2nd Chance Vizsla Rescue inc

Volume 7, Autumn 2014

The Barking Lot

The Official Newsletter of 2nd Chance Vizsla Rescue, Inc.

Letter from your President:

It has been an interesting quarter. We had some very different weather - hardly any summer. Now we are entering fall. I just love the fall and the cooler weather. We have taken in four dogs this quarter and unfortunately had to help one cross over the Rainbow Bridge. We will have his story to post on our website soon.

We had a great turnout for our 2nd Annual Rescue Reunion - triple the attendance from our first reunion. The weather was perfect as always, and the food was great, thanks to Kristen Wrona who was in charge of providing lunch for everyone. She even baked a cake & cookies for us as well as cookies for our 4 legged friends. Her husband, Joe, was our official photographer. How nice was that? He took some fantastic pictures. If any of you who attended have some photos to share I would love to see them. You can also view more photos on our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/pages/2nd-Chance-Vizsla-Rescue-Inc/118848398273266?ref=hl. Fun was had by all and the V's had a great time running and playing in the ponds at the dog park. We are looking forward to our next reunion - meeting new people and new dogs. Thank you to everyone who was responsible for making this reunion a bang up success! Look for reminders of our next reunion September 2015.

The last Monday of September I received two calls in the evening, some 3 hrs apart, regarding lost/found Vizslas. They called me as the name on their microchip registration. This is odd because normally I receive only one call a year. On this particular Monday there were terrible storms in the Denver area where these dogs were found. One was in Longmont. I was able to give the Longmont caller the correct owner's information so the owner could come & pick up his dog. The other dog's owner-information was not valid and the dog ended up being picked up by animal control and taken to a local shelter. I was able to arrange for the dog to be picked up and brought to me. Hopefully her owner will find out where she is. She is a very sweet dog and wants to go home in the worst way. This demonstrates why it is very important that an adopter keep in touch with rescue personnel when they relocate. Current contact information enables a dog that is lost and found to be quickly reunited with its owner, causing less stress on the dog. - *Rita*

2nd Chance Vizsla Rescue inc

2nd Annual Reunion



John, Alex & buddy



John, Pam & Ginger

Sunday, September 14, 2014



Louisville Community Park



Jeff, Jen, sons and Chance



Rudy

2nd Annual Reunion
September 14, 2014
Louisville Community Park



Alyssa and Dakota



Rudy and Sabrina

Indoor Games for People and Dogs

By Jolanta Benal, CPDT-KA, CBCC-KA,
The Dog Trainer

Sometimes it rains for days on end. Sometimes there's a blizzard or a plague of frogs. Here's a few games to keep your dog from going stir-crazy when the weather traps you both indoors.

The Find It Game

The easiest doggy game of all may be "Find It" -- you can't go wrong when sniffing and food are involved. Show your dog a piece of dry food or a tiny treat. Say "Find it!" and toss the food on the ground. If your dog doesn't quite get the idea of hunting outside the bowl, start her off by dropping the treat right in front of her. Then at each repetition, toss it farther and farther away. You can feed your dog entire meals by playing Find It; for some reason, dogs rarely seem to get bored when looking for food. Make the game more challenging by asking your dog to stay while you hide the treat behind a piece of furniture or in another room. Come back, release your dog from the stay, and wish her happy hunting. I do not suggest using the couch cushions as a hiding place.

Hide and Seek

The hidden item in "Find It" can be a person, too, which turns the game into hide-and-seek. This is easiest to teach with two human players -- one to go hide, the other to stay with the dog and encourage him to find the one who's hiding. The person hiding can make a big fuss over the dog once she's found -- give the old praise-and-scritch, throw a treat or toy, or play a quick round of tug.

The Muffin Tin Game

Amy Samida, of the Naughty Dog Café, in Ann Arbor, told me about the "Muffin Tin Game." Amy found it online and we'd both love to hear from its inventor, so we can sing his or her praises.
Take a 6-muffin tin and put a treat in each cup. Place tennis balls in about half the cups. Once a dog has found the uncovered treats, he usually figures out that knocking away the tennis balls reveals more goodies. As your dog gains experience, you can start hiding treats under only some of the tennis balls and using a 12-muffin or 24-muffin tin. Some dogs, Amy tells me, find it's the most fun to smack the muffin tin and send all the balls and treats flying -- which you could go with, assuming your breakables are somewhere else. Or you could take Amy's suggestion of screwing the muffin tin to a large piece of plywood. Keep your dog hard at work!

