

AIREDALE 911

Rescue and Adoption Committee
Airedale Terrier Club of America

1st Annual Edition
October 1991

66 "As I See It" Joey Fineran, Chair

Our **purpose** is to rescue unwanted and stray Airedales.

Our **duty** is to transform them into clean, well-groomed, healthy, neutered adoptables.

Our **goal** is to find each a loving, permanent, and safe home.

Our **concern** is that our judgment is sound for both dog and new owner.

Our **disappointment** comes when our judgment fails and a dog is returned.

Our **distress** is the realization that there are those who need us but don't know how to find us.

Our **dread** is that we'll find them too late.

Our **dismay** is that there are people who breed only for profit.

Our **despair** is for the puppies they produce.

Our **hope** is that breeders will begin to understand that rescue of their own is their responsibility.

Our **prayer** is that they will assume that responsibility.

Our **dream** is that there won't be any unwanted Airedales and that all of the wanted ones will be safe.

Airedale Terrier Club of America Rescue and Adoption Committee

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On October 5, 1990, the ATCA Board of Directors established the ATCA Rescue and Adoption Committee. The formation of this national committee does not detract from the importance or independence of regional rescue groups or individual efforts. Rather it will serve as a corner stone to support and promote all such efforts.

Rescue Directory

If there is anyone who would like to be deleted from the list of regional rescue workers and helpers, please let us know. It is important that this list accurately reflect people who are ready, willing, and able to be called upon when needed. If your situation prevents this, please let us know. Having people on the list who are not able to help when needed consumes valuable time at critical moments and also gives us a false sense of security.

If there is anyone who would like to be added to the list, please let us know. We welcome you with open arms - and great enthusiasm!

Contact: Joey Fineran, Box 122, Lonely Cottage Drive, Upper Black Eddy, PA 18972 Phone: 215-294-8028.

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There is always, in what one does, a certain irrational value from which it is difficult to extricate oneself.

Andre Malraux



Rescue Survey

In July 1991, we asked all of the rescue workers listed in the ATCA directory to respond to a survey. They were asked to provide statistics on their rescue work since October 1, 1990. Summarized below are the results of that survey.

How Many?

From October 1990 to July 1991, 284 dogs went through the rescue network.

Where?

The dogs were rescued by rescue groups or workers based in the following states:

New England: 24 dogs (9%)

Connecticut	15
Massachusetts	6
Vermont	3

Mid-Atlantic: 57 dogs (20%)

Maryland	13
New York	1
Pennsylvania	37
Ohio	4
Virginia	2

South: 5 dogs (2%)

Florida	5
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Midwest: 49 dogs (17%)

Illinois	15
Kansas	2
Michigan	22
Minnesota	3
Missouri	1
Wisconsin	6

West: 149 dogs (52%)

Arizona	34
No. California	58
So. California	38
Colorado	2
Oregon	7
Washington	10

Who?

56% (159) were males
44% (125) were females

14% (40) were under 1 year
68% (191) were 1-4 years
15% (43) were 5-9 years
3% (9) were over 9 years

Where Did We Get Them?

31% (88) came from shelters
50% (143) were surrendered
by their owners
3% (9) were surrendered
after death of owner

How Did We Handle Them?

Foster Care

37% (105) of the dogs were kept in foster homes prior to placement

For the states that handled 15 or more dogs and who provide foster homes, the frequency of foster care was:

Arizona	88% (30)
Connecticut	27% (4)
Michigan	50% (11)
Pennsylvania	92% (34)
So. California	3% (1)

Boarding Kennels

24% (68) were kept in boarding kennels until placed.

Medical Problems?

The report of medical problems was, happily, quite limited. Overall we do seem to have a pretty healthy breed. Most often cited were skin problems and ear infections. A few dogs had heartworm, a few required surgery, and there were several cases of worms. But, for the most part, it sounded as if our rescue dogs are reasonably healthy when they come into rescue.

Behavior Problems?

The most often cited problem was disliking cats. There were a few who didn't like other dogs or small children - and an occasional barker or digger. But on the whole, the majority of these dogs seemed to be working hard to fit in where they were.

How Many Turned Down?

16 were refused into rescue due to problems of temperament or age.

How Many Weren't Placeable?

There were reports of only 6 dogs which had to be euthanized, an equal number for health and temperament reasons.

