

# AIREDALE 911

Rescue and Adoption Committee  
Airedale Terrier Club of America

6th Edition  
October 1996

## ATCA Rescue & Adoption

### Lynne Jensen (Chair)

1180 Hopewell Road  
Downingtown, PA 19335  
Phone/FAX: 610-873-9054

### Sarah Bullock (Treasurer)

201 W. Hampshire Drive  
Deptford, NJ 08096  
Phone/Fax: 609-228-1496

### Regional Coordinators:

#### New England:

Barbara Curtiss 860-927-3420  
Fax: 860-927-3420

#### Mid-Atlantic:

Lou Swafford 301-572-7116  
Fax: 301-572-4626

#### South:

Linda Baake 919-726-7703

#### Mid-West:

Carol Domeracki 616-276-6390

#### Southwest:

Melissa Moore 602-996-9648  
Fax: 602-953-0340

#### Northwest:

Connie Turner 503-399-9819

### Newsletter Editors

#### Barbara Curtiss

3 Carter Road—Rt 7  
Cornwall Bridge, CT 06754  
Phone/Fax 860-927-3420

#### Joey Fineran

1189 Lonely Cottage Road  
Upper Black Eddy, PA 18972  
Phone/Fax: 610-294-8028

## Finn McCool

by Ben McCarthy

Finn came to Airedale Rescue via the Montgomery County SPCA in February 1995. They reported they had a young Airedale with a injured front leg. They were uncertain whether he had been hit by a car or a baseball bat. His owner was not interested in picking him up or assuming any responsibility for his care.

I got him by the relay system and immediately took him to my vet for evaluation. We were both impressed by how patient and well-behaved Finn was even though he must have been in great pain.

X-rays revealed that the leg was badly broken at and below the shoulder. My vet suggested that Finn was a case for an orthopedist, and a consultation was promptly arranged. Surgery was performed the next day, and Finn emerged with nine pins, four stabilizing bars, plus a ton of instructions and restrictions. He was to be confined at all times, taken out only when necessary on a leash, and only for short walks.

Finn was settled into an oversized crate in a small room off the kitchen, where he would be safe from an inquisitive Prinky (our other Airedale). Right from the start, he cooperated and never uttered a complaint or whimper. He bore his weekly, (and a bit later bi-weekly) trips to the vet, all with good cheer. In fact, when we arrived at the vet's, Finn couldn't wait to get out of the car to go in and visit with all of his new friends.

Contrary to doctor's instructions, after a few weeks we let Finn out of his crate and gave him the freedom of the small room. We should have suspected we had something special on our hands when, left unattended, he managed to climb over a 48" high half-door!

*Continued on Page 2*

## Inside

Rascals of Rescue . . . . .	3
Gunfire Next Door . . . . .	4
Dear Aire Landers . . . . .	5
The Sage Page. . . . .	6
The Kindness of Strangers . . . . .	9
And We Get Letters . . . . .	11
Bart . . . . .	14

When he appeared in the living room, Phyllis and I could not believe our eyes. We were certain that one of us had neglected to close his door. Not so! That son-of-a-gun, with all of his orthopedic hardware in place, had gotten over the smooth-faced door to join us.

We knew that if he had had disturbed his pins, we would have hell to pay with the surgeon! Fortunately, no damage was done, and the incident was never mentioned to the doctor, a very serious and unsmiling man who would have accepted no excuses from us.

Finn was obviously running well ahead of the projected recovery schedule, but the surgeon insisted upon keeping him restrained and confined. Finally, in mid-June, the pins were removed, one or two at a time, and early in July, when the last of them come out, Finn was allowed to return to normal activity.

He scooted around the yard with a loping gate, and just a hitch in his git-along. Trouble is, he began to think of himself as boss dog, and although he didn't get too fresh with Prinny, he did try to beat her through every door and to each and every snack. He gained at least twelve pounds, and acquired some manners. From Prinny he learned that he must bark at the sound of every horse and buggy passing by, especially in the middle of the night.

Finn's claim to fame was that he developed into a first-class escape artist. Three times he escaped from the yard, at least once through what I thought was an impregnable hedge, laced with wire and twice I don't know how. For all I know he flew over the 54" fence! This newly acquired talent caused him to lose his freedom and he could be outdoors only under supervision. He would slink along the fence eyeing us as if to see whether we were paying attention, so he could hit the nearby corn field again.

We knew we would surely miss him when his new home came along, but welcomed the thought that tranquility that would return to Beartown and peace to our spirits.

• • •

In November, Finn went off to his new home. On St. Patrick's Day (what else?) 1996 he sent the following card:

*Hi Ben,*

*I'm fine. I did get loose a couple of days ago and take a little trip on my own, until they caught up with me. (I was so ashamed when Terry walked me back home, I hung my head and my tail for quite awhile.) I don't think I'll do that again!*

*The kitty is fine—she misses me when I go for grooming. She calls and hunts me all day. I'm fat and she's fat and all's right with the world! Say 'Hi' to Prinny for me!*

*Love,*

*the McCoollest Airedale, **Finn***

## *Lucy*

Lucy, our Rescue Airedale, is an exuberant pet,  
*She does not come when called,*  
She's as sweet as sugar,  
*She does not come when called,*  
She sleeps on her back with a paw over her ear,  
*She does not come when called,*  
She dines lying down,  
*She does not come when called,*  
Her whole body quakes with joy  
at seeing us return,  
*She does not come when called,*  
We love her a lot, but no matter what,  
*She does not come when called.*

Isa and Sanford Vogel (NJ)

## **A DOG'S PRAYER**

by Beth Norman Harris

Treat me kindly, my beloved master, for no heart in all the world is more grateful for kindness than the loving heart of me. Do not break my spirit with a stick, for though I should lick your hand between the blows, your patience and understanding will more quickly teach me the things you would have me do. Speak to me often, for your voice is the world's sweetest music, as you must know by the fierce wagging of my tail when your footstep falls upon my waiting ear.