Go Wild and Freeze

A famous game is "Go Wild and Freeze," first developed by the trainer September Morn. There are many ways to play "Go Wild and Freeze" – here's one. Start by dancing around and acting excited till your dog gets going, too. After a minute or so, you all of a sudden stop moving. Ask your dog to sit, or down, or do another behavior she knows well. The moment she does it, start dancing around again; when your dog joins in, stop, ask for that sit or down again, and reward her by re-starting the party.

Mix things up by varying what behaviors you ask for and how long you wait before re-starting the game. If your dog is super-excitable and likely to mouth you or ricochet off you, start with a pale-vanilla version of "going wild" -- your dog's introduction to this game can be "Take a Single Step and Freeze." You can also retreat behind a baby gate if need be.

"Go Wild and Freeze" is not only fun, it helps teach your dog self-control as she learns to respond to your cues even when excited. End the game clearly, for example by saying "All done!" and sitting down with a book. If you say the same phrase every time, your dog will learn that it signifies the end of play for now. Ignore any attempts to reel you back in -- otherwise, she'll learn that pestering works.

Training Manners, Having Fun

I've included "Go Wild and Freeze" because it's not only a fun game but also a training game. The heavy-handed training styles of old -- which, unfortunately, haven't yet vanished from the earth -- prime us to think of training as work. Grim, tedious work, at that. Modern reward-based training is a different story -- useful, yes, necessary, yes, but also fun. Spend a few minutes morning and evening of a rainy day tiring your dog's brain by teaching him to spin on cue, or close a kitchen cabinet, or heel off-leash around your living room. Whatever we teach our dogs, as long as we present it in a light, affectionate, enjoyable spirit, "It's all tricks to them!"

For more resources on playing with your dog, go to: dogtrainer.quickanddirtytips.com.The Dog Trainer loves your input. Email me at dogtrainer@quickanddirtytips.com or call 206-600-5661. Visit me on Facebook.

Other Play Resources: September Morn, Dogs Love School, Shelton, WA morndogs@aol.com

Pat Miller. *Play with Your Dog.* Dogwise, 2008.
Karen B. London, Ph.D., and Patricia McConnell, Ph.D. *Play Together, Stay Together: Happy and Healthy Play Between People and Dogs.* McConnell Publishing, 2008.

Clicker training information: www.clickertraining.com; www.clickersolutions.coma

Trying a stifle brace for a torn CCL

Our 12-year-old Vizsla, Schotzi, suffered numerous bouts of life-threatening illness in his first three years of life. The veterinary specialists believe that he contracted a tick-borne disease as a tiny pup, before we picked him up from his breeder, on the coast of Oregon, at eight weeks of age. He was a lethargic puppy, and the repeated bouts of high fever left him painfully thin with swollen lymph nodes, seizures, and tonsils so permanently distended that he could not eat solid food. He ended up having a tonsillectomy and eventually needed both hips replaced as well. With great vets, lots of immune system support and additional holistic veterinary care, Schotzi has enjoyed an active life with many hikes, swims and hunts, although he never runs with the crazy abandon of our other V's. In 2011, Schotzi suffered a partial tear of his left CCL. We rested him and he appeared to recover. In 2014, however, the torn CCL started to again cause him a lot of pain, especially when navigating stairs and hills, and his left rear leg muscles were rapidly atrophying. Clearly he wasn't using that rear left leg much anymore.

I was reluctant to subject the old fellow to more surgery and wondered if some simple physical stabilization of the joint would help. Schotzi's chiropractor-vet had successfully fitted a number of her patients with Orthopets knee braces, so I decided we'd try one. The process began with the chiropractor taking many measurements and putting a cast on Schotzi's leg. After the cast dried, in just a few minutes, it was cut off and sent to Orthopets, in Denver, so they could make a mock-up of Schotzi's leg and build a custom stifle brace. The brace arrived at our home in British Columbia, Canada, about a month later accompanied by a packet of instructions.

