

AIREDALE RESCUE 911

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

October 2002 Editor: Barbara Curtiss 10th Edition

Cruise Ship Edition

Each year, for various reasons, many Airedales find themselves stranded, lost, adrift. They need to be spotted, and then brought aboard the good ship Rescue, where the crew makes them comfortable passengers as they steam toward a home port. These rescued passengers can be any age and in any condition. Some were on deserted islands, where no shelter or nourishing food was available; others were adrift on a yacht with all the comforts possible but without a captain to steer their vessel.

The ATCA Rescue Committee with Joey Fineran as "Captain", and Candace Kramlich as "Bursar", is the "Flag Ship" that recognizes and supports the "fleet" of local rescue efforts, networks a "crew" of people who can be contacted when an Airedale needs help or when someone is interested in adopting a homeless dog. Join us here for the cruise of 2002, for some a cruise of a lifetime!

Some Passengers of our 2002 Rescue Cruise

Each dog here came aboard the Rescue ship this year. The price of the ticket was high: only dogs who paid by having no one to properly care for them could board. All were given first class accommodations and service. Their fine State Rooms were foster homes that saw to their every need, including excursions to the veterinarian and to the groomer. They stayed aboard until reaching their destination, a safe harbor where a loving family waited at the dock to take them home. Their passport was a wagging tail.

Here, then, is a partial list of this year's *embarking* passengers. It is impossible to list them all or to present all their tales of adventure, but each name here represents hundreds of hours of work and effort by the crew of Airedale Rescue in almost every port in this country:

Omar, Major, Teddy, Tracy, Bridgett, Jake, Cricket, Sofia, Francine, Lucy, Hannah, Murphy, Miss Kitty, Zoe, Diana, Rex, Ben, Bandit, Black Jack, Jet, Foxy Lady, Mindy, Homer, Willis, Nedra, Misson, Dana, Carie, Callie, Jet Iou, O'Hey, Sam, Danmom's,



Cread, Mary Ann, Trotter, Otto, Shilo, Dandy, Annie, Brandy, Harry, Sam, B.S., Carol, Tanner, Penny, Diana, Simon, Courtney, Logie, DeMond, Bob, Betty Ann, Terry, Gordo, Ransom, Lamar, Sammy Sosa, Zipper, Holly, Rocky, Buddy, Sandy, George, Ruby, Suzie, Samson, Ernie, Newbie, Sadie, Ralph, Molly, Oliver, Mac, Bailey, Annie, Bear, Ginger, R.J., Bello, Mindee, Pandi, Roper, Roscoe, Ruby, Woody, Rose, Alf, Amy, Bandit, Bart, Baxter, Comet, Copper, Duke, Ellie, Emily, Ginny, Jakey, Jasmine, Jazzy, Jelly, Kramer, Lucky, Magic, Molly, Monty, Muggsy, Riley, Roy, Sadie, Scamp, Ty, Walker, Wendy, Zeus, Maggie, Amos, Abby, Koko, Dusty, Windsor, Bailey, Ferdinand, Roxy, Samson, Harry, Teddy, Tina, Mac, Izzie, Sandy, Rye, Nellie, Moses, Zoey, Max, Maggie, Tori, Charley, Ben, Zeke, Roger, Boswell, Jack, Georgie, Mollie, Buster, Mollie 2, Archie, Barney, Juno, Nick, Nayna, Farley, Rusty, Vanna, Beau, Peerless, Harbor, Jimmy, Riley, Sammy, Cooper, Lexi, Sebastian, Amelia, Lucy, Amber, Andy, Duke, Max, Jackson, Bubba, Gabby, Arthur, Bradley, Max, C.J., Kelly, Casey, Rodman, Charley, Henry, Roxy, Libby, Alex, Max, Lucas, Duncan, Andy II, Ariel, Kip, Tramp, Arthur Reed Lee, Brady, Curly, Alexandria, Sydney, Indigo, Sadie, Jack, Ralph, Lady, Lacy, Casey, Connor, Heidi, Liberty, Ivan, Hunter, Buddy, Maddy, Harry, Marshall, Bear, Hannah, Mojo, Chance, Samie, Beevo, Dawson, Butch, Ragan, Annie, Murphy, Angel, Vinnie, Sandy Beaches, Max, Mandy, Holly, Jillian, Sammie, Thunder, Kellie, Johnson, Polly, Skeeter, Jag, Minnie, Sundance, Fletcher, Slim, Bailey, Nadine, Phoenix, Dixie, Toby, Kirby, Boomer, Mattie, Jazzi, Sadie, Ruby, Melody, Jake, Eddie, Rex, Lucky, Ike, Oosel, Clementine, Oliver, Zeek, Cody, Fritz, Daisy, Alex, Duncan, Randolph, Clifford, Bill, Taylor, Clara, Shiner, Ozzie, Dax, Jazzie, Daisy, Dixie, India, Rafferty, Duts, Prince, Pearl, Cody, Jake, Andy, Louie, Sophie, Patches, Griffith Rose, Stuart, Hunny Bear, Abby, Nana, Ozzie, Rocky, Lenny, Winnie, Chips, Penny, Max, Charlie, Runner, Walter, Winston, Angus, Sampson, Hoegarth, Casey, Molly, Alvin, Twobear, Trevor, Sadie, Midge, Olive, Opal, Sam, Bo, Amos, Igor, Brandy, Alice, Peabody, Maevis, T.C., Bjork Puppy, L.O., Zena, Duke, Roscoe, Gunner, Tootsie, Brodey, Boswell, Sister, Missouri Gal, Bow, Duffy, Sam, Boomer, Gabby, Race, Bello, Ramsey, Max, Murphy, Punkin, Apollo, Buzz, Sampson, Chester, Hank, Hunter, Curley, Max the Mighty, Annie, Poppy, Clancy, Hobbs, Igor, Ellie, Archie, Wallace, Mandy, Boomer, Daisy, Temba, Alice, Cooter, Trufa, Mousse, Laddie, Polly, Penny, Cody, Sally, Penny, Harry, Martha, Edgar, Madison, Mindee, Lucy, Jake, Trouble, Molly, Maggie, Holly, Annie, Scotty, Bailey, Barkley, Briggs, Missy, Ben, Bo, Newton, Emma, Abbey, Chester, Lita, Trish, Daisy, Ariel, Heidi, Grommet, Maxi, Darby, Mike, Rosie, Molly, Brady, Sadie, Ptch, Emma, Emmerson, Jasper, Quipos, Lizzie, Chessie, Cato, Molly I, Molly II, Blanca, Storm, Cookie I, Cookie II, Cookie III, Maggie, Fancy, Crockett, Madison, Annie, Curley, Dash, Scruffy, Bess, Peggy, Harley, Buster, Penny, Memphis Belle, Duke, Maggie, Jack I, Jack II, Buddy, Tess, Ellie, Lily, Jessie, Henry, Molly, Tish, Kosmo, Ollie, Molly, Colt, Kramer, Charly, Phoebe, Max, Toby, Peter, George, Molly, Moonshadow, Lucy, Jake, Ralph, Harry, Daisy, Duncan, Rosie, Chewey, McGee

