

AIREDALE RESCUE 911

Annual Newsletter of the Rescue Committee of the Airedale Terrier Club of America

October 2001

Editor: Barbara Curtiss

9th Edition

PLAY BILL EDITION

Each year, for various reasons, many Airedales across the country find themselves in need of new homes. Sometimes they are lost or abandoned. Most often, however, these dogs are unwanted simply because they have become an inconvenience for their owners. It might be because of a new baby, a move, a divorce or a remarriage, a new job, illness, death, or allergies. Sometimes Airedales are found in shelters, picked up as strays, or removed from neglectful situations.

The ATCA Rescue Committee recognizes and supports local rescue efforts, networks people who can be contacted when an Airedale needs help or someone is interested in adopting a homeless dog.

Some Stars of our 2001 Rescue Drama

Each dog here was the hero in his/her own drama this year, a drama with its own supporting characters, conflict, and happy ending. With such a huge cast, it is impossible to present all their stories, but their names (and age) deserve notice. As you scan through these names, keep in mind the many hours of work and effort that went into making these names reach this newsletter (* denotes child actors, some names shortened to fit the marquee).

Fargo,4	Roesvelt*	Blackie,3	Jan,3	Bruno3	Lito,4
Georgie2	Brandy*	Carie,9	Magic,9	Oliver,1	Higgins,5
Sarah,1	Sam*	Harry,10	Janei,5	BigBen,6	Maggie10
Edgar,2	McTavish	Frances,3	Max,1	Smatha4	Mulligan2
Henery,1	Dobi,5	Mike,5	Leeds,5	Bear,7	Indian,1
Dave,1	Red,1	Mary,12	York,11	Guinness,5	Tully,6
Tucker,1	Zeno,3	GW,4	Grant,7	Riley,3	Caesar,4
Mollie,6	Kelly,6	Karn,8	JustSo,2	Maddie,3	Margo,3
Joe,7	Brandy,7	Traveler,6	Pin-Up,11	Baylee,2	Reilly,2
Ike,4	Rex,7	Otto,13	Acedale,7	Ruthie*	Brew,11
Sanford,4	Arrow,1	Archie,4	Judy,5	Tory,5	Rowdy,5
Chester,2	Magen,4	Torry,1	Mary,5	Brillo,3	Missy,2
Raleigh,7	Rex,3	Solo,6	Giness13	Shamus7	Hurley,1
Charley,2	April,4	Dock,4	King,12	Rosie,5	Tori,4
CharlieB3	Teila,4	Tamer,7	Preston12	Ziggy*	Bailey,1
Cindy,8	Marcie,9	Horner,4	JellyBea7	MaxPat3	Abby,4
Muffin,2	Ray,11	Andrew2	Owen,5	Guliver1	Arthur*
Curley,6	"O",3	BigMig3	Henry,4	Sandy,10	Arthur,5
Britta,3	Sally,5	Chesmu8	Gretta,8	Windsor,5	Beau*
Moe,8	Mackie,4	Tuntra,7	Suzi,8	Kizzie*	Beau,5
Rita,7	Cornell,8	Nellie,12	Eddie,5	Oliver*	Beauty,1
Maxie,4	Candis12	Holly,7	Cora,11	Libby*	Clancy,6
Buddy,9	Dyno,8	Tony,2	Krasi,12	Lily*	Dudley,4
Lewis,4	Scoper,6	Ticket,8	Shoemoos	Max*	Daisy,3
Tye,1	Ecco,5	Florrie,5	Barley,2	Harry*	Fudge,2
Shin,3	Hays,11	Kennie,13	Cloe,2	Duffy,5	Hailey,2
Copper*	Endive,4	Davied,7	Cindy,5	Argos*	Harmon1

