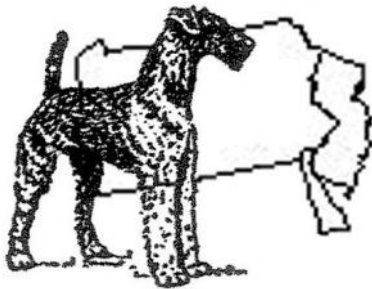


Starting Over

Volume 10 Issue 1

Airedale Rescue and Adoption of the Delaware Valley

Summer 2007



**Airedale Rescue
and
Adoption
of the
Delaware Valley**

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Pets on Wheels brings happiness to senior citizens

By Ron MacArthur, Cape Gazette staff, from the Cape Gazette, April 27, 2007, reprinted with permission

Most days Anna Adamek sits on a couch, looking out the window, isolated from her emotions by the relentless advance of Alzheimer's disease.

But on this particular morning in the dayroom of the Brandywine Reflections unit, something magical occurred. On this day, Sparky, a 3-year-old Airedale, came to visit. And for a single, rare moment, Anna showed emotion. She smiled and laughed.

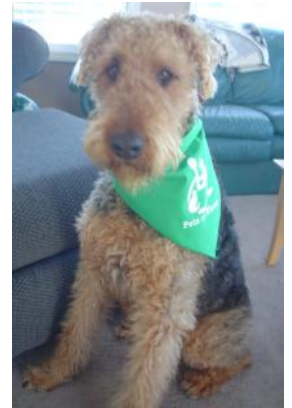
"Seeing any emotion and calling it a minor miracle is just lightly touching it," said Tomie Kay Davis, director of arts and entertainment at Brandywine Assisted Living at Seaside Pointe.

"We have never seen a reaction from her before, and Sparky has been to visit her four times. It was very touching – it makes your heart sink and makes your job worthwhile."

Sparky, owned by Susan Bennett of Milton, is taking part in Pets on Wheels, a new program in the Cape Region. Started in the Salisbury, Md., area in 1993, the program's volunteers take their pets into assisted-living and adult day care facilities to visit with residents.

Over the past few months, Bennett has been taking Sparky to Brandywine, located off Route 1 in Rehoboth.

Bennett said she was involved with a similar program in New Hampshire, and after moving to this area, she missed the interaction.



(Continued on page 2)

Inside:

Heartfelt Thanks.....	3
Heartstrings.....	4
For Your Information.....	6
Dog Talk.....	7
We Get Letters.....	12

Visit our website at www.Airedale911.org

She happened to see a Pets on Wheels display during the St. Michael's (Md.) Dog Walk, and she set the wheels in motion over the winter to become a volunteer.

"There are many other facilities that would love visits by pets, but we need more volunteers to make that happen," she said.

Bennett said she and Sparky look forward to their weekly visits to Brandywine – as much as the residents do. "Sparky really gets excited when I tell him it's time to go visiting," she said. "He loves the attention, and I get a kick out of seeing the residents' eyes light up. It's bonding for us."

For Bennett, the visits are a labor of love. "Knowing how much I love animals, I think if I lived in a place like this someday, I would miss having an animal around," she said.

Davis said everyone looks forward to visits by pets. Other groups, including Faithful Friends and greyhound rescue groups, also visit the facility.

"It brings back memories of families and times with their pets," Davis said. Bennett said Pets on Wheels of Delmarva is new to this area - she is the only volunteer working in Delaware.

There is one other volunteer living in Delaware who takes her dog to a facility in Denton, Md.

The program has been successful in seven lower Eastern Shore counties in Maryland and takes place in more than 30 assisted-living and adult day care facilities in towns such as Salisbury, Easton, Berlin, Snow Hill and Cambridge.

Pets and volunteers chosen to participate in the program must go through a screening process, including temperament testing, said Ruth Renkenberger of Easton, Md., president of Pets on Wheels of Delmarva. All pets must have up-to-date veterinarian visits and records on file. The area coordinator supervises the first visit.

Each approved team is insured up to \$1 million, and there has never been an accident or incident since the organization was formed 14 years ago, Renkenberger said.

She said the teams of volunteers and dogs and cats are more friendly visitors than therapy animals.

"Our interaction with the residents and patients is just as important as the interaction with the pets," Renkenberger said.

Renkenberger said the organization wants to expand into Delaware.

For more information, visit the website at www.petsonwheels-delmarva.org, write to Pets on Wheels of Delmarva, PO Box 3413, Easton, MD 21601 or contact Bennett at 302-684-8826.

Heartfelt Thanks

In addition to thanking the volunteers listed on our masthead for their participation in the many phases of rescue, we want to express our deep felt gratitude for the services furnished - with considerable consideration of the rescue dogs' needs and our financial limitations - the kennels who house the dogs we cannot get into foster care (Tamora Kennels in Spring Grove, PA; Birchrun Kennels in Birchrunville; PA Holland Hills Kennels in Milford, NJ; Animal Resorts in Downingtown, PA and Sugar Run Kennel near Altoona, PA) and our primary veterinarian, Dr. Kathy Jamison of Milford Veterinary Clinic in Milford Square, PA.

We also want to thank Jack McLaughlin for always being ready, willing and able to groom any Airedale any time we ask - at no charge. Carol and Dick Knerr and Denise Boughton have been gracious and informative foster parents, a very hard to find necessary part of rescue and Linda Meyer and her adopted Marta were our outstanding representatives at the Hamburg NE Pet and Breed Rescue Expo, sponsored by the Hillside, PA SPCA.

In this challenging environment of dog rescue, which often times requires critical time response by many coordinated individuals, it may seem like we might forget those who enable our organizations' sustainment on an ongoing basis. In short, we are here because you are with us and have been with us — and we sincerely thank you!