The first night, after watching the instruction video numerous times, two tentative parents applied said brace (and lots of treats) to one unsure dog. The brace must be placed perpendicular to the leg and then rotated up as it "snaps" in to place. It really helps if the dog stands still, which didn't happen until I remembered how helpful it was to set a dog up on a table when training for whoa or the show ring. Having spent over a thousand dollars on this thing, I had pictured Schotzi instantly loving the increased stability. On the contrary, I watched in horror as his leg slid across under him before he lurched reluctantly down the hall. Off came the brace and I watched the video another dozen times. It was clear that the brace would only be beneficial if properly applied, and fitting it correctly on the leg was not simple for the uninitiated. Schotzi was supposed to use the brace sparingly at first, but gradually for longer periods of time. Dutifully, I put it on everyday, perfecting my technique, and before long, Schotzi began standing still for the process and walking a bit better up and down the hall. He did not seem to object to the thing, so I figured it must feel OK to him but was still feeling unsure about my technique. The chiropractor thought the top was a bit too tight, so after a month, Schotzi and I drove four hours to the Orthopets-Canada orthopedic vet near Vancouver. She spent an hour with us, adjusting the brace and giving me pointers. With renewed confidence, I increased his brace time, working the hill behind our house and lifting his good leg periodically while he stood still, so he could become more accustomed to putting weight on his braced leg.



This past week, Schotzi wore his brace on several grouse hunts in the woods, enjoying himself immensely. The stability of the brace allows him to use his left rear leg again, but those weak muscles soon tire. After an hour he started "knuckling" and hopping, so I took the brace off for the last few minutes back to the car. It was immediately clear that Schotzi walks much better with the brace, even when he is tired. He stands quite cooperatively to get it on now, so I'm pretty sure he likes it when he is walking. I know he would rather not have it on when he wants to rest as he clearly finds it difficult to sit while wearing the brace.

Mary Ellen Keskimaki

Volunteer Spotlight

Introducing Carolyn Levy

Carolyn Levy is retired and lives in Houston, Texas. Carolyn volunteers at Friends for Life, Houston's only No Kill animal shelter. She does cat photography, fostering and serves on their Board of Directors. Carolyn and her partner moved from Albuquerque to Houston in 2011 to be near her partner's grandchildren. While in Albuquerque, Carolyn volunteered at Animal Humane NM helping with adoptions. She has been a foster to shelter animals, and she also volunteered at New Mexico Animal Friends answering calls regarding low cost spay/neuter options. While Carolyn admits she is more of a cat person, she does have a love of sporting and herding dogs. We have been fortunate to have Carolyn as a volunteer since 2006. While living in Albuquerque, Carolyn has provided transportation services, foster care and has made invaluable financial contributions when our needs were great. She and her partner have 4 cats and one dog of their own and says "fostering tends to get on the resident pets' nerves but so far, they have all been very good sports about it!"



Carolyn with Snoop aka Fenix, one of our success stories!

Carolyn was volunteering at her local animal shelter in Albuquerque when a Vizsla mix named Snoop was brought in. She was thin and had a bad case of mange. Carolyn desperately tried to find a rescue group in New Mexico, Arizona, Texas and Colorado to take her, all without success. As it turns out, Rita was the only rescue group who responded to the call. Carolyn took Snoop on a road trip and met Rita in Pueblo, Colorado to make the transfer. They stayed in touch after that meeting and Carolyn routinely read the group's postings on line.

Carolyn got involved with Vizsla Rescue after reading the group postings about the Kansas City 8 and the urgent call for foster care. "I had just fostered a large male German Shorthair Pointer for the shelter here and I figured a female Vizsla would be a snap." She became a formal volunteer to be able to foster and once again, made the drive to Colorado Springs to get "Sydney". Recalling that experience, Carolyn said "seeing Sydney blossom was such a joy. I'm thrilled that she is now in a loving home where she gets to sleep in the bed with her people."

"My first and only Vizsla was named Rachel. I got her as a puppy from a breeder in upstate New York in 1973. Rachel was raised as a cat since I had never had a dog before. She was incredibly smart and loving." She recalls a friend describing Rachel as "a human stuffed inside a dog costume." Rachel moved to Florida and Virginia with Carolyn over the years and when she moved back to New York, Rachel went to live with her parents in Albuquerque to live out the rest of her days.