We are lucky to love a breed which is basically healthy and sound, and that seems also to be true for the dogs who have not had such an easy time in their "first" lives. Many of these dogs were owned by people who never should have picked an Airedale in the first place. We owe it to them to help them get back on their feet and into an Airedale home!

AAH! An Airedale Halo To:

Melissa Moore of AARF who now has rescued 95 Airedales since she began in January 1990 (while maintaining a great sense of humor!) and is active in the recent formation of an all-breed rescue alliance in her area.

AAH! An Airedale Halo To:

Stephanie Lingelbach in Nebraska who rescued 3 puppy mill Airedales advertised as breeding stock ("Small investment . . . Big Return") - and got them into foster homes.

AAH! An Airedale Halo To:

Katherine Key & Susan Drubin of Mid-Michigan Airedale Rescue. At this writing, Katherine has 5 (!) rescue dogs living in her house!

♥ Rescue Salute to Allison Huck, Pleasant Hill, MO

Allison Huck, a Cairn rescuer in Missouri, recently sent the following letter regarding her unexpected Airedale rescue experience. She was so impressed by the Airedale Rescue network's handling of the case that she volunteered to help Airedale rescue again if she were needed. A very special thanks to Allison for helping one of ours. We owe a Cairn a favor!

"I have been heavily involved in Cairn Terrier rescue in the last year. Our club had rescued 8 adults from a puppy mill last October, and one of the adults had whelped six puppies after she arrived at my house.

"I had never had a litter of Cairn Terriers, and so the attachment to Heather was so great that I thought my heart would break when the woman with whom she had been placed lost her within 30 minutes. That is why I happened to be at the animal shelter on this particular day, walking the aisles looking for my little lost Cairn.

"In one of the cages there was this adorable baby Airedale. I stopped and spoke with him and he jumped around the best he could since there was a scruffy older poodle and a black mixed breed stuffed in the same cage with him.

"I don't know what was possessing me at this point, but it must have been that silly black and tan terrier face."

"I immediately found the shelter attendant and asked if he would get the Airedale out so I could make sure he was, in fact, purebred. I don't know what was possessing me at this point, but it must have been that silly black and tan terrier face.

"The attendant grabbed at the pup roughly and dragged him out of the cage. I was expecting the puppy to be scared - but no, true to Airedale type, he just wiggled in my arms and licked my face.

"It was close to closing time at the shelter and I knew I wasn't prepared to bring him home to my five dogs on such short notice. I went to the shelter office and asked when he was going to be put up for adoption. They said that he had already been there five days and he had two more days, tops, to be adopted. I told them to hold him until tomorrow. I was sure that the Airedale club would want him.

"I went home and immediately called Phyllis Beecroft and told her of this little guy. She asked if it were possible for me to get him since, on such short notice, it would be hard to find someone to do it. Going against my "no more rescue" rule, I said that, of course, I would.

"I showed up at noon, when the shelter opened and ran in to be first in line so no one else would get him. They said they had held him for me but that he did have a little runny nose. I told them that didn't concern me, plopped down my \$35 and went to get 'Tyler.' I had picked out the name for him the night before, thinking that I couldn't have a dog around for even a couple of days without a name. When I got him out of his cage, this silly long tail followed him! If you've never seen a three month old Airedale with a tail, believe me it's pretty cute.

"He rode in the crate to the vet's fairly well, with limited screaming. When we got to the vet's office, in the bright lights I could see that his coat was extremely dull and his nose was more than 'a little runny.' Being the eternal optimist, I trotted into the exam room with my very handsome Airedale. The vet diagnosed Tyler as probably having distemper.

"I sat there stunned. My little Airedale that I had already become attached to in the last 30 minutes couldn't have distemper. The vet gave me some antibiotics, told me to keep him totally away from my dogs and hope for the best. If he was still alive in 7 to 10 days, it was either a very mild case or he was mistaken and it wasn't distemper. My heart sank, but I just had to try to make him better. If it were distemper and he didn't make it, at least he would have a few good days at my house.

"The next problem was going to be keeping him away from my dogs. All of our dogs are house dogs and I don't have kennel facilities, so we put him in a pen in the garage. We kept him isolated from everyone for 5 days. When I took him back to the vet, he felt Tyler was well enough to turn out with the Cairns.

"... Tyler had about as much common sense as a carrot."

