and sad. He walked by without a word, and stopped at Pete's kennel. I heard him take a deep breath, then he paused, and opened the kennel door.

The words were muffled, but I am sure I heard him say "I'm sorry old boy."

Dog Myths:

Dogs and cats should be allowed one heat cycle, or one litter of pups, before being spayed.

Facts: A major benefit of being spayed may be lost if this is allowed to happen! Research shows that animals spayed before their first heat have a significantly smaller chance of developing future health problems such as breast cancer.

Cradle And Birthday Of The Dog Identified: East Asia 16,000 years ago

ScienceDaily (Sep. 2, 2009)

Previous studies in the field have indicated that East Asia is where the wolf was tamed and became the dog. It was not possible to be more precise than that. But now researchers at the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) in Stockholm have managed to zero in on man's best friend.

"For the first time ... it is possible to provide a detailed picture of the dog, with its birthplace, point in time, and how many wolves were tamed," says Peter Savolainen, a biology researcher at KTH.



Together with Swedish colleagues and a Chinese research team, he has made a number of new discoveries about the history of the dog.

These discoveries are presented in an article in the scientific journal *Molecular Biology and Evolution*, where it is claimed that the dog appeared 16,000 years ago, in Asia, south of the Yangtze River in China.

This is a considerably more specific date and birthplace than had previously been put forward.

"Our earlier findings from 2002 have not been fully accepted, but with our new data there will be greater acceptance. The picture provides much more detail," says Peter Savolainen.

The time for the emergence of the dog conforms well with when the population in this part of the world went from being hunters and gatherers to being farmers, which was 10,000 to 12,000 years ago.

According to Peter Savolainen, the research indicates that the dog has a single geographic origin but descends from a large number of animals. At least several hundred tamed wolves, probably even more.

"The fact that there were so many wolves indicates that this was an important, major part of the culture," says Peter Savolainen.

He adds that the research findings provide several exciting theories. For example, the original dogs, unlike their later descendants in Europe, which were used as herders and guard dogs, probably ended their lives in the stomachs of humans.

"In the world which we know, among the different and primitive geniuses that preside over the evolution of the several species, there exists not one, excepting that of the dog, that ever gave a thought to the presence of man."

- **Maurice Maeterlinck** - 'Our Friend, The Dog'

Dog Owners Warned of Waterborne Disease

Purdue veterinarian says infection can spread to animals and humans.

Don't drink the water. That's what a Purdue University veterinarian warns cat and dog owners to remember when wading or swimming in water this summer.

Providing fresh, clean drinking water for pets can prevent the spread of the bacterial disease leptospirosis, said Steve Thompson of Purdue's School of Veterinary Medicine. A small cut on the foot or a sip from a puddle are all it takes for the disease to spread to animals and humans.

Leptospirosis originates from a bacterial infection in animals and is traced to animal urine found in soil, puddles, creeks, and larger bodies of water, Thompson said. Companion animals can be exposed by swimming or walking through water.

The disease can cause severe kidney and liver damage and is often spread by raccoons, opossums, skunks, or deer. Rodents, foxes, and coyotes also carry the bacteria.

The incidence of leptospirosis is low nationally and rarely is fatal, however, wading or swimming in potentially contaminated water should be avoided. Pet owners can guard themselves by wearing protective clothing or footwear.

Top 10 Reasons Why Dogs Rule!

June 16, 2009 by [K9 Magazine News Editor](#)

Dogs always seem to make really BIG headlines when they've done something bad. It's just the way it is. There's little doubt that there is a groundswell of people who simply do not like - maybe even hate - dogs and eagerly await their next opportunity to knock them. We dog owners know the great benefits that dog ownership brings us, but next time you find yourself having to try and explain just how and why dogs have earned their place by our side all throughout the world, here's some of the very real, very solid reasons...

1 - Dogs will make you healthier - fact!

If you want to live a healthier life get a dog. Dr Deborah Wells a psychologist from Queen's University, Belfast, said dog owners tend to have lower blood pressure and cholesterol. Writing in the British Journal of Health Psychology she revealed how pet owners tended to generally be in better health than the average person.

2 - Dog owners have fewer minor ailments and serious medical problems.

It's long been theorised that dogs can aid recovery from serious illnesses such as heart attacks, and it's now well proven that dogs can spot oncoming illness, even the presence of cancer or an impending seizure. We haven't even begun to scrape the surface of how much dogs can still do to aid human health.

3 - Having a pet can help children develop better social skills.

