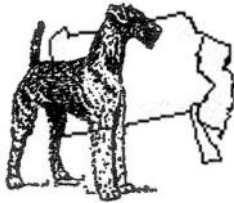


Starting Over

Volume 11 Issue 1

Airedale Rescue and Adoption of the Delaware Valley

Summer 2008



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

President:

Joey C. Fineran
1189 Lonely Cottage Road
Upper Black Eddy, PA 18972
610-294-8028 Airedale@epix.net FAX: 610-294-7929

Vice President:

Cindy Johnstonbaugh
Airedalz@comcast.net 717-225-5421

2nd Vice President:

Mike Lurski
seramike19@rcn.com 610-867-5504

Treasurer:

Dewey Yesner
hdyesner1@aol.com 610-399-5305

Secretary

Fran Sawyer
610-374-8134 fsawyer@pdt.net

Eastern Pennsylvania

Mary Jo Johnson	Airedalemom@pdt.net	610-703-5438
Serafina Lurski	seramike19@rcn.com	610-867-5504
Tom & Dee Marino	marinota@verizon.com	610-584-5788
Heather Estlow	ShandaMara@aol.com	814-327-5657
Marie Chismar	mariechiz@rcn.com	610-867-2350

New Jersey

Nicole Lewy Drummond	lifolewy@hotmail.com	917-301-7268
Anne Townley	atownley4rescue@msn.com	201-848-0599
Deb Ciancarelli	deb.ciancarelli@yahoo.com	609-313-4765

Delaware

Bob Harding	barkingdales@verizon.net	301-947-2153
Dewey Yesner	hdyesner1@aol.com	610-399-5305

Fundraising

Mary Jo Johnson	Airedalemom@pdt.net	610-703-5438
-----------------	---------------------	--------------

Newsletter Editor:

Keith Johnson	keith.johnson@hughes.net	302-492-1931
---------------	--------------------------	--------------

Website Manager

Linda Magri	NightOwl53@verizon.net	434-534-8259
-------------	------------------------	--------------

Training/Behavior Consultant

David Falk		518-654-6630
------------	--	--------------

New Lamps for Old

Carol M. Chapman, Hitchcock, Texas

There is a wonderful sequence in "Aladdin and the Magic Lamp" where Aladdin has won riches, a kingdom, and the love of his princess with the help of a genie who resided inside an old, battered lamp. An evil wizard dresses up as a street vendor and offers new, shiny lamps as a free trade for old ones. Aladdin's princess has no feeling for the old lamp and all it has done, so she hurries out and trades it for the new, improved model. The evil wizard runs off cackling - the power of the lamp is now his. Horrible events ensue until Aladdin is able to get his old lamp back and make the world right again.

An acquaintance called me the other night to talk about the new dream home he and his wife are completing. In their 11 years of marriage they have celebrated the births of two children, developed careers, and shared the good times and sad times with their small family. Through all of it, a little cocker spaniel named Daisy has been there. She was their first gift to each other and has guarded each of their children's early steps, warned them valiantly of strangers approaching, shared their tears and laughter. Daisy has always been in inside dog, kept within the walls of the home, the heart of the family. Daisy is getting older, has problems with bladder control, and is losing her teeth. She doesn't want to play with children anymore, preferring to sleep at someone's feet and feel their hands patting her gently. Daisy has turned into the old lamp.

(Continued on page 2)

Inside:

Heartfelt Thanks.....	3
Heartstrings.....	4
"My Dogs Live Here".....	5
For Your Information.....	6-7
Dog Talk.....	8-9
We Get Letters.....	10-15
"In This House".....	16

Visit our website at www.Airedale911.org

My acquaintance alluded to this as he quietly asked me if I would take Daisy. Their new house has carpet, dog accidents stain, and frankly, Daisy smells at times. Daisy would not be happy as an outside dog, it would be too cruel to put her to sleep and my acquaintance was "shocked" to learn that turning her over to the local shelter means she would be put down. The old dog had no room waiting in their new house - would I take her so they could get a new younger one for their kids?

New dogs for old - the wizard would be pleased. In a just world, their new house would crumble, they would lose their jobs, the kids would get boils, and their rag-covered forms would crawl the earth looking for Daisy to bring back home. In a just world, Daisy would have the option of trading in the old family for a new one.

I swallowed my pain and tried to educate him,

letting him know how Daisy would suffer without her family, how bonded she was to them. He let my words fall off his complacent armor; my pleas fell irrelevant around his expensively shod feet. I suggested doggy diapers, vet visits for medicine, a room at the house with a cool tiled floor and a soft dog bed. I whispered that he could grant her the mercy of going into her final rest in the arms of her family. But nothing touched the part that hurts in him.

So now I have a new dog; her name is Daisy, and the pain fueling her bleeding heart is slowing fading into acceptance. She wets my floors and yes, she smells, but her head feels good on my feet as I write this. And I picture that couple old and alone someday, incontinent, unbathed, and patronized by children who consider the house an asset, the parents a liability, leaving them with strangers at a nursing home.

New lamps for old.




Delifreshpet.com homestyleselect.com
Supporter of Airedale Rescue of the Delaware Valley

GROCERY SHOPPERS -- ACME CARES

Airedale Rescue has qualified with ACME MARKETS to receive a 1% rebate donation on all your purchases (except milk and cigarettes) made at most of their supermarkets in southeastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. So, if you are an ACME shopper or wish to become one, please save all your blue cash register tapes. Clip them together in \$1000 bundles and mail them to H. Dewey Yesner, 115 Locksley Road, Glen Mills PA, 19342-1727. Don't forget to also recruit your family, friends, relatives and business associates; ask them to save their blue register receipts for us. ACME MARKETS will graciously donate up to \$5000 each year to Airedale Rescue. All we have to do is collect their tapes. If you have any questions or need additional information please call Dewey at 610.399.5305.

