

## Harry's Holiday Journey



Like a lot of the dogs that have been rescued, Harry has started his journey to a new and improved life. Harry came from a hoarding situation, living all of his 6 years in horrible conditions in a crate. He never knew the touch of loving hands and a soft voice calling his name, just the long days of sitting in a crate. He lived a life sentence for doing nothing but being born. When he arrived at the high kill shelter in WV he was passing stones/pebbles from eating what was available to him which were stones and pebbles. He is underweight but that will

change in the months to come. He has food, treats and supplements to get him to a healthy weight. The one thing we cannot give him so easily is his eye site back. He is totally blind. He has cataracts (which can be fixed but will be costly we are looking at 4-5,000 dollars unless we can get an ophthalmologist to donate his services or at least give us a huge deduction. You would not know he cannot see once he gets accustomed to his surroundings. At first he paced around the house like something was wrong, but it was his way of checking everything out, all the turn, furniture and obstacles. I have never met a more laid back, loving dog! He listens for his name and comes when called. He will bark when he wants his food or water by the "dog" cabinet. He likes to go outside with you and will bark if you go out without him. But that is about the only time you will hear him. He even got a toy from the toy box and played for the first time. I cried when I saw how happy he was, just like a little kid at Christmas! I can't wait for his first real Christmas!!! He loves the other 4 legged animals in the house that go "meow"! I don't think he knows what they are but boy does his tail wag when he hears them enter the room! He goes right to them like he's saying "Hi! I'm Harry who are you?" Harry has had a hard life but that's in the past. He has a crate that sits in the living room so he can go when he chooses but the door is always open and he can wander around all he wants. The crate is his safety spot but he has been spending a lot of time on the various dog beds and just lying on the carpet. I know most people would have given up on him but when you look in his eyes and see the sadness of his life he is a gift to show how to overcome the obstacles in life no matter 2 legged or 4 legged. We can all learn from our canine friends. Harry is up for adoption and whoever adopts him will definitely receive more than they have to give when it comes to this special guy!

We would like to give Harry his site back so we are asking everyone to reach out to their vets, get a name of a surgeon that works on eyes and call them and see if they would be willing to donate their services to Harry! We will also be collecting funds to do Harry's eyes as soon as possible. Harry deserves to see the sun and the snow and maybe even a

Christmas Tree!!!



### SPECIAL DATES— CHECK OUR SITE FOR EVENTS ANYTIME!

- ◆ December 2nd—  
Elizabethtown Christmas Parade would LOVE to have adopters walk in the parade with us!!!!
- ◆ December 4th—BASKET BINGO!!!! Our biggest fundraiser of the year!!!!
- ◆ December 17th—  
Professional Puppy Pics at Tractor Supply in Mount Joy 10-2pm



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>ThunderShirts</i>	2
<i>Halloween Pics</i>	2
<i>Jacobs Journey</i>	3
<i>Tinks Journey</i>	3
<i>Gratitude and Joy</i>	4
<i>Foster Photo's</i>	4
<i>Precious Has Left</i>	5
<i>Sweaters Thank You</i>	5
<i>Dog Tags &amp; Busy Dog</i>	6
<i>Our Groomers</i>	7
<i>Christmas</i>	8

## Training Tip—Thundershirt



If your dog is fat  
you are not getting  
enough exercise!  
-unknown

This is the time of the year for family and friends to bombard your house. Lots of food, fun and excitement. Also the time of the year that stress hits all of our family members, including your pets. I do recommend the Thundershirt as a tool to good behavior. There are countless things that you can do without the shirt...but it sure does help tremendously. You should always take your dog on a walk or exercise him before guest arrive. This will eliminate stress from both you and the pooch. Also practice the greeting ritual throughout the day by walking to the door and opening it while your dog is calmly under control. This will set the rules for the impending arrival. As I mentioned before, the Thundershirt can be a very useful tool. I completely endorse it for anxious dogs and other behavioral issues. the method of the shirt is based on the pressure of a hug that stimulates the brain and thus produces calming endorphins in the brain. Hence the reason why hugs are so soothing. I always suggest that you create a positive association with the shirt for the first time by feeding your dog directly on the shirt. This will make the shirt easier to put on a dog that is skeptical of his new outfit. I also work with the unwanted behavior with the shirt on first using positive enforcement like petting or feeding small treats for the good behavior. Don't expect to put on the shirt and life is all good. Its not a magic wand...it's a tool to use to help you achieve desired behaviors. The shirt is completely safe for him to wear for hours. My Samoyed wore his an entire evening and slept the whole time. I did test the Thundershirt on my overly social, 2 year old Samoyed, on Halloween. It worked like a charm. He sat and watched every child snag there goodies and run with excitement down the driveway without one once excitement himself. Yes, he just sat and watched them! If you do purchase the shirt and want some assistance, I am a phone call away or email me.