Researchers at the University of Leicester discovered that children up to the age of six, living in pet-owning families have better social skills, better speech, better co-ordination, more confidence and will be less likely to suffer from allergies by the time they start their second year of school.

4 - Dogs aid children cope with stress.

A five-year-study of 600 children aged 3-18 years highlighted how children in pet owning homes who suffer from learning difficulties or come from a home where parents have split up, are better able to cope with stress than those children who don't have access to the companionship of a pet.

5 - No more sneezing.

It is traditionally thought that allergy sufferers shouldn't have a furry or feathered friend. However, recent scientific evidence suggests that the opposite may hold true and pets have an important role to play in building up a child's immune system. Children who live with a cat or dog in their first years of life have a lower incidence of hay fever and asthma and are less likely to develop animal-related allergies. Recent studies also show that the immune systems of children (particularly between the ages of five and eight) of pet-owning families are more stable than those of children from non-pet owning families - the result being that making pet-owning children are better able to fend off illness. leaflet on this website).

6 - Stroking a cat or dog can bring down blood pressure and one study of 369 heart-attack survivors found that those who had dogs were less likely to die within a year than those who didn't.

7 - The British Medical Journal found that pets can often act as social catalysts.

This was particularly important for those at risk of social isolation, such as the elderly or those with physical disabilities. A Warwick University study said 40% of dog owners say they make friends more easily due to their pet.

8 - Pets can help recently widowed people deal with stress.

A UK study revealed that three months after bereavement, pet owners had fewer physical symptoms, such as crying, than non-pet owners.

9 - Whilst it may seem obvious, owning a dog is a sure fire way to make sure you - and your pet - get some regular exercise by taking it out for walks on a daily basis.

Dog owners often reason that their dogs keep them fitter than they would do if they didn't have the incentive to take the dog out.

10 - Dogs make us laugh.

They're naturally comedic.

A PET ALL DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY - Bruce Headey, Melbourne, Australia

A large-scale survey of more than 11,000 Australians, Chinese and Germans proved pet-owners enjoy better health. Over a five year period, pet owners made 15 - 20% fewer annual visits to the doctor than non pet-owners. Results showed that the healthiest group - those who went to the doctor least - was those who continuously owned a pet. The next healthiest group had obtained a pet during the study period, having not had one before. The least healthy groups were people who had never owned a pet, or no longer did.

KIDS WITH PETS TAKE FEWER SICK DAYS - June McNicholas, Scotland

Dr June McNicholas, a health psychologist, presented findings of a study which examined 256 children (aged five to eleven years) in three schools in England and Scotland. The key findings were:

Absenteeism through illness was significantly less among pet-owning children

Children in reception and Year 1 classes had 18 per cent and 13 per cent better attendance respectively than non-pet owning children

Pet-owning children attended school for an additional three weeks extra school compared to non-pet owning children (aged five to seven years).

LUCKY ADOPTERS

Comments from some people lucky enough to have adopted one of our SHRF dogs.



Adam (formerly Ozzie) is truly a furry blessing in my life. He has definitely made himself at home here and all of us enjoy him. As you can tell from the pictures Emmy Lou and he are inseparable.



"Every boy who has a dog should also have a mother, so the dog can be fed regularly"
- **Anonymous**

SHRF UPCOMING EVENTS AND FUND RAISERS

4th Quarter 2009 Upcoming Events

3rd Saturday every month - Gulfport's Third Saturday Art Walk

Saturday October 17 - The Gulf Coast Dog Magazine's Pet Extravaganza

Sarasota Bradenton International Convention Center

9AM - 6PM

For more information see the events page on our site.

Sunday October 18 - Southeast SRT-4 Showdown!

NSRT-4 and CSRT-4 owners

10AM - 5PM

For more information see the events page on our site.

Saturday & Sunday November 14-15 - SHRF Garage Sale

St. Petersburg, FL

8AM-3:30PM

For more information see the events page on our site.

WE CAN ALWAYS USE MORE VOLUNTEERS!!! So if you can help, please call **727-391-8934** or email events@siberrescue.com . If you can't help... please come out and see us at any of these events or our recurring monthly events at Petco and Petsmart. We would love to have you.