**Still Waiting
for Homes**

- Coby-** between 1-2- a real lover- gets along with all people and other animals
 - Kelsey-** 3 y/o female good with other dogs
 - Lassie** 5 y/o female- great with kids
2 y/o needs to be with another dog- a little shy
 - Trapper John** 5 y/o he's great guy who has a prosthetic foot
 - Rosie** 6 y/o loves to play, she will entertain herself for hours- must be an only dog
- More coming in weekly- call for updates**

SPECIAL THANKS

In addition to thanking the volunteers listed on our masthead, we want to express our deep-felt gratitude for services furnished - 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.

Heartfelt Thanks

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

Sandra Aronson, in memory of Patrick
Sarah and Vern Bullock, in memory of Bill Fineran
Sheldon Caplan and Toby Ponnock, in memory of Diamond
Mona Chipman, in memory of Parker Chipman
Alice Decembrino, for Sunshine Fineran
Peter and Patricia Fengler - NJ, in memory of Ginny
Betty S. Gehron, support with love
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Grembowiec, in celebration of Chloe
Elizabeth and Joseph Kametz, in memory of Freida and Reggie
Stephen & Dorothy Lindsey, To honor David Falk
Mr. & Mrs. Lynn Manderbach, in celebration of Sophie and Koty
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Mattson, in memory of all the Mattson Airedales
Mr. & Mrs. Carl J. Meyer, in honor of Marta
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel D. Morgan II, in memory of Jake
Kristin Neufeld, in memory of Jessie
Paul Share and Bonny Hart, in celebration of Tallulah
Leslie R. Smith, from Mr. Riley's Allowance! (Please don't tell him!)
Tim & Fran Sawyer, in loving memory of Cassie Louise
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Sprague, in memory of Bump and celebration of Pansy
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Staebler, in loving memory of Maggie Staebler
Lynne Veasey, in loving memory of Joseph Veasey
George Westermann, in memory of Mrs. George Westermann
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Young, from the estate of Tofu
Airedale Terrier Club of Greater Philadelphia
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts Program
Elaine Barnes
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Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Bullock
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Mr. & Mrs. William T. Storey
Maja Teufer
Mr. & Mrs. Dieter Wentz
Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Williamson
Harrise Yaron
Mr. & Mrs. John Zettler

Adopted

Lucy Sullivan
Savannah Paetzell
Georgie Saunders
Sir Lancelot Beleh
Holly Belle Bergman
Biskit Berry
Jack Chipman
Bella Cortez
Alice Lambert
Juno Marino
Sadie Meneer
Frodo Nelson
Riekey Hubble
Gibson Coon
Ace Johnstonbaugh
Nigel Hulson
Winston McGary
Lizzy Farman
Jim Dandy Caplan
Jeremiah Murphy
Zoë Colman
Rudy Williams
Olive Salagovie
Kelly Ripa McKnight
Lily Taylor
Daisy Mae McCormack
Roxy Gritz
Molly McGarvey
Samson Cann
B.D. Fineran
Ajax Kaufmann
Rose Lorenzon
Harry Braecia

*"The greatness of a nation
and its moral progress can
be judged by the way its
animals are treated."*

Mahatma Gandhi

Heartstrings

It seems like yesterday that Maria pulled into our driveway in her dark green Suburban, delivering Ginny. It was July 2002 and Ginny was like a dancer, prancing into our home and hearts.

Ginny was so gentle and loving. She gave our family so much in the five and half years we had her. Finally, her heart couldn't keep up with her and she died last week, just short of her 11th birthday. Please accept this contribution in memory of Ginny Fengler. Thank you for all you do. Sincerely,

Peter and Patricia Fengler - NJ



In Loving Memory

Mandy Smith
 Charlie Hefright
 Diamond Donnoek-Caplan
 Ginny Fengler
 Molly Stewart
 Ty McCarthy
 Libby Vaughn
 Bart Yesner
 Beep Gritz
 Abby McGearg

We adopted Charlie about four years ago. I guess you could say we flunked foster-care. He was a wonderful addition to our household.

Charlie started having some problems around the holidays. He wasn't eating much, and seemed to have no energy. He endured a short hospital stay for tests and dental work... three teeth were extracted... a course of antibiotics given... He seemed to rally for a few days, but then quit eating altogether. We couldn't watch him starve to death, so this morning I took Charlie on his last trip to the vet. He passed away quietly in my arms.

Charlie would have been 13 years old on May 11.

Kate Hefright

Just a quick note to let you know that my best buddy passed away this morning after his breakfast and a bagel with cream cheese treat. I just could not let him suffer any more.

I will not be able to talk about him for a few weeks. He truly was an extremely special dog.

Dewey Yesner - DE

On May 8, 2008, I lost my husband [Joseph] to cancer and in loving memory of him, I am sending this donation to [Rescue]. He loved his Airedales and thanks to you and your great organization, we were able to have them.

We still have Jack and he is doing well. Last year he had some cancerous tumors removed and he is as good as new at the age of 11. He is still charging squirrels and dominating the house. I love him dearly. Keep up the good work for these lovely animals.

Lynne Veasey - NJ

Enclosed is a check to Airedale Rescue from Tim and me in memory of Cassie Louise. She adored her Airedale brothers so it is fitting that Rescue should benefit from that love.

Love, Fran and Tim - PA

DIAMOND

You served us nobly and well
 And we serve you to tell
 That a short night ago you fell
 And under a full moon, arose pell-mell

To another place
 To shed your grace
 In heavenly outer space
 Our Diamond was an ace!