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Hilda,1	Sally,1	Pepper,9	Maggie,1	Riley*	Ozzie,1
Holly,1	Kurly,1	Lance,2	Max,1	Sara,1	Penny,4
Jack,1	Chewy,1	Elvis,6	Max,7	Sherlock9	Jake,1
Lincoln,9	Jack,1	Preston,2	Girl,1	Morgan*	Lady,7
Mollie*	Cassie*	Truman,2	Boy,1	Zelda,1	Max*
Marley*	Jack	Abby,5	Abby,6	Meg,1	Brady,1
Moses,5	Lucy*	Leo,1	Jasper,2	Lucky*	Max,1
Mozart,8	Annie,2	Beau,4	Dixie,3	Ziggy,1	Chelsea,7
Merlin,5	Lil,6	Henry*	Angus,4	Lily,1	Oliver*
Merlin*	Rafferty,1	Buddy,5	Bailey*	Jasper,1	Bailey*
Munjie*	Annie,3	Chance,5	Lincoln,8	Flynn,4	Jack*
Nupe,5	Abby,5	Abbey*	Leea,4	Jake*	Sammy,1
Nellie,11	Micah,1	Tres*	Marley,8	Silas*	Hershey*
Phoebe*	Jack,1	Molly,5	Murra,2	Murphy,2	Tess,2
Pepsi,1	Red,2	Angel*	Rugar,2	Belle,2	Clara,5
Rupert,1	Gypsy,8	Tann,6	Ellie	Bailey,1	Rocky,1
Sophie,5	Tanner,1	Dave,6	Shooter*	Rosie,5	Bianca,3
Soldier,2	Georgia,1	Natashia5	Marley,4	Killian,6	Winston,2
Tallulah,1	Henry*	Boris,5	Buster,2	Bodie,2	Blue,2
LittleG,3	Theo*	Max,1	Sammie*	Molly*	Lucy,4
Claire,1	Ariel*	Maggie,2	Buster,2	Echo*	Reggie,1
Visco,1	Stanley,4	Walter,1	Sammie*	Guinness*	Sheba,1
Nancy,4	Titus*	Wendy,5	Moxie*	Rufus*	Win,9
Wills,2	Crissy,5	Demetrie,	Adam*	Xena*	Anna*
Flynn,4	Bonnie,2	8 Zoe,1	Duke*	Pup*	Archie,3
Homer,2	Sully,1	Hobbes,3	Murphy*	Kilbey,3	Annabel,3
Jasper,6	Dahli,4	Hailey,1	Gabriel*	Teddy,1	Grechen*
Meggie,6	Buddy,5	Brooke,6	Arlus*	Elsie*	Hobbes,4
Callahan2	Dale,2	Fagan,4	Rudy*	Reba,7	Daisy,6
Dave,1	Curly,3	Auggie,3	Theo*	Stacy,1	Behr,1
Buddy*	Lucky,1	JR,5	Max*	Gracie,3	Charlie,2
Harrett,2	Jack	Sasha,6	Katie,4	Amos*	Shelby,2
Oliver,1	Hayden,5	Kellie,2	Tigger,1	Macey,2	Bixby,5
Macabees5	Ginger,2	Violet,6	Ber,4	Daisy,1	Skinner,7
Lucy,3	Gracie	Annie,7	Winnie,6	Arthur,3	Grace,1
Lady,5	Russano,1	Riley	Alf,13	Jake,3	Hannah,7
Rob,3	Torrey,7	Dudley,3	Stoney,1	Duke*	Maddie
Timber*	Stanly,3	Tuie,5	Max*	Alex,5	Sunny,1
Benny*	Shatzi,7	Brewstr10	Winston,2	Max,3	Dixie*
Allie*	Blue,3	Riley*	Honey,2	Ber,2	Smokie,5
Georgie,5	Gypsy*	Briar,4	Millie*	Max,4	Teddy,2
Farley,2	Austin3	Rupert,1	Mandi,3	Owen*	Roxy,1
Jazz,5	Sammy,2	Sadie,3	Belle*	Willie*	Dixie,7
Scully,7	Snuffy*	Sophie,12	Job,2	Brandy,1	Molly,7
Alex,9	Edgar,1	Tommy*	Magic,2	Chance*	May,1
Joey,9	Nicholas5	Calvin,8	Fozzy,2	Cory,5	Dylan,9
Maggie,4	Robbie	Tax,6	Winston,5	Madelin2	Molly,2
Rufus,14	Maggie,5	Macy,6	Shae,6	Seamus*	Darby,6
Joey,2	Motzi,1	Dreyfus,2	Alby*	Baxter,4	Jane,3
Zeke,9	Ranger*	Lucy*	Abbey*	Trooper,5	Pride,3
Sophie,4	Crystal*	Tuck,2	Major,2	KC,3	Pete,2
Peppy,13	Sadie,5	Sadie,1	Duke*	Duggan,2	Hamton,3
Frodo,5	Max,2	Zeena,3	Sam,11	Bo,2	Chester,7
Sarah,2	Pella,9	Sophia,8	Emma,2	Splash,3	Patrick,2
Chloe*	Grover,2	Romey*	Casey,4	Bosley,2	Hunter,4
Maxine5	Jack,1	Brimmy	Meggie,7	Cindi,2	Molly,2