When it is cold and wet, please take me inside, for I am now a domesticated animal, no longer used to bitter elements. And I ask no greater glory than the privilege of sitting at your feet beside the hearth. Though had you no home, I would rather follow you through ice and snow than rest upon the softest pillow in the warmest home in all the land, for you are my god and I am your devoted worshiper.

Keep my pan filled with fresh water, for although I should not reproach you were it dry, I cannot tell you when I suffer thirst. Feed me clean food, that I may stay well, to romp and play and do your bidding, to walk by your side, and stand ready, willing and able to protect you with my life should your life be in danger.

And, beloved master, should the great Master see fit to deprive me of my health or sight, do not turn me away from you. Rather hold me gently in your arms as skilled hands grant me the merciful boon of eternal rest - and I will leave you knowing with the last breath I drew, my fate was ever safest in your hands.

# The Rascals of Rescue

Meet some of the dogs who have come into Airedale Rescue during the year since *Airedale 911* was last published. Included are dogs who came into Rescue in the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Texas, Wisconsin.

Ginger	Molly #1	Noelle	Archie	Pippi
Jack	Lady	Bindley	Bart	Grace
Hannah	Mac #2	Harriet	Courtney	Patty (Mattie)
Danny	Tessa	Butch	Sherlock	Rusty
Riley #1	Schatzie	Truffles	Kodie	Argus
Carmen	Terra	Oliver	Betsy	Harry
Buddy	Dallas	Jake	Fergie	Sherlock
Barnie	Lucy	Rochelle	Castro	(Murdock)
Jasmine	Abby	Mariah	Molly	Charlie
Kirby	Molly #2	Murphy	Misty (Kristi)	Chatham
Watson	Lacey	Jack	Casey	Lincoln
Samantha	Easy	Chewy	Katawba	Rocky
Toby	Bert	Molly	Bogart	Patches (Abby)
Biscuit	Maggie	Molly #2	King	Sabra (Flo)
Britt	Charlie #2	Winnie	Sam (Norton)	Dolly (Bartles)
Savannah	Jefferson	Max	Lucy	Doogie
Corky	Ernie	Max #2	Arthur (Digger)	Sandy
Jenkins	Fred	Grady	Luddy	Jesse (Rocky)
Tanner	Woody	Butch	Brownie	Rhoda (Rusty)
Sherman	Bow	Freddie	Prancer	Bismark
Riley #2	Daisy	T-Rex	Duncan	Rover (Samson)
Casey #1	Rover (Grover)	Buddy	Max	Tinker
Fiona	Flirt	Vinnie	DramBoie	Duffy #1
Gwen #1	Tinkerbelle	Rusty	Hunkie	Bentley
Tara	Freeway	Luke	Autum	Oliver
Bonnie	Jack	Judi	Homer	Lady
Katie #1	Duke	Stormin' Norman	Bart	Salty
Oliver	Teddy	Elmer	Casey	Jackson
Ned	Penny	Rainey	Nick	Bella
Holly	Chelsea #1	Ogla	Libby	Duffy #2
Fred	Gappy	Schatzi	Mavis	Roscoe
Sadie	Penny #2	Bentley	Cheyenne	Toby
Henry	Annie	Janie	Nat	Drake
Teddy	Busy	Smiley (Ajax)	Frisco	Sherwood
Chief	Raggs	Kelly	LuLu	Max
Annie	Jas	Reddy	Peter	CJ
Mac #1	Murphy	Buster	Augie (Cosmo)	Ollie
Bailey	Scooter	Dusty	Monty	Gunner
Charlie	Toby #2	Zoe	Austi (Tara)	Beau
Reese's	Chelsea #2	Trevor	Toby	Abby (and
Ivy	Mattie	Nick	Cass	her 10 pups!)
Chowder	Harold	Jennie	Oggie	
Spencer	Harold	Topper	Fleming	
Katie #2	Penny	Roman	Barnie	
Amanda	Caesar	Gracey	Bella	
Sam	Max	Max	Ernie	
Casey #2	Miniver	Windy	Alfie	
Bailey #2	Jasmine	Clover	Ashley	
Sydney	Raggsdale	Max #2	Desi	
Gwen #2	Hoss	Dolly	Mitzi	
	Janet			

*Continued  
on  
Page 4*



# Gunfire Next Door

**"LITTLE BELLA RETURNED OUR GIFT OF LIFE AT 9:00 PM MONDAY NIGHT."**

*This was the first line of a faxed message from Kay McFarland .  
Kay had opened her heart and adopted rescue Airedale Bella jus't a few weeks earlier.*

Pregnant, undemourished, and in need of medical care, Bella had ended up in an animal shelter in Florida. We heard of her plight and arrangements were made to transfer her to a veterinary hospital for immediate medical treatment. Meanwhile, Kay had contacted Rescue having lost her own Airedale a few months earlier. She was willing to take one with special needs and we told her about Bella. Kay's immediate response was, "How soon can I pick her up?"

Bare-rib skinny at only 34 pounds, Bella's pups had not survived, but Bella thrived on the love, care, and proper nutrition provided by Kay. Having struggled for life itself just a short time earlier, Bella was now happily snuggling on a comfy bed. One thing that Kay did notice--Bella didn't bark. She was happy, but she just didn't bark.

