



Pekingese and Japanese Chin Rescue and Re-homing

PNC Newsletter

Welcome!

Peke N Chin Midwest is proud to introduce their first Newsletter!

This publication was created as a means for us to communicate the daily activities of our organization and its members. Through this medium, you will be able to meet us and get a glimpse into our world as rescue volunteers.

You will get the opportunity to read some of the silly stories about our

foster kids, and about some of our heart-warming updates on our Forever Fosterers.

With a little luck, we hope to get the PNC Newsletter out twice a year.

We hope you enjoy this publication and share it with your family and friends.

If you can think of ways for us to improve our issues, let us know!

Carrying Dogs to Freedom

Transporting is a huge part of what Peke N Chin Midwest does every week to bring neglected and unwanted dogs to a new life.

Every weekend, across this great land, thousands of caring animal lovers perform a wonderful life-saving service to animals by organizing or driving a leg or more in the Train to Freedom known simply as Transport. Perhaps you have already done it yourself, or perhaps you would like to help and don't know how or that this system even existed.

You may be a rescue, a retiree, a young person who is looking for a way to help animals without days and weeks of time to spare... just a few hours a week, reliable transportation, and a few extra dollars in your pocket for gas.

The need is real, as are the rewards in knowing you have helped yet another animal reach his or her new home and in doing so, saved another from death.

Please join us!

Special articles in our newsletter

- Message from Regi Goodhall
- Our Forever Fosterers
- Summer Garden Safety

"When all that stands between death and freedom is a ride."

~ Bonnie Silva



Ginette Manaignre meeting Regi Goodhall for the first time and receiving her newly adopted Japanese Chin, Meekoo, that was transported to her in Canada from South Dakota, USA.

Message from Regi Goodhall

Our Board of Directors:

Heidi Ludwig

President

MOPLEEZ@aol.com

Barbara Fleischhaker

Vice-President

flschhkr@yahoo.com

Julie Norgren

Secretary

janjanmt@hotmail.com

Regina Goodhall

Treasurer

regig@wiktel.com

Our Website:

www.pncmidwest.org

I'm Regi (Regina Goodhall) and live in the frozen tundra of N.W. Minnesota. I co-founded Peke N Chin Midwest with Heidi Ludwig simply because there was no Pekingese or Japanese Chin rescue in Minnesota. Heidi rescued Chins under the national organization. We started slowly with a dog turned in to another rescue that didn't have room, then another turned in with medical issues, and then some Chins in South Dakota. It just continued to grow. People stepped up to help transport, then to adopt or foster.

We now have 15 foster homes from Michigan through Wisconsin, Illinois, Nebraska, North and South Dakota and Manitoba, Canada. Our foster dogs have come from as far away as Montana and have been adopted on the east coast, the west coast and the southwest in addition to Midwest adoptions. Needless to say, transport is a big part of our work. I think we are somewhat unique in our efforts to help dogs get to new owners where ever they are in the U.S. and Canada.

I live the retired country life on 5 acres with an adjoining 6 acres of woods. We have a large dog yard and dog doors. Incoming foster dogs have to figure things out on their own as I spend hours a day on the computer. We do enjoy twice daily walks of a half mile or more in decent weather with our dogs and fosters. The pets I own are a one year old rescue Tibetan Spaniel, a 5 year old Pekingese, a 9 year old Sheltie/Spitz mix, and a 2 year old Snowshoe/Siamese cat.

I have a patient and supportive husband who might cook supper while I'm on the phone, and who drives hundreds of miles picking up or delivering dogs. I currently work for Peke N Chin as the Adoption Coordinator, Transport Coordinator and Treasurer.

There are many different aspects of rescue that are wonderfully filled by volunteers. We need to continually review our organization and see how best to meet the needs of the dogs.

We've had a wonderful first 6 months to our year finding new loving homes for 45 Pekingese and Japanese Chins. Hard work on the part of all volunteers from administrative help, through transporting and fostering means the world to these dogs – and their success stories fuel our desire to do more.

We are seeing more owner-surrendered dogs because people can no longer care for them. I thank these people for making the first move to help their dogs on to a new live with a loving family.