In memory of Dean O'Hollaren, former adopter and great lover of Airedales, who died on March 28, at the age of 91. The family suggested contributions to Airedale Rescue and Adoption of the Delaware Valley in lieu of flowers:

Ronald L. Bladely of Coldwell Banker

Barbara DeFrancis

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Pietlock

George L. Dorsch

Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Sharp

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Levine

Helen Troyan

Bill and Christine Held

Walter and Sandra Burton

Judith O'Hollaren

Heartfelt Thanks

Contributions to Airedale Rescue of the Delaware Valley have been received from these ardent supporters:

Jeanne and Craig Alper	Anahid & Stan Juozaitis
Elaine Barnes	Dorothy and Stephen Lindsey
George Bayer	Shirley McGarvey
Bryan and Barbara A. Butler	Lynn and Jeannie Manderbach
Kathy and Bob Charles	Mike Marzo
Robin and Christopher Colman	Linda Meyer
Joan Crum	Montone Construction, Inc.
Kay Coffman	Johann and Steven Olafson
Bernadette and Severn DiBiaso	Kay and Russell Osborn
Nicole and Dean Drummond	Patti Powell
Brenda and Scott Fair	Ann Randle
Amanda Fraser	Roberta and Cal Ratcliff
Betty Gehron	Robin's Nest Designs
Amy Gilbert	Helen Sholomskas
Jodi Goldberg	Maja Teufer
Helen and Fred Hall	Anne and Jim Townley
Jean Harne	Harrise Yaron
Jackie Johns	Veronica and Jonathan Young
Ron Jones	Catherine Zettler

Airedale Terrier Club of Greater Philadelphia
Mid Jersey Airedale Terrier Club proceeds from 50/50 drawing
Lebanon County Kennel Club, Wagwalk Fund - at the request of Linda Meyer
In memory of John Harry Ryden:
Regina Femminella, Monica Elbert, David Beck and Theresa Moroney

Adopted

Maggie Adam/Taylor
Carrie Beh
Brandy Braun
Ally Cornacechia
Cassie Cutler
Sam Estlow
Mazey Good
Louie Hansard
Jacob Moonzy
Gretta Randle
Caleb Rohloff
Bailey Rei-Chenbaugh
Addie Suklje
Odiz Sullivan
Brody Weisel
Matthew Johnson
Dexter Henstiel
Lucy Chiara
Jozi Kellar
Allister Petrov-Mitchell
Winston Kelly
Seamus Smith

Sandy Aronson in memory of Patrick
Sharon and John Balas in memory of Amy
Donald and Sara Braun in memory of Hannah
Sarah and Vern Bullock in memory of Bill Fineran
Joyce M. Chverchko for Mazey
Stephen and Diane Cramp on behalf of Tigger
Carol and John Davis in honor of Chance
Connie Eastburn in memory of Gally
David Foreman on behalf of "Maggy"
Susan Gordon in celebration of Sally/memory of Bergen
Judy and Michael Grmbowiec in honor of Chloe
Julia M. Groom-Thompson in celebration of Lily's adoption
Estate of Donald Gross for Max
Donald and Sara Ives in memory of Bill, Attila, Ha'Penny,
Curly Sue, Sabra and Tuscany
Inez Jacklin in memory of Sandy
Elizabeth and Joseph Kametz in memory of Freida and Reggie
Carol and Dick Knerr in memory of Tommy Johnson
Howard Levy from Casey
Fran and Bryant Lubbs in memory of Molly and Shana

Serafina Lurski for love of Airedales
Lois McClintock in memory of Roxy
Mary and Chris Mattson in memory of all their Airedales
Margaret M. Mangino in celebration of adoption of Delilah
Carol and Paul Marani on behalf of Molly
Gayle Woodman and Nancy Miraldi in memory of Abigail and Heidi
Janet and Daniel Morgan in honor of Jake
Kris Neufeld in memory of Jessie
Jonna Calaman Padl for Carrie
Marianne and Ray Perry in memory of Bridgit
Julie and Joe Pescatore on behalf of Jake
Bonny Hart and Paul Share in memory of Boudica
Toby and Joel Shpigel in honor of Barkley, Prinny and Oscar
Jutta Von Sivers on behalf of Cassie
Arlene and Richard Smith from "Wilbur"
Elizabeth Smith in memory of Dee Dee
Leslie Smith in memory of Theodora
Virginia and Michael Sprague in memory of Bump
Ann Randle in memory of her "Fiona"
Veterinary Referral Center in honor of Ozzie Tillman



Heartstrings



Today is Maggie's Day! This morning she went over the Rainbow Bridge with our assistance. Doug and I were both with her, hugging, kissing, stroking and sweetly talking to her into her peaceful place. It was THE most difficult decision and action I ever took but Maggie deserves everything sweet and calm, so she is now watching over all of us---another angel for us to call on.

Three years ago today on Super Bowl Sunday Maggie came to live with us (she was 11 years and 9 months old), so today is a true celebration and not just all sorrow (although right now that's ALL we feel). Maggie was 14 years and 9 months old. She volunteered with me visiting nursing homes and children hospitals, even in Virginia this past year. She loved people and kids, and never complained about a silly hat or jacket I made her adorn while on our visits. She was the most peaceful soul with huge eyes and heart! Her given name was Magnificent Wildfire...but she was simply Magnificent to me. Together Maggie and I worked through all her ailments and I think we were genuinely a team. It got to the point where she could just look at me and I could figure out her need or want, that is until recently. A month ago I just couldn't get a clear signal or fix it for her. I researched, read, asked and researched more but I couldn't get it. Fact is her disks were deteriorating and cancer set in and attacked. She could no longer walk, talk (airesnaps) or sleep without crying. For the souls I love, I am a force to be reckoned with so imagine my despair when I let her down this time.

