



Angel



**ABRN
News**

to the rescue
Rehoming Some of Colorado's Most Eligible Dogs

RESCUE SPOTLIGHT: Vintage Dog Rescue

By Susan Lummanick

Over the last nine years, **Vintage Dog Rescue (VDR)** has placed over **800 Miniature Schnauzers and terrier mixes into loving Colorado homes.**

Breed Specific Rescues are great at helping people find the right breed and adopt the right dog. Vintage Dog Rescue (VDR) helps Miniature Schnauzers find their perfect forever homes. Miniature Schnauzers were originally bred to hunt vermin, which means they have a high prey drive, and they love to chase fast-moving small objects. Their characteristic long beard was originated to help protect the dog if the rat turned to bite him while the dog was chasing prey down tunnels to their dens. Minis are curious, quick to learn, and love to play with toys, bones, or anything else they can capture.

Those who do breed-specific rescue know that it's important for potential adopters to understand and love the characteristics of the dog and the breed – almost as important as the dog connecting with a new family! This thoughtfulness for both sides of the new family makes for happy adopters and adoptees, and is an expertise that pet shops and sellers on Craigslist usually can't offer. VDR talks with potential adopters about not only the characteristics of these active little terriers with an attitude, like their love of their people and their penchant for getting into mischief when bored, but also some of their potential physical issues. Schnauzers tend to have problems with diabetes and bladder stones, as well as teeth that require consistent care to stay healthy.

Susan Lummanick, VDR's President and All Breed Rescue Network's Treasurer, initially got involved with ABRN when

the organization rescued almost 150 dogs from a breeder in Cortez, Colorado. A Fall Saturday morning that started out as a transport to bring the dogs to waiting rescues in Denver ended up with Susan fostering two of the Miniature Schnauzers brought back from Cortez. It turned out that there were really three Minis, because the female was only about a week away from giving birth to a puppy. The adult dogs from Cortez lacked the socialization that makes Minis such charmers. Typical of dogs from large breeding situations or mills, these dogs had not spent much time with people or in a normal home environment. When they first came into rescue they were fearful of people and normal household sounds. It took a couple of months for them to understand and trust that they were safe and loved.

When the three Minis were ready to be adopted, ABRN sent former Board member, Robin Lacey, retired Rat Terrier rescuer, to help screen the applicants and place the dogs. Once the Minis were settled in their new homes, Susan began fostering Rat Terriers for Robin. Over the next two years Susan fostered dogs and accompanied Robin on adoption visits. Robin taught Susan everything she needed to know to start a rescue. In August 2002, after Robin retired from rescue, VDR was born when Susan took in her first rescue dog, an older female Mini named Abby.

VDR takes Minis from local shelters, owner surrenders, breeders and puppy mills. People often think that there is something wrong with a dog in rescue. There isn't. These little boys and girls usually have just been in the wrong place at the wrong time. Divorce, seniors moving into assisted living, new babies and other events have suddenly changed the family dynamic. VDR currently is

...go catch the rest on page 2!

Good puppy, you caught it from page 1!



seeing a lot of owner-surrendered dogs due to the poor economy, job losses, and foreclosures.

Previously, dogs surrendered by their owners usually came into rescue healthy, up to date on their shots and ready to go to their new adopted home. Today these dogs often need a lot of veterinary care that was deferred because their owners had not been able to afford the vet care. Most of the dogs that come into rescue are between 3 and 10 years old, although occasionally a puppy finds his or her way into rescue.

STARSKY & HUTCH

Starsky and Hutch are two three-year-old Minis who were found running loose in N Colorado. We don't know where they were for the first three years of their lives. They are

social with both people and other dogs. Hutch is a little more submissive with people than Starsky, who will roll over on his back and give you his tummy to rub. He spent most of his time in



daycare with Hutch; he didn't interact too much with the other dogs. They both like to stay close to their foster Mom when they are outside playing. They may have been running loose for some time, as they were a little thin when they came into rescue. They would like to get adopted together, but we think that they could get adopted separately into homes with other dogs.