Happy,2	Puppy1*	Sox,	Otis	Sandy	Candy
Bashful,2	Puppy2*	Topper	Emma	Frisky	Goldie
Baby,2	Louie*	Harry,	Rascal	MaxBoy	MaxaMill
Henri*	Moose*	Fred	Patch	Erin	Gizmo,3
Max,2	Boswell,7	Fletcher	Jasper	Maggie	Holly,2
Champ*	Jack,5	Monty	Jazzman	Andy	RingStar5
Elliott,7	Georgie,5	Josie	Peabody	Heide	PepperSpi
Cookie*	Mollie*	Willy	Emmerso	Ruby	Molly,6
Monroe*	Buster*	Tosh	Abby	Leo	Charlie,5
Charlie,4	Archie,7	Bo	Marley	Polly	PeterLig*
Ally,2	Barney,9	Rocky	Diasy	Ruby	JumpinJ,1
Maddie,3	Juno,6	Class	Elvis	Oliver	BobbyM6
Rusty,2	Nick,1	Ralph	Pepper*	Sparky	Arlo*
JohnDo,3	Nayna,4	Sally	Beau*	Lucky	Duchess,3
Kiper,5	Farley,2	Jenny	Fabu*	Moir	Ben,12
Merlin,2	KC,3	Tina	Sophi*	Rex	Angus,8
Molly*	Vanna,2	Spike	Murphy*	MillieBell	Maggie,9
Roxie*	Beau,2	Zoe	Pongo	TeddyBea	Bart,2
Ziggy,3	Peerless,2	Brandy	Bentley	Rowdy	Jim,7
Emma,2	Harbor,2	Reese	Zoey	Sebastian	Ginty,5
McGruff*	Jimmy,7	Charlie	Winston	Twiggy	Trooper*
Roxanne,2	Scully,7	Sampson	Chancey	Maggie	
Raven,3	Alex,9	Val	Hercules	Arthur	
Star,3	Maggie,4	Toby	Rowdy	Max	
Holly,3	Stella*	Happy,3	Vickie,5	Jazz*	Quipos,7

Airedale Actors' Equity guaranteed that all these characters would be given the best role in the play: someone's loved companion. Some came to their debut with complete resumes, others had no c.v. nor known work experience. No favoritism was shown those with documents, however, and all were given time to try out for the right parts in their lives' future scenes. They were assigned roles based on their observed character: comics, straightmen, princesses, tough guys, dignified gentlemen, athletes, or clowns! All were welcome to their debut in Airedale Rescue productions, but encores are not encouraged.



Foster brothers share a Stage Whisper

AIREDALE RESCUE SHOW TIME : Scenes 1 and 2

Scene 1: Car Setting

Nine and a half year old Airedale Andy and Heide had seen really hard times. Financial problems and mental illness had fallen on their former owner and for the previous year or more, the dogs and their owner had been living in the only home they had, her car. When this lady was finally admitted to a mental facility the dogs were placed in a shelter where they had to stay for several months until the lady finally signed papers allowing Airedale Rescue to take custody of them. By this time these older dogs were very thin, lonely and confused.

In January Florida rescue volunteers received word they could take the dogs! They immediately were removed from the shelter and the rescue process began.

1)provide immediate veterinary physicals and care, 2)Build them up nutritionally to prepare them for neutering and spaying, 3)Restore their Airedale spirit and trust with lots of TLC, 4)See if special folks could be found to give senior rescues a chance for a forever home. And...could they possibly stay together? But wait! There's more!



Heide and Andy

Charlie and Margaret of Miami were still in mourning over the recent loss of their beloved rescue Airedale Elsie to cancer. When they heard the plight of Andy and Heide, there was no hesitation, though. Of

course they would adopt both dogs. What a wonderful way to honor the memory of Elsie—by opening their hearts to give a loving home to these two dogs. Andy and Heide adjusted quickly and are thriving, living happily with their new humans, plus canine siblings Morgan the Welsh Terrier, and Susie, the Jack Russell Terrier!

Sally Schnellmann, FL

Scene 2: The Christmas Gift

She arrived Christmas Eve day so I named her "Holly" She had been abandoned in a Home Depot parking lot on Long Island about ten days before and was wearing no collar. She was taken to a nice shelter where she was bathed and evaluated. After the mandatory hold time, she came to NY Rescue. She was groomed and looked well cared for so it was hard to imagine that no one was looking for her for the month just passed.

Spayed, about 3 years old, Holly has a wonderful personality. She loves people, children, and other dogs. I think God sent her so I'd have another body in the house on Christmas morning. A local couple came two weeks later to meet her on their six month wedding anniversary. They barely made it in the front door before they were on the floor playing with her, and a week later she went to live with Joanne and Eugene.

