

to the RESCUE

ABRN News

WORKING TOGETHER TO RE-HOME PUREBRED DOGS SINCE 1989

Message from the President

Martha Smith

Happy New Year, everyone. The end of the holiday season marks the beginning of the legislative season in Colorado, and the recent tragedy in Elbert County will almost certainly mean that the state dangerous dog laws will be opened for review. There may also be a flurry of attempts to institute breed bans in communities around the state, although they have proved ineffective where they are in place. There are many more pit bulls in Denver County now than there were in 1989 when the ordinance was adopted. Of the nearly 12,000 reported dog bites that occurred in Denver County from 1990 through 2001, only 1% were committed by pit bulls. Northglenn repealed their ban on pit bulls in 1999, and Cripple Creek followed suit in 2001. The breed is still banned in Castle Rock and Wellington.

The idea of being killed by a pack of dogs is horrifying to contemplate, and elected officials want to do something dramatic to fix what most people perceive as a deficiency in the law. Dog people understand that all dogs have the

potential to become dangerous to humans and other animals if they have irresponsible, cruel, or just plain ignorant owners. The incident in Elbert county is illustrative of pack behavior, not pit bull behavior. It will be our challenge this year to make sure that changes in existing state and local laws will address the real issue, which is to make the owners of any dog accountable for its actions.

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All Breed Rescue Network does not support breed specific legislation. It does support strengthening existing laws to make it easier to prosecute and

get compensation from the owners of animals that have been shown to be dangerous. The dog will behave as it has been conditioned to behave, and people should know that it will not be only the animal who pays for its owner's lack of care, supervision, and training.

Please pay attention to efforts in your communities to address this issue, and let your elected officials know that you are available to help craft ordinances that will work.



seized pit bull puppy in the Denver shelter on Christmas Day

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Board Profiles

All Breed Rescue Network members recently elected four new Board members. As you will see from reading the following profiles, each of them is dynamic in his or her own way. We believe each will make a positive contribution to rescue. We welcome them all and thank them for their caring and their time!

Lauren Immel



Lauren is President and co-founder of Safe Harbor Lab Rescue. She is Marketing Director at Alameda East Veterinary Hospital and Board President of Colorado's Helping Hands Foundation, a non-profit recently granted 501(c)(3) status that helps individuals and organizations in need with veterinary care expenses. She has an extensive background in marketing and sales and a Master's Degree in International Management. Other community service includes Vice President and Advocacy Chair for the Board for the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill-Colorado, where she lobbied at the state and federal legislative levels. Lauren shares her home with her Lab-mix Abbie; a GRRR Golden, Tabitha; and various and sundry Labs in transition to forever homes.

Sandy Moore

Sandy retired recently and was looking for projects that would be meaningful for the community and would serve a good cause. She was, therefore, pleased to join the board of All Breed Rescue Network. She has a Master's Degree in Education and taught kindergarten for 12 years for Mile High Child Care. She served on the Colorado Education for Young Children for about 5 years, holding the office of secretary for part of that time. She was also on the board of the Ready To Succeed Project.

Having served on these boards, Sandy feels she is familiar with the process. She has good organizational skills and is interested in applying her skills to serving rescue. She is owned by a red-tri miniature "Aussie" with a beautiful reddish coat and bright amber eyes. Of course, her name is Amber. Through observing Amber, Sandy has "awakened the memories of just how beautiful, intelligent and funny dogs are". Her daughter-in-law owns an organic pet supply pet store in Littleton that has a doggy bakery. As a friend of hers says, "she is a self-starter, very clever, very sharp, and she has the desire and the time to give".



Diane Leshor:

Diane has been in the insurance industry for 17 years, working her way up through the ranks. She is now Executive Vice President of Equisure, Inc. Equisure develops, writes, rates and issues policies for Lloyd's of London, and many of her clients are animal-related associations. She administers a program for the American Kennel Club to insure all of their affiliated clubs and club events. Diane is a member of the Junior League and Co-Chair for their Second Time Shop Thrift Store. She is also a Board Member and Program Chairman for the Piney Creek Women's League. On a part-time basis, she does positive-approach dog training. Diane has done hands-on rescue with Dalmatians, and now wishes to serve rescue in other areas. She shares her life with three Dalmatians that were adopted from Dalmation Rescue. Diane says "My passion is dogs." She has a Bachelor of Science, Public Relations degree. She says her husband graciously "puts up with" her many activities.