FUZZY

Schnauzers can be escape artists. Almost every year at least one Mini has an accident with a car. Fuzzy is a two year old Mini who was found after a car accident and taken to a local emergency vet. He had a broken vertebrae and a dislocated hip. The therapy for the broken vertebrae was cage rest for about eight weeks, and the treatment for the dislocated hip was surgery followed by a lot of exercise for that hip. This contradictory treatment plan led to Fuzzy's foster Mom becoming a canine physical therapist, but the treatment worked well, and Fuzzy has been adopted to his forever home.

MAX


Max is about six years old and had been diabetic for a couple years when his owner passed away. Although the diabetes is controlled, the family had no one to take Max, and so they took him to the vet to be euthanized. The vet saw a healthy, active little guy and asked the family if they would mind if the vet could find him a home. The vet contacted VDR, and Max came into rescue. He's a loving, personable schnoodle. While his owner was ill, Max didn't get enough exercise and may have gotten a little too much food. He had some problems with his sugar level, but they have been resolved, and Max is a healthy little guy who gets along well with the other dogs in his foster home. About ten percent of Miniature Schnauzers seem to develop diabetes. Regular food and medicine can treat the disease and the dog can live a long and healthy life.





MAIZIE


VDR got a call from a former Mini rescue person about a little black female Mini in a local shelter. Maizie had been there for over a month, she was not getting any attention from potential adopters, and the Animal Control personnel were concerned about her. A visit to the shelter found a little girl who had not been groomed or bathed and had blood in her urine. A quick visit to the vet and an X-ray disclosed a huge bladder stone. Schnauzers seem to be prone to stones, which can be caused by diet or repetitive untreated urinary tract infections. Stones caused by diet can be helped with a special diet. Maizie had surgery to remove the stone -- which was 3.5 inches long and weighed over 14 ounces! Today, she has healed and feels much better and is waiting to find her perfect home.

If you are interested in learning more about Miniature Schnauzers, there is a local Miniature Schnauzer club that you can find at www.csmssc.org. If you would like to meet some of the dogs available through rescue, go to www.cominischnauzerrescue.com. 

Bella Valentine

By Suzanne Adams, President, Rocky Mountain Yorkie Rescue

Bella Valentine came to Rocky Mountain Yorkie Rescue from the Mesa County Animal Shelter in February when she was less than a year old. Weighing a mere 2.8 pounds, she was not in good shape and had two broken legs. One was healing, with a plate in place to save her right leg. Her left leg was broken as well, but had not yet been completely addressed. We continued to do our best to save her. After several x-rays, splints, plate removal, etc., and enormous vet bills, we did it! Bella was in foster care, healing for 5 months, and Margo, her foster mom in Evergreen, predictably fell in love and adopted her. This funny Valentine plays all day long with three other playmates as if nothing had ever happened to her, and she loves everyone. She still needed to be spayed and have her baby teeth removed, maintained her "boxing" weight, and now is up to three lbs. She is a true gem, and we aptly call this adorable little package of courage, "**Sweetheart of the Year.**"

To make a donation, adopt a Yorkie like Bella, or contact Rocky Mountain Yorkie Rescue, please contact Suzanne at 303-840-9688, email info@rockymountainyorkierescue.com, or go to www.rockymountainyorkierescue.com. 



The Love of a Rescue Dog

By Jeannette McMurtry

Dogs have the wonderful gift of unconditional love, and this love can be extraordinary in a rescue dog. Nearly two years ago I wanted to adopt a poodle for my young twin daughters to love. With the help of Jeanne Phipers, who so lovingly operates the Poodle Rescue of the Rockies, I brought home a 15-pound, 3-year-old Apricot poodle. After nearly two years of foster homes and rescue kennels, she instantly knew she had found her forever family. She snuggled and loved my girls like she had known them all her life. As her love grew for us, so did her intense desire to protect us at all costs. As a result, she started biting any person or dog that got too close to any of us. She was a teddy bear to us. To everyone else, she was a terror.

I was at a loss as how correct this behavior - even the most popular books on the topic shed no light for this situation. I couldn't give her back for loving us too much and because I would just be passing the problem on to someone else. Telling her no and locking her in the bathroom after an incident made no difference; it just made it worse. Desperate, exhausted, living in fear of what might happen next, worrying about legal liabilities, and unable to invite visitors to the house, I spent nearly an entire night looking for answers on the Internet.