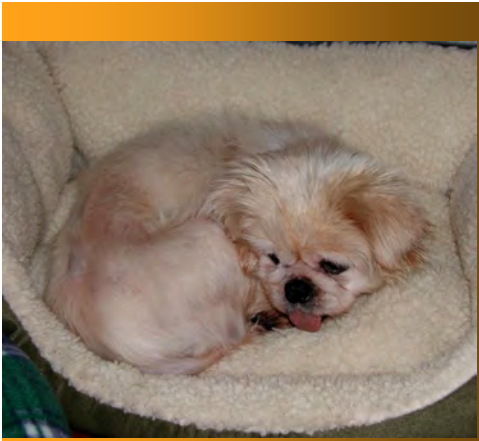
The assistance in providing the necessary medical treatments for many of these dogs come from our adoption fees and donations from generous donors. We are now using more of our rescue dollars on the long-term care of our Forever Fosters – we have made a commitment to them that we intend to keep. They will finish their lives in warm loving homes with caring people.

Thankfully, we see more people becoming aware of rescue programs. Not only adopters and donors, volunteers and fosters, but those who spread the word to friends and neighbors that wonderful dogs are available through "rescue" throughout the country.

Well, guess it's time to cuddle the pups a bit and prepare for another day tomorrow. A big welcome to all of you!

*Regi Goodhall
Co-founder and Treasurer*





Our Forever Fosters - Mattie

Mattie is a prime example of the horrors of living in a Missouri puppy mill. Mattie got her name because she was so badly matted when she arrived into rescue that she had to have her fur completely shaved off. She had open sores on her skin underneath all of the mats and her eyes were oozing with infection. This poor girl sat in a cage neglected and in pain for years for the sole purpose of pumping out litter after litter of puppies to be sold at pet shops. She was also pregnant when she came to us, and delivered 3 puppies on Christmas Eve. Two of the pups survived and have been adopted.

Mattie has lost the front part of both her upper and lower jaw due to chronic dental disease, which is why she cannot keep her tongue in her mouth. Her jaw bone is literally dissolved due to long term neglect which resulted in severe infection of her mouth. Her veterinary exam also revealed that she has chronic dry eye syndrome, luxating patellas (slipping knee caps) and chronic skin disease. She was just recently spayed and will soon undergo a dentistry to remove her 5 remaining infected teeth. Mattie will be on eye medication for the remainder of her life and will most likely need routine treatment of her skin as well.

Throughout her ordeal Mattie has been shy but sweet with everyone she's met. She is truly a survivor. Mattie is now in her forever foster home. She wasted no time making friends with all of her canine foster brothers and sisters. Mattie's forever foster mom reports that Mattie is incredibly sweet, patient, and

happy which is more or less a miracle considering where she came from. Mattie loves her baths and is good about her eye drops too. She still has a long way to go, but she's making great strides so far. Just recently Mattie started playing with some of the other dogs in her forever foster home.

The sad and shameful thing is that most of Mattie's medical problems could have been avoided with proper nutrition, and regular veterinary care. We are so glad that Mattie came to us, because we know that she will never again suffer, or want for any of the common comforts of life. She will live out the remainder of her life being pampered and loved. We only wish that the same could be said for all of the dogs that are currently suffering in puppy mills throughout the country.

Dexter, my Chihuahua, loves to clean faces, and ears, and backs and tummies for who ever will hold still for him. Most of my dogs only tolerate it for a very short time, but Mattie seems to appreciate having a good canine caregiver that cleans her eyes. The other day he actually put his paw on Mattie's forehead to hold her still!

*Michele Tjaden
Mattie's Foster Mom*



Our Forever Fosters – Snowball

It's hard to get photos of this munchkin since her face isn't the most expressive. Snowball has lost both eyes to glaucoma and has had breast cancer surgery. Despite this, she continues to be a contented and happy girl who loves to be wrapped up in a cozy blanket in the evening and cuddle up with "Dad" in the rocking chair.

Snowball now knows her way around the house and can move confidently to where she wants to go. She can ALWAYS find the coziest bed to curl up on. In the bottom photo, she's playing which consists of her rubbing her face on the floor with tail wagging furiously and making strange vocalizations which actually sound like she's talking. We love her to pieces!

During Snowball's dental check-up on March 20th, it was discovered that her jaw was fractured due to the lack of dental care for her whole life before coming into rescue. She only has a few teeth left, many having fallen out sometime in the past. She has also developed more mammary tumors, one of which has calcified. A lower canine should be removed but the Vet will not do it for fear of shattering her jaw.

Amazing though how resilient these babies are. When we came back home after her appointment she was alert, playful and HUNGRY. Best of all, her mouth didn't hurt.

Christy Johnson
Snowball's Foster Mom



DON'T BRING A GIFT FOR ME...

BRING IT FOR THE ANIMALS IN NEED

This interesting idea was suggested by an animal shelter supporter. For her Easter dinner she asked guests to bring a gift for the shelter instead of the host. She provided guests with a list of items from the shelter's wish list. Due to its great success, her idea has caught on with friends and family. Now many people are also asking that donations be made in their name to their favourite charities instead of receiving a present.