You brought our family joy
 You were a special toy
 Though you were a girl, not a boy
 We loved equally all that estoy -

And now our friend, like yours
 Is off to a new cruise, tour...
 How nice to have had this moment to adore
 Every minute we celebrated was a moment
 Beautiful, good, loving and never a chore!

We miss you,

Toby and Shelly

MY DOGS LIVE HERE

My dogs live here, they're here to stay.
You don't like pets? Be on your way.
They share my home, my food, my space.
This is their home, this is their place.

You will find dog hair on the floor,
They will alert you're at the door.
They may request a little pat,
A simple 'NO' will settle that.

It gripes me when I hear you say,
'Just how is it you live this way?
They smell, they shed, they're in the way.'
WHO ASKED YOU? is all I can say.

They love me more than anyone.
My voice is like the rising sun,
They merely have to hear me say,
'C'mon, time to go and play.'

Then tails wag and faces grin,
They bounce and hop and make a din.
They never say, 'No time for you,'
They're always there, to GO and DO.

And if I'm sad, they're by my side.
And if I'm mad, they circle wide.
And if I laugh, they laugh with me.
They understand, they always see.

So, once again, I say to you,
'Come visit me,' but know this too...

My dogs live here, they're here to stay.
You don't like pets? Be on your way.
They share my home, my food, my space.
This is their home, this is their place.

(Author Unknown)



For Your Information:



SKUNK ODOR

Based on an article by Stephen Vantassel, Scott Hygnstrom, and Dennis Ferraro

Skunks are famous for their odorous defensive spray. When alarmed or threatened, skunks have been known to spray people, pets, and automobiles. They also spray in basements, garages, window wells, and under porches. The musk they spray is a yellow-tinted oily liquid stored in two sacks located on opposite sides of the anus. Each sack holds about a teaspoon of musk, enough to allow multiple sprays. Skunk musk does not emanate from the animal as it does in the PePe LePew cartoon; it is discharged through two "ducts" that allow the skunk to adjust the spray to a mist or stream, to direct it at a specific target, and to shoot up to 20 feet with "both barrels."

Skunk musk can temporarily blind and stun individuals unlucky enough to be sprayed in the face. Victims experience watering eyes, nasal irritation, and nausea. Asthmatics also may experience breathing difficulties when exposed to the odor. The rabies virus is not transmitted through skunk musk. Humans can smell skunk musk in concentrations as low as one part per billion.

Skunk musk causes no permanent injury or damage to dogs or people, so be sure not to cause more injury in trying to get rid of the smell. People and animals are much more likely to be injured by deodorizing attempts than by the skunk. First try to remove the source of the odor, then use deodorants or air fresheners to mask the odor that is left.

Decontamination

Remove contaminated clothing, and wash skin and fur with soap or detergents. Clothing should be washed according to laundering instructions. The odor will eventually dissipate, so shoes or belts can be hung outdoors in fresh air. A chemist by the name of Paul Krebaum discovered a solution that chemically neutralizes skunk odor. The ingredients for the formulation are:

- 1 quart 3 percent hydrogen peroxide (fresh bottle)*
- 1/4 cup baking soda (sodium bicarbonate)*
- 1-2 teaspoons liquid dish soap.*

Ingredients must be mixed in an open container and used immediately. Never mix the ingredients in advance because oxygen released from hydrogen peroxide may cause a closed container to explode. The solution can be used on people or pets; avoid splashing the product in the eyes or mouth. Allow the solution to remain on hair for five minutes before rinsing with water. Repeat as needed. Do not use this solution on clothing — it may discolor the fabric.

Odor Control

A variety of odor control products are available in area stores, including Skunk-Off®, Odor-Mute®, Nature's Miracle Skunk Odor Remover®, and Earth Friendly Products®. Homeowners also may find the following products helpful in deodorizing their property. With any product, follow the manufacturer instructions.

Deodorizing techniques to avoid are: ozone generators (ineffective, and ozone may cause more injury); do not mix deodorants with other chemicals unless directions specifically permit it (may cause unknown reactions); tomato juice (traditional remedy, considered ineffective).



Crusty Eyes: I have a dog with a constant problem of gunky, crusty eye lids, apparently an allergy. He's always wiping his face. Wiping with damp cloth daily isn't enough, and I didn't want to give him an internal allergy medicine. My vet gave me a sample of i-Lid n Lash. I think it's a new product, at least it was to her, and she thought it might do the trick. It really works great, once a day a wipe of a damp cloth, then a wipe with this gel on a cloth, and he finally has beautiful eyes.

Barbara Curtiss



For Your Information:



Identifying dog danger

Tug Gettling, director of NORTH UTAH VALLEY ANIMAL SERVICES presented some ways to recognize a dog that is likely to bite, and how to minimize the threat.

It is important to keep in mind that a dog may bite if it feels threatened, afraid or cornered; is protecting its food, toys, puppies or territory; is trained to be aggressive; or it sees a moving object such as a running person or a bicycle.

When you see a dog and you want to determine if it is dangerous, there are several things to look for. The absence or presence of any of these behaviors is not a guarantee that the dog will or will not bite; they are simply indicators of a possible threat and should be heeded with caution.

When a dog is staring directly at you, shows its teeth, or growls or barks directly at you this is a threat. Stay away.

When a dog is standing very still, the hair on the back of it's neck is standing up or it's ears are flattened to his head, he is angry or scared. Stay away.

When a dog's tail is held high in the air very still and stiff, he is angry. Stay away.

When a dog's tail is tucked between his legs, he is scared. Stay away.

If you are confronted by a threatening, dangerous dog, stand very still, avoid eye contact, keep your hands at your sides and wait for the dog to go away. Don't run away or scream, as this may entice the dog to chase and attack you. If you believe the dog is about to attack you, place something between you and the dog, such as a backpack or bicycle.