I read about how to let go, I asked advice from friends who have done this but ultimately Maggie told us it was time and now I know that all the preparation in the universe wouldn't lessen the pain. Now every noise I hear around our home, her home, startles me into thinking this is just a bad dream.

This sentiment makes us think of Maggie: "Every Exit is an Entry Somewhere"-Tom Stoppard 1937.

Jocelyn and Doug Staebler - VA

The enclosed check is in memory of my dear Airedale, Fiona. The Lymphoma was too much for her to continue living. Words are futile to express one's loss and emptiness as she was my constant companion. Sincerely,

Ann Randle - PA



On Tuesday, June 5th, Willie was euthanized. He went very peacefully as I held him. It was, as you know, very difficult to do, but it was best for him. It's been a few days now and I'm still having difficulty controlling my tears.

He was indeed a great friend. I still remember the day you came to our house with Willie and he playfully "attacked" my nine year old daughter, pulling the ribbons out of her hair. He always was happy and his rear end would shake because he would wag his tail so hard. He always "smiled" for us when we came home. I never saw a dog that smiled before. It looked like he was imitating Elvis!

He was spoiled. I even learned to groom him just so he would be more comfortable at home.

He enjoyed going to the fenced-in baseball field. He could run like the wind with those long legs of his. He loved going for car rides and to Burger King, too!

Thankfully, we have Trevor, another Airedale rescue, who is helping us through this difficult time, but even he appears to miss his buddy. We just wanted to thank you for all the joy Willie brought us and please accept our donation in Willie's memory.

Sue and Stan Fenkel - NJ



Heartstrings



Sandy left us on September 1, 2006, three weeks after being diagnosed with bone cancer. He came to us in October 1999. He was a handsome Airedale with a "cowboy" personality.

He jumped with glee when people came, but it was not a greeting that was always welcomed by people. He was full of joy, exuberance, and a zest for life that was overwhelming at times. He enjoyed our large fenced-in yard where he could run, chase squirrels, bark at whatever passed by.

When we took him in the car, he whimpered the whole time--until we were heading for home. We thought he had a fear that we were going to leave him. He had been found tied to a shelter gate. We had to travel a distance to find a groomer who could manage him.



I grew up with Airedales and had two in my adult life. Sandy was my third, and he was a new experience. We loved him in his tender and caring moments. He slept near me in the family room when I wasn't feeling well. He curled up in one of our wing chairs during our evening times. When I would be sitting on the couch, he would come up and put his head in my lap. He was a watchdog par excellence. He could hear sounds a block away. He knew the sound of my car from the end of the street.

There are some children and some pets that need more patience than others, and Sandy was one pet that needed more patience. I was glad I could be that person for a very handsome Airedale, whose antics brought laughter and amazement into our lives along with frustration.

I used to watch the Pet Psychic, and I can feel Sandy around me at times. As the vet was putting him to sleep, he said he would be running in fields with the body of a young dog, and that made me feel better.

Inez Jacklin - NY



In Loving Memory

Wood Marcellus
Emily Suklje
Grady Turnbach
Tommy Johnson
Fiona Randle
Max Fineran
Diamond Caplan
Oliver Finnigan
Pockets Bennett
Nigel Petrov-
Mitchell

For all the wonderful
Airedales, in Memory of dear
Roxie.

Lois McClintock - PA

Early this morning, May 8, our beloved Rescue Thomas was "rehomed" to cross the Rainbow Bridge. He was around 11 1/2 years old and came to us as a 1 1/2 year old boy who was described by Joey as "a little big and a little loud." Thomas had been diagnosed with liver cancer and his severe arthritis also was getting the best of him. We had three extra weeks with him as the Vet had recommended putting him down three weeks ago. In our hearts, we believed that he had more quality time to spend with us and indeed he did. He chose early this morning as his time and spared us the painful decision...he passed peacefully in his bed.

I came across a quote that is not attributed to an author but it says more than I ever could, "Until one has loved an animal, part of their soul remains unawakened."

Thanks for allowing me to share and grieve with you.

Mary Jo, Dave and our other Rescue John Johnson — PA



For Your Information:



The Bad Foods For Dogs List

There are many things that your dog shouldn't eat. Some of them are obvious, and some aren't. If you suspect that your dog might have eaten any food that might be toxic, contact his/her vet immediately.

Obvious:

- Anti-freeze (immediate emergency)
- Alcohol
- Beverages with caffeine - does your Airedale really need a stimulant?
- Chocolate - contains theobromine, a compound that is a cardiac stimulant and a diuretic, and caffeine, too.
- Tobacco Products
- Corn Cobs - can cause partial or complete intestinal obstruction.
- Moldy or Spoiled Foods (eat it first, throw it up if you don't like it is our dog's motto)
- Mushrooms - Mushroom poisoning can be fatal if certain species of mushrooms are eaten.
- Food Preparation Items - aluminum foil, pans, wrappers, paper plates with food remnants.

Not so obvious:

- Seeds - Apple, Apricot, Cherries, Peaches, Pears, Plums. The seeds contain cyanogenic glycosides which can result in cyanide poisoning (large doses)
- Onions - cause hemolytic anemia, which means that the red blood cells break down leaving the dog short of oxygen.
- Baby Food - may contain onion powder.
- Cooked Bones - become brittle and splinter.
- Avocado - can damage heart, lung and other tissue in many animals.
- Broccoli - The toxic ingredient in broccoli is isothiocyanate (large doses)
- Green portions of potatoes and tomatoes - cause stomach upset and decreased heart rate.
- Sugarless candy containing xylitol - can cause liver damage and death in some dogs.
- Cat Food - is too high in protein and fats and is not a balanced diet for a dog (long term diet)
- Dairy Products are digested poorly by dogs, just like lactose-intolerant people,
- Grapes or Raisins - although the toxic compound and minimum lethal dosage is not known.
- Macadamia Nuts - the toxic compound is unknown but eating as few as six nuts without the shell has been known to cause symptoms.
- Nutmeg - is reported to be a hallucinogenic when ingested in large doses. Nutmeg has been known to cause tremors, seizures and in some cases, death.