"The first time he was let out to play with my dogs, he and the 3 Cairns and my little mixed breed had great fun. He and my 12 month old German Shepherd crashed into each other almost immediately. Tyler hunched down in the grass in a pounce position and tried to surprise the Shepherd as he ran by. Unfortunately, 20 pounds of Airedale puppy can't stop 85 pounds of German Shepherd. I still don't know if Tyler ever realized that. He popped up, shook off, and took off after a Cairn. After that Tyler and the Shepherd weren't allowed to play together since Tyler had about as much common sense as a carrot.

"We had only had Tyler for seven days before we delivered him to Ted Tsuji in Topeka, Kansas. As I dropped Tyler off, I cried. I knew it wasn't possible for me to keep him, but it didn't make it any easier. I knew Tyler needed his own family and the thrill of being an only dog.

"The last I heard, Tyler was going to a family in New York. It makes me sad to realize that I will never see him again, but I know that he has been given a second chance thanks to the many caring people involved in Airedale rescue. You should be proud of the job that your club is doing!"

Ed. Note: When 3 puppy mill Airedales were rescued recently by Stephanie Lingelbach in Nebraska (advertised for sale as breeding stock!), Allison heard about it and without hesitation offered to foster two of the dogs, who fortunately had already found a Nebraska foster home. We salute you, Allison!



About Abby, Age 6 PA

"I could go on and on raving about her." (December 1989)

"She is one of the nicest dogs ever born." (December 1990)

Claire Hanlon



From Joshua, Age 5 PA

"Everyone at my new home must think I have a rash on my tummy because they are constantly scratching me there, not that I mind."

John Young



From the head of Rescue in AZ

"Another call came from a quite hysterical owner who threatened to take the dog to a major Phoenix intersection and drop him off in the middle of rush hour traffic unless I picked him up. 'Last night he ate two chickens and chewed the tail off the peacock. He's completely untrainable and impossible to housebreak, and he's undaunted by discipline or pain.' That's when I ran for the car.

"What I found was 'Hank,' a starving, very reserved and unabashed two-year-old underwriting his own tick factory, a few chicken feathers, and a peacock trying to maintain its dignity and balance without benefit of its normal ballast. In spite of Hank's sorry condition, it was all I could do to keep from laughing, but discretion is the better part of a lot of things, and his owner was in no mood to appreciate the humor of the situation.

"Once home, Hank promptly produced half a puddle, was boosted through the dog door, finished the puddle and looked at the door with complete understanding. He learned to heel, sit, come, stay, and down in three five-minute sessions. I cried when four days later, he left with his new family."

Melissa Moore

From Joshua, Age 5 PA

"In my last letter I told you about going to see the Doctor. Well, she checked me out, told me I weigh 82 1/2 pounds. I am the biggest Airedale she ever saw and I am as fit as a fiddle. I don't know what a fiddle is, but I feel great."

John Young



From a 1st time foster home MN

"He is everything you said a rescue dog would be. He gets along with everyone, not so much as a growl or anything. He just walks or gallops away and runs and runs and runs around the yard. He is just a big lovable galout."

Becky Corley



AAHI

An Airedale Halo To



People who make space for an older face.

Airedales who make space for another face.

About Murphy MI

"We dearly love him. He is a very special boy. He's a very important part of our family. We couldn't ask for a better friend.

"... Murphy loves to 'sleep in.' He's not an early riser - - I really like that.

"My husband says Murphy is his boy but he really isn't - - he's mine.

"I hope all the other families that 'adopt' get an Airedale half as nice as Murphy."

Ann & Don Frohm

About Charlie MI

"Charlie has gained about 10 lbs. since August when we adopted him. He is very fond of PIZZA!! He will do anything to get his share. PLUS!!"

James & Cherie Denton



From a rescue worker who has owned 4 rescue dogs herself VA

"Lil came to me with a lot of opportunity for me to learn that life had no obstacles - - cabinet and refrigerator doors were made to open, cabinet tops were made for walking on, food was to be eaten on the dining room rugs, and toilets were for drinking.

"To Lil, life was a ball to chase, a football helmet to carry around and bang you in the knees, a couch to sleep on - - the simple things in life. And I had more simple pleasure from this wonderful dog that someone didn't want because to them these things that Lil loved were problems, not opportunities."

Jan Thomas



From a foster home MI

"I was told that both these dogs weren't housebroken, although they never had 'accidents' when in my home with free run of my house. In fact, my rescue dogs have adapted immediately to living in my home. I think because I loved and treated them like my own. My rescue dogs (my 'foster kids') seemed to be so starved for proper attention that they were very anxious to please and responded phenomenally well to love, attention, and discipline.