If the dog does attack you, "feed" the dog a book, backpack, purse, jacket or anything else, and slowly walk backward to get to a safe place. As hard as it may seem, do not run. Back away and look for an escape route or help from others. If you fall or are knocked to the ground, curl into a ball with your hands over your ears and your forearms protecting your throat, be very quiet or yell for help if someone is close by. Don't move until the dog goes away. If you are bitten, wash the wound with warm soap and water and seek medical attention if necessary. Report the incident immediately, write down the type, size, color and location of the animal

This information is much like insurance -- it is good to have, but you hope you never have to use it, but sometimes things go wrong. Being prepared for those times is the best way we can keep ourselves and our loved ones safe.



ATCA Health Report

The Airdale Terrier Club of America Health Study shows malignant cancer as the number one cause of death in the survey group -- 38% as opposed to 17% from kidney failure and 12% from old age, heart failure 10%. When compared with dogs as a whole, Airedales have a lower incidence of death from cancer through age 8 and then a higher incidence of cancer after that.

The most common malignant cancer in Airedales was melanoma (14.2% of all cancers and 4.0% of all Airedales) followed by adenocarcinoma, hemangiosarcoma, and lymphoma. All of these are aggressive tumors are life threatening. Overall, 25.6% of Airedales in the survey were reported to have developed cancer. This proportion is very similar to that observed for the Golden Retriever breed which is believed by many veterinarians to be at high risk of cancer. The most commonly reported site for cancer was the mammary gland (16.2%), the skin (14.2%), lymph nodes (8.1%), spleen (7.4%), and liver (6.1%).

Everyone should read this study when you get a chance ... a lot of interesting information.

<http://www.airedale.org/pdf/health.pdf>

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Dear “Other” Mom,

Just wanted to write and give you an update.

I love living in Connecticut. We drop Mom off at the train station each morning, then I hang my head out the window and cry and howl. Everyone on the platform thinks it’s funny – Mom has this look on her face that she doesn’t know who I am! I sort of do the same thing in the evening when we pick her up too! Dad and I go for a walk each morning through the town after we put my new Mom on the train. This keeps my nails short. I meet other dogs – some I like, but some I don’t and we are working on that. I meet this cute, little old lady who likes to pat me on the head and she tells me how sorry she is because she doesn’t have a treat for me. So Dad now carries a treat and slips it to her! I love food!

After the sun comes up I hit Dad up for another walk in the woods – my all time favorite. One of these days I will catch a deer or a turkey. If Dad could only run faster, we’d get them. Dad just keeps holding me back. I saw some horses over last weekend and I didn’t know what to think of them, so I decided to bark and hide behind Dad’s legs.

I did gain a little weight and had to go on a diet, but I’m back to the weight I was when I moved to Connecticut.

I’ve made progress in some areas and other demons sprung up. My biggest accomplishment is I no longer need to sleep in closets! I can even sleep in the middle of the floor (so long as no one moves!) I taught myself a new trick – I love food so much that Mom and Dad make me sit in the kitchen as they make my breakfast and dinner – well I’m so excited by the time they return (perhaps 4 or 5 seconds, but it seems like hours) that I sit up and beg and I try to give them both of my paws at the same time. Mom and Dad crack up laughing each time, but I get my food! I’m still terrorized of flashlights and cameras and anything new, Dad is taking a lot of time to sit down with me and let me sniff it – but I still hate flashlights and cameras!

I had a little accident about a month ago and hurt my leg. Mom thinks I did it when I jumped over the couch (yes, over the couch) – well, it was quicker than going around it! My leg hurt when I went to get in the car or when it was time for bed and I had to go up stairs, so I refused to step into the car and refused to go up stairs. My Doc couldn’t find anything wrong and I could walk on flat surfaces and still chase that darn chipmunk that lives in the stone wall. But, for a month I wouldn’t get in the car because I was afraid it would hurt. I hated staying home when Dad went out! For even a longer time I was

afraid to go up to the second floor and sleep with Mom and Dad and I cried when they left me each night. So, Mom put another big bed right at the foot of the stairs. I was happy then – unless Mom and Dad were going to jump out the second floor window, they had to step over me each morning, so I knew where they were. I'm all better now and I'm back to throwing toys around the house. Mom's is thrilled that I haven't tried to jump over the couch again.

Just wanted you to know that I was thinking of you and want to wish you a very happy Mother's day and thank you for letting Charlene and Ric adopt me.

With much love, Caleb Rohloff – CT



We love our new home, our new brother and sisters and our new "home people." We run and play in the yard. We have our squeaky toys in the house - all in all - the accommodations are perfect for us. Thank you for placing us in such a wonderful home. Love and Licks,

Sam and Max Mastroianni – NJ



"The best seat in the house, and my own Cat to play with! I've got this "New Home" thing wired."

Frodo Nelson

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We Get Letters



I just completed my read through *Starting Over*. I cried, as usual. Attached is a picture of Punkin taken in our yard here in Maryland. Do you believe she is now five years old (we adopted her at 9 months)? Richard took the picture a few days ago. Unfortunately her tail is down- she HATES to have her picture taken and can readily identify all kinds of technology with camera capability. She is happy, healthy and very much a great addition to our pack. She and Molly, our nine year old Airedale, are great pals and "the girls" as they are known are a joy. They keep Richard and I grounded and on our toes.