"Little Bella returned our gift of life at 9:00 PM Monday night." As I continued reading Kay's message my eyes filled with tears. "We were on my back screened patio when a shot rang out next door." Living next door to Kay in a gated community were dear neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Richardson. Store owners, having closed their business for the night, the Richardsons returned home to be confronted by a young man with a gun hiding inside their residence. The gunman demanded money and not finding sufficient cash in the home, decided to force the couple back to their place of business to obtain the day's receipts from the store's safe. The gunman was in the process of forcing Mrs. Richardson into the trunk of their car when her husband decided to try to save her life the only way he could. Commanding his wife to run for her life, Mr. Richardson rushed the gunman who in turn shot Mr. Richardson in the stomach as his wife escaped into the darkness of the night.

As Mr. Richardson lay dying in his driveway, the now panicky gunman turned and started running toward the house next door. There, only a few yards away, Kay stood in frozen horror, on her lighted screened-in porch as the gun-toting murderer quickly approached.

Kay's report continued... "But Bella wasn't frozen - she let out two of the loudest Airedale bawhoos that you have ever heard!" With the gunman now bearing down on them, Bella roared her warning to the would-be intruder as she charged and crashed against the screen door that separated her from her enemy. With all her Airedale might, Bella took charge of the situation as she set out to protect Kay. Totally shocked, the gunman turned on his heel and ran off into the night. Kay had no doubt in her mind what her fate might have been had Bella not been there to protect her.

Bella can thank Kay for adopting her and giving her a new lease on life. Kay can thank Bella for probably saving her life.

Sally Schnellmann (FL)

## The Rascals of Rescue (cont'd)

Archie	Rudyard (Frankie)	Cookie	Emma	Abby
Rosie	Rocky III	Blue	Max	Sammy
Jasmine	Willie	McDuff	Katy	Bear
Willet Raner Snow	Mark Antony	Otis	Tyler	Barnaby (Brutus)
Nigel (Duke)	Wotan	Katie	Tutu	Lucy (Fancy Nancy)
Lady	Max	Waldo	Brandy	Camber
Roxy	Barkley	Wolfgang	Buddy	Sasha
Windy	Maggie	Kip	J.R	Brett

# Ask Aire Landers

*A column for Airedales who have questions about their new lives  
All correspondence is strictly confidential.*

**Dear Aire Landers,**

What I want to know is how you keep coming up with these wonderful people to adopt us. I mean, it seems no matter what our age, experience, or needs, there you are with a human or two ready to take the other end of our leash. How do you do it??

**Gratefully Adopted**

**Dear Grateful,**

The world is made up of all kinds of dogs and all kinds of humans. It just takes some legwork to match them up. For some of you, the first combination just wasn't the right one. But by the time we find that out, we have had a good chance to get to know you so we can see just what sort of human is really the right one for you. And the humans let us know in many different ways just what sort of dog is the right one for them. We find out about both the dogs and the humans in lots of different ways and we take plenty of time and trouble to figure them both out. It's funny that you should wonder how we find such great humans, because I also get letters from humans wondering how we get such great dogs!

**Dear Aire Landers,**

I was adopted last month by a family who is too good to be true. I am so afraid they'll leave me like the other one did. How can I tell if this is really going to last?

**Insecure**

**Dear Insecure,**

Our Rescue families are the best. Don't worry--this time it's for keeps.

**Dear Aire Landers,**

I don't want to be considered a forward girl, but whenever I meet someone I want to kiss them. I just can't help myself. What's wrong with me?!

**Miss Smoochalot**

**Dear Miss Smoochalot,**

Don't worry your pretty little head. You're an Airedale. Kiss away--people expect it from you.

**Dear Aire Landers,**

When I hear Aire-retha Franklin sing "Rescue Me" I get tears in my eyes. I'm just so happy since I was "rescued." I wish I could talk--even for just one day--so I could tell my people how much I love them. Do you think my wish could ever come true?

**Sincerely**

**Dear Sincerely,**

It has! You "tell" them you love them every day. When you put your head in their laps, when you gaze at them with those brown eyes, when you wiggle-waggle when they come home, when you lick their hands, when you curl up beside their bed and snore contentedly.. you are telling them you love them. And they understand it as clearly as if you used human words.

**We Patch 'em up,  
Make 'em whole . . .  
Then match 'em up.  
That's our goal!**

"Dog owners don't need a list of studies by groups of PhDs to prove that their relationship with their dog is psychologically beneficial. It's hard to feel mad at the world when your terrier performs back flips at the mere sight of you pulling into the driveway. There's no doubt about it, your dog makes you feel good."

**From You and Your Dog**

## **WHY SOME PEOPLE DON'T LIKE AIREDALES**

**They follow their owners everywhere.  
They stick their cold noses into one's hand at unexpected moments.  
They always want to play.  
They jump up on their friends and lick them to show their affection.  
They bark at people they don't like.**

## **WHY OTHER PEOPLE DO LIKE AIREDALES**

**They follow their owners everywhere.  
They stick their cold noses into one's hand at unexpected moments.  
They always want to play.  
They jump up on their friends and lick them to show their affection.  
They bark at people they don't like.**

## Homer Homeless

(About Ten)

"Homer Homeless" was found in a pound in poor shape. In time I nursed him to good health, but since he appeared to be about ten years old, his prospects of adoption seemed slim. Several other foster dogs came and went, but Homer was having no luck finding a new home.