For information on how to become part of the crew on a voyage with Airedale Rescue, or to make a contribution to the fare of any Airedale passengers travel on this life boat, please contact **ATCA Rescue Committee Chair:**

Joey Fineran, 1189 Lonely Cottage Road, Upper Black Eddy PA 18972-9431

Phone: 610-294-8028 Email: atcarescue@airedaleterriers.org

From Rough Seas, to Smooth Sailing

All Aboard Airedale Rescue 2002

Lizzie, the Coral Airedale: More pink than coral, but this seven year old female was anything but black and tan! When left at the shelter, Lizzie had been dyed completely pink!! And the dye treatment seemed to be about the only attention Lizzie had had for years, since she spent almost every hour of



every day in a crate after her owners divorced. Now she's a happy, beautiful dyed-in-the-wool Airedale..HelgaAdamsVA

Mike, not a shark: He had terrible skin, missing hair, and open sores. He had been an outside-only dog, and was covered with fleas. His owner wanted a mean dog, and Mike didn't have a mean bone in his body. When he arrived, he was frightened to get out of the truck so the owner grabbed the skin on his neck and threw him out at the rescuer and drove off. "This dog has the best personality, even with such irritated skin making him miserable. With tender loving care, his foster home cleared up his skin, and made him an inside dog with no problems. And they adopted him!"

Marilyn Doudt, TX

Sink or Swim: She was just a wisp of a thing, thin, tired, anguished, maybe six months old. Her pleading gaze from behind the shelter cage was haunting. I took her that day and wondered how she came to such peril. She was gentle, mellow, loving, asking nothing more than to curl up against me. Who could have forsaken her?

Her small frame hunched in pain. X-rays confirmed she had virtually no hip sockets. The vet loved her, too, and offered to do a double femoral head osteotomy and spay at her cost. The plan was to attempt the worst hip first so she still had the better hip to navigate on, and later the weaker hip could be done. The first surgery was performed, but I could not get her to use it so that the second surgery could be done. The vet told me to come up behind her and pull the unaltered hip out from under her to force her to use the repaired hip. That only worked once! Any time she saw me coming, thenceforth, she'd simply sit down.