Holly's wonderful temperament makes her an ideal candidate to become a therapy dog, which she and Joanne are pursuing. She endears herself to all who meet her. A visiting friend who was leery about staying in a house with an Airedale, left singing her praises, and later sent a huge box full of doggie toys and treats to Holly when he returned home! A gift for a gift.

Candy Kramlich, NY

"It is, hopefully, never easy for an owner and a family to surrender a dog that they have loved and lived with since puppyhood. Each of us can never know what life circumstances might force us to surrender our Airedales into Rescue, doing what is best for them, and most difficult for us. This is the circumstance around Winston's coming to me, a decision made with forethought, compassion, and a wounded heart. Winston is a true angel..a wonderful Old Gent. He gets along with everyone here and seems to take new adventures right in stride. His perfect house manners and sweet disposition speak volumes for the family that raised him." Kate Sitzman, OH

Show Time, Scenes 3 and 4

Scene 3: Wild Child

Airedales end up in Rescue for many reasons. Some are lost or abandoned, others from abusive homes. And some are so confident and full of themselves that the average dog-lover finds herself in way over her head! Erin was an adolescent "wild child" whose boundless energy, strong will, craving for attention, and mischievous streak ran her humans ragged. Their four attempts at obedience classes failed. Although they loved her, they realized that Erin needed an owner who was up to the challenge of channeling that energy.

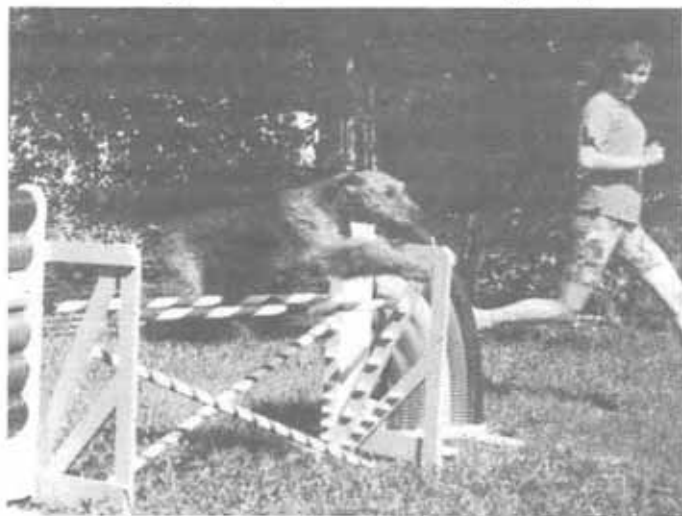
Erin has an active mind. She is happiest when she is working through a mental challenge. If left to her own devices, she creates her own entertainment. This attribute actually makes her quite easy to train. When Erin starts looking for trouble, that is a prime opportunity to initiate a training session. Erin's eyes light up and she starts offering tricks as soon as the clicker comes out. Training is a game to her. It requires concentration and allows her to be creative in figuring out how to get the click/treat. And she gets to be the center of attention. But most importantly, Erin has learned that cooperating with her human is more rewarding than going it on her own.

Erin is now three years old. She had an amazing spring. This "wild child" finished four agility titles in three months, usually coming in first place! Erin is willing to try

things that seem difficult and will work hard to learn something new, just because I ask her to. She is a devoted partner in the game of dog training. This devotion has carried over into other areas of life. Recently we went canoe camping for nine days. At one camp, the humans were jumping off a tall cliff into the lake. When my turn came, I screamed as I jumped. Erin, thinking I was in trouble, leaped up, ran around the cliff, jumped off a rock and swam out to save me. Erin hates to swim, but she was willing to do it in order to help me. I was very touched by her bravery. I feel that the time we spend training together has forged a relationship that incorporates love, trust, cooperation and a willingness to go to extraordinary lengths for each other. That's what teamwork is all about. That's what living with Airedales is all about! Christie Williams, IN

Scene 4: Call the Police

If there were such a thing as a genie, Rescue's wish would be to be able to ask dogs to answer one question: "Can you tell us where you came from and what has happened to you in your life so far?" Instead, we have to make guesses, age, name, experiences with people and dogs and cats, and just about everything. Lito was found along an Interstate. A police car slowed down and opened the door, and in jumped an Airedale! Recently groomed and friendly, the dog went back to the police station for the day, enjoying all the attention of the busy place. But by evening, he had to be taken to the city pound, where he stayed for the required holding time. Rescue came for him the moment he was free. He has remained silent on all questions put to him, but obviously he had been someone's loved pet, and after a bad moment on the road of life, he is so once again. In fact, his adopter is a policeman, but now his rides in a cruiser end up back at his own comfy home instead of the city pound! Barbara Curtiss, CT



Show Time, Scenes 5 and 6

Scene 5: Mystery Theatre

In February, I struck up a conversation with a very nice elderly woman in an oral surgeon's office. We talked of cats because of the cat pictures on the wall and then she told me she had a dog at home also. To my surprise, she said her dog, Peggy, was an Airedale, a thirteen year old at that! We talked about Airedales and I gave her my rescue brochure which had my telephone number on it in case she wanted to chat some more about Airedales at another time. I did not ask her name or get her phone number, as many older people are very careful about releasing that information.