He went to take the Canine Good Citizenship test and when he was supposed to walk through the crowd he laid down and let the people walk around him! Everyone laughed. Homer loved everyone and greeted all with a wagging tail and paw.

When a couple who had already adopted two Airedales came to visit, Homer did his routine of speak, shake, sit, down, roll over and smooch everyone. They couldn't resist this charming old fellow, and off he went to enjoy being the third well-loved dog in a wonderful home.

He is no longer "Homeless Homer."

Mary Carrier (NM)

Tugger is a great dog! All in all, he's a very young nine year old. He has filled a very big void and crawled right into our hearts.

Gladys and Bill Murray (PA)

## Alfie

(Seven-up)

An Airedale being held at a shelter was coming to the end of his time when he came to the attention of Airedale Rescue.

He wore a flea collar, a chain link choke, and a fancy leather collar with a pretty flower attached. Obviously someone's pet, but with no identification he was just another homeless dog.

The vet determined Alfie to be at least seven, possibly older.

During foster care, I found him to be a perfect, cooperative gentleman. The Donegans were quite happy to adopt a dog of unknown age to join their family, which included an 11 year old Irish terrier.

"Alfie is the best dog we've ever had...and we've always had dogs," said Tom, proud new dad.

Gerri McDonnell (NY)

## Danny-Girl

(Going on Twelve)

Petite and pretty, sweet and quiet, good with cats and kids and other dogs, it shouldn't have been hard to find a home for Danny. Only one problem . . . she was eleven and a half years old

It's not easy to move when you are elderly and Danny needed time to get used to a new environment. Better to hang back and keep my own counsel, she thought. It took a couple of months before Danny decided this new home would be okay.

Then little by little her Airedale spunk emerged and, now in her twelfth year, Danny revels in attention, loves her two mile daily walks, and is the first to announce a visitor or be at the door to greet a foster dog. She can toss a toy as high as any of her three Airedale siblings, and she is perfectly agile getting onto the choicest furniture.

But Danny won't have to get used to a new home again, though no one who has met her wouldn't adopt her on the spot.

She's our sweetheart now.

Barbara Curtiss (CT)

Libby is such a sweetheart. She's intelligent, and such a gentle creature. She fits in well with Raisin and Cognac. You have thanked *me* for taking seven-year old Libby, but I am the one who should be thanking *you*. She is a delightful beautiful dog.

JoAnn Szela (CT)

## Senior Citizens & Adult Dogs

*A Perfect Match!*

Like many people, senior citizens often start out thinking that they want a puppy. Often an adult dog would be a much happier and more sensible choice. We all forget how much work is involved in raising and training a puppy.

Many thoughtful seniors also take into account that a puppy's life span may stretch beyond their own. No one wants his or her much-loved pet to become homeless as an adult or as a canine senior.

## All in the family . . .

*From a Duluth, MN newspaper:*

Back in the 1920's my dad bought an Airedale that he named Muggins. He loved that dog. Years later he would say there's always one dog in your life that you never forget, one that stands out as a pet and companion no others come close to. He also told my sister and me that once you've had an Airedale, you'd never want any other kind of dog. Dad proved to be correct on both counts.

Through the years, he had other dogs, including three other Airedales all named Muggins. His choice of dogs naturally had an influence on other members of his family. Nowhere was it more evident than when he died. As the family gathered for his funeral, we all brought our dogs--all Airedales. As we walked them the day before the service, someone stopped us and asked if there was a dog show in town.

The tradition continues. A few months ago my sister lost her faithful canine companion of 15 years, vowing never to get another dog (how many times have we heard that one?). She called recently. "I'm getting another dog." And she proceeded to tell me about Airedale Rescue. Her new dog is Dolly. Then my daughter got wind of the Airedale Rescue and so she is now proud owner of another Airedale. His name is Bear.

Airedales have a unique personality, and to know one is to love one.

**Judy Cherveney (MN)**

### Order in the Court!

Rescue worker Nancy Steinbacher (NY) found herself called up for jury duty. While going through the jury selection process, Nancy discovered she was sitting next to another Airedale owner. An animated conversation and sharing photos of her rescue Airedale Max brought the bailiff over to restore order and calm to the court proceedings. Bring in the judge!

**Rescue work is never one person being a hero - it's the combined efforts of special people who will give of themselves for no other reason than the happiness and satisfaction they receive . . .**

**Carol Black, From Airedale Chronicles,  
Newsletter of the Sunshine Airedalers of South Florida**

## Inexcusable Excuses

*From "Dogs in Canada"*

Ralph was such an irresistible baby, so small and cute. But now he's 17, he's 6'3" tall, and weighs 200 pounds. We never dreamed he'd grow so big. We only have a small house in the city. A boy that size needs to live in the country with lots of room. And what an appetite! I guess we'll just have to find a nice home in the country for our son.



*Harry has been a marvelous husband, a good provider and an excellent father to our children, but now he's going bald. I just can't stand all the shedding. He's going to have to go.*



I suppose it's our fault for not training her better, but we've never been able to teach our daughter to keep her feet off the furniture. We just spent a fortune on having the house redecorated, and we don't want her ruining it. We'll either find her a new home or take her to the humane society. Maybe she'll be adopted by someone with old furniture.