Weeks later, in exasperation, I finally said to do the other hip. It was truly sink or swim and I knew full-well the consequences of failure. Within three weeks of the second surgery she was using both rear legs and moving normally. Airedale spirit!

And "Cutie's" story gets even better. She was adopted by a woman who instantly fell in love with this sweet dog. So my heart sunk when Doris called to say, "I've got a problem." Oh no, I thought, I knew this all was too perfect to be true. Then Doris explained, "Cutie comes up the stairs with me every night and jumps on my bed and that's okay, but she keeps trying to cuddle, closer and closer, and literally pushes me off the bed! I don't want to offend her, so I get up and run around to the other side of the bed...but she's there to greet me! I don't want to hurt her feelings. What should I do?"

Yes, I'd say the operation was a success.

Stephanie Lingelbach, NE

The friends I make in Airedale Rescue are amazing people, as strong, resilient, and funny as our beloved Airedales themselves. I've been told by people at shelters that they are so grateful for how well Airedale Rescue always responds." Claire Payne, GA

A life boat for George: Concerned neighbors called animal control in Missouri about a neglected Airedale who they saw literally freezing to death chained in a backyard. After being treated for hypothermia, animal control required he be neutered before going to a foster home, resulting in this weakened dog becoming extremely ill. Not sure that the dog would survive, the foster home nursed him through a life-threatening episode. George gradually improved and learned to trust his caretakers. Aloof at first, he began to join the foster father on the couch for a nap. As George recuperated, he became strong enough to start playing with the resident Airedales. Molly, the Airedale that doubled as his nurse, kept his ears clean with a daily licking and generally made sure that he was doing okay. Two months later, George had a setback, when a stretched cruciate ligament caused pain and a limp. Acupuncture treatment and a prescription for Chinese herbs, along with light physical therapy brought him back to full strength once again. Back in northern New York, the Schanks became aware of George, who happened to be a nephew of their adopted dog, Gonzo. Would Gonzo accept another dog in his home where he was clearly king and the couch was his throne? We were looking for a special home for George, where he would get regular gentle exercise, where his leg would be massaged, and who would follow through with the supportive supplements. Joy Schank, a nurse practitioner was up to the job. The Schanks drove halfway across the country to pick up George (and since they were on the road, they helped transport two puppies that needed to get to Ohio). Arriving back in New York, proper and thoughtful introductions were made. Within a couple of days, Gonzo proved that "blood is thicker than water." He welcomed his nephew with open paws, even sharing his couch. Celebrating his eighth birthday soon after his adoption, George truly had come home. He is making up for the years of cold neglect, since the Schanks' life boat brought him to their safe harbor. Mary Giese, MO



George and Gonzo on "their" couch

"I have shared my experience with Airedale Rescue with anyone and everyone that will listen. We think it is an incredible organization. This has been a wonderful experience. Not only do we think we have located a precious Airedale, Lily, to share our home with, but I know that I have truly been blessed by knowing many of you and sharing the love of Airedales." Janis. MS

Roscoe was turned into the Humane Society at nine years old after months of neglect. The owner was old and sick herself and though the dog had once been loved, he was now in terrible shape, with toe nails curved under his feet and horrible dreadlocks. Once cleaned up, people think he's a puppy! His adopters took our advice and carefully introduced him to their resident Bedlington, and after initial squabbles, the two are now good buddies. Sidney Hardie, NM

"North Texas has had some great adopters! Most take their new dog to obedience school to complete the bonding process. We've had our perfect dogs, our abused dogs, large and small Airedales, young and old. Because of adopters that are willing to go the extra mile, they have given these dogs a wonderful life." Marilyn Doudt. TX

Sailing Away Many people have asked, "Why volunteer for Airedale Rescue, what's in it for you?" It will always be difficult to explain to those that haven't become hopelessly addicted to the endearing traits all 'Dales seem to share...sloppy wet beards, play bows, tucking a single paw under, dream chuffing, perfect posture while sitting and surveying the backyard, the miraculous appearance of perfect manners anytime you venture near the treat jar. Plainly said, we volunteer for the love of the breed. We are always amazed by the instant bond we feel towards each Airedale we meet, even if just for a few hours of transporting. But nothing could have prepared all of those for the precious little dog that came into the lives of SSAR on June 2, 2002.

Memphis Belle was dumped by her owners at a Memphis TN kill shelter. The rescue team sped into action, and a petite female was sprung from jail. She reached her foster home and it was immediately evident she would need some TLC. Going to work on her matted coat, barbed burrs were found buried deep under her coat in the skin. Everywhere. Bathed and fed, she fell asleep. Now the questions: how old is she? Why are her front teeth ground down to the gums? What is her name? Why didn't her owners want her any more? Why was her coat and skin in such horrible condition?