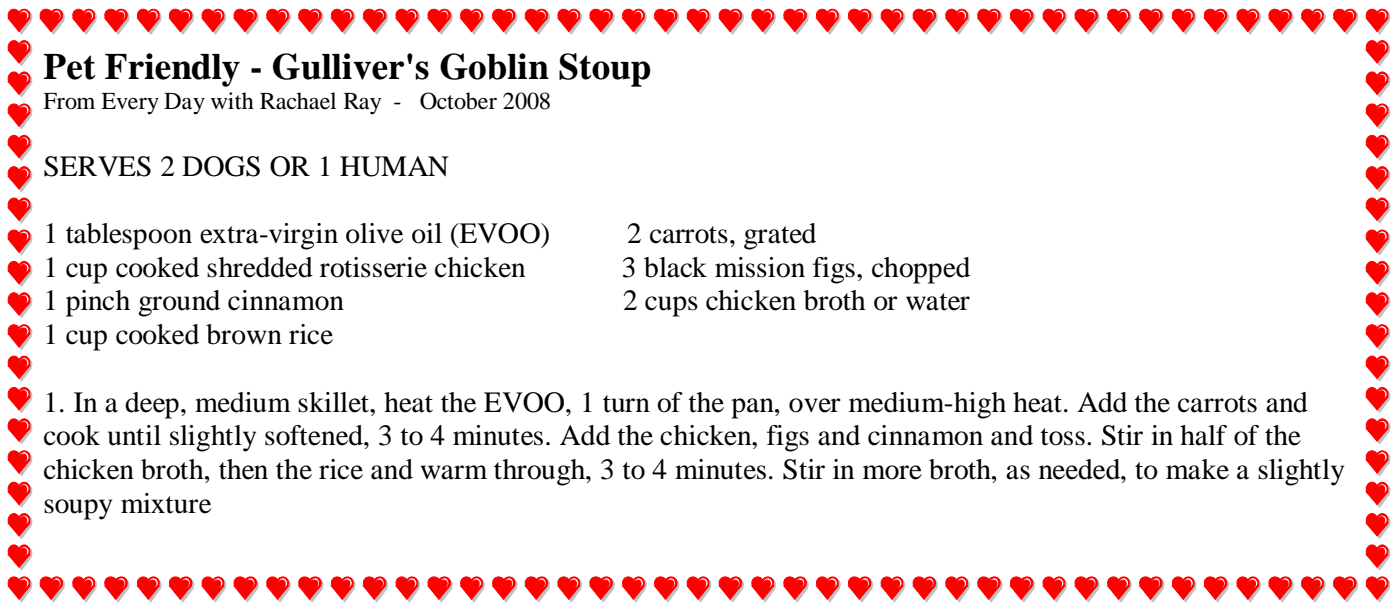
Looking forward to seeing you at Clearwater Harborview in September and SPCA Pet Walk in October and many more events as they become available.

CHECK OUR WEBSITE REGULARLY FOR EVENTS UPDATES!

HAPPY ENDINGS 3rd Quarter 2009



Congratulations to all of these newly adopted dogs and their families! We truly appreciate your love and devotion to our SHRF Sibes!



Pet Friendly - Gulliver's Goblin Stoup

From Every Day with Rachael Ray - October 2008

SERVES 2 DOGS OR 1 HUMAN

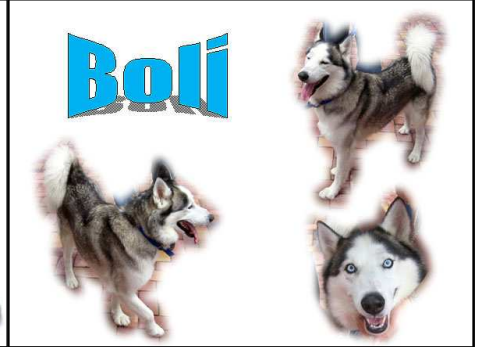
- ♥ 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil (EVOO)
- ♥ 1 cup cooked shredded rotisserie chicken
- ♥ 1 pinch ground cinnamon
- ♥ 1 cup cooked brown rice
- ♥ 2 carrots, grated
- ♥ 3 black mission figs, chopped
- ♥ 2 cups chicken broth or water

1. In a deep, medium skillet, heat the EVOO, 1 turn of the pan, over medium-high heat. Add the carrots and cook until slightly softened, 3 to 4 minutes. Add the chicken, figs and cinnamon and toss. Stir in half of the chicken broth, then the rice and warm through, 3 to 4 minutes. Stir in more broth, as needed, to make a slightly soupy mixture



THE DOG HOUSE...we need homes!

PLEASE! Can you find room in your home for one of us? We promise to be good furballs and to love you forever and ever!!



My dog's not spoiled ...
I'm just well trained !



*"The more I see of the representatives of the people, the more I admire my dogs."
Alphonse de Lamartine*