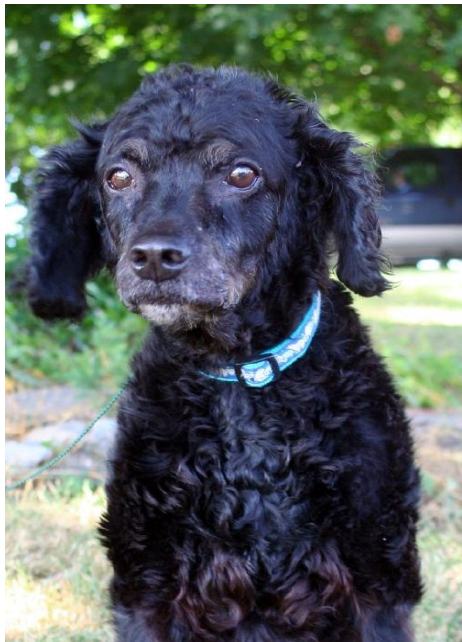
Paula Hess, Behaviorist—717-405-1683

*Halloween did not pass without notice :-)*





## Jacob's Journey



Jacob came to us months ago. He was taken from a bad situation in Palmyra and placed at the York SPCA. They called Animal House in Camp Hill which deals with behavior problem dogs. Animal House asked us if we would take Jacob and one look into his eyes and we couldn't say no. Jacob had very little hair and was not in very good condition when he arrived at Animal House. They found he had a thyroid problem so we took him and with his daily medication he started to look much better but the love from the Merkey's made him bloom! He became a joyful dog taking great fun in chasing birds! He would spend hours chasing birds and flies yep flies in fact anything with wings entertained Jacob. Jacob was 10 years old so there was little hope that Jacob would ever be adopted with his

age and having a medical condition. Our hearts were blessed this week to meet George & Gloria Hilsinger who saw passed Jacob's age and medical condition and fell in love with him! Jacob now cuddles on the couch and just enjoys his family. Jacob's Christmas wish was granted and he now has his own FOREVER FAMILY! Thanks so much George & Gloria!

## Tinks Journey

Sorry for the photo quality but this is what we have at this time. We were called last week while we were doing Santa pics from our contact at the high kill shelter. She said "we have a little Shih Tzu in pretty bad shape. She has very little fur and all her teeth are literally rotting in her mouth could you please save her? I looked at Colleen & Wendy my shih tzu fosters and relayed the message. Without hesitation they said "bring her, one of us will make room" and hence Tinks is working on getting well enough to travel. Little did I know until the next day when our pull person called that she had been standing in the vet's office and if we had said no they were going to euthanize poor Tinks! What a save Wendy & Colleen!!! Tinks has kennel cough right now but the redness in her skin is settling down with medicated baths. When she is well enough to travel she will come to 2nd Chance and have a warm bed, full tummy and all the loving she wants!!! Won't you consider opening your heart and home to a little furry one that needs a place to sleep??? I would love to have a data base of fosters who are willing to take certain breeds. You don't have to do one a month you could do one a year. Any life saved is WORTH IT!!



Dogs are not  
our whole life,  
but they make  
our lives whole,

Roger Caras





## *Holiday's a Time for Gratitude and Joy!*

As foster dogs we have all had very different experiences in our short or long lives. Some of us have been abandoned, abused, or starved. We may have been thrown out of a moving vehicle or over the shelter fence after hours, hit by a car after wandering as a stray for weeks.... Some of us have been left in abandoned houses to fend for ourselves with no food or water. Some our owners just drop us at the shelter because we're no longer a puppy, we have too much energy, grew too big or someone is allergic. They may be moving and we can't go along, our master has to go to a nursing home or is no longer able to care for us, Or financially it may have become impossible to care for us any longer.