John Martin:

John is a licensed Colorado attorney and employment mediator who operates his own management consulting business. Martin Workplace Counsel focuses on Human Resources management and employee relations' issues. In addition to his consulting practice, he is also a volunteer community mediator with Jeffco Mediation Services, preferring to handle dog dispute cases. John is currently doing research to write a survey of Colorado law on pet and animal law. He has a BA degree and his JD degree is from the University of Denver College of Law. John and his wife have 4 champion Airedales living in their Morrison home. One, Ch. Redbeard Great Expectations, recently won a Best In Show and was shown by John's wife, Marilyn as breeder, owner, handler. In their spare time, they are working on remodeling their house and staying in touch with their two children. John is very interested in all dog-related issues, in learning more about rescue, and in making a positive contribution to the dog rescue community.



Remembering Jabari

Rick Christensen

"Ironically, it has been almost exactly a year since I posted this photo and story (below)...I learned today that this wonderful old Basenji boy, Jabari, crossed the Bridge on October 21. Though there are many who will miss him, we can find much joy in that his last year was a very good one. After being rescued from a shelter, barely clinging to life, Jabari thrived under the love and care that he received from his rescuer, Peggy Shifflet, and his adopter, Susan Melton. Jabari was leading a happy and healthy life until very recently, when his health took a sudden turn... the times of his life when he wasn't well cared for had finally caught up to him. We will always remember Jabari and his last very special year."



Jabari (l) and his pal, Connor, in October 2002.

Imitation is the Highest Form of Flattery

This is a photo that I took of Jabari (left) and Connor (right). It was our Connor's first birthday, so we took him along to our Hi-Country Basenji Club meeting that day. As it turns out, Jabari was there at the meeting also, and the youngster Connor was very taken with the old and wise Jabari. Connor stayed as close to Jabari as he could.

Jabari was rescued only weeks before from a shelter in Denver, and our Basenji Rescue Coordinator here in Colorado, Peggy Shifflet, feared that Jabari didn't have long to live. You see, Jabari was on the verge of starvation and his dusty red coat did little to hide the ribs and flesh that were painfully visible just below the surface.

Peggy, who is an inspiration to all of us who know about the work that she does with Rescue, decided

that Jabari would be loved and taken care of for whatever was left of his life and brought him home from the shelter. Jabari flourished under Peggy's care and has been adopted by a wonderful lady who has given him a happy and loving home.

We know that Jabari is at least 13 years old because he was previously adopted from the Dumb Friends League in 1991 before turning up in the shelter again.

And about Connor. A week after this photo was taken, Connor found himself with a new title—"Champion!" Little did we know when we left home last Thursday and headed for Rapid City, SD, that Connor would win a 4 point major and two 5 point majors at the Rapid City dog show.

Makes me wonder if there is something magical about that old dog, Jabari.

"I wish Jabari could have lived longer with Susan, but it helps me to know that he was so well-loved for the last year of his life. I had just groomed him a few weeks ago and he looked great then...the end came quickly, which is a blessing."

- Peggy Shifflet

Success story from Golden Rescue

Dear GRRR:

Brinley (the Golden formerly known as "Buddy") is doing terrific! He has been a wonderful and welcome addition to our family (although our cats weren't sure in the beginning.) Kandi and I were absolutely amazed at how fast he assimilated into our household. It was like he had been with us for his entire life rather than just a few short months. I'm certain, once you look at the pictures, you'll get a sense that Brinley is pretty happy too!!!

Thanks GRRR!!

Allen and Kandi Schubert, and Amber Lytle



Brinley

Lost and Found

Susan Brown

Since you have been involved with the welfare of dogs, how many times have you had to tackle questions pertaining to lost or found dogs? If you're like most of us, you've probably dealt with this issue numerous times.

Find a Dog?

- ✿ First, try to locate the dog's owner. Check for collar and identification tags. Often the dog lives close by and can be quickly reunited with its owner if the address is given. If not, call the phone number on the tag. You could be calling the owner, the veterinarian, or a microchip or tattoo service. You could learn the identity of the owners, contact them, and reunite the dog with his or her owners quickly.
- ✿ Do not assume the dog is homeless because he does not have a collar or tags. Many show dogs do not wear collars because it disturbs the fur. A dog you think may be homeless may be a valuable show dog. And sometimes a dog loses its collar while running at large. And every lost dog is potentially someone's beloved pet and family member.
- ✿ Walk the dog around the neighborhood. Sometimes, someone will know where the dog lives.
- ✿ Check the neighborhood for "Lost Dog" signs.
- ✿ Check the newspaper for "Lost Dog" ads. If there is one that seems to fit the dog you found, be sure the people you are calling can give you a very good description of the dog before you turn it over.
- ✿ Take the dog to a veterinarian to see if the dog has a microchip which will identify the owners.
- ✿ Place a "Found Dog" ad in the newspaper. You can do this for free. Again, if someone calls, be sure they can clearly identify the dog.
- ✿ Call the local animal shelter to see if someone has lost a dog fitting the description of your found dog.
- ✿ Call the local police department and tell them you have found the dog. Sometimes the owner has called the police department about their lost dog.
- ✿ Take the dog to the local animal shelter or have the dog picked up by the local animal control people. If someone has lost their dog, the animal shelter should be one of the first places they look.