Days passed and I thought of her and wondered if she would ever follow-up with a call to me. A call came, but it was from her daughter. The lady had been killed in a car accident (two others also died) and it took the authorities three days to find her daughter. Peggy and her kitty friend survived three days in the home until the daughter was notified and was able to get to them. When the daughter walked into the home, my Airedale Rescue brochure was lying on the table. She called me after she got Peggy settled in a kennel, telling me that my chance meeting with her mother was way beyond a coincidence. She said her mother rarely spoke to strangers as she suffered from a form of paranoia. It surprised her that her mother had had a conversation with me at all, and then she asked if I could help find Peggy a new home.



Peggy, in a drama stranger than fiction
Ordinarily this would be a challenging task, but I knew immediately who would

give Peggy her forever home. My parents who live next door to me had lost their Springer and were waiting for me to come across a special needs rescue so they could do their part for our beloved Airedales. Peggy went "home" to them.

Since she arrived, Peggy has absolutely blossomed and is acting younger every day. She comes next door and plays with my young Airedale every day. Peggy has now turned 14!

I felt like this whole story was predetermined, that I was just following a pre-set scenario, like an actress acting out her part in a play. Helping Peggy, and the old woman, was very special.

Jann Rogers, WA

Scene 6: River Run

River came to me 40 pounds underweight, with an open wound on his abdomen, missing hair all over, and could barely keep his head up when he walked. He was infested with worms and sarcoptic mange. It took a few months of TLC, as River turned into a really sweet, energetic Airedale who would do anything for food.

I learned that Melissa in Atlanta was looking for a young, larger Airedale that she could train for agility using the clicker method. Might River be the right dog for her? A few conversations later we both believed he was what she wanted. I sent her a videotape showing him with my dogs and cat and she was hooked! We met at a half-way point and she said River was the dog for her!

While I was sad to see this nice dog go, I knew that he would do just fine in his new home. He's doing great with Melissa and her other dog, and one day we will see him compete in agility. It's hard to believe that the dog I picked up months before, who could barely hold his head up then, is now running and playing. His Airedale heart just needed a body to keep up with it!

Zana Curley, LA

Show Time, Scenes 7 and 8

Scene 7: Mission Impossible Today is a special day, my mom said we are going into the BIG city, there may be some of my relatives to see. Wow! Come on mom, let's go!

We drive north toward the real big lake. We look at lots of birds, boats, sand on the beach...it's a sunny day. My mom is making this squealing noise with the radio and they both sound like a cat I once caught at the park. We stop by my favorite eatery...Burger Place...yum!

Our first stop is at a big brick building. Mom says she's going in to see if my relatives are there. I'll stay in the car and finish my lunch. When she finally comes back to the car, she says, "No relatives there, Jake." She is no longer squealing with the radio, and her face is all wet. I give her a lick, but that doesn't help, more water keeps coming down from her eyes. "Where's my relatives? Mom? Mom? Are you okay?" Silence

Finally we go outside and sit in the sun and I listen to her. "Jake, we didn't see any Airedale relatives at that place today, but I saw a lot of your cousins, who just like you at one time need a home and a family. One little Airedale-mix gal went for a walk with me. She saw the birds, the sun, smelled the trees, shared some of your treats. While we walked I told her that life is unfair to all of us sometimes, that soon she'd be chasing rabbits and squirrels and playing with Airedales who had gone over the rainbow...tomorrow is her day to go."

Life is good for us Airedales when people like my Mom find us in time. But there are too many cousins out there down on their luck. Even though we didn't see any of my Airedale relatives today, we won't stop looking. So I hope all of you out there are keeping your eyes wide open, too. Please check your county and city kennels, SPCA's, newspapers, humane societies, and pounds. We don't want a relative slipping by when we could help.