Our Forever Fosters – Shadowman



Gosh this guy is unique! He came to our home for a few hours, and I loved him instantly. I took over his foster care so as to make room for another foster mom. I was originally thinking my sister may have wanted to adopt him, but because he was too small for her liking and pee'd in the house often, she wasn't interested.

When he arrived, he was just that - a shadow. He followed me everywhere, but didn't do much else. He loves his squeaky toys, and that is the only thing that made him excited. Nowadays, he's as excited to see me as his toys, and he does the cutest little dance and tail wagging. He also likes to mouth my hand when he's excited, and give little love bites. I just laugh and say "Oh, my baby" over and over. He's just so lovable.



I took him with me to the Chicagoland Pet Expo where I had a booth and he got a lot of attention. No peke rescue or breed groups were there, so he was the hit of the show! Everyone commented on how funny and cute he is, with his little crooked teeth, big eyes that you can barely see unless you look closely (because of his "mullet" hair,) and one white paw.

Regarding his medical condition (has a liver shunt – not all blood goes through the liver for purification - he needs a special diet and medication), I think he is feeling a lot better. He is peppy and goes up and down stairs without any hesitation. Initially I had to carry him - he couldn't manage then and would also have his legs give out sometimes. You wouldn't know he's sick except for his lack of appetite and dandruff problem.



He's even got a couple of buddies. Winston, the Chinese Crested, who was adopted by my sister, and Gatsby, the Pug, who is a dog-walking client, are both good buddies. The three of them have fun just hanging out and relaxing at my house sometimes. None of the three like to actively play with other dogs, so they are a perfect trio. We love this little guy!

*Andrea Kim
Shadowman's Foster Mom*



Canine Periodontal Disease

Can lead to life-threatening infections affecting the heart, kidney and liver

Our two Forever Fosters, Mattie and Snowball, both suffer from Chronic Periodontal Disease. This page will demonstrate the extent of the neglect these two dogs sustained while being held prisoners in a massive dog farming industry.

Figure 1 is a photo of a normal jaw. Bone appears white on x-ray film. The large images on either side are the canine (fang) teeth. The canine tooth on the left is fractured off at the end - we did a root canal on this tooth. The teeth are close together and take up most of the space on the film. You can see the roots of the teeth and how tightly attached they are to the jaw bone. The black line in the middle is the mid line of the lower jaw which is soft tissue. It is a natural separation between the two sides of the lower jaw.

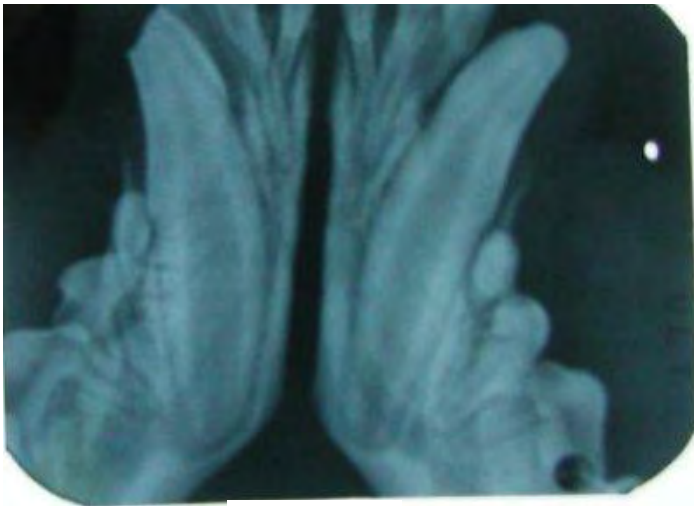


Figure 1

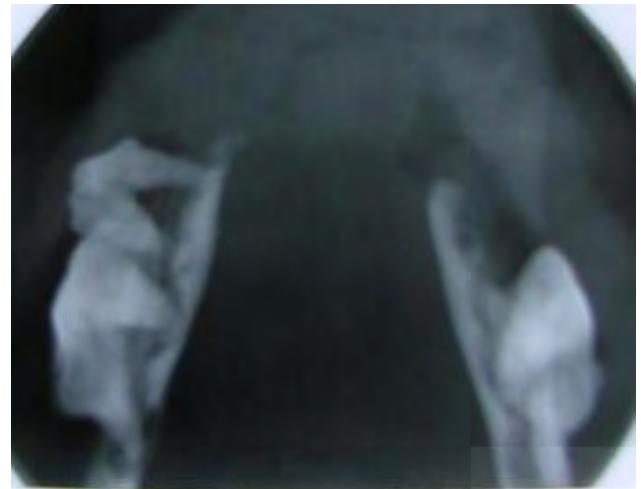


Figure 2

In contrast Figure 2 is Mattie's lower jaw. The 3 visible teeth are barely held in. The gray matter at the top of the film is where her canine teeth and incisors (small front teeth) should be. As you can see not only are the teeth missing, the jaw is not there either. The grayish "cloudy" looking material is soft tissue, there is not any bone. You can see how the jaw bone has basically dissolved by how thin and fragile it is.