- ✿ If you are willing, tell the animal shelter to let you know if the owner has not found the dog, no one has adopted the dog, and the dog is in danger of being euthanized. Tell them you are willing to adopt or take responsibility for the dog in that event. If the dog is a purebred dog, contact the purebred dog rescue group to see if they can assist in re-homing the dog. A mixed breed dog, especially a large dog, while no less deserving of adoption, can be more challenging to re-home.
- ✿ If you have reunited the dog with its owner, good for you, the dog, and the owner. If you work with a rescue group to re-home the dog, good for you, the dog, and the new owner. If the dog is unadoptable because, for instance, it has an aggression problem, and is euthanized by the animal shelter – or the dog is adoptable and is euthanized because there are more dogs than there are homes for them, you have still done a good thing. You got the dog off the street, where it could have been hit by a car, scrounging in dumpsters for food, or been exposed to the elements or other malevolent forces. And you cannot save them all.

Lost a Dog?

- ✿ First, do everything possible to prevent being in this situation. Make sure your dog is spayed or neutered. The dog is less likely to have urges to wander and will be healthier, as well. If your intact dog becomes lost or stolen, he could wind up as breeding stock in a puppy mill, a horrifying prospect. Puppy mills have no use for spayed or neutered dogs.
- ✿ Make sure your dog has a collar and current identification tags. Dogs are often lost when their owners are out of town and someone else is taking care of the dog. In that case, put a piece of masking tape on the dog's collar with the caretaker's phone number.
- ✿ If your dog makes a mad dash out the door every time the door opens, do some obedience training to prevent this. Your dog could be lost or even hit by a passing car.
- ✿ Make sure your yard has a secure fence or enclosure. If there's a hole in the fence, fix it. It's a lot easier than trying to find your dog after he has run off.
- ✿ Microchip your dog. It is a quick, simple, inexpensive

procedure performed by your veterinarian. Consult your vet about this and don't delay. Have it done as soon as you can. A microchip contains all the information needed to reunite you with your dog. If your dog is microchipped, make sure the microchip service has current information about how to contact you.

- ☞ If your dog is gone, walk around your neighborhood and talk to everyone you see. Someone may have seen your dog.
- ☞ Call your local animal shelter to see if your dog has been impounded. If your dog has a collar and tags, they can put the two of you together. Sometimes it's that easy.
- ☞ If they say they don't have your dog or don't know if they have your dog, you must go in person to the shelter, every day if necessary, to look for yourself. The staff is usually extremely busy and cannot always do the looking for you.
- ☞ Check all of the animal shelters in the area. Someone may have found your dog and taken it to a shelter they are familiar with and not necessary to one closest to you or the shelter you are familiar with.
- ☞ Contact the local police department to report your dog is missing, especially if you fear that the dog was stolen.
- ☞ If more than a couple of days have gone by without finding your dog, check the newspapers for a "Found Dog" ad.
- ☞ Place a "Lost Dog" ad in the newspaper. Do not put a detailed description of your dog in the ad. Be wary of people who call and claim to have your dog, however.

Sadly, there are people who run scams on unsuspecting and heartbroken dog owners. They call and claim to have your dog and will return him for a sum of money. Usually, you wind up being without your dog and your money.



Charlie Brown & Lucy

- ☞ Plaster your neighborhood with "Lost Dog" signs. Offer a reward. Again, if someone calls claiming they found your dog, have them describe the dog to you, not the other way around.
- ☞ Services are available to help you locate a lost dog. Check references and ask questions about their experience and success rate before paying them any money.
- ☞ If your dog is a purebred dog, contact the appropriate rescue group. They may have seen your dog at a shelter or someone may have surrendered the dog to them.
- ☞ The Internet might help you. Some people have had success with www.petfinder.com. This website has good information and resources for lost or found pets.