"In other words, I have run up against no behavioral problems, no aggression, nothing that would characterize these dogs as undesirable.

"Is there really such a things as a bad Airedale? I've not found one in rescue yet. Only dogs needing loving attention and direction."

Melanie Findlay



About Princess

CT

"On Jan. 5 a very wild, barky Princess entered our life . . . She ate everything in sight . . . 7 months later she is only barking when anyone (or dog) walks on her street. She chews only the toilet paper in one bathroom . . . I now have the plants off my bay window, and it's her new looking post.

"My vet cannot believe it's the same dog. She is 1 million times better . . . put me on the rescue list in CT."

Ilewe Mahler



"Identification Tags: Your Pet's Ticket Home"

NSPA



From AARF (Arizona Airedale Rescue Foundation)

AZ

"The gentleman who adopted George had bred and shown Airedales some years ago. When George ran up to him, Steve put his hand under his chin and George immediately stacked, waiting for the judge to come down the line. We agreed that he'd obviously been shown, someone had paid a lovely price for him, and that he's a fine, fine example of the breed. Yet he came into the pound as a stray with no license, no one had claimed him, and he'd been there for two weeks before I came along. What gives?"

Melissa Moore

From the "enthusiastically supportive" husband of a rescue worker

AZ

Yea, though I walk through the Valley of the Furry Beast,

I will fear no mayhem,

For thy love and thy loyalty they comfort me.

Surely dog food and vet bills shall follow me all the days of my life,

And I shall dwell in the house of Muddy Pawprints forever.

Ted Moore



About Gus

PA

"There are no words that can express the happiness we all feel since Gus joined us. He is absolutely wonderful . . . He fit in our family as though he knew we were safe and would always love him. . . Yesterday we came home to find Gus asleep with our cat Phoebe asleep on his back!"

Ellen and All the Smiths



About Alfie, Age 7

MD

"Alfie is making a great case for rescue. He attracts attention and when I tell people he's a rescue dog, they want to know more.

"I can't begin to tell you how happy I am with this dog and how grateful I am to you for helping me adopt him."

Mary Munro



From a rescue worker

KS

"Whenever I think of Tyler and Indie, I just cannot understand why their former masters could forget such lovely Airedales."

Yasuyaki "Ted" Tsuji

About Captain Stubby

IL

"The Airedale you rescued last month in McHenry is now known as Captain Stubby in honor of the rather odd docking someone gave his tail.

"He is strong, agile, active, affectionate, intelligent, and a thief. I turned my back on him this evening and he stole the butter for the sweet corn. He is the type of dog that makes an excellent representative when someone wants to know what Airedales are really like. He has settled in nicely, has a fenced back yard to run in, and five cats to bark at. It isn't heaven but it isn't Iowa either. He's doing fine."



AAH!

An Airedale Halo To

The Francis Family of Newark, NY, who adopted not only 2 year old Scoobie but also Punkie, a 9+ year old.

Ben & Josephine McCarthy, who adopted Skookie (age 11), found wandering along the Schuylkill Expressway (well-traveled route of Montgomery show attendees!).



Forever Young

Why is it that one of the biggest problems is usually getting people just to take a look at an older dog?

Often the Airedales can take it from there!

The Rescue Melting Pot

There are a number of people out there helping Airedales in a lot of different ways. And yet there is much we have in common.

Some of the Ways We're Different

Some groups place dogs by referral, others place them in foster homes, and others board them in kennels.

Some take only strays/shelter dogs while others also take owner surrendered dogs.

Some take dogs of any age while others have an age limit.

Some "groups" are made up of one person; others may have a half dozen people.

Some groups spay and neuter every dog who crosses their path, others request it of the adoptive owners, and others make no requirement.

Some groups have waiting lists for their dogs, while others really have to beat the bushes to unearth good homes.

Some groups groom their dogs before placement. Some have a patron saint who offers to do professional grooming. Others make do with your basic "lawn mower" trim.

Some do house checks before placement. Some belong to all-breed rescue groups.

Some groups have extensive fundraising efforts; others nickel and dime it all the way.

Some groups provide all inoculations before placement, while others leave it up to new owners.

Some workers provide basic obedience training.

Some require personal and/or veterinarian references.



Some require a fenced yard. One requires a minimum fence height of 6 feet!

Some groups require adopters to sign a placement contract.