As told to Sandi Sprankle by Jake, Ohio

Scene 8: Frying Pan Dog

An abused 11 month old male Airedale was taken from an elderly man observed beating the dog over the head with a frying pan until the dog bled. Christened "Trooper" in honor of the two NY State troopers who rescued him, his life till then was spent tied outside to a tree with two feet of chain and no shelter—just the frying pan to hold his food and water. He was probably being beaten because he was jumping in excitement for any human contact.

A wild, dirty, hairy, matted mess, it is doubtful he'd ever been walked on a leash, bathed, or brushed. Groomed and neutered, he turned out to be a handsome dog, with a tail that never stops wagging. He responded well but not for long periods to firm but gentle reminders about "no mouth", "gentle", and "no jump." He was full of life and wanted to share his enthusiasm with you. He loved his soft bed, daily meals, and lots of toys. But he would need a special home, with experienced folks willing to work with this diamond in the rough.



Laurie and Dave were the right people, and drove the nine hour drive from Ontario to come for him. The guards at the border were quite taken by him and his story!

Trooper has completed the third level of obedience classes. He now goes to the Farmers' Market, band concerts, for rides in a canoe, and plays his own special game of "fling the bucket" He is a tribute to what love, commitment, and hard work can accomplish. Candace Kramlich, NY

Show Time: Scenes 9 and 10

Scene 9: The 7th Broom

Bobby Magee was dropped at a shelter saying they couldn't deal with him anymore. He had been taught to play very roughly and then had been abused for it. He was afraid when I picked up the broom and sneaked up on doors then ran through quickly. His play was to use his mouth on my arms and legs—not meanly, but leaving bruises.

I used nothing but "good boy" for the right stuff and "ouch" for his mouth on me. Bobby killed six brooms of mine; my response was to pick up the pieces and throw them away. I said nothing to him except if he came near when I was cleaning up. I talked to him nicely.

For six months I worried where I'd place Bobby. No elderly, no kids.

Bobby is not only a handsome dog, but also a happy, wagging tail once he trusted that the hand coming towards him was to touch him gently and lovingly. I worked with him so long and intensively, I fell in love and decided to adopt him myself. He now goes to my local hospital and a couple of nursing homes as a therapy dog.

My seventh broom is still intact.

Alicia Caldwell, PA

Scene 10: Special Bonds

The owner of 3 year old Duchess was going to have the dog euthanized for nipping. We fostered her and found her to be very sweet, no aggression at all. She was adopted by a fine Airedale family which includes a 16 year old mentally challenged daughter. During the week this teen lives in a group home, but she comes home on the weekends. Duchess constantly follows her around. The daughter is afraid of the dark. Until now, her mother had had to go up to bed with her and stay till she falls asleep. But now Duchess goes to bed with her and sleeps at the foot of the bed. The daughter feels very secure with her new-found friend. Their mother is ecstatic about the bonding the two of them have done!

Denise Lucas, NY

RAVE REVIEWS

"I'm writing to give you an update on how wonderfully Margo is doing. We've had her for three months now and she is truly wonderful and smart and sweet. She's been on lots of field trips with us. She's really fantastic with everyone she meets, including children. We're having tons of fun with her and we are so very, very glad you called us in her time of need. We delight in giving Margo tons of love, and she does the same for us. Quite fortuitously, you matched a



very affectionate Airedale with very affectionate people and we're all benefiting!" Jeff and Kristen, MA

"Alex came to me as a skinny free spirit with a lack of focus and manners. After a year of intense behavior modification and a strong unwavering commitment, a remarkable transformation occurred. Alex became a gentle giant who realized he was home and we were his family. He was my guardian, friend, and testament to what can be achieved when you set your mind and heart to task. I was not prepared to be separated from my best friend, but he is now buried on our farm next to other terrier family members. I am forever grateful for Airedale Rescue finding my guardian angel and joining us together." Heather, MD

Show Time: Scenes 7, First but not last Performances

Scene 7: Lights, Camera, Action!

One day in July, something made me stop what I was doing and look for a grooming table for my wonderful Monte. During the search, for the table, I stumbled on Airedale Rescue. I thought I'd drop the Arizona team a line and let them know I was here if they needed help. Boy, did they! And as they say...the rest is history.

Seems that a lady in Nevada had just called them to say she had to "get rid" of her Airedale because they were moving and could someone come get the dog. My first rescue had begun! I called the phone number and was told by a boy that "she couldn't wait, she took the dog to the pound." Yikes! But at least I learned from him that HoneyBear was purebred, 5 years old, had always lived in the back yard (out here in the desert!), and was at the city shelter.

I jumped in the car and went right out to find her. There I found a dog that resembled an Old English Sheepdog with dread locks. She must have had a good ten pounds of hair on her. In 113 degree heat! I couldn't wait to get the poor girl out.