*Darling, I'm sorry, but we'll have to get rid of the kids. The poor dog is allergic to them.*



# Pillow Talk



While waiting for the right Airedale through Rescue, Susan adopted the most hard-to-place cat the huge cat shelter had. A noble undertaking, but a complication when I considered dogs for her. Being "good with cats" is not part of every Airedale's resume, but at least a normal cat has the chance to run away, to defend itself, or to perch out of a dog's reach. Susan's new cat had been abused and due to severely atrophied leg muscles she could barely walk and sat depressed on a pillow on the floor. How could I find a dog who wouldn't take advantage of the helpless Pillow Cat?

As Susan massaged the cat's muscles and encouraged her to walk and stretch, a little progress was made after three months. But it was difficult to get Pillow Cat moving voluntarily and Susan couldn't always be home to coax her along.

Big, adolescent Duncan needed a special home, one where someone experienced with Airedales could make his behavior as beautiful as his looks. Susan would be perfect for the job, but what about poor Pillow Cat? Even if Duncan didn't see her as another stuffed toy to toss about, would he just be too rough, and mistakenly trample her while cavorting through the house?

Duncan bounded into Susan's house with the usual Airedale enthusiasm, checked out the cat food bowl and toys, and did a doubletake when the furry pile on the pillow blinked its eyes. As our hearts stopped for a second, Duncan lurched over to Pillow Cat, sniffed her immobile body.. .and gently nosed her. Then he went over to finish her food bowl. Pillow Cat stood up on wobbly legs and waddled off her pillow, not to get away but to follow Duncan. She was curious for the first time--who was this creature?

Duncan has remained gentle with her and she follows him everywhere. The exercise has strengthened her muscles, the friendship has jolted her out of her depression. Meanwhile Duncan enjoys a good chase after Susan's other normal, healthy cat whenever he gets a chance, but around Pillow Cat he remains an attentive nursemaid and friend and Pillow Cat's pro-gress gets better each day.

Barbara Curtiss (CT)

### **From You and Your Dog**

Dog owners don't need a list of studies by groups of PhDs to prove that their relationship with their dog is psychologically beneficial. It's hard to feel mad at the world when your terrier performs back flips at the mere sight of you pulling into the driveway. There's no doubt about it, your dog makes you feel good.

*My dog asks only for food and water, a daily walk or two, a scratch on the head now and then, and a ride in the car whenever possible.*

*She tolerates hikes in the hills, trips to the veterinarian, flea baths, detangle combs and two cats who had her number the day she walked in the door.*

*In return she lets me know that her chief joy in life is to be near me.*

*What did I ever do to deserve her?*

Jean Gildersleeve,  
Dog Fancy

*Why has this thing we call loving dogs lasted longer than virtually all other human activities? Because it is natural that our two species, both based on social structure and hierarchy for survival, should be together, each complimenting the other. And because it feels right and good.*

Roger Caras



# The Kindness of Strangers

## *Friends in Blue*

When an eight year old Airedale was found abandoned in a trailer, the local police fed and walked him until the ATC of Metro Washington could arrive at the scene to his rescue. The police involved certainly showed kindness beyond the call of duty.

Helga Adams (VA)

## *In From the Cold*

A groomer named Diane was told by a client about an Airedale seen tied to a tree out in the snow. The woman had driven past this scene which she noticed fleetingly from the interstate highway. The dog looked to her like an Airedale.

Diane had grown up with an Airedale, and though she had three rescued Greyhounds of her own now, she always had a soft spot for Airedales. The mention of this woeful dog bothered her all week and that weekend she drove two hours to the area the client had mentioned, driving back and forth in one section till she spotted the dog.

Diane made her way to the house, knocked on the door, and asked about the dog. "Oh him? We don't want him... take him if you want." And so she found herself with a filthy, skinny dog who had spent the snowy winter outside without shelter in Massachusetts.

She cleaned him up, fed him, and after 8 weeks called Airedale Rescue. "I was afraid if I called you right away you wouldn't take the him because he was in such pathetic shape."

Diane's kindness brought a beautiful dog a very happy ending.

Barbara Curtiss (CT)

## *Pound Dog*

For 14 weeks Max sat in a cement run at a town pound. The dog warden thought he was a great dog but had no idea he was an Airedale. But Linda Hill did. A fox terrier breeder, she just happened to spot this wooly animal as she passed one day.

But he was so matted and blown she couldn't be 100% sure he was an Airedale underneath that coat. So she brought her grooming table and clippers to the pound and set to work on him. No doubt about it, he was a handsome guy.

She called Rescue and offered to drive two hours to deliver him as well as take care of the warden's paperwork.

Max survived his 14 weeks of incarceration just fine and was soon placed in a loving home. But if a stranger named Linda hadn't come along he might still be a sad, lonely mop in the pound.

Barbara Curtiss (CT)

## *For Sale*

Jenny is a Bouvier rescue person. When she saw an ad running for an older "for sale" Airedale in her local paper, Jenny could not bear it, so she went to see the dog.

A sweet Airedale, he was in terrible shape: only 44 pounds, skin problems, and heartworm! But Jenny paid the asking price, brought the dog home, and got him vet care immediately.

Bear happily joined her canine family of five dogs. He gratefully soaked up the love and care she bestowed upon him.

Of course, Jenny loves him, too, and may decide to keep him herself if the "right home" is not found.

Sally Schnellmann (FL)

Without dogs, our lives might not be empty, but they would lack a certain joy, a certain sense of wonder, a certain link to the natural world that we as dog owners are fortunate to possess. There is a dimension to life with a dog that other people can never know.

A dog owner knows unconditional love and forgiveness. A dog owner knows that silent, comfortable companionship that comes with having a best friend. A dog owner knows that material possessions are fleeting, but a good dog is priceless.