"Fatal Dog Attacks"

Book Review by Karen Delise

A must-read for anyone involved with dog welfare and rescue. The author, a licensed Veterinary Technician with a degree in Veterinary Science Technology, spent over 10 years researching and investigating fatal dog attacks. She is a dog owner and survivor of a multiple-bite dog attack. The book explores 4 decades of deadly assaults and uncovers the truth, as well as dispelling myths, about the causes and frequency of unprovoked dog attacks. It answers questions such as: who are the most likely victims, how can people protect themselves, which breeds are most aggressive (the answers may amaze you), and who is primarily responsible. Not surprisingly, a high number of cases involve chained dogs. The author points out how these dogs have no chance of learning who is part of the family. Many cases described in the book emphasize the wisdom of supervising children and dogs, regardless of the breed. The book includes an appendix listing every fatality—the breed involved, age and sex of the victim, and a one-line description of the situation. A fascinating and informative treatment of an alarming phenomenon.



Monty

Pet Overpopulation Fund

Martha Smith

In the two years since the Pet Overpopulation Fund was established by the Colorado Legislature, over \$400,000 in grants have been made to communities across the state. These grants make affordable spays and neuters available to animals whose owners would be otherwise unable to provide them for their pets. In the first grant cycle, more than 5600 pets have been sterilized, thanks to the generosity of Colorado taxpayers, and we expect at least as many to receive surgeries this year.

As we all know, eliminating random breeding is the single most critical element in the battle to end the unnecessary euthanasia of healthy, sweet tempered pets. It is the goal of the fund to help Colorado achieve zero euthanasia of adoptable dogs and cats by both controlling population and educating the public about the importance of doing so.

Look for the Pet Overpopulation Fund in the Checkoff Colorado portion of your state tax form. You may donate all or part of your refund, or make a deductible donation to the fund when you file. If tax time is not the best time for you, you can send your contribution to CPOPA, 455 Sherman Street, Suite 462, Denver, CO 80203.

This is a positive program that fosters cooperative efforts among government agencies, humane societies, private placement groups such as ABRN, and the veterinary community. All these groups understand the problem, and the Fund makes it possible for them to work together to be part of the solution. Communities across the state have embraced this opportunity with great enthusiasm, and the Fund could do much more with more donors. Ask your tax preparer to check it out!

Heidi's story

Being a small dog in a big animal shelter is really scary. You can hear the big dogs barking and growling in the next cage. My name is Heidi, and let me tell you, it is even scarier when you are blind and sick. My people thought I was too old and sick to keep, so they took me to a shelter.

Even though they knew that I was diabetic, they didn't bring my medicine with me when they dumped me off. The shelter people didn't know how much medicine I

needed, so I got really sick.

Luckily for me, a lady from the All Breed Rescue Network (Karen Brown, Bouvier Rescue) walked through the shelter and saw me. She took me to a vet who did all kinds of tests. They found out how much insulin I needed to feel better, and they started giving it to me regularly. They gave me special food for diabetic dogs. They kept doing lots of tests and giving me lots of medicine, and I kept feeling better.

Finally, I got to go home with another nice rescue lady (Susan

Lummanick, Miniature Schnauzer Rescue). I got lots of good food and attention. I sat on her lap while she worked at the computer and I slept in the people bed. I went outside and walked around, smelling all the good outside smells.

I kept getting those shots. I didn't like shots, but they made me feel good. I played with the other rescue dogs and with the big dogs that lived in the house. I had lots of fun, and for the first time in a long time I was loved. The rescue lady even came to pick me up when I got lost in the house. I barked to let her know where I was, and she would come and give me a treat and put me on something soft to nap on.

I had a few more great months in me and I really enjoyed them, but eventually I got sick and none of the medicine helped. The rescue lady took me to the vet again for another shot. I went to sleep. While I slept, I went to a place called the rainbow bridge. Although she can't see me, I still visit the lady who took me home and gave me some happy times and loved me. She is sad because I had to leave so soon and she can't hold me and pet me anymore. I wish I could tell her not to be sad. In the place where I am now, I feel great and have lots of other dogs to play with. I want to say thank you to the rescue lady. She has other dogs like me that she is taking care of now, and I am glad for them. I was lucky, and they are, too



Heidi

ABRN Board Members

President: Martha Smith (303) 338-0878

Vice President: Karen Brown (303) 841-6052

Treasurer: Susan Lummanick (303) 948-2526

Secretary: Jeanne Phipers (303) 985-2811

Member-at-Large: Lauren Immel (303) 765-0058

Member-at-Large: Diane Leshner (303) 680-6265

Member-at-Large: John W. Martin (303) 697-4667

Member-at-Large: Sandy Moore (303) 751-6704

ABRN HOTLINE VOLUNTEERS

Susan Brown, Hotline Coordinator

Michelle Bartz	Jacky Eckard
Dorothy Kent	Susan Lummanick
Pam Montgomery	Peggy Shifflet
Lois Williams	Holly Wolfe

STAY IN TOUCH!