After a long aromatic ride home through two cities, we headed straight to the bath tub. By the end of the evening we had her groomed and were looking at the prettiest little female Airedale! Long story short, she now has a wonderful new home. She is in training with her new owner, and was such a blank slate that they are thoroughly enjoying getting to work with her.

Two days later...I was back in rescue business. I saw a dark picture of a dog on an animal shelter website and thought it just might be an Airedale. Off I went, up and down the shelter lines, hoping it wasn't an Airedale, hoping it was. Sure enough, there she was, in a cage with a Chow and an Akita, well groomed, looking out at me. Turns out her master had passed away at the age of 80, but out of her five grown male children, none could be bothered with taking her in and she had been delivered to the shelter. They left no name for her, no collar,

no information except that she was 5 years old, purebred, and the name of the deceased owner.

So, now I had a beautiful, confused, once-loved Airedale now alone and without a name. I knew the owner's name had been Cecilia, so I thought maybe this was a sound that she would be familiar enough with. Maybe it would be a kind sound to her, so CeCi she became. She took to it right away and answers to it as if it had always been her name. She will find a home as wonderful as HoneyBear's. Meanwhile, Monte is teaching her about life on a ranch, and quite enjoying these visiting girl friends!

I still don't know what led me to that Airedale Rescue site. I didn't even know there was such a thing as Airedale Rescue, how could a beautiful Airedale ever be homeless, I had thought. Well, now I know, and I am so glad to be involved with this



meaningful work. HoneyBear and Ceci would never have had happy years ahead... and the mystery of who will next need me is a page yet to be turned. But I know I will be ready when the call comes. I wish I had known about this project long ago. I'm sure there are other clueless people all over like me who would want to help if only they knew how fulfilling it is. Find your closest rescue veteran, offer to help, and see where it leads you!
Rusty LaFrance, NV

Dogs are remarkably adaptable. It is fascinating to watch them blossom when they finally make it to a home that understands and appreciates them. Sydnev Hardie. AZ

"We added 12 year old Murphy to our family in June and love him dearly. He is so happy to be in our home and not tied outside in the cold all day and night. He's so happy to be awarded treats—gets this 'Is that tidbit really for me?' look in his eyes. He loves his warm bed and adores the other Airedales and worships us...how much better can it get?" Maureen, CAN

"Nigel is running the show. He has developed into the remarkable dog we all hoped was under that fearful exterior. He is an Airedale through and through, full of himself and loving life. Thank you for having faith in him and us." Elaine, PA

"Millie is having her day of beauty today. She loves it! She's very affectionate and everyone loves her. She really keeps us laughing. Thank you for choosing her for us." Kathy and Michael, NJ

"Prinnie is the most wonderful girl in the whole world. We cannot believe that we are so lucky to have found our treasure with your help. We are forever grateful to Airedale Rescue. We love her more than words can say." Toby, PA

"We want to let you know how much we love having Harrison in our lives. He has been at work with me everyday for the last year, sleeping under my desk and protecting my trash can from the cleaning people! We are ready to get him a playmate, as the cat is getting tired of filling that roll, so keep us in mind for a young female to add to our family." James, DC

"Bill took the boys to the vet's for a check up. Mac has gained weight and Mr. Dickens has lost nine pounds. He has certainly been more active, burning up the calories when the neighbors let their cats out. Every time I complain about my unsuccessful diet plans, my husband recommends that I take up chasing cats!" Carol, Alaska

"Sonora had a hard time at first, she just laid around and looked sad, but slowly she perked up. She really loves her walks because there is at least one dog at every

house she needs to talk to each morning, just to make sure nothing has changed since the day before! We love her so much...it is so true that they bring their love with them! Thank you for helping us find our little girl!" Lee and Diane, AZ

"Baxter is a sweetie! He doesn't bark at delivery people, guests, or ringing doorbells. He likes walks, some pulling but not wild. Some obedience work is in line but not crucial. He's a terrific match! Incredibly so, given we had no idea how he'd be, a serious, gentle, quiet guy." Judie, VA

Take A Bow

Every one of you who has in any way helped in the happy endings for the over six hundred Airedales this year, we offer profound thanks. We cannot begin to mention you in The Credits, any more than we can begin to tell the story of each individual dog that came through the hands of rescue volunteers this year. These pages are the smallest sampling of the never-ending drama.