PET FOOD RECALL!!!!

You probably heard news of animals with severe kidney damage from pet food contamination this past spring. Unlike the Diamond pet food recall last year, this recall is spreading and growing. The root cause has not yet been determined, but is believed to be melamine contaminating imported wheat germ and rice used in making pet food. It affects primarily canned and moist pouch dog foods, but has been found in some brands of treats and dry food, as well as cat food, fish food, and ferret food, chicken feed and hog feed.

The American Veterinary Medical Association has compiled a list of the hundreds of brands affected - go to <http://avma.org/aa/petfoodrecall/products.asp> for more information.

If your pet shows signs of loss of appetite, lethargy, weakness or vomiting, see your vet immediately.

Hi to everyone!

I have just had the greatest Christmas Ever... My new Mom is great! I also have a new brother, Alex... He's a 40 pound shrimp but holds his own with me... I can definitely out run him with a toy when he chases me, but when I chase him he's learned that he can turn faster than me when I'm on his heels and I run past him... Takes me a moment to turn and get going again... That kid's got brains...

Mom's put locks on all the gates... I watched the grandchildren open the latch and thought I'd follow... Mom caught me using my nose to try to open it like they did, put locks on all the gates and I can't find the key! Never did get out... She's everywhere watching...

All the family was here for Christmas dinner... I made my rounds politely introducing myself... I like Aunt Leslie, who is a people massage therapist...

She used her magic hands on my neck and shoulders, I sat there sagging with heavy eyes... Later, Uncle Jamie was stretched out on the floor after dinner and I

joined him for a movie, my head on his chest... He scratched me too... Alex was in Aunt Doris' lap belly up, getting rubbed... Mom has a super family...

I've been trying to be top dog around here and keep stealing, hogging all the toys... Mom always puts toys in our crates and once Alex leaves his crate I go steal them, put them in mine... Today I got in his crate and when he came to the door I layed down, tried to stare him down... Mom made me get out, and put his toy back teaching me to "leave it"... I did while she was sitting in the room, but as soon as she left to answer the phone I grabbed it again... She corrected me... Gosh sharing is hard... Mom is gentle though, give me lots of "good girls" and pats and rubs... I follow her everywhere, the laundry room, the bedroom, living room and especially the kitchen...

Thursday I have a vet appointment for my check up and boosters... The doc will be checking to see if I don't need my teeth cleaned... Alex is going too as his canine deciduous teeth seem to be staying firmly in place while the new ones come in, in front of them... Doc's going to check it out... We might both be getting some dental work...

Today Mom put me on my leash and we worked in the yard a bit... We walked, turned and I sat down, stayed... Mom found out that with a treat in her hand I can sit and down quite quickly... I do remember some kind of training... Without the cookie I need a little push on the rump...

Life is pretty good, thought I'd let you know...

Molly Osgood - MD



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Thank you for the toys and bone that I left behind. As soon as my new Dad took it out of the mailbox, I knew it was mine and I wanted it! Although I had to wait until we got home, once opened, I took each of my toys and piled them by the door, one by one. Then my bone was placed on top of my toys. This door is not used often, but for some reason I want them all kept there. I can really act like a puppy. I just love running around the center of the house - you can hit four rooms, just running around in a circle - then you have to stop and find where you threw the toy that you were running with, but that's okay.



I'm doing great and trusting my new parents more and more. I have done some really silly things - like we had a lot of snow on Monday and I decided that there was no way I was going to stick my feet in the snow. I considered holding it till April, but my new parents didn't buy it!

I went to my new vet yesterday and got a pretty good report. I didn't care for the other dogs when they started to yell at me. I have a little problem with my skin - it's flaking - kind of looks like dandruff - so we will be trying some medicated shampoo twice a month and then I'll go back and get it checked out again.

Also, I have decided my bed time is 6:30 in the evening. Every night I go to bed myself, whether there is a light in the room or not and whether anyone wants to join me or not! And, if I can't find my bed, no problem, I climb into theirs!

My new folks tell me that I am adorable and they can't remember days with out me. Hope all is well with you. I'll write again soon.

With much love, Caleb Rohloff - CT

(Dad took the attached picture with a telephoto lens while hiding behind a tree - I'm still very frightened of a camera)



Since I last wrote, a second year has gone by here at home with Mom, Dad and Duffy, another rescued Airedale who will soon be five years old, a year older than I will be.

My dad has added two more names to what he calls me; one is Tobes. And my mom has now joined Dad in calling my short tail my thumb-tail! Sometimes they can be so exasperating!

And I have become--along with Duffy--an excellent trainer. I taught Mom and Dad to open the back sliding glass door whenever we nose the bell they hung from the handle. Duffy and I can go out almost any time we want to. Though Mom and Dad are sometimes slow in getting to the door. Looks as if we need to reinforce that behavior.

When it's very cold, Dad calls me Knucklehead before he lets me out. He obviously doesn't have a clue about Airedale cranial anatomy.

Also, when it's time for our daily walk, all we need to do is stare at Dad, follow him around very closely, act excited, and before long, we're on our way! Sometimes Dad is smarter than he looks.