"The bottom line for me is that breed rescue groups provide a crucial safety net for dogs that lose their way. As someone who sees cats and dogs in a shelter, I really appreciate foster home based rescue groups that are willing to go above and beyond to help save lives. 2nd Chance Vizsla Rescue is the absolute BEST breed rescue group I know of. I'm happy that I am able to help financially and I hope I'll have the opportunity to adopt an older Vizsla one day."

I am your dog:

I am your dog, and I have a little something I'd like to whisper in your ear.
I know that you humans lead busy lives. Some have to work, some have children to raise.
It always seems like you are running here and running there, often much too fast, often never noticing the truly grand things in life.
Look down at me now, while you sit there at your computer. See the way my dark brown eyes look at yours?
They are slightly cloudy now. That comes with age. The gray hairs are beginning to ring my soft muzzle.
You smile at me; I see love in your eyes. What do you see in mine? Do you see a spirit? A soul inside, who loves you as no other could in the world? A spirit that would forgive all trespasses of prior wrong doing for just a simple moment of your time?
That is all I ask. To slow down, if even for a few minutes, to be with me.
So many times you have been saddened by the words you read on that screen, of others of my kind, passing.
Sometimes we die young and oh so quickly, sometimes so suddenly it wrenches your heart out of your throat.
Sometimes, we age so slowly before your eyes that you may not even seem to know until
the very end, when we look at you with grizzled muzzles and cataract clouded eyes.
Still the love is always there, even when we must take that long sleep, to run free in a distant land.
I may not be here tomorrow; I may not be here next week.
Someday you will shed the water from your eyes, that humans have when deep grief fills their souls, and you will be angry at yourself that you did not have just "one more day" with me.
Because I love you so, your sorrow touches my spirit and grieves me.
We have NOW, together. So come, sit down here next to me on the floor, and look deep into my eyes.
What do you see? If you look hard and deep enough we will talk, you and I, heart to heart.
Come to me not as "alpha" or as "trainer" or even "Mom or Dad".
Come to me as a living soul and stroke my fur and let us look deep into one another's eyes and talk.
I may tell you something about the fun of chasing a tennis ball, or I may tell you something profound about myself, or even life in general.
You decided to have me in your life because you wanted a soul to share such things with. Someone very different from you, and here I am.
I am a dog, but I am alive. I feel emotion, I feel physical senses, and I can revel in the differences of our spirits and souls.
I do not think of you as a "dog on two feet" - I know what you are and who you are.
You are human, in all your quirkiness, and I love you still
Now, come sit with me, on the floor. Enter my world, and let time slow down
if only for 15 minutes. Look deep into my eyes, and whisper into my ears.
Speak with your heart, with your joy, and I will know your true self.
We may not have tomorrow, but we do have today, and life is oh so very short.
So please . . . come sit with me now and let us share these precious moments we have together.



Love, on behalf of canines everywhere,

Your Dog

Anonymous



Tag
September 7, 2014

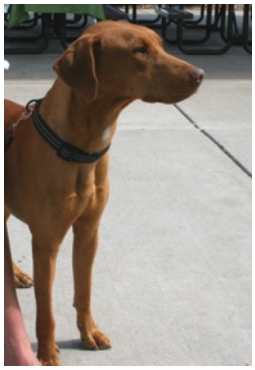
Hello, my name is Tag. I have quite a story. First of all, a little about me. I am around 8 months old and a purebred Vizsla. I was in a shelter in Texas and they transferred me to a shelter in Boulder, CO. This was a lucky break for me because I was adopted. But it was also sad because the family's other dog didn't like me so the family took me back to the shelter. 2nd Chance Vizsla Rescue found out that I was there and they came and picked me up. I am currently living with my foster mom, Kelly and her family.

I did come with a few health issues. I had fleas, an upper respiratory infection and tape worms. All gone now and I am healthy and ready to go to my new family.

I do have some idiosyncrasies that may not be desirable and my foster mom is working with me on them. I am a chewer! Big time!! I will be chewing on a bone and very quietly lean over and start chewing on anything else that is near.