Konrad Lorenz recognized this when he wrote in *Man Meets Dog*: "The fidelity of a dog is a precious gift demanding no less binding moral responsibilities than the friendship of a human being. The bond with a true dog is as lasting as the ties of this earth can ever be."

Kim Campbell Thornton, *Dogs USA*

## *What I Like About Sam*

is that all his emotions are pure. If he's upset, he howls. If he's happy, he smiles and rolls around on the floor. If he's sad, he whimpers operatically. You never have to guess with Sam; what he feels is right there out on the table—or all over your floor.

Still, it's surprising how happy a dog and its unmistakable emotions can make you. Sam is furry Prozac, ginseng with paws. One look at Sam's furry face and wet beard and all cares melt away.

But what's surprising about Sam is not how much he's taught me about dogs, but how much he's taught me about humans. For one thing, Sam responds better to positive reinforcement than criticism. Couldn't we say the same about us?

Tracey O'Shaughnessy  
*Waterbury American*

## Winston, Back to Stay

Seven years ago I rescued Winston from a shelter. I kept him until he was cured of heartworm, and then placed him in a good home with a young man who already had an Airedale. Winston was loved, but after two and a half years the owner was being transferred to an apartment where he could not take his dogs. I was able to place Winston in another good home where he was again cared for very well, but four years later this owner had to give up both of *his* dogs.

This owner contacted me and I went to see Winston. He was as delightful as I remembered him, only now he was ten years old! We already had two Irish Terriers aged 10 and 11, plus a cat, but my husband and I decided to take Winston ourselves this time.

Winston fit in very well. He loves his walks and treats, and he is well-behaved and a good watch dog. We feel he was meant to come back to us, and we are grateful we were able to take him when he needed help.

Helga Adams, (VA)

## My Favorite Song Is Happy Birthday

Gone are the days of eating pillows, stuffed animals, curtains, walls and couches. Now the closest I come to being a rascal is when I toss some pillows on the floor when I feel like lying down on the love seat (when no one is home).

Who says you can't teach an old dog new tricks? I learned to turn the VCR on with my nose! I drove my people crazy trying to figure out who was using the VCR until they caught me in the act!

I am the baritone when we all sing together. My favorite song is "Happy Birthday". If I hear it on the TV or radio, I sing right along with it. I even sing it to people over the phone!

I can't begin to thank you enough for finding me two parents who love me so much and spoil me like there is no tomorrow.

Love, licks and wags,  
Bialy Joshua Young (NJ)

## Tazzy

We were next door playing cards with our friends when another friend called to tell us that Tazzy was on the roof!

Eight of us came running out the front door to find Tazzy sitting at the corner of the first floor porch roof surveying his domain. When he saw us, he got up and began wagging his tail.

He had pushed the screen out of the bedroom

window and climbed out onto the roof. Ted went back in the house to the second floor and called him in from the window he had climbed out. Tazzy turned around and came in.

Meanwhile, quite a few of the neighbors were outside laughing about the whole episode. Tazzy did not seem frightened of the height, but he did seem aware of where the porch roof ends.

Anne (OH)

## "Free to Good Home"

An ad in the newspaper read:  
"Free to a good home."

They said she was two or three, but she appeared to be about eight. "Dale" was very playful and loved people. She couldn't get enough petting.

Imagine her delight to be placed in a home with a day care business. She loves children and enjoys all the hugging and petting.

I am so happy an older dog has found a loving home again.

Mary Carrier (NM)

## Grady

Grady arrived at my home in April, from our city pound. He had been picked up eating garbage behind a restaurant. He has a lovely hard coat, and a sweet disposition, but was incontinent, filthy, and had many new and old sores on his legs. He could not move his tail and he walked very stiffly.

X-rays showed he had been hit by a car, causing a spinal injury at the base of his tail, where nerve control to the tail and rectum originates. Only time would tell whether he would regain control of either.

After intensive vet care, an angel appeared by the name of Betsy, who adopted him and gave him love, discipline, and understanding of his special problems.

Grady is now completely healed, and has normal movement of his tail and bowels. He is a very happy, lucky dog that deserved a second chance.

Barbara Brown (MO)



# And We Get Letters



We are so happy with Chatham. If she had been "tailor made" she wouldn't have been more perfect for us. She seems to know that she can play with our son and grandson, but is very calm and slow with Norm and I. My son-in-law thought she was 4 months old instead of 4 years! We are so happy with her. Now our house is once again a home.

**Tracy Corliss (NJ)**

Heidi is cute, friendly, loving, and housebroken. She will make us happy again. Thanks!

**Eunice Lew (NY)**

Boudica's sixth birthday has passed and we are more in love with her than ever. Don't know how I'd survive without her here to make me laugh.

**Bonnie Hart (NY)**

Maggie is doing fine and dandy. She is so loving and affectionate with me. She loves my cats but when a strange cat comes in our yard she barks and chases it away. Our young cat caught a field mouse and brought it in the house and let it go. It scurried under the furniture, I screamed, the cat ran out, and Maggie tracked the mouse into the closet where it was frightened to death!

**Joy (PA)**

Gwennie is really part and parcel of our family--she is a real sweetie. We are very happy with her. She was well worth the long wait.

**Kay Tebo (NY)**

Jock is as sweet and lovable as any dog we have ever known. He is a VERY sound sleeper. We are sure he would protect us with his life -- if he woke up! Jock is very much the gentleman. But he must be told several times to sit to be leashed for a walk although it happens four times a day, as if this procedure is an indignity. Or perhaps it is his sense of humor. It goes with his grin, which he charms us with. He is a treasure. We have owned many different breeds but my husband and I agree that Airedales in general and Jock in particular are best!