Back in October we had quite a scare with Molly- I was away on a business trip and during the night she became very ill- Richard got her to our local vet here in Easton- Dr. Elizabeth Bruce of Veterinary Medical Center- it turns out Molly had a mass on her spleen which was growing rapidly and she had experienced, among other symptoms, a severe loss in blood pressure. Dr. Bruce referred Richard to a surgical center in Annapolis as I tried to get flights from Oklahoma City back to Baltimore. The surgical center was very negative- 90% chance of cancer, \$6-10 thousand in chemo for three months etc. Richard's head was spinning- we had lost our previous Airedale Erica to cancer of the liver etc at 10 1/2 years old and it was too much of a *deja vu*. The thought of Molly going through what Erica had was devastating. Dr. Bruce encouraged surgery saying - very professionally - that as a healer she just felt the Molly could be in the lucky group. When I contacted our longstanding vet of 20 years Dr. Paul Lukenovich of Marlton, NJ Animal Hospital he concurred, after review of the now voluminous file, with Dr. Bruce. He referred me to Dr. Kenneth Sadanaga of Veterinary Referral Center, 340 Lancaster Avenue, Malvern, Pa. I called Dr. Sadanaga, got in promptly and within 45 minutes of examining Molly, Dr. Sadanaga performed a Splenectomy and removed the mass, a few days later his strong suspicion at the time of surgery that the mass was benign was confirmed via biopsy. I am sharing this because so many *Starting Over* readers probably have good access to this practice and our experience with Dr. Sadanaga was so positive that I wanted to share his name. Somehow, even if the outcome had been negative, I feel he would have done his absolute best for Molly. Molly's recovery has been nothing short of amazing. 10 days after surgery my only concern was stopping her from wrestling with Punkin. She looks better than ever and has the energy of a puppy. We are truly blessed. Our gift to Airedale Rescue in celebration of Molly and Punkin will come under separate cover. Merry Christmas and God Bless all the Rescue volunteers for the work you do.



Maureen and Richard Williamson - MD

Maureen and Richard Williamson - MD

Ed's Note: Airedales are healthy dogs, but an experience like Molly's is not "rare," and they seldom show symptoms before the situation is serious. Quick and decisive treatment is often the key to a good and happy outcome.

Hello, from the now expanded Farman Family. Lizzy is just wonderful, and we all just love her, she has settled in like she has always belonged here.

I have started with her obedience training, and she is catching on very well. She has had a few moments, but then that was to be expected, as she does not know the rules and she is just a baby yet. Lots of love and patience will take care of that.

She is quite the silly little clown, and our Max was always silly, but I think he is even more now. (We think he is trying to impress her.) Sometimes Max thinks he still needs to tell her he is the big dog, but she doesn't seem to mind; they run and race through the lawn until our chubby Max falls down from exhaustion. The way they're always playing, I don't think it will be long before he won't be chubby any more!

Thank you for all your help in getting her to us, and answering all our questions — and keeping her safe until we could adopt her.

She has a forever home with us.

The Farman's Jim, Judy, Max and Lizzy — PA

Just had to sit and give you a short note as to our Noodles - age 8 years.

I told Tim he was "his dog" since he moved in here in early Spring. We truly are so pleased - a large Airedale - 63 1/2 pounds. So intelligent if he talked our language - he would! He's still very active and strong.

Love, Betty Gehron - PA

We look forward to receiving *Starting Over* and reading the wonderful stories about the Airedales who find homes. We have been without an Airedale for a year now and just lost our 15 year old Bischon. If you come across an Airedale who LOVES being with other dogs, please keep us in mind.

Sincerely, Nancy and Gayle - PA



We Get Letters



Today I received the copy of Starting Over and the lovely Christmas card you sent! Nice surprise! I read Starting Over from cover to cover immediately. I ADORED the story of Tisdale Borland in NYC! That is one WONDERFUL Airedale!

We are doing fine in the Northeast. We have had a lot of snow already. Usually it does not come this early. We are expecting a Nor'easter tomorrow. Hoping for snow, not ice as they say MIGHT happen along the Coast.

Sadie is still doing wonderfully and is Queen of the Home. She is alpha dog and lets MacDuff know it in a very gentle way from time to time. I can't believe that it is almost four years that we have her now. She is such a blessing! From time to time, we have to put her on a bit of a diet. She tends to gain weight in the winter since she doesn't run as much then. Otherwise, she is an extremely healthy dog.

MacDuff (from NEAR) is also doing extremely well. He is a bouncy boy who loves to play. I have even found one of his toys up on the mantle over the woodstove where he tossed it one day. We love him dearly and are so thankful he came to us! At times, he loves to tease Sadie and she loves to respond. With our big fenced in area of the yard, they can bounce around for hours.

As you know, we live with the boundary of our property to one of the boundaries of Acadia National Park, so the areas and opportunities for good walks are endless. Both darlings can hardly contain themselves when the leashes come out and they know they are going.

We have deer that come onto the property outside the fenced area, especially at this time of the year. Sadie and MacDuff still bark once in a while at them, but they are tiring of it because the deer have gotten used to our babies and do not run away. It seems to no longer be a game for Sadie and "Duff" (as we sometimes call him.)

MacDuff is a big boy and has filled out to 75 lbs. He really looks good. I have a feeling he may have even been a bit younger than we thought when we got him. He seemed to have to fill out a bit before he evened out on his weight. Our vet said both dogs are good weight and size right now. He said they are both extremely healthy as well. That makes me SOOOOOOO happy!

One event we had a couple of months ago was that MacDuff met a porcupine in the corner of our yard in the early hours of a Sunday morning. We ended up at the vet's office for the removal of about 14 quills. He had to have a shot to make him sleep so they could be removed. Immediately afterwards he was fine, but we gave him some antibiotics because the vet said we should be careful of infection especially since they were mostly in the soft part of his nose. He is fine now and no scarring! That was the one and only time we have ever seen a porcupine on the property. I hope it is the last!

SO, from Sadie, MacDuff, Alan and I - MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR! We hope all is well with you and your families and you have a Blessed Holiday Season! Kisses, Paw Shakes and Hugs from all of us.