I didn't want to hire a trainer, as I wanted her to respect me from the

beginning and avoid the difficult task of transferring authority after the trainer left. Finally, at about 2 a.m., after what I decided would be the last attack on any of our friends no matter what, I found my answers. I believe that it was no coincidence. I had looked for these answers for months, and nothing ever showed up. Now that I was at the end of my rope, I finally found a list of behavior-training tactics for dogs that love too much that seemed to be written just for me. Perhaps there is a reason DOG is GOD spelled backwards.

For two months my family and I followed the tips flawlessly. The result was that we had a new dog, one that seemed to understand the rules had changed and so, too, had the seat of power. I never yelled at her, hit her, or attempted to hit her. I simply changed the rules and made it clear in dog's terms who was in charge, mimicking situations animals understand instinctively vs. forcing her to figure out what we humans are doing. I didn't have time for that!

The following are four tips that completely changed my dog's behavior, and made me the Queen and her the Lady in Waiting rather than the other way around. These tips enabled us to have the loving, calm companion we had set out to find. Your chances of a successful rescue will significantly increase if you follow these faithfully. After only a few months, our beloved poodle went from terrorist to terrific.

1. Eat your dog's food before you give it to them every day, and make them watch you do it. This one step was a critical turning point. In the animal world, the dominant dog or pack leader always eats first, and the submissive ones get the leftovers. I could see the sense of power drain from her eyes every time she got to eat my leftovers.

2. Nothing is free. While not a new idea, it is an important tactic in teaching her who was in charge. For two months, my entire family completely ignored our new family member in terms of attention and affection. We didn't pet her or play with her. Once a day we would acknowledge her beyond her feeding or training periods. Before we petted her briefly or said her name, she had to earn it by sitting, staying or getting down. She still obeys almost flawlessly on the first command. Months later, she fears this loss of attention.

3. Many different trainers agree that overprotective dogs cannot ever sleep on your bed with you. This proved to be true in our case, as she was used to ruling over the bed covers and pillows of our large bed. I took this theory a step further and put her bed under my bed, forcing her to sleep in a little den I made her under my spot on my bed. This was a huge statement as to who really was the Top Dog.

4. When friends came over, rather than give her a chance to fail, I put her in a safe place where she could see our friends but not get to them. She complied fairly well most of the time and learned to associate friends with isolation. She didn't like that so much, and wanted to be part of the scene. When, after some months, I finally gave her a chance to be with our friends, I gave them her favorite treat and asked them to make her sit and then feed her. That taught her to be submissive to our guests, as well.

It has been one year now with no snarls, bites, or attempts. She has turned out to be the perfect companion for our family, and brings so much love to our home. There is no doubt she was supposed to find us, as I believe that rescue dogs find their families vs. the other way around. Many dogs are put down for these types of behavioral issues, but due to a strong mutual love and dedication, we turned this situation around and are very glad we did. 🦴



Bear

-submitted by John Kryder,
PYRescue, www.pyrescue.org

I think we saw a miracle last evening. Bear has been a real problem – always fearful, tail down, fear barking at everything – especially me.

Last night a couple came looking for a Great Pyrenees. Bear was the only male ready to go. The family consists of mom, dad, and three girls, the eldest about 16. They spent some time with fearful Bear - then the girl took Bear for a walk. The walk lasted quite some time and I didn't pay much attention, even walked three other Pyrs by Bear and the girl. By the third pass I noted that Bear was simply sitting beside the girl, just barely on a loose leash, not excited or his usual fearful self. I put the last Pyr back in his kennel and came out to where Bear was. It took one look to see that all the fear was gone from his eyes. He simply sat there next to his new human as contented as any Pyr could be. They were going to leave and come back and get him the next day but decided no, he needed to go home right now. When they were ready to go he simply hopped in their car, laid down on the rear seat and never looked at us again. We received a call this morning to tell us that he is delighted with the three girls, slept on his new bed all night, and, at last sight, was in the backyard in Manitou Springs CO, tail up, no bark, playing with the family cat. There is no explanation for the bond that can occur between a Pyr and the right human. 🦴

COLORADO PUG RESCUE • 13TH ANNUAL PUGS IN THE PARK!