At this special time of year we want to thank our foster moms and dads, all those who volunteer their time and money to make 2<sup>nd</sup>Chance4LifeRescue possible. And especially all those families who have adopted 2ndChance dogs and know the joy of sharing their lives with a rescue dog. We'll pay you back many times over with our love. Through the patience, love and care of these special people we've learned to trust again and enjoy life. Without knowing our stories we were taken into their homes and welcomed with open arms. They spent the time needed with each of us to know if we liked crunchy bones, rawhides, or soft treats. Whether we like to chase Frisbees or balls. What's more fun stuffed toys or squeakies. Do we like hugs or pats. Because we are all different it takes time to really know us ----- and you took the time. For sharing the LOVE we THANK YOU! May you all share the joy this holiday season.

We give dogs time we

can spare, space we

can spare and love we

can spare. In return

dogs give us their all.

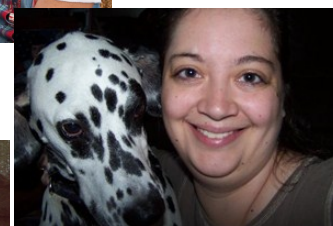
It's the best deal man

has ever made!

M. Acklam

The 150+ dogs fostered and adopted by  
2ndChance4LifeRescue  
2010-2011

written by Sharon Longenecker





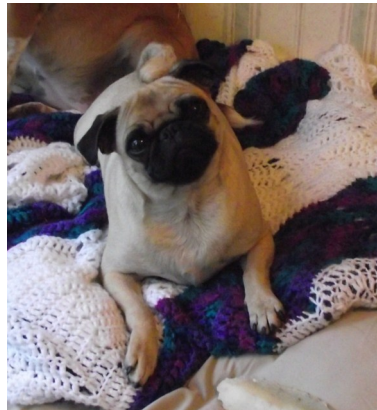
## *Precious Has Left a Paw Print on my Heart!*

Precious came into my life on May 7th. She walked or should I say waddled through the door very very pregnant! On May 17th I had the honor of helping her bring 5 little precious puppies into the world in my bedroom. Precious was a puppy herself at only approx. 1 year of age and here she was going through labor. I am positive that Precious would have been just as happy to be outside playing with all the other dogs! It is sooooo important to spay/neuter. Precious did a great job and she was a good mommy nursing her pups although you knew she just wanted you to open the bathroom door so she could run downstairs and rough house with her friends. As I looked at the precious puppies I couldn't help feeling sad knowing that 5 wonderful, displaced dogs would not get their forever home because instead someone would choose "the cute puppy" They are here and we love them and value them but wouldn't it have been wonderful to give 5 already existing dogs a chance to breathe another year???

Precious found her forever home this week. It was so rewarding to see her walk out the door and jump in her new car and not even look back! She has a wonderful Mommy & Grandma & Grandpa who absolutely adore her and a pug brother her age named Buster! When the dogs find their forever family it like they just know and they are so ready to go. Other had come to visit with Precious and she never wanted to stay with them. Her family came and she didn't want to leave them!

Fostering is such a wonderful experience. It is a way of making a difference in the world not only for the dogs but for the adopting families! A piece of my heart goes with each dog but a piece of them stays with me and the friends I have made are priceless!!!

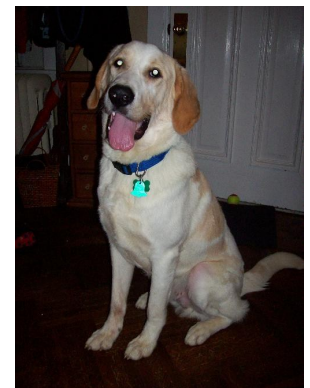
Lynn Leach, Director of 2nd Chance



My goal in life is to  
be as good of a  
person as my dog  
already thinks I am!!