And, when Mom has her coffee and small rolls for breakfast, we taught her to share. We sit as still and as cutely as possible next to her. It works every time. She learned that behavior fast.

Finally, I have taught Dad to reward me whenever Duffy completes a trick. Duffy will chase a rubber ring that Dad rolls across the back lawn and then bring it back, drop it at Dad's feet, and sit for a treat. I just sit next to Dad and watch the whole thing and Dad gives me a treat, too. Am I good or what!

I have made many new friends in the neighborhood. The best is my girl friend Georgia, the American bulldog that lives across the street. Georgia and I talk when she's behind her front screen door and I'm at the side back yard fence. She's really cute and smells great, much better than Duffy. And she understands that my aloofness doesn't mean that I am playing hard to get. I'm just being an Airedale.

Uh oh, I see a squirrel near one of the bird feeders out back. Time to ring the bell!

Toby Lurski — PA



To Auntie J.
by Toby Lurski

Today is May 19th and I am four.
It's been a long time since I wouldn't come through the door.

I have "big brother" Duffy, and Dad and Mom.
No more anxiety, just security and calm.

I remember you, you were so kind.
You will always keep a place in my mind.

I know I am lucky to have reached this day.
You're one of the reasons. Thank you, Aunt J.



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It has been so long since I wrote to you about my new life in New York that it isn't new anymore. I've settled in and have never been happier. And, I'm glad to report, there are a few more Airedales in New York. One morning we got to the dog run and no one was there. Then another Airedale arrived and a third ... what bliss, it was an exclusive Airedale arena ... until a black lab had the audacity to try to join us.

This morning Ruby, who is a 5 month old Airedale, arrived in the run just after we did. I was sitting by Mom, thinking about what to do and Mom said, "go play with Ruby." So, being an obedient Airedale, I got up and played with Ruby. Everyone in the run was impressed. Ruby and her Mom are in training. Their trainer is a nice lady who lives near us and has two black labs (I play with them if there are no Airedales in the run). She told Mom that Airedales are a challenge because they are so energetic, high spirited and SMART.

I have been so busy. I was asked to usher in church at the Blessing of the Animals. About 90 dogs arrived. Fortunately I was ushering with a German Shepherd, who knows how to handle large crowds. The best was the doggie bags we gave out when everyone was leaving.

Then, later in October, we had a Halloween canine costume competition in the park. We call it the Halloween Howl. Mom is in charge of the judging so she said it would be a "conflict of interest" if I entered (I wanted to dress up as Amelia Airedale). Anyhow, I got to be the canine judge. What a lot of work that was. First I had to entertain all of the other judges at brunch, then we all donned our judges robes (Dracula, capes, witches hats and sunflowers to carry) and paraded to the park. 160 dogs entered!!!! My friend Chester (beagle) came as the 86th St. Crossstown bus. I voted for him and he won a first prize. They had a raffle so Mom gave me a dollar to buy a ticket. Guess what, I won BIG, really BIG. My loot was an enormous goodie bag with a huge, wonderful, snuggly dog bed, six stuffed toys (my favorite is a life sized orange gorilla that talks to me), six big bags of treats, two bowls, doggie bagels and a certificate for a bath. It was donated by the poshest dog boutique in New York. I was the envy of all of my friends. Mom said I should share it with them. With regrets, being a well behaved Airedale, I gave away three toys and some biscuits. I wanted to give away the bath - alas, no takers.

Nap time, more later ... Love,

Tisdale

My name is Murphy and I want to tell you about a great day I had! I got to go to work and drive a big boat! Here's what happened: My big brother, Sparky, was being tested to get a job as a therapy dog. My mom, Susan, thought I might be a distraction (can you imagine?) so my dad, Tom, said I could come to work with him for the day. Tom is captain on a 170-foot emergency response boat on the Delaware Bay.

I got to explore all over and run up and down 3 flights of really steep stairs. Woohoo! Then he let me sit in the wheel house at the controls. I looked and looked but I couldn't find the kibble button! But I got to eat yummy "sailor food." Then my friend, the first mate, Al, sat on the floor and played with me (instead of working – he-he-he).

When I got home, we had a big celebration because I was a good boy at work and Sparky had passed his tests. We had a Frosty Paws party! I hope I can go back again – I like boats and I've gotta find that kibble button!

Murphy Bennett



SHOPPING ALERT!

Please remember that OUR ON-LINE STORE—featuring unique Airedale-themed clothing, jewelry and decorative items—is ALWAYS OPEN! Visit us at www.airedale911.org and choose the "shopping" option.

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We Get Letters



I would like to give you all an update on Delilah. It feels like we've been together so long as so much has happened to me since I got her.

My mom got very sick in Oct. 2005, right after Delilah came to me. Mom was sick for 18 months, going from hospital and nursing home and finally home to her own place in Spring '06.

Delilah is a patient girl, who never acted out during that time. She was an angel throughout. She would go to my mom's house with me every day, and she made her Grandma very happy. Mom had a 24 hour home health attendant who came to "like" Delilah very much, although she initially was scared to death of her. She is from Africa, where dogs are feral and not domesticated. A dog in the house was a lot for her to handle, and how she laughed when Delilah claimed Gram's couch for herself.

She has displayed many Airedale traits and, I see now, some wolf-like behaviors, especially around food. I know that she is trying her best not to steal food or beg, but it is very difficult for her. When she does grab food, her jaws are clenched and there is no breaking her grip. And the best part of this is that she still has no aggression, but remains determined to finish her "catch."

She remains enduringly patient when in the company of my granddaughter Sofia, who is two years old, and is sweet to all visitors. The mailman continues to be amazed at her indifference to him. There have been many robberies in my neighborhood and I hope that her silent presence in my front window will intimidate the bad guys. (Ha!)