Marie, Alan, Sadie and MacDuff Bartsch — ME

Lily is doing well. Ellis is happy to have her here. She loves going for walks and is very well behaved. She is happy to meet neighbors and their dogs. We are enjoying her as a member of our family.

Lily seems to be coming along fine. She and Ellis play together at times. You can tell they like each other. They sleep side by side on their own pads in the kitchen or Lily likes to stretch out on the floor in the family room, and Ellis likes the ottoman. They are both good walkers and we take them together for two blocks before Bill goes to work in the morning then a longer walk after dinner. She has enjoyed meeting all the dogs and people in our neighborhood.

Of course she is still fearful and will run out of the room sometimes. She had only been drinking out of the water bowl outside until last night while we were having dinner she walked over to the bowl in the kitchen for a drink. Every day she seems more relaxed.

Lily takes beautiful pictures and is still posing after I finish. It is hard to get Ellis still enough for a good shot.



Take care Judy Taylor — PA

Thought you might enjoy seeing Lucas (and Sam) opening presents on Christmas Eve. Wish you could have joined us for the festivities!

Love, Linda





We Get Letters



Here is "Georgie" with Grace. She named him after Curious George after he had walked around and around the downstairs exploring every corner! All of us are already smitten with him and Grace is truly over the moon! Woody the lab is being very patient and tolerant -- Georgie loves Woody and played with him a lot tonight, climbing on him and pawing at him. Georgie is asleep in his crate now and I'm on standby for the overnight potty break.

Many, many thanks to Cindy for providing him with such a loving home and training him so nicely to this point. The collar, leash, toys, books, instructions, etc. were a tremendous gift of accessories to send with him. And thanks so much to Melinda for pulling me into the wonderful world of Airedales and their loving owners upon my first email inquiry. I have been so pleased and impressed with the people and processes of this wonderful Airedale Rescue mission. It all fell into place so nicely -- this pup truly is a blessing to our family.

We are just absolutely loving Georgie -- Grace and I keep saying he is the cutest dog ever! Obedience class is going well...he's learning to obey and Grace is good about practicing commands with him. He and Woody are doing much better together. Woody is now getting into the rough play, instead of standing there and being irritated by it like he was at first. It means more exercise for both of them and great companionship. They even have occasional brief cozy-up moments -- before Georgie quickly moves on to the next thing!

Thank you for loving and "priming" him in his early weeks to be such a wonderful dog. He is adding so much to our daily lives. I do understand why you love this breed

Melissa Saunders - VA

Well, Lance is adjusting well. Cindy groomed him nicely, although she said he did not sit well for the event. We tried him on a walk and he did quite well without pulling. Phoebe has let him know his place already. I got him to heel and sit and did a little bit of obedience with him today. I think he's worn out and he has been sleeping on the rug in my study for the last 45 minutes while I work.

It's great to have him here. Thank you so much!

Paula Belch - PA

Ajax is doing great. He loves sleeping in my bed. Has checked out every drawer and counter! He is even starting to like going out in the yard to play and snoop around. I am including a picture of his second favorite sleeping spot. Thank you for all you did for him and especially for giving him to me. He really is a fun dog.

Marion Kaufmann - PA

Just wanted you to know that our Winston, at 12 years, is very happy and healthy. We love him so much and oh - he's still the boss! Some things never change.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy new Year.

Pete and Liz Kametz - PA

Merry Christmas to you and all the Airedales. My house is really quiet. I miss Annie and Aaron so much, but by Springtime I'm planning to give you a call.

love, Shirley McGarvey - PA



We want you to know that at a year and a half, Skylar is doing great. She had two hip surgeries over the summer, but after a long recovery, she is now running again and keeping up with Finley. She can go for walks with us pain free and doesn't need to be driven home, which happened when she was a puppy.

She's loving life and the freedom of her yard. (If you remember, she was raised in a chicken coop with her siblings.) She's quite an affectionate girl and her tail is ALWAYS wagging. We love her SO much!! Thanks for the tremendous work you do and all our best to you and the other volunteers.

Have a wonderful Holiday -

the Ristuccia Family: Paula, Henry, Annie, Paul, Finley and Skylar., NJ



We Get Letters



Three's Company...

No it's not Jack, Chrissy and Janet...but Dugan, Piper and Abbey! We've been an Airedale house since 1980 but this is the first time we have 3 under one roof. Each one has their own unique personality and story...

Piper was saved through rescue at the age of 4 1/2 months in Wilkes-Barre, PA. She came to us a very bitey pup, so much that we had toys and balls everywhere to put in her mouth instead of her biting. She is now 2 and whenever someone comes to the door, she runs and grabs a ball and parades around them with the ball. She has mellowed out nicely!

Abbey was adopted at the age of 2 1/2 months. She started out in Michigan, flew to New Jersey and then came to us through rescue. That's a lot of traveling for a puppy! She is our most vocal of the three and was the alpha over Piper until Dugan arrived...

We decided this past fall to help Airedale Rescue and Adoption of the Delaware Valley by fostering a male. We picked him up the day after Thanksgiving and by the end of the weekend I knew he wasn't leaving even though I kept saying to my family, "we are fostering." My husband Dave said to me "you can put a bow on him for my Christmas present," and we did! Dugan started out in Tennessee, traveled to New Jersey and ended up in Bethlehem. He just turned 1 year old. He quickly showed Abbey who is in charge and he definitely is our hunter. He loves the outdoors and makes sure the perimeter of our yard is constantly guarded! He is wherever we are and if we are sitting, he makes sure he lays down over our feet.

By the way, we also have 2 cats who were adopted and yes, everyone gets along beautifully.