Symptoms of poor oral health:

- Bacterial plaque accumulation
- Bleeding, inflamed or receded tissues
- Loss of appetite
- Calculus (harden plaque/tartar)
- Persistent bad breath
- Sensitivity around the mouth
- Pawing at the mouth



Home care:

Develop a healthy dental home care routine with your dog! Get your dog familiar with you being in his/her mouth by rubbing your index finger along the gumline. Reward him/her with praises and hugs. After several days, when he/she is used to this, progress to wrapping a chlorhexidine moistened gauze pad around your index finger or a soft finger brush dipped in a CHX .12% gel / dentifrice. Do not use baking soda or human toothpaste/dentifrice since they contain too much sodium.

Just so everyone is up to date about the tomfoolery that has been going on behind the scenes at PNC, Princess Sofia (a blond pretty Marilyn Monroe look-a-like Peke being fostered by mere mortal and slave servant to her splendor, Alex Ledbetter) and Her Majesty, Mighty Maniacal Minnie, Ruler Supreme of all She doth survey, Bestower of all joys upon this Earth (fair-haired, drop-dead gorgeous and to-die-for Peke owned by Christy Johnson) have been enriching us with their Queenly antics on a daily basis. Until... now.

The Royals at Fleischhakers

Written by Barbara Fleischhaker

Okay - I have been on the sidelines for some time reading the stories of Minnie and Sofia ruling with an iron paw! Chris - Alex - you've got nothing!

Although Lady Mini (commonly referred to as Grandma) is actually in charge of the humans (we hand feed and carry her to her potty yard), we also have Queen Lucy and Princess Prissy in the same house. When they are not trying to decide whose crown is more important, they are bossing the collection of male servants.

Lucy has been with us for eight years and has seen humans and dogs come and go from our house - daughters off to live their lives, dogs that have passed away in our care and fosters that continue to learn the ropes of the pet companion world. Obviously Lucy is happy to teach them - but we limit that access as the world does not need that many more Queens!

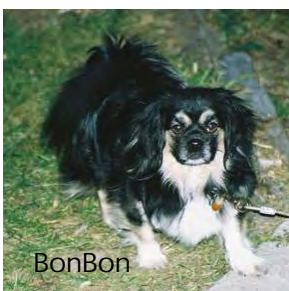
Queen Lucy has a shrill bark and takes her Tibetan job seriously - this morning she "sounded the alarm" as a bird flew overhead at 6:30 a.m. (Yes, the Robins are returning to Minnesota.) She is aware of every new thing in the neighborhood and takes great joy at stirring up the boys who would nap through most anything but for her shrill and incessant barking.

Princess Prissy on the other hand, plays her role quite differently. She is happy to help Lucy sound the alarm but actually takes more joy in just creating chaos among the boys. She loves to engage them in run and chase, and of course with her petite little shape, she can maneuver around corners and under beds, and over the top of furniture without a missed step. On the other hand, Oreo is a big boy Chin in a sled dog's body and doesn't really fit under the bed so well - especially at 20 miles an hour. BonBon, having been raised in a puppy mill cage, has never quite mastered corners, so frequently you hear the screech of Prissy toes, the flurry of Oreo, and the thump of BonBon as he yet again slides into the wall at the end of the hallway. Master Bennie is of course above all of this, Sir Kirwin is trying to be the boss, and good Knight Mickey has my admiration as he sleeps through it all!

Fosters initially step back and watch but of late the two Pekes have been joining in! Oscar is all about the party! He doesn't know why they are running but it looks like fun - oops - where did they go? Cicero is a very broad-chested guy, slower on the uptake and not so good on the turns but he is going to try.

All in all, this leads to a pretty funny morning until Prissy realizes I am lying on the bed laughing at them - and zip! - she is up on the bed in a New York minute and my nose becomes her squeaky toy! Yes - I have marks! So the human Queen of this hill is about to take measures - maybe a speed bump in the hallway!

To be continued...