Delilah has gained some weight and is less muscular than she was. All of my cats are now socializing with her and Frankie, who was most scared of scaredy cats, now shares the couch with "D.!"

This year's *Starting Over* was very up-beat and I'm so happy to see that A.R.A. will go on. I am making a donation to you so that you can hopefully make someone else as happy as Delilah has made me! My mom passed away in November '06 and my life would be so empty without Delilah, who gives me so much. Love and God bless you all!

Marge Mangino — NY



Maya is doing wonderfully! She's lost weight and actually has some definition in front of her hind legs. Still a bit of a pouch, but continued exercise will help that too.

She and Molly are great buddies, and don't really like to be separated. They romp and play all over the house. Maya seems to have forgotten her size since she is acting like a puppy! Missy (my sweet old lady) tolerates her well, but likes her space too.

Maya also likes to keep me company when I'm up in my office. We play fetch with some of my unacceptable writing.

She definitely needs some obedience training and we're making progress. The garbage is still fair game. She chases the cats but they are always able to outrun her and then taunt her from some high spot. One day she actually brought her favorite toy and put it under the shelf where the cat was perched.

So all is well, and I am so glad to have found her. Thanks again!

Joan Garcia - NJ

Scudder has now found a place to sleep - with my husband and me in bed! He loves to snuggle...! This gentle love is absolutely the most wonderful addition to our home. I can't begin to tell you how much Dom and I love Mr. Scudder! He also now has complete run of the house...! When we leave for work he immediately jumps up on the couch to get himself comfortable.

Everyone that he meets he greets with a kind "sniff"! I better stop...I could go on and on about him!

Paulette Ferrara - NJ

Please excuse the condition of this card. Our new family member, "Marta," opened this package of cards for me.

Cork and I just adore her. Now that she is feeling at home, she is getting a bit naughty. We discovered that she has a VERY LONG REACH. Cork helped her and now she does the stairs very well. She sails through the yard like a deer hound - Jag just watches her run - in amazement. Jag's two favorite toy monkeys are now on the surgical list. The two dogs enjoy taking toys from one another and Jag is very good to Marta. With Marta, I have a kitchen hanger and a howler again! Thank you so much for this lovely little girl!

Cork and Linda Meyer - PA



We Get Letters



Rick and I thoroughly enjoyed reading "Starting Over." Enclosed under separate cover will be a check as a small thank you for Wilbur. He came to us a little over two years ago and he is just perfect. He has learned so many things in the past months. He no longer counter surfs and he attended obedience classes, where he was the best behaved dog. The woman who conducted the class kept saying how smart he was. (Privately, we also thought that he was the most handsome dog there.)

He is on a diet of sorts because he has gained about 15 pounds. He just loves to eat and rest, after running around in the yard. We bought him two beds...one for the kitchen and one for our room. He also naps on our bed as well as the beds now vacated by our children who no longer live with us. He sleeps on the sofa in the family room and on several chairs.

Wilbur is the best dog and we are so grateful to you for all you do on behalf of these wonderful animals.

Rick and Arlene Smith — NJ

Andie (formerly Abigail) is the most wonderful animal on this planet. We recently lost Nugget (our 14 year old adopted Golden Retriever, perhaps you remember that we brought him to your home on Andie's adoption day in August 2005) to cancer.

Andie stood by him steadfastly through his final weeks, like a nurse and best friend. Andie absolutely loved Nugget. She misses him terribly. She learned all of the Golden Retriever's best qualities from Nugget, and coupled with her Airedale qualities, she is a perfect pet (well, almost). Not a day goes by that my wife and I wonder who could have let such a



wonderful dog go, or worse yet, if she wandered away by accident, who is mourning the loss of her. We pray that her former family can somehow understand that we have given her a loving, caring and permanent forever home.

We love her more than words can describe. Thanks for all your good work.

Carol, Bob, Rob & Janine La Salle - NJ

Thanks for keeping me on your rescue mailing list. When Starting Over comes, I read every word immediately and love to hear people's Airedale stories.

My new dog, Nellie, is now spayed. She is a real squirrel hunter, fixated by them! I'm glad the little critters are not scampering as much as a month ago - they nearly did both of us in! Best wishes,

Kris Neufeld - NY

I can't tell you how pleased we are with Winston!! He is PERFECT and he and Ginger have very few differences to settle. Already, we love Winston so much!! We went to visit friends on Christmas Day Evening, after all. We loaded up both dogs in their crates in the Suburban and had a lovely 2 hr. dinner. Upon our return, Winston was excited beyond belief to get home. I think that he was fearful that he was on another transport to yet another home. We have assured him that he has found his forever home with us and that we are very loyal to our family and will take excellent care of him for the rest of his life.

Today I used a Haltie Collar for the first time. Winston and I took a walk up to the mail boxes and had NO problems. Using the other collar that came with him, he pulled too much for me. We will soooo enjoy working with him.

He LOVES his new pet bed. Check it out at www.coolaroo.com. It is WELL made, heavy duty, and can be lifted for vacuuming and easy clean...no doggie odor, hose clean, breathable fabric, and only \$24.00 for the Large Size we got. We have already taken pictures and will send you some when we are able. We would be DELIGHTED to have our boy, Winston, on the VA website. Thanks for who you are, for all you do, and for caring so deeply!!

May God's Blessings be many for you and yours,

The Kennys', Doug, Donna, Ginger, and Winston

Wanted to tell you how much Sammie (Sweetie) has added to our home. She is always at the door to greet us, lying on the floor next to Bruce and me on the couch and always follows me up to bed to lie next to me. We swear she looks like she is smiling all the time.

Thank you also for the newsletters - enjoy reading them!!