When Belle finally woke up, she seemed lethargic and seemed to be in pain as she walked. Her front leg was held in a funny position. X-rays showed no fractures, but blood and urine tests suggested potential liver problems. We gave it a week, but there was no significant improvement. More tests. Belle weakened. Hospitalization was required. Pneumonia ensued. A waiting game began while we visited her regularly in the sterile hospital ward. Her tail wagged when we arrived and we told her about the wonderful life waiting for her when she got better.

Belle began to eat and drink and her lungs were clearing. She grew brighter and more mobile, and we laughed as she began to get stubborn about being returned to her cage. She was getting depressed after weeks in a hospital. On July 4th, Belle was discharged and driven to North Carolina to meet Claire who would foster her and continue her treatments. It was truly a day of freedom for Belle. The blue sky and trees passing her window mesmerized her. It was a joyful three hour journey--to end with a warm, loving home environment, the best medicine we could give this sweet dog.

When Belle reached Claire's she had a guestroom that had been prepared for her, comfy beds, misters, nebulizers, syringes. It was learned that she had had distemper, with a titer that was off the charts. There would be months of nursing care ahead of her, but she was clearly feeling better, eating better, showing more interest in her surroundings each day.

So it was a shock to Claire eight days later, after definite improvement, when Memphis Belle collapsed. "Stay with me, little girl!" Claire pleaded. But no one could have predicted the pulmonary embolism that claimed Belle's life.

There is a huge hole in each of our hearts, but we know we did everything possible to show Memphis Belle what life could be like in a home where she was wanted and loved. Why will we continue volunteering for rescue? Because a small part of the spirit and soul of each 'Dale that has passed over Rainbow Bridge lives on in each of the dogs that need our help. Words cannot describe the joy and fulfillment that comes from helping a rescue find a place where their bones and wounds can heal, their trust in people can be rebuilt, and their spirits can soar. It is our dream that every Airedale will have the chance to close his eyes for the last time surrounded by love, warmth, and peace. Our humble thanks are extended to everyone who helped support Belle on her journey. Southern States Airedale Rescue

A Tribute to Paige, Bunnie and Nellie

I loved the musical "Camelot." At the end, King Arthur says, "One of what we are, Pelly. Less than a drop in the great blue sea. But it seems some of the drops sparkle, Pelly. **Some of them do sparkle!**" Well, Paige, Bunnie and Nellie sparkled. Dee, PA

When the Night is Darkest...

Three years ago, an Airedale was found wandering in busy highway traffic. He must have had an angel on his shoulder, because Mac was found to be totally and irreversibly blind. And another angel got him into the hands of Airedale Rescue where he would be safely fostered. And another angel produced a loving home in NYC where he blossomed.

Then Mac's angel seemed to let him down. His kind owner died. Now who would take in a geriatric, blind dog?



But Mac hadn't run out of angels, after all. Along came the Donnellys. Here's what they have to say about him:
"Mac has all the usual Airedale behaviors! He is a very curious guy and is always interested in exploring anything and everything. He really enjoys spending time outside in the yard as well as being a dedicated t.v. listener in the evenings. He deals with the interior stairway and the porch stairs with aplomb. Each day we walk about three miles. He enjoys meeting people, especially children. He is very alert and aware, friendly and interested. And he is very good-looking! When we tell folks about his history, the universal suggestion is to buy lottery tickets in his name, since he survived the Palisades Parkway in the rain at rush hour, as well as 9/11 in Lower Manhattan!" John, MA

Speed Boats

The owner's husband beat five month old Holly, and then he gave her five tablets of "speed" to watch her dance. Holly almost died, and the owner took her to the pound to save her life. The husband was sure to kill the helpless pup. Rescue came for her. She was adopted by a couple that had another Airedale, who have helped her regain her confidence. She is once again exuberant, as a young Airedale should be! Now completing basic obedience, Holly is going on to fly ball training. Marilyn Doudt, TX

Patch works

The plan was to get an eight week old female. Our older male had died, leaving us with only our four year old male, and of course you have to have at least two Airedales in your house! When Helga Adams called and told us about a four year old male, we just went to take a look out of curiosity. He was captivating...super friendly, happy, good looking. Patch came home with us. It was with some trepidation, though, as we had never brought an adult male into a house where another already resided.

For a farm dog who had lived outside, including at night, Patch adapted to living in our house quicker and smoother than many a house dog might have. The two dogs get along well, even though their outside play gets rough. Patch's temperament can only be described as beautiful. He is a very biddable dog, walks nicely on a loose lead, is confident, and shows no aggressive signs. Our vet says he is one of the healthiest dogs she has ever seen.