**Sunday, October 2nd, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Denver City Park**

**Costume Contest, Games, Food,
Fun, Raffles and More**

\$5.00 Registration per Pug or Canine Companion

For more information, call **303-659-9689**
or go to www.copugrescue.org



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

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Mail a check to: All Breed Rescue Network, P.O. Box 150803, Lakewood, CO 80215-0803
Or, you could go to our website and make a secure contribution through PayPal.

WANT TO HELP? CONSIDER FOSTERING

By Susan Heidicker Brown

One of the most valuable resources a rescue groups has is foster homes. One of the greatest NEEDS a rescue group has is for foster homes. Many owners looking to surrender dogs have to be turned away, and other dogs remain in shelters because the rescue groups do not have enough foster homes in which to place the dogs.

All Breed Rescue Network is a coalition of over 100 different purebred dog rescue groups (and many take mixes). We do not have a facility or shelter in which to house dogs waiting to be adopted. Instead, rescue groups foster the dogs themselves and/or rely on volunteers willing to foster one or more dogs in their home until a permanent home is found. Quite simply, without fosters, many rescues could not do what they do.

Fostering can be a very rewarding - and sometimes challenging - experience. Not all rescued dogs are reliably housetrained, and not all are obedience trained. They usually learn quickly when given the proper guidance, consistency, and patience. Some dogs are young and energetic. Others are older and may require less exercise or training. Each group has its own process and requirements regarding potential fosters. Each group's leadership will be there to help you and answer any questions you may have during the fostering process.

A tall fence may be required for a big dog but not for a small dog, for example. Some dogs would not be good with cats or young children. Not all groups need foster homes (based on the number of dogs they place a year, etc.), but MOST do and will be most grateful for your help. Whether or not a group uses foster homes or accepts someone as a foster home is entirely at their discretion. Some dogs need a quiet place to stay while recovering from major surgery, which may take some weeks. Some are special needs dogs with injuries. Some have been traumatized or physically harmed in puppy mills or by abusive owners. Some have kennel cough and need to be isolated from other dogs (my laundry room worked) until they regain their health. These dogs all need a safe, loving place to recover to help them become more adoptable.

Some groups have many fosters - others, just a few. Many hold annual gatherings that include potential adopters, previous adopters, and the group's volunteers, with lots of dogs, food, fun, socializing, and laughter with people who share your enthusiasm for a particular breed. I attended the Japanese Chin Dig last summer with my two non-Chin dogs, and we all had a great time. A potential adopter found her forever canine companion on that day, and I'll never forget the look of contentment and joy on her face as she held her new canine family member.



Susan with fosters she later adopted, Frankie and Shadow.

My husband, Jerry, and I have fostered over 30 dogs over the years. We adopted a few (not unusual), and the others were a mixed experience of loving them and hating to let them go and "glad to know you, so happy the rescue group found a wonderful, permanent home for you, but we're kinda glad to see you go." It was always interesting, and we always felt we were making a valuable contribution to the rescue effort.

One dog's owner contacted Westie Rescue many years after adopting Rudy, a Westie that Jerry and I had fostered, to tell us that Rudy had passed away. He remembered that I named him Rudy because he danced on his hind legs, which reminded me of the elegant Rudolf Nureyev.

Although they can't tell you, these dogs somehow know and appreciate what you are doing to help them on their journey to a second chance at a happy life.

If you'd like to explore the possibility of providing a temporary, loving, responsible foster home for a rescued dog, please contact the breed rescue group of your choice. All contact info is at www.allbreedrescuenetwork.com (look under breed rescue groups). Talk to them, find out what is required, and get a feel for whether or not that group would be a good match for you. If not, contact someone else. Breed traits vary greatly, and the personalities and procedures of the rescue groups vary greatly, as well. 🦴

Editor's Note: *After eight years, this will be my last newsletter as editor. I have enjoyed working with all of you, and I deeply appreciate everyone who works in rescue or supports rescue in any way. The work can be tough, but you push through that with your compassion, perseverance, and dedication to all the dogs that deserve a second chance at a happy life. Donors help with the financial burdens. Your work is important. Thank you and good-bye.*