BonBon



Prissy



Mickey & Lucy



Mini

Pet Care

SUMMER GARDEN SAFETY

HOW YOU CAN MAKE YOUR GARDEN AND YARD SAFE FOR PETS

By Dr. Erika Anseeuw



Summer is in full bloom and so are our gardens. Many ornamental plant species are known to be toxic in some form or another if ingested. There are some obvious poisoning concerns for our herbivorous pets, such as rabbits, who eat plants but little concern for dogs and cats who may only sample a small part. If we tried to avoid every potentially toxic plant in our yards it would be a very plain landscape indeed. The internet has many resources for the gardener to access to check if a particular exotic beauty is a hazard. There are plants that humans may eat or are so common in gardens that we assume that they are harmless but are indeed a concern for our pets.

Assume any flowering plant that arises from a bulb is poisonous. These include Amaryllis, Crocus, Daffodil, Gladiolas, Hyacinth, Lily of the Valley, Narcissus, and Tulips. Also, any flowering plant that we plant like a bulb can be assumed to be poisonous such as Blue Flag, Day Lilies and Iris. Other common garden ornamental plants that are toxic include Lobelia, Morning Glory, Foxglove, English Ivy, Rhododendron, Yew Tree, Bracken Fern, and Black-eyed Susans. Surprising to some pet owners are garden fruit and vegetables we eat that our pets should not, like Onions, Garlic, Chives, Rhubarb, Cherries (pits and leaves), Tomato plants, and Peaches and Plums (pits). Finally, certain common weeds are quite harmful, such as Fox tails (physical irritant rather than poisonous), Nightshade, Horse tail fern, Coltsfoot, and Nettles.

Many common garden pest control products are extremely dangerous. They are poisons used to kill insects and are thus dangerous in any dose. Rat poison, snail bait, fly strips or liquids, insecticides, and herbicides must be used and stored with caution. Safer pest control practices include beer-baited slug traps, live-trap mouse traps, electric bug traps, soapy water to kill caterpillars and aphids, and gardening with animal-detering practices. These include motion-activated water sprays, fencing to deter rabbits or deer, using natural pest-detering plants like citronella and marigolds, and earth and wood ash sprinkled at the plants' bases to deter the spread of insects. Also, consider hiring kids to pick potato bugs: 1 cent a bug, as my mother hired me. Many summer treats, were thanks to my mother's natural approach to gardening.

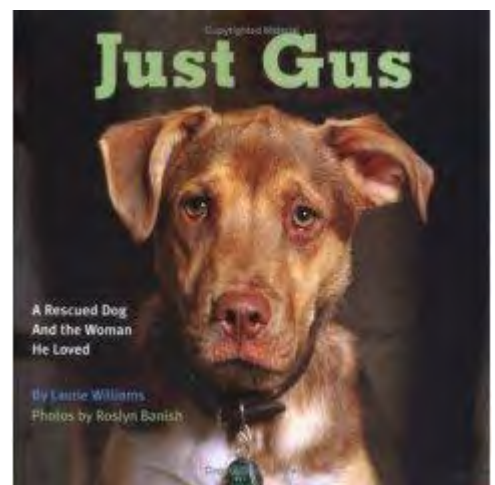
Just Gus: A Rescued Dog and the Woman He Loved

By Laurie Williams
Photos by Roslyn Banish

Book Description

Gus was a lucky dog. Injured and abandoned, he could have become another of the 7 million animals euthanized every year. Then Stephanie Williams entered the picture. A successful journalist, she had been diagnosed with late-stage breast cancer at the age of 30. On medical leave and living alone, she wanted a warm four-legged companion. When she saw Gus's soulful eyes and goofy grin, it was love at first sight: she would rescue him, and he would return the favor.

Just Gus is about how much one dog did to make a dying woman happy — giving tireless love, comfort, and support. This extraordinary story shows how one dog brought joy and hope to a woman's last days.



Do Dogs Get Spring Allergies? Yes!

Allergens that cause spring allergies in many of us--trees, grasses, weeds, dust mites, molds and insects--can cause skin infections, itching, sneezing and other reactions in our canine friends as well.

Constant paw licking, body rubbing and excessive scratching are all signs your dog may have an allergy. Hair loss, odor, rashes, a "flaky" or "greasy" feeling coat are other symptoms. Itching can also be caused by contagious mites, fungal infections, autoimmune skin diseases or hormonal abnormalities, so it's important for your vet to distinguish the source.

Symptoms of airborne allergies are most often observed when dogs are between six months and four years old, but tend to become more severe with age. Dogs often show symptoms at the same time every year, usually when the seasons change.