We are certainly happy with Patch. There is a special God that looks out for Airedalers and their Airedales. Peabody, VA

Stormy Weather

Bo is afraid of gun shots and thunderstorms because he saw his female Airedale companion shot and killed when they were running loose in the country. Now adopted, he is "quite the couch potato, just a little shaky when it thunders." Norm, TX

By Air, Land, and Sea

What did I get myself into?! Littermates Emma and Emerson had always had each other, so I agreed to adopt them. They loved each other, and I was just a fixture in their new world of freedom. Most of my life I have wanted to be a few pounds lighter...but for a brief moment, as the two terrors are dragging me, and I'm wishing I were heavier and stronger! They were wild!

At two, these dogs had missed many life experiences. My joy occurred daily just watching them develop: the sprinkler, the



dog living in the mirror, the chase scenes on tv, the Chesapeake Bay, that amazing thing we call a toilet (Emerson thought it was going to get him, Emma still thinks its fun to immerse her entire head in it). Emerson is my gentle giant and Emma is my adventurer.

They both completed basic and advanced obedience class and significantly transformed. Now they are working in utility, agility, and even SAR. They are *great!*

They fly with me. Emerson jumps right up on the wing walk, into the front plane seat, and into the back to settle down and enjoy the ride. Emma, though, thinks the propeller should be attacked, and is amazed by cumulous clouds! They come to my psychiatry clinic sometimes, and a young male tech frequently asks to borrow them as he has discovered that they are "chick magnets!"

Many people want an Emma or Emerson when they see them. I tell them that Airedales are special dogs that should be considered only if they can provide a large fenced yard, don't mind occasional digging, and if they will do a lot of training and love. Then *nothing* beat the pleasure of a pet Airedale. Cindy Lee, VA

A Life Raft named Amos

Glenn had Airedales in his youth and always talked about them. When he met two therapy dogs while in the hospital, he learned about Airedale Rescue. We completed the application, and Amos was brought for a home visit. Although he needed hip surgery before we could get him, we fell in love with Amos right then. We passed all the rescue criteria, and agreed to care for Amos during his recovery.

Glenn was in and out of the hospital, but Amos was always there to greet him when he came home. Amos would sit by him when he got into his wheelchair. Glenn enjoyed watching Amos and me play.

Glenn died in April. Amos not only made Glenn's life a little happier, but he has filled my heart with joy, making my loss so much easier. He was such a great choice for us. Now I help with fostering Airedales, and Amos is happy to share his forever home with these dogs, as we give Rescue back a little of all they gave us. Carol Dietz, PA

A Ship's Log

Doing the list for 911 makes me really take a look at our numbers. More females this year, most were strays. Our oldest was 1 1/2, with the majority being adolescents. Of the rescues we've handled this year, none, zero, 0, have been "bad" dogs. They have all, 100%, been wonderful Airedales that we would all adopt in a heartbeat, full of Airedale spirit, attitude and humor (this is why so many fosters are adopted by the fostering family). The good news is they are now with families who love and appreciate that spirit, attitude, humor! Sandi Folta, TX

We had a banner year in the MD, DC, VA and WV areas this year... 51 Airedales! That's the highest in our history of Rescue. We could not have done it without the support of our local Club. Thanks to so many people, and thanks to all the Rescue groups across the U.S. and Canada for their efforts in saving and placing rescued Airedales.

Lou Swafford

Sometimes We Rescue Hearts

Over 600 Airedales are rescued annually. That number shocks a lot of people. One man said to me that it was "depressing that so many families didn't like their Airedales." I assured him that although some Airedales are released to Rescue simply because their families don't want them, the majority of our Texas rescues come from loving homes where the family situation makes them unable to keep their beloved pets.

A perfect, loving home, with two happy dogs needed our help, when the woman faced unexpected and serious surgery. She would have to move into an assisted living situation. Would Rescue be able to help with both of her dogs? These dogs were her family; we understood that. Our pledge to keep her dogs safe eased some of her pain.

Another woman, recently divorced, had moved into an apartment with two young sons and an Airedale, and then lost her job. She was frantic. Then she fell and injured herself and could not manage taking the Airedale down the stairs to go outside. Almost hysterical, she had to leave her Airedale with us. We helped her with this hardest moment of her life.

An elderly woman, with a pampered Airedale, her eighth, had delayed medical treatment, knowing that the result of it would mean having to give up her dog. When she understood how much care we would put into finding a perfect home for her beloved dog, she was able to release her, and go on with her own needed care.