Some require a fee from the adopting family. Some request a fee from anyone surrendering a dog.

Some groups have special answering machines for their rescue work, with phone duty rotating among workers. Others pray the phone will ring.

Some have a rescue fund to help defray costs; others are digging deep.

Some groups have Airedales coming out of their ears; others may see only one or two a year.

Some rescue workers are as sweet as pie; some are as feisty as jalapeno peppers.

Some groups have the active support of their local Airedale club.

Some groups require that owners giving up a dog first go back to the breeder and ask the breeder to take the dog back.

Some groups have to deal with the output of local puppy mills.

Some workers even try to place Airedale mixes when they can.

Remember: Taking back a pup you bred isn't rescue. It's responsibility!

The Ties That Bind Us!

Other people think we're nuts (often husbands, mothers, and close friends - - sometimes even our own Airedales).

We get discouraged with people . . . and then buoyed up again.

We're broke.

Our houses often seem like a variation on Ringling Bros. - - and we try not to mind.

Our hearts are broken and bolstered time and again.

We try to be patient but we wonder where the pet-owner education process has failed.

We wish that breeders would take more responsibility for their displaced dogs - - and be more cautious in their puppy placements.

We try to understand why so many people think they want a dog when they really don't.

We try to understand how an Airedale can become unloved.

We regret the people who got an Airedale when they didn't have a clue about what an Airedale was all about.

We're proud that our guys can go through some unhappy situations and still come out on top.

We try to understand why other Airedale lovers can't help.

We try to be especially friendly to our neighbors.

(Continued on following page)

The Melting Pot (Cont'd.)

We hope that shelters will cooperate with us and vets will give us a break.

We applaud every rescue dog who enthusiastically (or tentatively) steps out to meet his or her new life.

We stand up and cheer for the great folks who take in an aged Airedale in need.

We hope that breeders will put temperament at the top of the list as we try to make "pack life" a routine affair.

We wish that breeders would give serious consideration to selling all pet puppies on spay/neuter contracts.

We have to screw up our courage to open our phone bills.

We try to be patient with all the people who think they want a female because they're more "devoted" than a male.

We try to understand when people have a hang-up about neutering a male but think it's fine to spay a female.

We get discouraged with Airedale people who have a lot of wrong ideas about what rescue dogs are really like.

We wonder how much money has to do with a lot of dog breeding.

We wish that breeders who use their dog as a stud would realize that they are equally responsible as a breeder of a litter.

We hope that we can work together to make sure that ALL Airedales are healthy, safe, happy, and loved.

We hope that our own Airedales will be patient with us one more time.

Life is short. Play hard. Reebok

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Rescue workers should always check with their local and regional clubs to see if they are willing to establish a rescue fund to help defray rescue expenses.

Non-rescue people can always help by making a donation specifically for rescue to their local Airedale club or rescue group.

Remember: Rescue funds are available from this committee to help with rescue expenses that are unusual or which go beyond routine veterinary care.



Contact **Joey Fineran, Phyllis Beecroft, or Ben McCarthy** for more info

We are currently working on a letter asking vets to consider giving price breaks to rescue dogs.

Any suggestions?

7

FEES

The Dilemma of the Tax Man

Charging an adoption fee should be part of placing an adoption dog. And you shouldn't be embarrassed to ask for one. People new to rescue need to get over the feeling that they are dealing with The Dogs That No One Will Ever Want.

People who have been involved in rescue long enough to have seen lots of dogs and lots of people have come to realize that: (1) Almost all Airedales are wanted by someone. It's just a matter of being patient enough to find Someone. (2) Some of the very best prizes come in the least likely packages. (3) Plain old people often seem to realize the worth of all Airedales more than we who are immersed in the breed. Should make us stop and think.

You should never be embarrassed to request an adoption fee that, at the very least, covers the cost of routine veterinary care for the specific dog you are placing. Is there anyone out there who doesn't think that, if given the choice, every Airedale would want to pay his or her own way?

Ideally, fees should be able to help rescue groups continue their work. Most people who are adopting realize this (or can with a little education). If someone acts as if they are doing you a favor by "taking this dog off your hands," you should think twice about him.

Very often, even if the adoption fee has been waived (for example, because of the age of the dog), the person adopting will insist on paying the fee anyway. And remember: Never stifle a generous impulse! Airedales deserve it - - the one you just helped . . . and all the ones coming up. AIREDALES are worth it and YOU'RE worth it!!