Treatment can begin once an allergy is diagnosed. Simply washing the offending allergens off of your dog is often a great first line of defense. Washing your dog's paws after spending time outdoors or frequent bathing of the entire body may also provide temporary relief. Oral supplements and medications may also provide relief, although something like fatty acid supplementation may take months to be effective. Over-the-counter antihistamines for humans provide relief in some cases, but never give these to your dog without asking your veterinarian first, as many also contain other ingredients that can be deadly for dogs, such as pseudoephedrine, ibuprofen or acetaminophen. Allergy vaccines, oral or topical steroids or oral cyclosporine can treat very severe seasonal allergies.

Careful observations and a trip to your veterinarian are the first steps in helping your dog survive allergy season. Enjoy your springtime outdoors!

Dr. Heather Peikes is Manhattan's only board-certified Veterinary Dermatologist. She practices at Animal Allergy and Dermatology, located at 32 West 25th Street; 212-206-0969; www.animalallergyanderm.com.



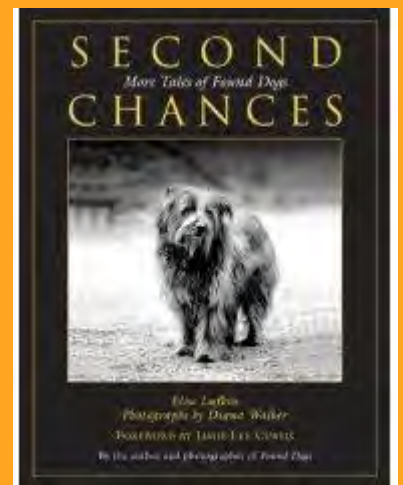
Dr. Hanneke Vonderbank of Anderson Animal Hospital examining Meekoo after he suffered a bout of diarrhea during the first week of spring – apparently a common occurrence for pets at this time of year.

Second Chances: More Tales of Found Dogs

By Jamie Lee Curtis
Photos by Diana Walker

Book Description

Millions of dogs and puppies are abandoned each year, resulting in a world filled with stray dogs of all breeds and sizes. Many of these strays come to a bad end, but every now and then a stray dog is found by a compassionate person--whether picked up on the street or picked out from an animal shelter--and given a second chance. Some of these dogs are lame, blind, ill, or simply unwanted. These dogs are special. And so are the people who have chosen to give them a second chance. Found dogs seem to be especially grateful, loyal, and loving. They, who have sometimes been rescued from death's door, become beloved members of families, giving affection, companionship, and solace. They become productive members of society as service dogs, therapy dogs, and search-and-rescue dogs themselves. Observers might say that these dogs are lucky, but more often the people who have adopted them think that they are the lucky ones.





Peanut Butter Dog Bones

- 1 1/4 C. flour
- 1 1/4 C. whole wheat flour
- 1/2 C. instant nonfat dry milk
- 1 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 tsp. wheat germ
- 1/4 C. Crisco shortening
- 1 egg
- 1/2 C. ice water
- 1 T. peanut butter
- 2 T. oatmeal



Heat oven to 350'. Combine all dry ingredients except oatmeal. Cut in shortening and peanut butter. Mix in egg. Add enough ice water for mixture to form a ball. Roll out 1/2 inch thick and sprinkle with oatmeal. Lightly press oatmeal into dough. Cut into shapes and bake for 25-30 minutes. For drier bones, turn oven off and let cool in oven overnight.



Cheese Cookies

- 2 C. flour
- 1 1/4 C. shredded Cheddar cheese
- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1/2 C. vegetable oil
- 4 1/2 T. water (up to 5 T.)

Preheat oven to hot (400 degrees). Make a cardboard pattern of a dog bone, 4 inches long or use a dog-bone cookie cutter. Combine flour, cheese, garlic and vegetable oil in container of food processor. Cover, whirl until mixture is consistency of coarse meal. With machine running, slowly add water until mixture forms a ball. Divide dough into 12 equal pieces. Roll out each piece to 1/2" thickness. Cut out bones. Transfer to ungreased cookie sheet. Do not reroll scraps. Bake in preheated 400' oven for 10 to 15 minutes or until bottom of cookies are lightly browned. Carefully transfer bones to wire rack to cool completely. Refrigerate in airtight container.

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"I'm setting up a MySpace page, but I can't figure out how to let my friends sniff me over the Internet!"