Thank you to all of you who included a donation to the rescue fund with your annual dues notice, for those of you who have sent donations in memory of a loved one, or for a special occasion. For the remarkable Quilting Bee, a standing ovation. And for those of you who have opened your hearts and homes to give an Airedale a second chance, especially those willing to love an Airedale who was old or ill or behaviorally-challenged. Thank you to the vets who provided affordable care for rescue dogs, and boarding kennels who gave special rates. Thank you to all who have made donations of crafts, supplies, grooming, and training expertise. Thank you to the fosterers, the transporters. Thank you to all who have given what is most precious: time. And rousing applause to Airedales, who make the work worth doing and worth doing well.

The Last Act: Boudica's Legacy

Our beloved Boudica died Tuesday morning. She died of kidney failure. She had been having a few problems, but all in all it was sudden and, thank God, painless. She died in our arms.

I know you understand how devastated we are. She was the center of our life—our heart. Since you were so kind as to let her adopt us, everything changed. All of it because of her.

We took Boudica everywhere with us. She went to Florida for the sun, to Michigan to see the family. She was featured in the formal family photo taken when Paul's parents had their 50th anniversary. She went to Canada camping, to the Adirondacks where we camped out on an island that we had all to ourselves. She played on the beach on Nantucket and went skiing in Vermont. She traveled to Atlanta for the 1996 Olympics. Her last trip was to Detroit over Thanksgiving to be with Paul's mom.

Boudica loved to ride in the car. The whole back seat was hers. The well was stuffed with foam and she had a thick fleecy bed on top of the whole thing. She was always very patient while her mom was trying to figure out how the heck her doggie seatbelt fastened.

Because of Boudica, we met our best friends (at dog school). Our whole social life revolved around her. We're in the city, so we walked her three times a day. We got to know all the dog people in the neighborhood. We walked with them, went to the dog run in Riverside Park, ate at the Dog Run Café on beautiful summer evenings, and walked through the snow drinking our hot coffee from Broadway in the winter.

Boudica was my reason for getting up in the morning. In the last year, she didn't always want to go to the park, but she was always up for walking to her favorite dryer vent on 109th Street. She loved dryer vents. We knew all of them in a fifteen block radius. She always smelled of Downy.

Many times the only time all three of us had time to quiet down and talk over the day was on our evening walk. She made us a family and gave Paul his nickname, "Mr. Easy Biscuits."

For many years I've worked at home with Boudica lying on the couch in the office. There has never been such a hedonistic dog. She actually plumped the pillows until they were just right. She assumed the softest spots were for her. Often, the softest spot was between us in bed. We were always glad that we renamed her after the Celtic queen. She was extremely regal and knew her own worth (priceless).

Because of Boudica and a chain of acquaintances which began with her, we found our beautiful little summer house, an hour from here on a quiet little lake. Her last two summers were spent there. We will find buried rawhide strips for many years to come. She loved it there.

Boudica was always fastidious. She walked around mud puddles and hated to go out in the rain. Although we took her to oceans, rivers, lakes, and three of the Great Lakes, she never went into the water. She did love to ride with us in the canoe at our little house, though. We would pile in our matching life jackets and she would bark at the occasional innocent fisherman and sniff at the animals. Usually she'd end up falling asleep in the bottom of the boat.

By the end of this summer, Boudica was having trouble getting up and she started peeing inside, to her great embarrassment. How could she think a stupid carpet was anywhere near as important as she was?

The apartment seems so empty now. We don't know what to do with ourselves. She was our universe. All plans were made with her in mind. Many social engagements were thought better of because we realized we'd rather be home with Boudica. She was our baby, our protectress, our best friend. She was with us to comfort us through the deaths of both of our fathers.

When I realized back in 1992 that I really needed a dog, and knew only an Airedale would do, someone told me about Airedale Rescue. I found you and you were kind enough to give us Boudica. I can't tell you how grateful we are. **You see, I had the mistaken idea that Rescue meant that we would rescue a dog and give her a good home. Now I know it's the other way around. Thank you.**

Bonny and Paul, NY, via rescuer Joey Finneran

Airedale Rescue

911

Barbara Curtiss
3 Carter Road
Cornwall Bridge, CT 06754



Role models, Muggs and Bogart

911: Play Bill Edition

A True-Life Drama in Many Acts

Synopsis: One year in the life of Airedale Rescue.

Set spans 50 states. Cast of thousands.

Chase scenes. Violence. Conflict.

Warning: may contain material of upsetting content.

Happy ending!

Production credits go to all Rescue Volunteers.

Note: due to length of script, *many* scenes must be omitted.

For information on how to become part of the cast for next year's drama, or to contribute toward production costs, contact stage manager, ATCA Rescue Committee Chair Barbara Curtiss

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