These are some of the people we meet and the situations we encounter in Rescue. Some dogs come to us as strays from shelters, some come because their families just don't want them any more. But many Airedales come to us from loving families whose hearts break when they surrender their dogs. These people receive our compassion for the brief moment we touch their lives. Our understanding and our pledge to take care of their dogs and to find good, loving, permanent homes, may be the spark of hope that helps these folks carry on. Sandi Folta, TX

"It's true that we don't know what we've got till we lose it, but it's also true that we don't know what we've been missing till it arrives."

When Temba went to his new home three weeks ago, you gave him something we value so much: freedom of movement and unqualified love. This gift was only possible with your help. We cannot begin to believe that it would have been possible without your almost daily guidance through the process, your knowledge of similar situations, and your focus on our specific circumstances. We recognize that the help you gave was founded in your love of Airedales. The words "thank you" only begin to express our gratitude to you.

I have shed many tears in the past few weeks. Temba was like a son to us. We will all forever miss his wagging tail and enthusiasm whenever he greeted us, his Airedale smile, his morning wake-up nudge.

You could not have created nor found a more ideal new home for Temba anywhere in the world. He has space to run, and people at home for him all day. We hear that Temba has settled into their home as if he had been born there. We hear that he now has his teeth brushed every day and is being combed regularly. I have re-read the note about Temba and take such comfort in that every trait we were looking for in new owners are more than fulfilled. We could not have asked for a more wonderful setting.

I have always loved seeing Temba running free on our many treks in the Tien Shien mountains of Kyrgyzstan, or our daily walks here at the cottage. We love him dearly and he has been a great friend to us for the five years since his birth. Now we know his new family love him as if he had always been with them.

Graham, Ontario

And Sometimes They Rescue Us

This is the weirdest thing. Let me say first, that my Kelso, while being the world's best dog, is not a kisser. He doesn't even kiss me who undeniably loves him the most. His sister Buttercup, on the other hand, was quite the opposite. She kissed everyone all the time. Especially, she loved my husband. Whenever he was in face range, she would kiss him for as long as he would stay put. She would spend hours licking his leg while he watched t.v.

Well, as you know, we lost Butter six weeks ago. While she was fading here at the house, my husband was right there on the floor with her. Before we left for the vet, my husband was in tears and he said to her, "One last kiss, Buttercup, for dad." But she couldn't even lift her head to do it. My husband was so upset.

Kelso and Butter were lying on each other and he was nuzzling her. My husband always "talks for" the dogs around here, so when she looked at her brother for the last time as he carried her out, he said to Kelso in his Butter voice, "You're in charge of Daddy's kisses now. Every day you give him some for me."

Well, I'll be darned if that dog is not kissing my husband ever since. I couldn't believe it. I sat there watching them tonight and I thought for sure Kelso is doing it for Butter. Every night since, my husband sits on the floor and Kelso comes over and delivers his Butter kisses.

There's some kind of magic in a dog's love, that's for sure. Kim, MA

"Mack continues to be the best big furry guy! Life is good for all. What a sweet and precious one he is. Sometimes I sound like a broken record, but we just adore him. You have no idea how right you were when you placed him with us. And we had no idea that we would become so attached to a ten year old dog. Funny how things work out."

Miriam, VT

Life without dogs
is like eating
without tasting.

"We so much appreciate being able to get Cooder as part of the family. We just love him so much. He is the best dog ever, and has become quite a poster child for Airedales and the Rescue. I get stopped on the street almost every time we walk! We've told lots of people about your wonderful organization." Petra, TX

"We are most pleased with Sam. He fits right in! A very large, kind-hearted soul, just exactly what we needed!" Bob, NH

"We want to thank you so much for helping us locate Lucky. He's wonderful. He's very affectionate and fun to be around, and I'm amazed how quickly he has adjusted to life in New Hampshire. He is filling a large void in our lives, and we are delighted with him. The rescue network is amazing!" Betsy, NH

"Chloe is a joyous addition to my life and



those lucky enough to be near." Kate, VT

"Ben loves Jeff so. I swear he's trying to talk, he's that vocal. Stirling and he get along even better than she did with Max. Don't know how you keep doing it, but your matchmaking skills are stupendous! And we're forever grateful for all you've done." Nancy, RI

What Was I thinking? Three decades of marriage, three grown sons, a succession of rescued Airedales and a wire-hair fox terrier had defined my adulthood. The boys were now launching into their college years, and our lone fox terrier seemed lazy and content in her old age. As the family down-sized, I welcomed the solitude and the added flexibility to my job schedule. In the year since our last beloved Airedale had died peacefully at age 15, the squirrels had quietly returned to our yard, the neighbors' cats freely roamed the underbrush, and visitors to the door were no longer greeted with raucous barking. Yes, I was beginning to savor my freedom.