Janet Abeles — NJ

Just had to send along this pic of Gramh and his new best friend, Bella the boxer. Bella has been staying with us as she has proved to be a little too much for my daughter to take care of with the new baby. Everyone gets along fine, Gramh just adores her. She appreciates him allowing her to snuggle with the cold weather and her short coat! Gramh loves taking his nightly walk with her and we don't even tangle the leashes too often! I'm going to try to get a pic of all three for Christmas. Take care,



Nancie and Frank - NJ



We Get Letters



I have enclosed a photo of Monty with the ribbons and toys which he won in the Seaside (a local women's club) charity fundraising [all breed] dog show... primarily from the Palm Beach Isles development; we reluctantly entered Monty to support the fundraiser in hopes that he wouldn't get into a fight and be sent home early!

Once he got used to the other dogs in close proximity, he strutted and showed a great gait. In any event, he took more ribbons than any other dog and really surprised us. ... it's not that far from being homeless to being top dog!

As I write this, both dogs are asleep - Monty on the couch and Madge on her Foster and Smith pillow bed.

Bea, Bob, Madge and Monty Lee - FL/NJ



Cassie is definitely a keeper! Watching her and Jax together, you wouldn't know that they haven't always been together. Starting last Sunday when we arrived HOME, they've played hard. In fact, that first night at 3 AM, somebody (not me!!!) made the announcement "Let the Airedales Games Begin," and by 3:30 AM, I ended up crating them both. I haven't needed to crate either of them since.

There has been some jockeying for position, and I couldn't tell you for certain who is going to emerge dominant. In the beginning, I thought it would be her. She was much more assertive---but now, Jax simply uses his strength to push her around when they play hard. They both accept me as the boss.

The funniest thing is watching them play. Last night, Jax was busy with a chew. Cassie kept going through the toybox, choosing toys that she would waggle in front of Jax until he would join in a game of chase or tug of war. Early in the week, she hadn't been thrilled with the noisy squeaker toys (Jax's favorites), but now she's decided they're pretty cool.

TobyCat was totally miffed when he saw the new dog, but Cassie is much gentler with him than Jax is. She was also very, very gentle with the kindergarten child she met at school on Tuesday. She was hesitant with the male members of my staff that day---which really bothered the two evening custodians who like to spoil Jax. When I took both dogs in Thursday night (to write my newsletter), it seemed to help that Jax was there and obviously thrilled to see both men. Cassie warmed up to both.

Jax just finished the rally class. We're probably going to do an agility class next month, and Cassie will start the beginning obedience class at the same time. She's good on the lead, but she doesn't know that she's supposed to turn when I do! She's learning to sit, too. Jax will be an official volunteer at the Special Olympics in June.

Many of my friends have commented on how lucky I've been to get TWO good adult rescue dogs, but I've told them it's because you work at finding the right match. (It helps to get Airedales, too.)

Elaine Cutler - PA

Enclosed please find a check for the adoption fee and small donation for your good work. Thank you very much for finding Louie. It's approximately 2 weeks since his arrival and he has clearly won over all of the humans and is making good progress with two of the three cats at his new home.

I'm very happy that I discovered your organization and keep up the good work. Sincerely,

Paul Hansard—NJ

Good morning; Day 2 update: Brody is doing well...Woody is very glad to have a playmate, and just this morning was teaching Brody how to play keep-away (with Woody doing all the keeping!). Woody has a big smile on his face now...we should have done this a long time ago!

Thank you, Joey...he is the perfect dog to join our family...more later,

Justine

Our three Airedales, Steve and I were in Newark Ohio last week to party and compete with other Airedalers at the WOTA 2007. We had a great time meeting new friends and watching our favorite breed participate in all types of events.

Bridget and Buster were in the Parade of Rescues, Maddi and Buster passed their Canine Good Citizen tests, Maddi got her first leg towards a Rally Obedience title and Buster took first place in Novice agility with a clean run.

Buster came home with a very special award presented to us by Christie Williams on behalf of the Airedale Quilting Bee for his performance in agility. Buster is a rescue boy who came to us through Airedale Rescue and Adoption of the Delaware Valley, and is now the proud owner of a beautiful small quilt taken from one of the blocks in the Vers-Airedale-ity quilt. The block features Christie's beloved rescue Erin weaving through agility poles. Erin crossed the Rainbow Bridge in November 2006 and I bet she was cheering Buster on as he started his clean run in Standards at the WOTA 2007.

Denise St. John - NJ



We Get Letters



As you can see-Grace and Cosmo get along beautifully. She is such a great addition to our family-although somewhat mischevious-



another shoe bit the dust today! That goes along with several others and the electrical cords to the phone, lamp cord, cable cord, etc.

She reminds me so much of our other female. Males are lower key and dumber I think. But we love our Gracie girl and can't imagine life without her-love having two dogs and they really love it as well as you can see. Hope all is going well with you and hopefully will get good Airedale placements this year. Maybe next year we would consider fostering - we just need to get them a little more settled-can't afford to lose even more shoes!

Kim Treinen - NJ

Our sweet Sparky just had another surgery. He's almost 12 now and I worry every time something goes wrong. He had to have a dead pad and two teeth removed. He will always be the love of my live. Some days he acts his age, and some days he's like a pup again. God Bless,

Stacie and Bob Trout - PA

We have been hoping to get over one day to give you something for the wonderful rescue job you [all] do - and buy something Airedaley that you may have in your Boutique.