SPAYING

Involves the surgical removal (under general anesthesia) of both ovaries and the entire uterus.

The operation is best done soon after the dog reaches sexual maturity. For maximum benefit 7-9 months of age seems to be best (before the first heat period).

Advantages

Many dogs require a hysterectomy for disease if they live past 8 years of age. In short, the question is not "should" a pet be spayed but "when."

(1) Removal of the ovaries eliminates the influence of female estrogens that stimulate breast cancer. Dogs spayed before the first heat period never have breast cancer. Those who are unspayed have a high incidence of the disease.

(2) All diseases of the ovaries and uterus, such as pyometra, are eliminated.

(3) There are no bothersome heat periods.

(4) No unwanted puppies!

For Hanna



by Elizabeth Clark

What morning when you waken
Is the right one to decide
That this dog will be forsaken
And no more with you abide?
A dog like this, she'll find a home
And what will be the harm
In telling all the children
That she'll be living on a farm?
As you bring her in and leave her
In her lonely metal cage
And act as though you have no choice
I feel a silent rage.

What heinous thing has this dog done?
What had been her crime?
Or are other things more pressing
And you just don't have the time?
This dog who loved her master
And served him day by day
Has become an inconvenience
And has now been sent away.
She keeps a faithful vigil,
The tears in my eyes burn.
While with trusting expectation
She waits for your return.
A dog like this will have no home,
No master will be found
For who will take an older dog
When younger ones abound?
Now at last her time has come,
And with a gentle nod
I'll cradle your dog in my arms
And send her back to God.

NEUTERING

Involves the surgical removal (under anesthesia) of the testes, requiring only a scarcely visible incision.

Neutering is best done after early sexual maturity, ideally when the animal is 7 to 10 months of age, but it can be done at any later age.

Advantages

(1) Calming effect on aggressive animals.

(2) Reduced desire to roam.

(3) Less desire to urinate on every bush and shrub.

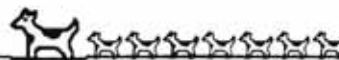
(4) No continual penile discharge prevalent in many male dogs.

(5) Freedom from testicular and prostatic cancer.

(6) Prevention of certain hernias common in many males.

(7) Elimination the tendency to "mount" other dogs or people.

(8) Prevention of perianal tumors.



Heartbreakers

Statistics often cut right through it all. One of our PA shelters reports that last year 39% of their dogs were purebred! Fortunately, this shelter works closely with an all-breed alliance of rescue groups. Even so, for the pets not reclaimed by their owners, a very depressing 64% (2,800) were euthanized.

Results for a single month at a NJ shelter were basically the same. Of the dogs not reclaimed by owners, only 36% were adopted and 64% were euthanized.

And sadly, of the puppies who were left at the shelter, only 53% were adopted; 47% were euthanized. Being cute doesn't always get you by. Please spay and neuter!!

Hugo: Hook, Line and Sinker ➔♥

by Nikki and Rex Caldwell
Aston, PA

"When we decided to adopt a dog, we had long discussions on the perfect companion, and ultimately decided on an Airedale Terrier. So we contacted Airedale Rescue. They asked us our preference regarding age, sex, and what would best suit our lifestyle. That turned out to be an extensive list, as we have two cats, are expecting a baby soon, and wanted the 'Perfect Pet' who would adapt to our life with as little upheaval as possible.

"After several phone conversations, it seemed they had found the dog for us . . . 'Hugo,' described as very handsome, extremely tolerant of cats and small children, and also well trained. Unfortunately, he had a bad ear infection, but as soon as that cleared up, we could meet him.

"The only thing was, he was 5 years old. Was that too old to expect him to adapt to a new life? Would he be set in his ways, middle-aged gent that he was? After many earnest discussions, we decided that we should at least meet him.

"It was love at first sight. Just one look at those big brown eyes and Hugo had us hook, line, and sinker. We spent a couple of hours watching him play with his companion, Raisin, all the while keeping his eye on us, as if to say, "Look at me!" We knew that we had found the perfect pal for us. So we set off, nervous new parents, back home for the big test.

"Hugo seemed to know his new home the moment he set foot in it. The two cats were a little wary of this gentle giant, but in just two days we were one big, happy family. It seemed as if Hugo had been part of our lives forever.

"We had thought that we would have to 're-train' him, but much to our amazement he knew that we were his new Mom and Dad immediately and would come when called without hesitation. We discovered that he had been quite well-trained, so there was no frustration in house-training and basic obedience. He was already well-versed.