Maria and Dave, Dugan, Piper and Abbey Chismar - PA

I've not taken any more recent pictures of Little One since I groomed her, but she is remaining small, and surprisingly delicate. She almost looks like a welsh. Everything considered, she is a wonderful dog. She has a wonderful temperament, considering that she is a puppy, and by comparison, she has done negligible damage. She does like to rip up paper, but if I catch her with paper in her mouth, I call her, tell her "come to mommy," and she brings me the paper or drops it. I couldn't ask for a better addition to the family.

She still guts all of Baby's stuffed animals...now Baby walks around with her last whole animal almost 24/7. Little One's new tactic, therefore, is to play tug of war trying to get it away from Baby. So far with my intervention, Baby still has one whole animal.

I wish I had a video because when she goes out to play in the yard, she will pick up a large leaf, toss it about, and play with it endlessly...dashing about the yard, leaping and jumping...she's beautiful!

Judy Best - NJ

Just wanted to let you know that Charlie is one of a kind and he is loved with all our hearts-almost as much as he loves us. Thank you for him!

Carol and Bob LaSalle - NJ

I haven't forgotten you. I do enjoy receiving "Starting Over" and reading about all those beautiful Airedales... I still miss mine.

Love, Elaine Barnes - PA

This was our first Christmas with Caleb. Thank you for making our family complete. He continues to thrive and trust more each day. With much love,

Charlene, Ric and Caleb Rohloff

Lucy is just great - Yikes, sometimes SHE instigates play time with Basil, which is pretty funny, considering her age. You'd think she'd want him to take a hike and leave her alone. Glad we kept her bed, too: she uses it often. Take good care,

Nancy Chiara - PA



The children on Mom's bed... They do move over and make room for me. Molly's been with me a year now... Certainly a different dog... Walks on a loose lead, follows basic commands, has the run of the house and yard. Quite protective, adores her Mom...

She and Alex are inseparable. She's wonderful with children, plays politely and gently with my grandchildren, who adore her and Alex. She pads around the house on my heels always by my side. She is a wonderful dog and companion.

Barbara Osgood - WV



We Get Letters



Sometimes, you just can't believe that you can be that lucky. Zoe has been here less than two weeks and a better friend and companion Robin and I could not have hoped for (save for our beloved Quepos). She is sweet tempered, fun loving, affectionate, lovely (we agree the ears give her extra personality) and still 100% Airedale (you of all people know what I mean and that it is a high compliment).

A single moment captures it best. I was on my hands and knees Sunday night in the hall, packing my suitcase for my next trip out of town. Miss Zoe stealthily sneaks up behind me and then jumps on my back. Time for Zoe to show that she is the alpha Airedale in this home? To my astonishment, she starts giddily licking my head, then jumps off and runs downstairs. I know the training books would say I should sternly correct her, but all I could do was laugh and hug her because it was classic comic Airedale and it made both of us happy.

Aside from the "made for Robin and Chris Colman" label on Zoe, you were also correct that she would be a champion catcher of cheddar cheese goldfish. I took her out for her first training session today. She caught the first six I threw her today, nearly equaling Quepos' record of 8 in a row, with several acrobatic catches in mid air. Robin and I expect the New York Yankees to be signing her up for center field soon.

We have had our first invisible fence training session, and she works with it very well. We have three more sessions and we think Zoe will be fine and ready to enjoy her new yard by next week. We accidentally missed a vet appointment, but will have a base-line examination next week at the latest.

Miss Zoe thanks you for her new home! Fran thanks you for the tree Airedale and sends her greetings. Zoe and Daisy met last weekend... we'll see how Miss Zoe does over time with other dogs.

Thank you again for all the wonderful work you do.

Chris and Robin Colman - NJ

Please accept this donation in honor of our beloved rescued Airedales, Prinny (age 9) and Oscar (age 7) and our elder statesman, Barkley Cole (AKA Barkey) who is 13.

Prinny continues to be our gentle little girl. She loves to lay with her stuffed animals (her "babies"). She is so sweet and loving; she loves nothing more than sitting with us and having her head stroked. She could sit like that all day!

Oscar continues to be a rambunctious clown. He is always doing such funny things. That is, when he's not getting into mischief! He loves sleeping on our bed and "spooning" us.

Barkley has slowed down considerably. His quality of life is still very good and we thank God for that. Barkley's favorite treat in the whole world is licking a washcloth soaked in cold water and smeared with soft soap! He thinks this is better than any bone or squeaky toy he could get!

We can't thank you enough for all the work you do. You are true angels sent from heaven. If we had more room, we would have many more Airedale "children" in our home. The happiness and joy they bring to us far outweighs the messiness of our home - due to scattered dog toys, blankets and doggie dander! Bless you [all] and keep you safe for the coming year....

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

Just a little update on Brandy. She isn't shy at all. She rules Teddy completely and thinks she rules us. Brandy is Miss Outside and Teddy is now Mr. Inside. Brandy was so proud when she killed her first squirrel. She had it in her mouth as she pranced about the yard. She is the most affectionate and is in our laps if we sit down. She still acts like a puppy and will probably continue for another year or two. We love her!

Sarah and Don Braun & Teddy and Brandy - NJ

I was very moved by the many stories of families who were so happy to adopt a rescued Airedale - and the ones who have lost their pets - in "Starting Over."

We also went through a terrible time when we lost Murphy in June 2006. He was 14 years, 2 months and 10 days old. We both missed coming to see you and the animals when it was time to groom Murphy.

I am sending a donation to Airedale Rescue for all these great animals and in memory of Murphy. -

PS - Bugsy [Fineran] was the greatest dog I ever met!

Lots of love, Joanne Wentz - PA

I am enclosing a check for Airedale Rescue. Is this tax deductible? [It is. - Ed.]