Doris and Ed Martin - PA

Enclosed is my donation for all the rescue dogs in memory of my Kirby. "Starting Over" is great - I think better than ever!Love,

Elaine Barnes - PA

Still miss Toti terribly. Please make some other dog happy in her memory. Love,

Bob and Marianne Puntel - PA

Murf (my 7 1/2 year old Rescue Airedale) and myself would like to wish you all most merry holiday possible. Thank you for all the great work! love,

John Jansen - NJ

Keep up the good work. Pansy at 13 is fine.

Ginny and Mike Sprague - NJ

Here's a donation to keep me on your mailing list. I love reading the "Starting Over."

Kay Osborn - PA

Woodie is still the funniest dog we've had... he sings AND talks! He's become quite the squirrel hunter; got his first one of the season last week. Thanks for all you do!

Justine, Allan, Andrew Elizabeth and Woody Weisel - PA

In honor of the 3rd anniversary of Oscar Madison Shpigel's adoption, please accept this check and use it to help other Airedales in need.

We can't thank you enough for calling three years ago and saying that you "had another one" for us, a boy who sang himself to sleep! As soon as Joel and I set eyes on Oscar, we were smitten. He is such a character. We can't imagine our days without him.

Of course, his Airedale bother, Barkey, and his Airedale sister, Prinny, have often looked at us as if to say, "What have you done, Mom and Dad? We were very happy without crazy Oscar." But we know they love him as much as we do. He keeps them hopping.

[And] please accept this [other] gift in honor of our beloved Airedale children. Barkey (12 yrs.), Prinny (9), Oscar (6). They are all fine and happy. Barkey has arthritis and is slowing down, but still loves to go for walks and occasionally goes to work with Joel for the day. He is such a wonderful, gentle guy. We bought him a special bed to help ease his stiffness and he just loves to curl up on it with his pillow and stuffed doggie. Prinny continues to be a sweet natured beautiful girl. Her favorite thing is to just sit by us and have her head stroked. Oscar is the clown of the group. He runs around the yard chasing squirrels and birds, hoping to catch one, but never does! He wakes us up in the morning by jumping on the bed and licking our faces. Who needs to take a shower when you have Oscar around? Oscar still counter surfs ... last week he ate the mail (Time and Newsweek). Oh, well, we can't get too angry, he's so cute! Bless you for all the wonderful work you do. Thanks again,

Toby, Joel, Barkey, Prinny and Oscar Shpigel - PA

I just wanted to send a small donation for a large and wonderful job well done! Thank you all - I still miss my Airedale, Amy Balas and would love to help another... in the near future.

Sharon Balas - NJ

Thank you to all of the dedicated individuals involved with Airedale Rescue for your continued efforts to care for the displaced Airedales and in finding loving homes. We love the newsletters! Fondly,

Judie, Michael and Chloe Grembowiec - NJ

The Official Dog Enthusiast's DON'T List:

- DON'T let your dog sleep in your bed. It will cause aggression problems down the road.
- DON'T make your dog sleep in a crate. Crate is just another word for small cage.
- DON'T let your dog sleep outside at night. If God had wanted dogs to sleep outside, he would have covered their body with hair to keep them warm.
- DON'T let your dog sleep. You should be playing with him all the time.
- DON'T keep more than two dogs. Each individual dog requires considerable time and energy, and it is impossible for a responsible dog owner to spend quality time with more than two dogs.
- DON'T keep less than five dogs. Dogs are pack animals, and five dogs is the minimum number for proper socialization.
- DON'T feed your dog kibble. Kibble is the invention of evil capitalists who want your money, and kibble has no nutritional value whatsoever. You might as well feed your dog sawdust.
- DON'T cook your dog's meat or chicken. Cooking destroys all the nutrients.
- DON'T feed your dog raw meat or raw chicken. Raw food contains salmonella, e-coli, and other harmful bacteria.
- DON'T let your dog drink out of a plastic bowl. It will turn his nose pink.
- DON'T post messages to a dog list. You will surely get bopped on the head for thinking that someone else cares about your silly little opinions.
- DON'T poke your eye with a sharp stick. It has nothing to do with dogs, but it's a good rule nonetheless.
- DON'T microchip your dog. A nearby cell phone can cause a microchipped dog to explode, or so says the lady running the tattoo booth.
- DON'T tattoo your dog on the ear. A dog thief will cut off the tattooed ear.
- DON'T tattoo your dog on the thigh. He'll be a tripod before you can say Ginsu.
- DON'T keep a collar on your dog when unattended. He could get caught on something and choke.
- DON'T leave your dog unattended without a collar. He could run away without any identification.
- DON'T transport your dog in a plastic crate. Plastic crates don't allow sufficient air flow.
- DON'T transport your dog in a wire crate. In a car accident, a wire crate transforms into a doggie skewer. On days you plan to have a car accident, it's acceptable to use a plastic crate.
- DON'T let your dog drive. It's against the law in many states.
- DON'T enter your dog in conformation. It's b-o-r-i-n-g for the dog.
- DON'T enter your dog in obedience. It's B-o-r-i-n-g with a capital "B."
- DON'T enter your dog in agility. The jumps will injure his joints.
- DON'T send your dog out with a handler. Only a psychopath would send their beloved pet with a complete stranger.
- DON'T handle your dog yourself. You've got a great dog, and he deserves a much better handler than you will ever be.
- DON'T get a purebred dog. Inbreeding has produced dogs with temperament and health problems.
- DON'T get a mutt. You don't know anything about their pedigree. In fact, if you're thinking about getting a dog, get a cat instead.
- DON'T leave your dog's dewclaws intact. He will rip one off jumping a log or something, which is quite painful.
- DON'T remove your dog's dewclaws. Dewclaws are acupuncture points that are needed for proper functioning of the kidneys.
- AND, the #1 DON'T
- DON'T trim your dog's whiskers. Dogs use their whiskers to determine the size of their head, which is important when they are out shopping for a new hat.