"We are truly delighted with Hugo, and any

concerns that we had for his age rapidly vanished. He's like a puppy outside and a very well-mannered gentleman in the house - - everything and more than we ever wanted in a dog.

"Hugo has convinced us that adopting a mature dog can be an extremely rewarding experience, and I know that when the time comes to find a companion for Hugo, we shall be contacting Airedale Rescue for another 'older' pup."



Things To Send Along With Your Adoption Dog

- ✓ All medical records (certificates for spay/neuter, rabies, DHLPP, kennel cough, etc.)
- ✓ Written instructions on heartworm preventative schedule (and any other medications)
- ✓ Written instructions on feeding (kind of food, amount, schedule)
 - ✓ A few days' worth of food, biscuits, and treats
 - ✓ Grooming comb
- ✓ A Copy of Carol Benjamin's Second Hand Dog
- ✓ Leash & choke chain collar (for walking only)
- ✓ Written observations of social, behavior and obedience skills
- ✓ Dog license mail-in application form, if available
- ✓ Order blank for mail-in dog ID tag, available from vets
- ✓ Favorite blanket and toy
- ✓ Pamphlets on dog care, rabies, heartworm, flea prevention, etc., available from vets
- ✓ "Airedale Rescue" ID tag with your name and phone to be used until he gets his own

This Newsletter Is For You!



It is our hope that this newsletter will provide a place where we can learn about each other, share the highs and lows of rescue work, provide each other with information and helpful hints, talk about our rescue dogs, and encourage others to join us in an important Airedale effort. Perhaps it may be of interest to your potential or actual adoptive homes.

We need your help to make the newsletter informative and supportive. You're all busy, but please try to take the time to send any items that will help to inspire, console, and educate your fellow rescue workers. Rescue work can send you soaring - - AND bring you crashing to the ground. Remember that some rescue workers are out there working alone - and that can get lonely.

Let us know your thoughts on the following kinds of rescue issues:

Foster Care
Rescue vs. Referral
Breeder Responsibility Fees
Behavior Problems
Fencing
Placing A Dog
Working With Shelters
Introducing a Rescue Dog
House Checks
Effective Advertising
Recruiting Workers
Working with Vets
Crate Training
Liability Concerns
Educating Adopters

And, of course, please share with us the comments that you get from your adoptive homes! They help rescue workers keep going.

Newsletter Editor 

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FAX: 215-524-1730

Would I do It Again? You Bet?

By Mary Munro, Easton, MD

"The day Nora died I suddenly realized that I couldn't get along without an Airedale in my house and heart. So, with tears still on my face and in my voice, I called Airedale Rescue at Joey Fineran's place.

"There were three rescue dogs who needed homes - but who was I and why did I deserve an Airedale? So I told Joey about Nora, who was a "grand-dog" of hers, and she decided that I might do.

"Now, about the three available dogs. The two bitches probably wouldn't suit my household, which still contained two little dogs and a cat, but would I consider a male? I didn't want a male. Why not? This was a truly wonderful six-year-old. He wouldn't hassle my little ones and he seemed to be interested in cats but not to hurt them. Wouldn't I consider him?

"OK, I'd meet him. He was staying in a foster home about 10 miles from my sister. So I called his foster mom, who said, among other things, 'You had better be a very nice lady because this is a very nice dog!' We arranged for me to meet him on Saturday.

"When I walked into Lynne's house on Saturday afternoon, Alfie jumped up on me (much to her surprise) and he never looked back. After all the paperwork was completed, he climbed into my car as if he'd been riding there all his life. At the end of our three-hour drive, he was sound asleep on the back seat. The two little dogs welcomed him, the cat hissed, spat and ran - - and Alfie was home.

"He is so happy to have a home of his own again. His owner had died after a long illness, and he had been bounced around a bit before he came into the Airedale Rescue program. His foster homes had, of course, welcomed him -- but they weren't HIS place and he knew that.

"The advantages of Alfie over a puppy? He is perfectly housebroken - - a real bonus when one works full time. He has probably had obedience training, although he needs a refresher. He learns quickly; it took only two days for him to accept that I leave for work every morning and that I will come home again. He has good manners, and

he doesn't steal things from counters or tables, although he's plenty big enough to. He doesn't need to be fed three or four times a day. And he is, as Lynne said, a very nice dog.