## *Sweaters-Thank You All !!!*

Last month I placed a plea for sweaters for the smaller dogs and my heart was blessed once again with the response from our 2nd Chance Family!!!! Thanks to all of you are little dogs and older dogs are all sporting wonderful warm, comfy sweaters and shirts!!!! Toby shakes a lot and gets cold very easily. He has a handsome blue sweater with yellow paw prints that he just loves and when I take it off to wash it I swear he looks at me like "Mom, don't take my sweater I'm going to be cold!" I always tell him I will get it back on him just as soon as I can! Penelopee has a little shirt with a poof ball on the hood that all the other dogs try to get at but she struts around like she's a princess which come to think of it she is :-). Ellie had a beautiful baby pink sweater that fit her just right and she seemed to love so thank you all for helping us keep the little ones warm!



## *What Do I Need to Know About Dog ID Tags?*



Identification tags save lives! If your pet is lost, the person who finds your dog will have a way to contact you and return your pet. If your pet is picked up by an animal control officer and transported to a kill shelter, you could be saving your dogs life!

### **My Dog Already Has 2 Tags on His Collar Why Do I Need an ID Tag?**

By PA Law your dog must wear his rabies tag and his county license. Your ownership can be traced through these tags also, BUT only during regular business hours of your vet or government. These tags are required to be on your pet at all times by PA Dog Law. Failure to wear these tags consistently can result in a fine.

### **Where Can I get a Dog Tag and What Information Should Be on It?**

At a local pet store or on the internet. A current cell phone number (or other number that you can be reached at 24 hours a day/7 days a week) is the minimal information necessary on a tag. Your current address is always helpful.

ONLY USE ONE SIDE OF THE TAG for all information! Information on both sides could be missed as most tags only engrave on one side.

### **If I Choose a Metal Tag, Will it Last My Dogs Lifetime, and Will it Frighten My Dog?**

Put clear mailing tape over the tag to keep the engraving from wearing flat, and the tags from making excessive noise that will frighten your dog.

**PUT REFLECTIVE TAPE ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THE TAGS SO YOUR DOG CAN BE SEEN BY CARS OR FLASHLIGHTS AT NIGHT.**

Article by Jan Zarick—Lost Dog Coordinator

A dog is the only  
thing on earth  
that loves you  
more than he  
loves himself!

## *A BUSY DOG DOES NOT GET IN TROUBLE!*

All to many times we get a phone call saying "my dog is getting into everything!" This happens when you have a dog that isn't getting enough exercise and play time. If you want a well behaved dog be consistent. A walk every day, plenty of chew bones (NOT rawhides! They do not digest well so one every once in awhile is fine but not daily). Teach your dog tricks it gives their brain something to focus on and again keeps them busy. Dogs are pack animals so most prefer the company of another little furry one so you may want to consider a friend for your little one. When you are



at work all day the house can be very lonely. If your dog is being left home alone please make sure to put the trash can where the dog cannot get at it, close bathrooms doors. Many vet trips could be eliminated if dog owners would follow these simple steps. Unfortunately dogs love garbage and female hygiene products!



## *Our Groomer's Are Beauty Makers!!!!*

I just have to put a HUGE Thank You out to our 2 groomers that have opened their business's to our dogs at a minutes notice if necessary!!!! If we had to leave our dogs look the way they do sometimes when they come to us, most people would not see past "The Mess" Even some of our fosters do not get sent the "initial dog photo's" because I know I would get ewwww I don't want that one!!! LOL These 2 ladies have done miracles with our dogs and do not charge us a dime!!!!

If you are looking for a groomer I strongly recommend them! Not only do they do fantastic work but they LOVE rescue dogs and do soooo much for them! Can you imagine having your hair just full of knots and every time you move it just feels like someone is pulling your hair??? Well we have many dogs who have experienced just that.