Then it happened. An urgent call came days before Christmas 2001, just as the weather was forecast to turn bitterly cold. In the spirit of the season, I made arrangements to meet the orphaned Airedale, "just for a look", accompanied by my husband, son, and red, worn leash. What was I thinking?

Enter Chessie, a lean, statuesque seven year old Airedale, bewildered at her sudden abandonment. After all, she had been loved and cared for, and had the run of a farm in rural, upscale Virginia. Trained and obedient, she unfortunately did not differentiate between chasing the predatory wildlife and the barn cats. The cats won their place, and Chessie was given up and destined for a new life—with us.

For the first week, Chessie howled and grieved throughout the night. We all took turns sleeping with her, trying to comfort her, much like coping with an inconsolable newborn child. What was I thinking?

Happily, she soon adapted to our routine as we gained her trust. Her personality has blossomed, and her endearing mannerisms are often reminiscent of our previous gentle and loyal Airedale companions. In the past year, Chessie has claimed her favorite sleeping place as well as a place in our hearts. The trespassing squirrels and cats are now more wary, and visitors must once again submit to a boisterous greeting.

So, what was I thinking? I wasn't thinking at all—I was remembering. Dum, VA

A Glimpse Through Rescue's Periscope

If your family got a new baby, and then stopped going jogging with you, you might begin to object, right? Then, the neighbors didn't like all that barking, so she was gifted with a bark collar. **Indigo** barked until she had burns on her neck from the bark collar! Now in rescue, she is hoping for a situation where there might be a jogger in the family, with older kids to play with. The surrender form for **Lucy** informed us that her favorite activity was jumping on the trampoline with the family's little daughter. The kids who washed up **Molly** announced to the rescue worker that she was a male. Makes you wonder how clean those kids had gotten her! **Kosmo** lived for years in a kennel outside. A vet took him and others from an elderly owner, leaving only sixteen smaller ones there! Kosmo had to have his coat sheared off when he got to rescue, so frightened that he shook the grooming table with his trembling. On their first walk together, young **Hunter** grabbed a snake and killed it...thus his name! Susan Hill, CO

Clear Sailing



This is Jesse. He lived in an apartment with five children under age six. He never got outside except for a small pen. Whenever anyone opened the door, Jesse would take off and they were tired of chasing him. Jesse was adopted by a family in Wisconsin where he can now run freely and have lots of loving attention.

Karolyn Simoneit, IL

A Sea of Dspair. I don't know if you will remember me or not. I certainly remember you. You were the first person that ever cared about me. You comforted me in the lowest point in my life. To me, you were my island in a sea of despair. My name is Harmony.

At the time I felt the kindest thing you did for me was to take me into your home. However, I know now the greatest gift you gave me was finding me a new home. When I first left your safe place I was really scared. I had come to know and love you and didn't think anyone could care for me the way you did. But, I am glad to say that your choice of a new family showed me that someone else could love me just as much.

I am so lucky. The woman calls me her velcro dog because I am always by her side. She gives me my first kiss in the morning and the last kiss before bed at night. The man is not like any other man I ever met before. Even if I eat his socks, he doesn't get mad. I miss him so much when he goes to work. I play football and hide-and-seek with the boy. He even kisses my head when he thinks no one is watching. And I have a small dog that is one of my best friends. Before I came, his best friend dog died and he stopped eating and was very sad. But when I came he started to eat and play again.

Thank you for finding me a good family. I am so lucky. I am home. Harmony, PA

First Class Dining: Ralph is a small dog and very sweet. He has done wonderfully with John although was loath to eat his dog food in the hope of getting people food. John tried tempting him at one point with miso soup poured over his dry food, and Ralph's reaction was to pull the placemat over his dish and walk away! After a week, they finally settled on a mix Ralph would consider as palatable. He has made numerous friends, both canine and human, on his daily walks and social outings. Ralph's first seven years may have been pretty isolated and boring, but his next seven will be filled with love, care and interesting experiences!