I enjoy reading "Starting Over." I went into a new bank and the teller had a picture of an Airedale - "Curly" - on her desk. I knew I was in the right place.

Helen Sholomskas - PA

Our canine population increased this year with the arrival of 12-year-old Maggie, our latest rescued Airedale. She's full of life and has become the center of the household. Using a Golden Compass reference, Chuck thinks Miss Maggie may just be his "demon." She's a doll, though definitely the dowager by her demeanor on occasion. We've enhanced her name to be Miss Margaret P. Airedale ("P" standing for Pretty-Girl-With-Little-Feet).

We thank Airedale Rescue for bringing her into our lives [and our hearts].

Bill and Chuck - NJ



We Get Letters



Hope all is well with you! Thought you'd like to know that Sparky has started "tutoring" reading at a new elementary school last week. The kids love him! And he loves the children. Here are a couple of pictures of him "at work."



This little boy started kindergarten in September speaking NO English! He was very shy to try to speak and read. So, he didn't do too much actual reading to Sparky but he enjoyed showing him the pictures in his book. So cute!

Best to you and everyone at Airedale Rescue. This boy continues to amaze me with his wonderful disposition and abilities. Thank you so much!

Susan Bennett

I know you place many dogs and you probably don't remember us. [We do. - Ed.] I was the one with the Scottie collection in Morristown. It's now expanded to Scottie - Airedale antiques. Every other year our Christmas Card is an Airedale.

I'm enclosing a picture of Millie (who took to her name instantly). She's now 10 years - and we got her at 10 months. Not a grey hair and is active as ever!!

Last year we lost our Scottie Robbie and adopted Travis, a very large Scottie (36 pounds!). Millie is truly enjoying being top dog after all these years. and never misses an opportunity to exert her alpha dog status.

I always get comments on how beautiful her marking are and how affectionate she is - truly as affectionate as our Goldens were. I never miss an opportunity to tell people about rescue.

Thanks so much for Millie - she's made these last 10 years a happy adventure every day. Sincerely,

Kathy, Michael, Millie and Travis - NJ

Tisdale is sleeping off a visit from my two grandchildren. Now all she wants for Christmas is a 12 year old boy!

She had had a busy year and will write to you about it when she can get time at the computer. It's snowing here, so first a romp in those wonderful flakes.

Best, Virginia and Tisdale - NYC

Thought I'd give you an update on Gretta.

I took her to the vet for a check-up. She has gained 12 pounds since I adopted her. I insisted on a complete blood evaluation and she is in tip top health.

I continue to walk her 1 1/2 to 2 hours daily. She loves her walks. I must play with her each day in the back yard with her toys. She loves her toys (stuffed, with squeakers) and her bones.

She is a very high energy dog who craves attention throughout the day. I continue to work with her to refine her manners. However, she is the love of our life and a blessing to us,

Ann and Gretta - PA

Thank goodness you're all able to keep up the good works for Airedale Rescue.

Tiggy is ten and a half now and showing her age as am I, but we're both doing pretty well. She has saved my sanity!

We think of you often and all the needy Airedales - and hope all is well.

Jackie and Tiggy Johns - PA

This to let you know that all is going well with "The Big Guy". He enjoys his walks each day and just being in the back yard snoozing or romping with several of his pals from the



neighborhood. He continues to be the easy going guy he was when we first got him. He's great with all other dogs and the kids on the block.

Again, thank you all for bringing Casey into our lives.

Howard Levy - PA

Received the newsletters last week. Ray and I are really starting to miss having a dog but our lives are even more unsettled than there were. He has a job now involving overnight stays in DC most every week. I am still care giving in MD one or two weeks a month and come Feb, Robin will probably be off to University in Australia. So, we don't have a good routine [to have a dog].

I'd like to foster, but taking a dog to my Mom's is not a good idea - busy road, no fence, a cat, unsteady human, etc. etc. But - please keep me in mind for anything else I could do in the MD, DE, S. Jersey area if you need transport pickups, visits to shelters, anything. I just read the 911 newsletter last night and there are a lot of things on the volunteer needs page that I could do if you need me.

Marianne - MD

Here in this house

By Laura Cathleen Patterson

Here in this house...

I will never know the loneliness I hear in the barks of the other dogs 'out there.'
I can sleep soundly, assured that when I wake my world will not have changed.
I will never know hunger, or the fear of not knowing if I'll eat.
I will not shiver in the cold, or grow weary from the heat.
I will feel the sun's heat, and the rain's coolness,
and be allowed to smell all that can reach my nose.
My fur will shine, and never be dirty or matted.

Here in this house...

There will be an effort to communicate with me on my level.
I will be talked to and, even if I don't understand,
I can enjoy the warmth of the words.
I will be given a name so that I may know who I am among many.
My name will be used in joy, and I will love the sound of it!

Here in this house...

I will never be a substitute for anything I am not.
I will never be used to improve peoples' images of themselves.
I will be loved because I am who I am, not someone's idea of who I should be.
I will never suffer for someones anger, impatience, or stupidity.
I will be taught all the things I need to know to be loved by all.
If I do not learn my lessons well, they will look to my teacher for blame.

Here in this house...

I can trust arms that hold, hands that touch...
knowing that, no matter what they do, they do it for the good of me.
If I am ill, I will be doctored.
If scared, I will be calmed.
If sad, I will be cheered.
No matter what I look like, I will be considered beautiful and known to be of value.
I will never be cast out because I am too old, too ill, too unruly, or not cute enough.
My life is a responsibility, and not an afterthought.
I will learn that humans can almost, sometimes, be as kind and as fair as dogs.

Here in this house...

I will belong.
I will be home

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Contact at mychihuahuas@hotmail.com*