

COLLIE NEWS

A year of needy, costly collies

Our first collie to run up serious vet bills in 2014 was Will. Found beside an interstate in Arizona, he had a huge growth on his chest and a terrible skin infection. Then Bella arrived with Valley Fever. Shasta came with mammary tumors, one the size of a grapefruit. She's had one surgery and needs another. Bridget needed hip surgery. Faith was a day away from dying of starvation in the desert near Las Cruces.

But the bills for the Tomball collies have been sky-high, thanks to heartworms (Prince), hookworms and whipworms (nearly every collie), mange (Chance, Livvy), vision issues (Chance, Eva), a heart murmur (Luna), and immune-mediated polyarthritis (Cassidy).

So far, the total cost of rescuing our Tomball collies, including transportation, is \$9,500. Total donations and adoption fees for them are \$7,000. Can you help us close this gap?



Miss July 4 is Lady, '14, in Albuquerque. Above, Chance, '12; Bentley, '10; Ridley, & Lilly Ann, '05, relax on Labor Day in Amarillo. For Halloween, jolly Roger, '12, is a pirate in Rio Rancho & Gracie, '10, is Miss America in El Paso.



SWCR collies celebrate the holidays

YES, I WANT TO SAVE A COLLIE!

I WOULD LIKE TO DONATE \$ _____
to bail a collie out of a shelter, groom a matted collie, spay/neuter a collie, or pay a collie's vet bills.

I WOULD LIKE TO FOSTER a collie in my home.
I have a fenced yard and a lot of love to give!

Mail to: Lee More, SWCR treasurer
52 Estrada Calabasa East
Santa Fe, NM 87506

What I learned from Webster

By Karin Matray

He had been rescued in the Alamogordo area, where he had spent 4 or 5 years in a backyard tied to a tree. We named him Webster and introduced him to the fine art of living in a house.

He chewed everything.

He was afraid of the stairs. Slowly we built his trust and reduced his anxiety. We attended obedience training.

Two weeks after our adoption, his sharp, desperate bark alerted my uncle to a rattlesnake at the back door. We knew then that he was special.

He learned to anticipate my movements, my mood, my needs; I learned to anticipate his. He was always at my side. He didn't walk with me, he pranced. In the mornings, we shared a bowl of oatmeal.

Then, after eleven short years, on June 13, we said goodbye.

Adopted into a family of teachers, Webster became a teacher himself. Among the lessons he taught me:

- If you can fix something, do it without fuss or fanfare;
- Stay interested in those younger than you, but teach them good manners;
- Speak out, loudly and clearly, when you sense danger;
- Don't complain about anything
- Why walk when you can dance?
- Be patient. Things always work out for the best, and
- Trust your family completely; love them unconditionally.

Thank you, Webster. I am so very grateful we found one another.

Karin Matray lives in California and recently adopted SWCR collie Cyrus, '14, formerly Casper.



HEARTFELT THANKS TO...

Everyone who helped us take in 11 very needy collies from a hoarder in Tomball, TX:

■ **Houston Collie Rescue**, whose volunteers rescued 147 collies from unspeakably bad conditions and cared for them until they could be fostered, adopted or sent on to SWCR and other collie rescue groups.

■ **Dr. Rick Miller** in Alamogordo, who treated nearly all of our Tomball collies.

■ **Dr. Phil Ries** and **Dr. Thomas Hribernik**, the VCA specialists in Albuquerque who diagnosed Cassidy's immune-mediated polyarthritis.

■ Our three heroic volunteers who drove to Houston to bring the collies back to New Mexico: **Kathy Wallis**, **Deni Brownell** and **Carolyn Fambrough**.

■ **Lisa Tumlinson** at **Pet Camp** in San Angelo, TX, who took in the collies while our drivers took a dinner break.

■ **Shirley Fambrough** of NM Siberian Husky Rescue, who took care of Chance and Zorro for a week, and **Carolyn Jones** at **Cottonwood Pet Resort** in Alamogordo, who cared for them for more than a month.

■ Our Tomball collie fosters: **Nancy** in Roswell, **Deni** in Alamogordo; **Jackie** in Rio Rancho; **Barb** in Tijeras; **Beverly** in Amarillo; **SuAnn**, **Laurel**, **Grace**, and **Linn**, in Phoenix; **Damon** in Albuquerque, and **Reva** in Reno.

■ And a special thank you to **our wonderful donors** who gave so generously to help the 11 Tomball collies and many others. These collies have happy new lives now, thanks to you. You made everything possible.

Finally, thanks to everyone in the Albuquerque area who made it possible for Duke to wind up in a wonderful home (see story, p. 4). **Arlene Starkey** saved his life and was determined to make him adoptable.

David Pearson taught him house manners; **Corrales Kennels** helped



him be with other dogs, as did **Damon**, another foster. **Ann Stevens** gave Duke her time, expertise, and affection. And photographer/rescuer **Joyce Fay** suggested that we post Duke on the website **Adopt-a-Pet.com** — which his adopter, **Randy Gunn**, saw at exactly the right time.