Our groomer say PLEASE brush your dog often to keep the mats to a minimum and over bathing can cause more harm than good to sensitive skin. Denise says that often when she puts a dog in the tub to wash them they still have soap from the last time their owners gave them a bath!!! You have to be careful to get all the soap out of your dogs coat!!! Bathing to often takes out the natural oils that a dogs coat needs, so do not bathe too often! 3 Tbsp. of water can drown a dog so PLEASE watch the water you get in your dogs face. If you question how often your dog should be bathed check with your groomer! Nails need cut on a consistent basis or the quick gets too long! The fur in between the paw pads needs to be cut out by the groomer so walking is not painful and bacteria does not grow with the moisture of wet fur between the pads. PLEASE make sure your groomer is actually taking the hair out of your little ones ears it should NOT be there! Do NOT ever use store shelf brand Flea Shampoo it can actually be VERY dangerous to a lot of dogs!!! I can tell you from personal experience that last Christmas Eve we had a huge scare with Samantha because I thought I would bathe her with Hartz Flea Treatment. She had a severe allergic reaction and when I rushed to the computer to see what to do I was horrified to see how many people had actually lost their dogs due to the use of this product!!!! We called the vet immediately!!!!

These women are true professionals and animal lovers! Your "Best Friend" will not be treated like they are part of an assembly line but given personal love and attention so the grooming experience is not traumatic!

Denise Archer—578 Randolph Drive, Lancaster, PA 717-572-7525

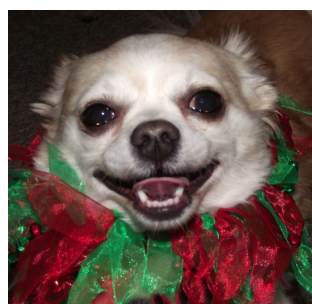
Kathy Bowman—244 West Front Street, Marietta, PA 717-426-4326



The reason dogs  
have so many  
friends is because  
they wag their tail  
and not their tongue