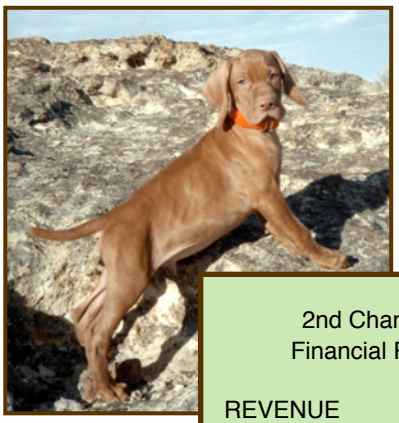
I don't like to be away from my people so I am able to get out of my fiber glass crate. I don't go anywhere, I just want to hang with the other dogs. I am a puppy so I will get into anything you leave out because I know you left it out for me.

I can climb and jump over fences. But I only go to the front driveway and wait for you to come home. What I think is really cool is that I can jump into your car through an open window. I don't want to be left behind!! On several occasions I got in the vehicle and was waiting for my foster family to come out. I am a true Velcro Vizsla. I am a little shy of men.



On the good side I am very loving and eager to please! Still learning how to do this. I am working on learning "sit" and "down", and I am doing pretty good. I love walking on the leash and my foster mom says I am a complete gentleman and have great recall. I even got to go to work with her, that was a lot of fun and she said I was fantastic! My foster mom recently took me to her grandson's football game and she said I was perfect! But I didn't make points by chewing through my leash. I LOVE to cuddle! I also am good with kids and other dogs and even the cat. The cat is very interesting to me and a source of entertainment. The cat, however, is not pleased with me at all!!
I am house trained and don't bark very much - but when I do my bark is very deep.

From Kelly, foster mom. He is very energetic as a puppy should be and everything is of interest to him. It's very funny. He has become a good friend to me. Tag is going to be the one that makes me cry when he leaves us. As attached to me as he is I have grown equally attached! You can't help it - he is so very sweet and loving. He just wants to have someone all to himself. He deserves it.



2nd Chance Vizsla Rescue
Financial Report 2014 Q-2

REVENUE	
Contributions, Individual	$1,776.77
Adoption fees	$1,752.00
Fundraiser - Reunion	$100.50
Interest - Savings Account	$1.53
TOTAL REVENUE:	$3,630.80
OPERATING EXPENSES	
Veterinary Services	$844.46
Rescue Transport	$263.07
Foster Reimbursement	$296.65
Rescue Adoption	$99.00
Reunion	$311.65
Postage/Stamps.com	$113.96
Insurance	$735.00
Misc. Organization	$10.00
Donation**	$1,000.00
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES:	$3,673.79
NET INCOME (loss)FOR 2nd QTR:	$ (42.99)
CASH IN BANK	$11,152.89

**Vizsla Rescue Fund for Beau Surgery



Who's Who in 2CVR

Officers/Directors:
Founder/CEO/President - Rita Prindle
VP - Rick Prindle
Secretary - Cathy Lund
Treasurer - Kathy Kregel
Rita Prindle - Chairperson
Directors:
Denise Lashmett
Larry Smallwood
Judy Wagner C.P.A. - non voting
Carolyn Levy - Advisor - non voting
Financial Consultant -
Judy Wagner, CPA
Legal Counsel B Terry Ryan Law Firm
Newsletter Editor - Mary Ellen Keskimaki (temporary)
Kelly Renz - Junior Editor
Cartoonist - Tracey Adams
Fund Raiser Coordinator - Open
Grant Writer - Kristen Wrona,
Transport Coordinator – Ilona Francis
Adoptor Follow Up - Donna Wolosin
Facebook Managers - Diana (Berger) Sinatra & Katherine Giese

Adoption Team:
- Rita Prindle - Chairperson
- receive & review adoption apps,
- Ilona Francis - review & assign HV
Telephone Interviewers - Donna Wolosin, Dani Commendador, Denise Lashmett, & Polly Eastin
-call approved adoptive family after positive HV prior to final adoption must have information on fostered dogs in order to make a suggestion as to which dog will be a good match w/family
-e-mail Rita with telephone report for her decision whether adoption is ok or not
- Foster Liaison - Open
- work closely w/Chairman, assign rescues to foster homes, receive rescue profiles/success stories/pictures from foster families