Would you like to feature a dog on ABRN's website, www.allbreedrescuenetwork.com? Jenni McKernan is the liaison with the Webmaster, Becki Hahn. Contact Jenni at (303) 783-5772 or at colosheltierescue@prodigy.net to highlight a rescue dog on the website. Please follow up with Jenni when that dog has been adopted. Also call her to add or delete names or phone numbers or if you are interested in being on our rescue referral list. If you have a temporary change, such as a vacation, please call the hotline coordinator, Susan Brown, at (719) 748-5777. We need you to stay in touch - and besides, we enjoy hearing from you!



Chaska

ABRN shelter Liaison List

Adams County Animal Shelter (Brighton, CO):

Amy Jones (303) 487-0930

Aurora Animal Care Center (Aurora, CO):

Pam Montgomery (303) 699-9529

Denver Municipal Animal Shelter (Denver, CO):

Laurie Janak (303) 332-9977

Back-up contact: Martha Smith (303) 338-0878

Dumb Friends League (Denver, CO):

Martha Smith (303) 338-0878

Back-up contact: Sandy Moore (303) 751-6704

DDFL Buddy Center (Castle Rock, CO):

Karen Brown (303) 841-6052

Back-up contact: Kitty Korth (303) 617-8316

Larimer County Humane Society (Ft. Collins, CO):

Michelle Bartz (970) 407-9011 or (970) 988-5957

Longmont Humane Society (Longmont, CO):

Neil Davis (303) 485-6159

Mesa County Animal Shelter & Roice-Hurst Humane Society

(Mesa County Humane) (Grand Junction, CO):

Ken Cox (970) 243-4567

Table Mountain Animal Care Center (Golden, CO):

Susan Lummanick (303) 948-2526

Back-up contact: Cindy Freeding (303) 424-6892

To The Rescue, ABRN News, published quarterly. Susan Brown, Editor, Debbie Davis, Designer.

We hope you like the new title of this newsletter. "To The Rescue" was submitted by Cheryl Conner. We received many clever suggestions, and we thank you for those. To thank Cheryl for the winning suggestion, an article and photo will appear in our next issue and will feature a dog of her choosing.

To submit articles for the newsletter, please call Susan Brown at (719) 748-5777 or send e-mail to susanmollybrown@earthlink.net. Photographs of rescued dogs are always welcome. If photos are digital, please set your camera at the highest resolution (300 dpi at about 3X4" needed). Regular snapshots preferred. Deadline for submissions for the next issue is February 25, 2004.

Like to Help?

Please help rescue dogs where most needed with a tax deductible donation.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

Please mail to: All Breed Rescue Network, P.O. Box 150803, Lakewood, CO 80215-0803.

Thank you for your support!

Success story from Basenji Rescue

Dear Peggy,

I am not sure if you remember me, but we adopted Bonnie Rae from the Basenji rescue. I am happy to report that Bonnie has become a beloved member of our family and we can't even remember what life was like before she was with us. My three year old Annie and Bonnie are inseparable and Bonnie is very protective and loving with Kayleigh and Annie - more than I could ever ask for as a loyal companion. My oldest daughter Kayleigh takes Bonnie for walks around the neighborhood - Bonnie is soooo proud and excited on these walks!

Bonnie loves to go running in the park and she loves to play in her back yard. She had a little separation anxiety in the beginning, but we have slowly been working with her and now she can stay at home with no destruction - we made a place for her to stay in under our bed and that is her safe place! She loves to go into the mountains! She has an extreme fear of crates so we don't make her stay in one - she is perfectly well-behaved without it now! I guess it helps that Annie and I are home all day to play with Bonnie Rae!



Annie and Bonnie Rae

I just can't tell you how happy we are and I think Bonnie is very happy here too! I'm sorry it took so long to write to you - I hope you enjoy the picture! Bonnie is the best dog in the world!

Sincerely, Victor, Kim, Kayleigh & Annie Laton



All Breed Rescue Network
P.O. Box 150803
Lakewood, CO 80215-0803

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