Poems from the Heart

Note to Adopters

[by Diane Morgan]

Lassie and Cleo and Rin Tin Tin and Toto don't show up in rescue. We don't get the elegantly coiffed, classically beautiful, completely trained, perfectly behaved dog. We get the leftovers. Dogs that other people have incompetently bred, inadequately socialized, ineffectively "trained," and badly treated. Most Rescue dogs have had it. They've been pushed from one lousy situation to another. They've never had proper veterinary care, kind and consistent training, or sufficient company. They've lived outside, in a crate, or in the basement. They're scared, depressed and anxious. Some are angry. Some are sick. Some have given up. But we are Rescue and we don't give up. We never give up on a dog. We know that a dog is a living being, with a spirit and a heart and feelings. Our dogs are not commodities, things, or garbage.

They are part of sacred creation and they deserve as much love and care and respect as the next Westminster champion. So please, please don't come to rescue in the hopes of getting a "bargain," or indeed of "getting" anything.

Come to Rescue to give, to love, to save a life -- and to mend your own spirit. For Rescue will reward you in ways you never thought possible. I can promise you this -- a rescue dog will make you a better person.

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The Meaning of Rescue

Now that I'm home, bathed, settled, and fed.
All nicely tucked in my warm bed,
I'd like to open my baggage, lest we forget,
There's so much to carry-So much to regret.
Hmmm...Yes, there it is, right on top, Let's unpack
Loneliness, Heartache, and Loss,
And there by my perch hides Fear and Shame.
As I look on these things I tried so hard to leave,
I still have to unpack my baggage called Pain.
I loved them, the others, the ones who left me,
But I wasn't good enough-for they didn't want me.
Will you add to my baggage; Will you help me
unpack?
Or will you just look at my things-And take me
right back?
Do you have the time to help me unpack?
To put away my baggage and never look back.
I pray you do -
I'm so tired you see,
But I do come with baggage -
Will you still want me?

-Author unknown



The Healing Power of Dogs

Dogs have long had special standing in the medical world. Trained to see for the blind, hear for the deaf and move for the immobilized, dogs have become indispensable companions for people with disabilities.



But dogs appear to be far more than four-legged health care workers. Over the years, data on the larger role dogs play in health has trickled out from various corners of the world. One Japanese study found pet owners made 30 percent fewer visits to doctors. A Melbourne study of 6,000 people showed that owners of dogs and other pets had lower cholesterol, blood pressure and heart attack risk compared with people who didn't have pets. Obviously, the better health of pet owners could be explained by a variety of factors, but many experts believe companion animals improve health at least in part by lowering stress.

Dogs, in particular, also have been shown to do remarkable things to improve the health of their owners. There are stories of dogs warning their owners of imminent health threats. In 2003, University of Florida researchers published a report in the journal *Seizure* noting that some dogs seem to have an innate ability to detect impending seizures. A 2000 report in the British Medical Journal examined case studies of dogs alerting people with diabetes of a coming hypoglycemic episode.

More recently, some studies have suggested dogs can be cancer detectors. In 2006, the medical journal *Integrative Cancer Therapies* reported how ordinary house dogs could identify breast and lung cancer patients by smelling their breath. A University of Maine study is testing whether dogs can sniff out ovarian cancer.

The role dogs play in medicine is celebrated in a new book, "Paws & Effect: The Healing Power of Dogs" (Alyson Books, 2007), which chronicles the numerous ways dogs contribute to our health. Author Sharon Sakson is a journalist and television producer, dog breeder and American Kennel Club dog-show judge. She admits to being biased about her subject matter, and she tends to write about the mundane details of dogs and their owners. Much of the evidence surrounding dogs and health is anecdotal, although Ms. Sakson includes many references to published research. The stories of service dogs are particularly impressive, as is the nascent research into dogs' ability to detect cancer.

Ms. Sakson said she first began thinking about the link between dogs and health while reporting an earlier book on men and dogs. A few men she interviewed who had AIDS credited their dogs with playing a role in their improved health.

While Ms. Sakson says more studies are needed to show exactly what role dogs play in health, any dog owner already knows the benefits of their relationship with their pet.

"I went into it because I loved my dogs — they can do so much for our society," said Ms. Sakson. "There's no question they give us emotional support."

—Tara Parker-Pope

Twin Cities Pet Expo

Barbara Fleischhaker Reporting

I am finally upright again. I have had a series of cold/sinus infections and thought I had it cured until about midday on Saturday - when I totally lost my voice. I was told I couldn't be a spokesperson at the Expo if I couldn't speak so I went home and extend my appreciation to those that covered my shifts.

It was a wonderful weekend... starting with Heidi Ecker's excitement. She attended to the decoration and signage of the booth and we looked great - a professional banner, a poster with puppy mill/rescue facts, matching kennels to rest the dogs and an expen for displaying the dogs. Deciding to relate to the Asian heritage of our breeds, she used bamboo and orchards and Asian fabric to set a great display that included an Asian pot to collect donations and a book that included success stories and adoptable dogs. The puppies we brought were show stoppers - what fun!