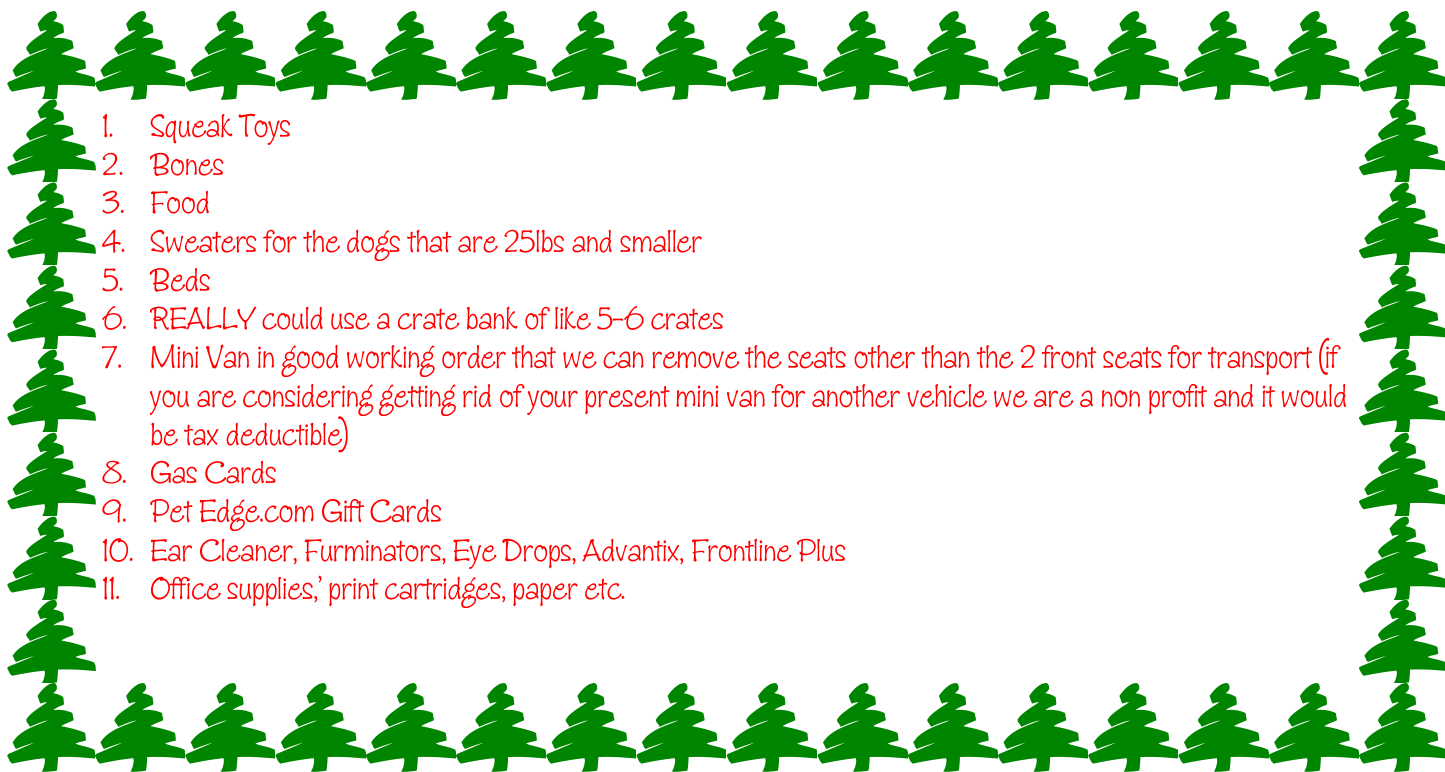


# Happy Holidays!!!





## Christmas Wish List !!!!!



1. Squeak Toys
2. Bones
3. Food
4. Sweaters for the dogs that are 25lbs and smaller
5. Beds
6. REALLY could use a crate bank of like 5-6 crates
7. Mini Van in good working order that we can remove the seats other than the 2 front seats for transport (if you are considering getting rid of your present mini van for another vehicle we are a non profit and it would be tax deductible)
8. Gas Cards
9. Pet Edge.com Gift Cards
10. Ear Cleaner, Furminators, Eye Drops, Advantix, Frontline Plus
11. Office supplies, print cartridges, paper etc.

## Collars 4 Christmas!!!

Our wonderful "Pull Person" in WV named Debbie is about to retire from her "real job" That's awesome because she will have more time to spend saving the wonderful animals of Parkersburg !!! I did not know until this week that Debbie personally went and purchased all the dogs collars for the dogs that come on transport to the rescues!!! That had to cost her a couple hundred dollars a month!!!! I have told her that we will start supplying collars for our dogs so I would like to put a plea out to all to collect collars for us! When I get a box full I will ship them to Debbie or maybe I will go visit the shelter. I LOVE making a trip to WV to visit the girls who make the shelter work and all the dogs!!! So for the month of December we are going to see how many collars we can collect!!!! Please make a stocking for 2nd Chance and ask your friends to fill it with collars! I have some people that are throwing Christmas Parties and they are asking for small gifts for 2nd Chance how WONDERFUL is that! This season I have a smile on my face not because of the gifts I will receive but because of the wonderful gift of love these rescue dogs have given me all year long!

Dear Santa,

We are still looking for a mini van or a cargo van to be donated for Transports! If you know of someone that might be able to "hook us up" with a reliable van that would be FANTASTIC! Ps. Reindeer will not work!



# Furry Friends Hoping for Another Day to Live, PLEASE consider fostering!!!



BooBoo—Young  
Rottie/Lab Mix



Aurora, Young  
sweet Rotti Mix



Abby  
Dachshund  
Pup



Baby  
Lab Mix 20lbs  
Very Young



RoseBud  
4 year old Terrier



BB  
Young Boxer/Lab Mix



Leea  
1 yr. old 22lbs



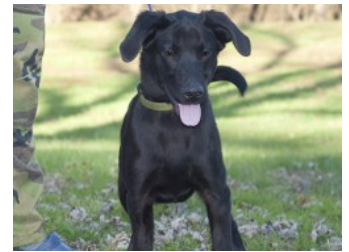
Winston  
Young Retriever Mix



Moses—Corgi Mix  
2 years old



Quint—4 yr old  
Dachshund X



Sheldon  
Black Lab Mix. Sweetie!

*Sweat Shirts, Hats & TShirts Available*



We would like to start doing a Story of the month on a foster that has been adopted. We would also like you to submit cute pics of your adopted dog and we will pick a "pic of the month" Any other suggestions of things you would like to see in our monthly letter would be appreciated. Thank you for supporting 2nd Chance!!!!

P.O. Box 549, Elizabethtown, PA 17022

[2ndChance4LifeRescue.org](http://2ndChance4LifeRescue.org)