**Carol Lynne Stroh (VA)**

Eppie has adjusted fully to apartment living. She is a real joy to me and to neighbors who once had dogs but didn't bring them here.

**Edna Smith (PA)**

Marley is great. He has a wonderful child-like personality and loves to tease. His loyalty is amazing, though.

**Patty and Jack (DE)**

Bismark has become a loving family member. He loves to romp and play non-stop, inside and outside. It's typical Airedale antics day and night.

**Mike and Cindy (NJ)**

We bonded right away. Archie is so affectionate, but has a mind of his own. You said he was full-blooded. Wrong! He's half mule! When we walk and he decides he'd rather not on this day, he puts on his brakes and is positively immobile, so I meekly turn around and we come home. He fills my house and knows he's here for keeps.

**Helene Day (NJ)**

Woody is a good and intelligent boy. He keeps us busy!

**Doris and Ed Martin (PA)**

I assure you Mr. Ha Ha remains somewhat naughty in his stealing food and paper. Nonetheless, he is fun and a dear and the first thing Bill asks when I visit is "How is the baby?"

**Frank Spitzer (PA)**

Jessie is doing really well. She seems happy to be here & hasn't done a single devious thing. We really love her.

**Kris and John Neufeld (NJ)**

Rocky has fit into the family with absolutely no problem. His only bad habit is his desire for food. He has no problem reaching up onto the dinner table if he thinks there is something good there. We want to thank you for getting Rocky to us. It is a perfect match.

**Bob Gross (PA)**



# And We Get Letters



Toby hasn't so much replaced the warm spot our first wonderful Airedale kindled, but rather he has created an entirely new one of his own. Toby literally stops traffic on our daily walks- primarily drivers with Airedale memories of their own to share, their faces glowing. These encounters have proven to be opportunities to spread the good news of Airedale Rescue, as people can't imagine that so fine a dog could be found this way.

**Richard Peebles and Doug Bloom (CT)**

Today Chelsea is all grown up and Homey's willing partner in Airedale crime. Their clowning, affection, and mischief brings smiles from neighbors and strangers alike. Many thanks, and three cheers for Airedale Rescue! **Christa & Gene Mc Garry (MN)**

I want to thank Airedale Rescue for being there and for bringing us a good Airedale. Desi is the best. We love her! (We even forgave her when she ate the frozen hamburgers left on the counter.

**Betty Steinbacher (NY)**

Brandy recognizes many objects now, including Frosted Mini-Wheats boxes, walking leash, the camper being loaded to go camping, the towel the family uses to wipe off her muddy feet, etc. She loves to share our laps furniture, food, cars and lives.

**The Woodward Family (OH)**

Tammy fit into our home and hearts right from the start. A sweeter, friendlier and more delightful dog would be hard to find. We are so grateful to your organization to have received such a very special gift--Tammy!

**Jack and Barbara Fruchtman (NY)**

We waited for two years for a dog and the minute we saw King we knew he was worth every day of the wait. At first we thought we would find our own name for him, but after thinking of every name possible our verdict was there is no name that fits our dog better than King. He truly acts like a king and now is treated like one. Our many thanks to Airedale Rescue. Our family is now complete!

**Gloria, Richard, Matthew, Marissa,  
Joshua and Zachary Fixler (NH)**

My days are always happy since I found my new family! My mom and dad were happy to see that I had had obedience training. Mom says that makes me a better citizen. Dad~ says I am an excellent guard dog and he likes that. Whenever I hear the doorbell ring I am at that door faster than Grant took Richmond! I have to go now because I hear the couch calling me for my afternoon nap. Thank you for finding my new family.. they light up my life!

**Sara Lee Hatas (OH)**

Last week Tyler discovered a nest of bees who chased him into the house. No bites but he didn't raise his tail for a while. He must have needed some soothing because the next thing I knew he was in the shower with me and insisted on being first. Thank you Airedale Rescue, you're the greatest!

**Susan Fox-Worth (OH)**

Dolly's wonderful spirit and love of life have brought us such joy! She is like a shadow, follows me everywhere, and I delight in taking her practically every place I go. Although no one can see us because the windows of the car are covered with slobbers! They say every laugh will add 5 minutes to your life. Well, Dolly has increased mine immensely. Dolly is the 5th Airedale to bless our lives, the first from Airedale Rescue and one of the brightest and most affectionate we have ever had. We adore her. I tell everyone who will listen about this wonderful organization.

**Mary Gade (IA)**

Jake is well. He's 7 years young. Our pride and joy.

**Walter and Marie Bates (NJ)**

Everyone loves me and my mistress thinks I'm the most beautiful girl around town. I wear a brightly colored scarf on my nightly walk and do quite nicely on the leash. I'm looking forward to my vacation in the Poconos! I'll never forget my best friends at Rescue.

**Ann Randle (PA)**

We are really happy with Sam and Misty. Their personalities are really shining through. They are both excellent with our three girls. I really feel lucky that we got to "help" these two dogs out. They fit in so well with our family and are a great pair. Thanks for our two terrific dogs!

**Nancy Smith (CT)**



# And We Get Letters



Trevor is doing so well. He's very, very affectionate. He walks so close to my legs sometimes I can't even walk. I assume he'll give me my space as time goes on. Or not. He's just great. He and Oxford play a lot. It feels like a race track sometimes!  
**Loly Nieve (FL)**

I'm doing just fine. I love my new home. Amber respects me but sometimes forgets I am a senior citizen and wants to get rambunctious. I just sort of sit there and let her get it out of her system and after a while she settles down . . . I acquired a blue cardigan which makes me look quite distinguished and my new medicine makes me feel a little rambunctious myself.