"Are there problems? Of course there are, although amazingly few of them. No one is perfect, and he has some habits that I'd rather he didn't have. The biggest problem was that he could jump my old fence (and did), so in the beginning he could enjoy the yard only when I was home. The new fence keeps him in and I suspect the old one would have, too, if I hadn't rushed him with too much responsibility too soon.

"He likes to get up at 4:30 in the morning to play (he is very playful for an almost-seven-year-old), but he is learning to sleep, or at least let me sleep, until 7. He jumps up on people but that's obviously because his previous owner allowed it, and he's learning not to. He's marvelous at mealtime - - he simply goes into another room and falls asleep.

"He and the cat are doing very well together. The cat now teases him and he responds with a chase - - but only when Bunter invites it. The two little dogs like him. He's always good for a game of tag or tug-of-war with Dudley, and he lets Bonnie snuggle. Dudley and Alfie are real true-blue buddies - - really inseparable - - and it's good for both of them, although Dudley is unquestionably the boss.

"Would I do it again? You bet I will! Alfie is a perfectly good, sweet, nice dog who fell on hard times. I realize that I will only have him for half of his life, but it will be a good life and maybe I can help make up for some of the bad times.

"Alfie will never take Nora's place and I don't expect him to, but as a successor, he's a total success. He is loving and sweet and energetic and playful. I have never had a dog who makes me smile so much - - he really is a dear. And I'm so glad that Joey persuaded me to meet him and that Lynne thought I was nice enough!"



"Good fences make good neighbors."

Robert Frost



Foster Homes: We Need You!

There are several very active rescue groups that are handling lots of Airedales. The MAIN thing they say they need is FOSTER HOMES!

They need you to help so much, in fact, that they will no doubt bend over backwards to help this be a positive experience for you.

These groups are well-organized and are ready to take YOU under their wing. If you possibly think that you could be a "foster parent," please let us know who you are.

And remember, foster care isn't important only as a place to house rescue dogs. It also helps them get off to a new start with people who understand the breed. A lot of these dogs have had to live with people who never should have had an Airedale in the first place. Many of them have never been appreciated for being what they're supposed to be --- an Airedale!

AARF (Arizona Airedale Rescue Foundation)

Melissa Moore, 10403 N. 38th Street,
Phoenix, AZ 85028. (602-996-9648)

Mid-Michigan Airedale Rescue

Katherine Key, 311 S. Mingo Rd.,
Albion, MI 49224. (517-629-8392)

Airedale Rescue & Adoption Service

Joey Fineran, Box 122, Lonely Cottage
Drive, Upper Black Eddy, PA 18972.
(215-294-8028)

Southern California Airedale Rescue

June Dutcher, 7171 Kermore Lane,
Stanton, CA 90680. (714-827-8013)

If you can be a foster home anywhere, please let us know!

INDULGE YOURSELF TREAT YOUR FRIENDS SUPPORT AIREDALE RESCUE!



T-Shirt
or
Sweatshirt
X-Large Only



BRONZE by June Dutcher

Original is mounted on base displaying engraved brass plates commemorating any beloved Airedale for a donation of \$100. This original will be displayed at Airedale specialties.

The bronze statue, with your dog's name engraved on a brass plate may be purchased for \$300.

**Special: Montgomery
Weekend Only: \$250**



T-Shirt
or
Sweatshirt
X-Large Only



Highball Glass
\$6.00 each



Painted Airedale
(Heavy Vinyl) 15" x 9"
\$60.00



"Beware" of Dog Sign
(Stake Included)
\$25.00



Silver-Plated Desk
Pen Set with
Pewter Airedale
\$50.00

Make checks payable to: Airedale Rescue and Adoption Committee
Mail to: Phyllis Beecroft, 18 Thunder Hill Lane, Ridgefield, CT 06877

___ Highball Glasses (@\$6.00) \$ _____
___ Desk Pen Set (@\$50.00) \$ _____

___ "Beware" Sign (@\$25.00) \$ _____
___ Painted Airedale (@\$60.00) \$ _____

T-Shirts (@\$10.00)
___ "Hi!" \$ _____
___ "Hooray, Hooray!" \$ _____
Sweatshirts (@\$20.00)
___ "Hi!" \$ _____
___ "Hooray, Hooray!" \$ _____

___ Bronze Airedale w/Brass
Plate (@\$300) \$ _____
___ Commemorative Brass Plate
Only (@ \$100)

Name of Dog: _____

Your Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____