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Immediate Past President: Martha Smith (303) 338-0878
Vice President: Karin Lang (970) 667-4314
Secretary: Jeanne Phipers (303) 985-2811
Treasurer: Susan Lummanick (720) 320-2413
Member-at-Large: Diane Leshner (303) 680-6265
Member-at-Large: Sandy Moore (303) 751-6704

ABRN Rescue List Committee

Karin Lang, Chairman, km2dog@aol.com
Bonnie Guzman, bonefinder@comcast.net
Jenni McKernan, colosheltierescue@prodigy.net

ABRN Hotline Volunteers

Tina Jordan, Hotline Coordinator, (720) 422-0468
Chris Collins, Joanne Cook, Jordan DiMarco, Lu Horner,
Tina Jordan, Mimi Karsh, Sharon Nichols, Sandra Rector,
Connie Riddell, Ann Terry

ABRN Shelter Liaison List

- Adams County Animal Shelter** (Brighton, CO) ♦
- Aurora Animal Shelter** (Aurora, CO)
Diane Leshner (303) 680-6265 home or (303) 520-0705 cell
- Denver Municipal Animal Shelter** ♦
- Dumb Friends League** (Denver, CO)
Martha Smith (303) 338-0878 | Backup: Sandy Moore (303) 751-6704
- DFL Buddy Center** (Castle Rock, CO)
Karen Brown (303) 841-6052
- Foothills Animal Shelter (formerly TMAC)** (Golden, CO)
Janet Nelson (303) 466-2459 | Backup: Lois Williams (303) 986-5296
- Humane Society of Boulder Valley** (Boulder, CO) ♦
- Humane Society of South Platte Valley** (Littleton, CO)
Rena Todd (303) 669-5698
- Humane Society of Weld County** (Greeley, CO) ♦
- Larimer Humane Society** (Ft. Collins, CO)
Karin Lang (970) 667-4314
- Longmont Humane Society** ♦
- Mesa County Animal Services** (Grand Junction, CO) ♦

♦ Note: If unable to contact a shelter liaison or if there is none, please contact a board member.

Stay In Touch!

If you are interested in being on our rescue referral list or if you are on the list and have changes you need to make, please contact a member of the ABRN List Committee: Karin Lang, Coordinator, (970) 667-4314 or Km2dog@aol.com, Jenni McKernan, (303) 783-5772 or colosheltierescue@prodigy.net; or Bonnie Guzman, (303) 733-4220 or bonefinder@comcast.net

Would you like to feature a dog on ABRN's website? Contact Jenni McKernan 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. Let Jenni know if the dog would be suitable for an active lifestyle, and she can add the "Jog Dog" icon next to the dog.

If you have a temporary change, such as a vacation, please contact the hotline coordinator, Tina Jordan, at (720) 422-0468 or xpertinvestigate@msn.com.

To find the appropriate rescue group to adopt or surrender a purebred dog, first check our website, allbreedrescuenetwork.com. If the information is not found there, call our hotline, (303) 989-7808.

To The Rescue, ABRN News, published quarterly.
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ABRN MISSION: The mission of All Breed Rescue Network, Inc., is to provide a vehicle for the fostering and rehoming of abandoned purebred dogs, to assist in increasing the adoption of shelter dogs by promoting awareness and working with shelters, and to educate the community regarding responsible dog ownership including the spay/neuter of companion animals.

ABRN VISION: Ending euthanasia of adoptable dogs in Colorado.

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Generous Donors

- ♥ Animal Urgent Care, Dr. Liz O'Rourke
- ♥ Denver Animal Foundation
- ♥ Doug Hawes
- ♥ Lu Horner
- ♥ Tagawa Gardens
- ♥ **This newsletter and the ABRN website, are made possible, in part, by a grant from the Animal Assistance Fund.**

We are grateful, also, to our regular donors who wish to remain anonymous and those who donate food, treats, crates and other essentials!



Colorado Sled Dog
-submitted by Sharon Nichols,
POLARIS Alaskan Malamute Rescue - CO



KRAMER
Schnauzer/Poodle Mix,
or "Schnoodle"

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