It's exciting at the barn---so many things to get into. The rest of the gang, Kelly, Patches, and Princess the Doberman are all fun to socialize with....The best thing is that I am the only gentleman! ...Gotta go... it's time to go for a walk with my new Mom, who is . . .

**Nelson Pennington (MD)**

I can't thank you enough for bringing Tessa into our home. She is really a delight. **Jo Hailes (MO)**

We speculate Sam is about nine years old. He is totally devoted, following me everywhere. He stays with my mom (79 years old) every day and is equally devoted to her. Sam has so enriched my life that I would do nearly anything to give others a chance at such a great way to get a dog.

**Edith Pendleton (FL)**

Pippi is a great dog. When she came to me after having been found roaming with no identification, she looked and acted frightened. The vet judged her to be about 8 years old. I treated her with kindness, praised her liberally, fed her well, and took her for frequent walks and rides, and soon Pippi developed trust in me. Five months later, Pippi is a typical Airedale: devoted, loyal, cooperative, playful, bossy, independent. We're equal partners now. **Irene Smith (CT)**

♪♪ We're just wild about Harry, and Harry's wild about us! ♪♪

Another happy ending! We could not have asked for a better match! He's surprisingly like Sparky in a lot of ways, but with less of the "spark", calmer and easier for my Mom, but still very active and friendly and playful. He loves to be with people, loves the water, and is settling into his new home very quickly. We're still getting to know each other, but...he's lying at my feet right now and looks like he's been here for years.

**Laurie Alexander (MD)**

Lucy really seems to feel at home here and we've learned so much more about her. That girl is really a mystery and we've enjoyed seeing the layers peel off like an onion. She loves being involved and is always eager to help. We figured she had never been exposed to a dog door, but she decided that it is almost as good as the sprinklers and now flies through with great grace and dexterity. Lucy has made many friends here and she loves it when company drops by.

**Bob and Kathleen Copeland (NM)**

Magnum is doing just great. He is a very funny dog, and he is very, very lovable. The backyard has become his kingdom. He loves his daily walks. He's not going to win any awards for obedience, but he sure tries to heel in spite of his nose! This pup truly believes he has found dog heaven. Thanks for sending us such a great friend. **Welles & Danni Purcell (CT)**

Kasper has ruled our house as if he was born here. He's our character . . . he loves everyone but doesn't want cars or people going by his house. He's very bright and learns new tricks easily. He also has followed Kate through the new full length screen door. We just had it fixed it was in 15 minutes and now we just leave the glass in, which we clean a dozen times a day . . . Life is never dull!

**Jeannie Whiteside (OH)**

Casey is a delight to us. Last night my husband had a late meeting. I was reading in bed with Casey on the rug on the floor. Suddenly there was a giant leap and Casey landed in the middle of the bed. I guess I was so surprised that I let him luxuriate in the moment. He plopped his head on my shoulder and began snoring soundly! We wonder why we waited so long to get a dog. I guess we just had to wait for someone as special as Casey to come along.

**Paula Westrate (MI)**

When Rocky died we really needed a dog to fill the gap in our lives. Well, Ashley is totally wonderful. I guess we were meant to be together. She is smart, eager to please, gentle, and fun. We have lever type doorknobs and Ashley learned to jump up and hit the lever to let herself in or out! She is just a wonderful dog. Thank you for all the good work the rescue team does for Airedale lovers and Airedales.

**Ann DeSocio (NJ)**

# *Bart*

When Bart's owner was incarcerated, he asked the Sheriff if he could go "shoot his dog" before they took him to jail. The Sheriff told him that would not be necessary. If he would tell them where the dog was, someone would get him and take him to a shelter.

A volunteer firefighter went out to get Bart, who was tied to a tree, with a collar bolted onto him and a chain with three bolts. Realizing that Bart was a purebred Airedale, he called our Airedale Rescue. My husband met the firefighter and received Bart.

Bart, having lived the entire two years of his life tied to a tree in the mountains, was, as you would expect, very shaggy. Underneath it all, I found him to be healthy, but underweight; however, he was unable to lift his tail due to an earlier injury. I knew it probably would take some time and a bit of patience to housebreak and socialize Bart. But, first things first, and after a good grooming and a couple of weeks of proper food, special attention and kind words, he began to show real promise!

A man who had recently lost his old pit bull called about adopting an Airedale. I was skeptical, but he insisted he could love and train Bart. I checked with his veterinarian, who assured me that Ken would not give up on Bart. He said that Ken had experienced similar challenges with great success, when he'd rescued the pit bull from unsavory owners.

Well it's been almost a year, and the adoption has proved to be one of great ones. Bart now enjoys a luxurious life with Ken and his wife. He sleeps with Ken; he "talks" and says "Hello" when Ken comes home.

*Now Bart can even wag his poor broken tail and does so nearly all day long!*

**Sheri Beattie, DVM (CO)**

## *A Very Special Thank You To*

*the people who have opened their hearts and homes to give an Airedale a second chance,  
those very special folks who were willing to love an Airedale who was old or ill,  
rescue workers who give what is most precious: time,  
vets who provided affordable veterinary care for rescue dogs,  
boarding kennels who give special rates to rescue dogs,  
all who have made donations of money, crafts, supplies, grooming, and training expertise*

*And a special salute to Airedales,  
who make the work worth doing and worth doing well.*