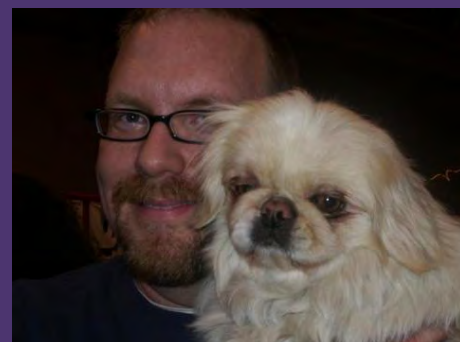
Barb Cradell drove up from Iowa late Friday night, worked all day Saturday, but because of the bad weather south of us, did wisely return home Sunday morning. Barb Cradell was the first person I met in rescue and it was great to see her and hear her stories. She has a lot of experience with dog auctions and transports; I could listen all night.

Heidi Eckers and her mom spent the afternoon and all night Friday attending to the last details; especially finishing up some blankets and doggie coats. There are a couple left over and I think we will offer them for sale on the website.

Saturday morning, Heidi's dad came back to the cities (from Owatonna) and together they worked the booth. Heidi's dad was great and really took a couple of people to a new level of understanding - so cute with a puppy in his hands! Amy Cunningham and her family brought Jack and I have to tell you they both "worked the booth" with passion and commitment!

Kalina with Cosmo worked both days, as did Alex and Sofia... and they took on every challenge. There were some very frustrating people and some wonderful ones! Heidi Ludwig brought her family of Chins on Sunday and they were great ambassadors. But the star was Hootie - borrowed from Michele - he was just 10 days out of a backyard breeder situation and he is convinced that he has gone to heaven. He loved the attention!

Saturday night there was spaghetti dinner at our house - lots of good stories and great friendships born and renewed. A lot of effort went into the weekend, and the financial investment was less than break even (Booth cost \$300 and donations were \$152), but there undoubtedly will be fosters and adopters as an outcome, and in part we are committed to rescue as a form of education for the public and that we did well. I am convinced that what we gained in new friends and experience was worth every bit of the effort.



"If you can't decide between a Shepherd, a Setter or a Poodle, get them all ... adopt a mutt!"

- ASPCA



Joke of the Day:

What do you get if you cross a tomcat with a Pekingese?

A Peking Tom!

Summer is Coming
So remember... The Pekingese and Japanese Chin are not very tolerant of hot, humid weather due to its short muzzle and extremely long hair coat.



We can't do it alone...
We need your help.

Hosting a special event for animals is a fun way for individuals, schools, organizations and companies to raise much needed funds for Peke N Chin Midwest or other animal rescue organization or shelter in your area.

- Garage Sale
- Birthday Money
- Car Washes
- Silent Auctions
- Bake/Craft Sales
- Casual Day at Work

How you can help us



*Send us
a PNC
Success
story!*

Is your dog the best dog in the World? Is he the funniest? Smartest? Or most affectionate? Does he light up your life every single day? Share your happy, touching, and memorable moments with us. We want to know what joy your special little canine friend that you adopted from us brings into your life!

Send us your story and photos and we will feature it in our next Newsletter or website.

Please send to Ginette Manaignre at gmanaignre@shaw.ca
Stories may be edited for length and content.



Want to say Hello?
Send us a letter, an email
or give us a call!

Peke N Chin Midwest
12298 - 139th Avenue NE
Thief River Falls, MN
56701
(218) 686-3279
regig@wiktel.com

Website:
www.pncmidwest.org

Please don't hesitate to
make copies of our
newsletter to share with
friends and for the office.

Publication designer:
Ginette Manaire
gmanaire@shaw.ca

Gifts of Love

Every day we rescue and accept dogs that would have nowhere else to go. Thank you to the following individuals who have helped support us through their generous donations:

On behalf of our dogs



- Michele Tjaden
- Barbara Fleischhaker
- Ginette Manaire
- Christine Grimaldi
- Florence Ferderer
- Christy Johnson
- Kathy Hjorleifson
- Donna Etchison
- Lynn Shelander
- Christy Pennell
- Addie Clemens
- Vanessa Brcic
- Danielle Wincek

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Choose us as your favourite cause and every time you shop online at over 680 brand name stores, a portion of each purchase will be donated to us! You would be helping us save more dogs! Simply log on to our site and go directly to the iGive icon... the rest is easy!