Including Dessert: Eleven year old Lucy had been shuttled around for three years, but when she met the Belvedere's she immediately charmed them and it was an instant bond! As nine-year-old Matthew said, "Lucy is like an old shoe--she fits!" Natalie, seven years old, said, "Mom, Lucy is so full of life!" They feel that this dog was sent to them to live out her golden years. Lucy's claim to fame is her "sweet tooth." She ferrets out any candy in the house, unwraps it, eats it, and leaves the empty wrapper! We later discovered she has a serious candy addiction when she ate an entire bag of Twix bars within four minutes (this time she didn't bother to unwrap them), resulting in an emergency trip to the vet. Now all candy is under lock and key! Candy Kramlich, NY

AN OCEAN OF THANKS to every one of you who have helped Airedale Rescue this year. You were there when you were



needed. You turned choppy seas to smooth sailing. The jobs are so many, from visiting would-be adopters, to checking on possible Airedales in shelters, to transporting dogs from place to place, you were there to put the wind in the sails of Airedale Rescue. You made unique items for raising funds, you bought raffle tickets, you helped make the Rescue Quilt a phenomenal success. You remembered Airedale Rescue in memorializing a loved one, through the Friends of Airedale Memorial Fund. You took an unknown dog in, fostered him, and helped sort him out so the perfect "forever home" could be found. Thanks, mates.

Postcards from Home

Excerpted from newsletters and mail of regional rescue organizations

"You can't imagine how thrilled we are with Lucky. He was so amusing at the vet's. While the doctor was writing notes, Lucky walked to the trash bin, stuck his nose in, stepped back, and then to everyone's amazement, he put his paw on the pedal to actually open up the can!! The vet was shocked and couldn't believe how smart he was. I told her, that's an Airedale! He truly is an amazing dog. I can't thank you enough for allowing us to have him." Suzanne, PA

"Daisy and I are having the most wonderful time. She has been absolutely perfect! My life is once again filled with a sense of calm and completeness that I had missed and not even realized. I feel like Daisy and I have always been friends." Dottie, MD

"The vet says Rugby is the best looking Airedale he's ever seen! Many thanks for connecting us to our "new baby." I believe "the king" is as happy as we are!" Joan, NJ

"Apart from his curiosity about life and readiness for new experiences, Tanner is intelligent, responsive, and quick. He's an Airedale! Watching him run across the yard is an aesthetic experience! He has the typical clownish characteristics, loves to play outside, and is a great catch with a ball. He also has a sweet innocence about him, waking me up gently in the mornings with soft kisses, and of course, he always sings for his supper. Tanner is a great example of a Rescue dog, adapting readily, happily, and bonding quickly. Thank you, Airedale Rescue, for Tanner, my funny handsome Airedale." Bonnie, FL

"Duke is a truly wonderful pet. He has designated Adam as his human. When Adam comes home from school it is truly a welcoming event. We are doing great and cannot thank Southern States Airedale Rescue enough!" Tim, TN

"Roxie has been on two camping trips and just loves the outdoors. She is so much fun. A counter surfer and a garbage can rooter she is, so we have learned to put things away if we want to see them again. She has such a comic personality!" Bob and Karen, TX

"We really feel happy that we are a family and Nellie makes it complete. She loves being right by your side, especially if you are in the kitchen preparing something, and then she wants to bright in the center of the floor so you have to walk over her. She melts your heart and shows us that unconditional love." Christine, NY

"We renamed her 'Gibson', a family name whose members were spirited, intelligent and somewhat feisty. It seems perfect for our Airedale. It is very evident to us that she came from a good home where she was trained and loved. She is a delight. Thank you, all of you, who are committed to Airedale Rescue, for making it possible for us to know the joy of our 'Gibson Girl'." John and Joan, FL

"This is Henry and my three year old granddaughter. They're resting after running around together. This is how good he is with her. She says he's her best friend." Grace and George, MA



Jake's Rocky Voyage



My name is Jake
I need a home

Yes, that is what the sign says that was around his neck when he was found as a stray.

The person who found him brought him to a boarding kennel and by coincidence, the kennel owner recognized him. Jake had once been boarded there, and his owner had indicated that he did not want the dog any more. The owner was advised by the kennel to contact Airedale Rescue to help secure a new home for Jake. But he didn't and our first indication of a problem was when we received the call from the woman who had found Jake with the sign on his neck.

We called Jake's owner. In fact, we had spoken with this man a few years earlier when he had called us wanting to adopt an Airedale. Because there was no fenced yard and the man was determined that he would

not need one for an Airedale, his application had been respectfully declined.

So he bought a puppy and now, fourteen months later, he did not want the dog because, of course, Jake kept "taking off." He actually believed he had done a noble and humane deed to find Jake a new home by putting the sign on and dropping him off in another town!

Jake is now a loved pet, secure and free within the confines of a beautiful yard.

The Pieces of my Heart (on fostering)
by Jim Willis www.crean.com/jimwillis

Our paths will cross for only a short time,
But while you are in my care I will be
devoted to you.
If memories of your former life are painful,
I will help erase them.
If your former life was good,
I will promise you an even better future.
One day our time together will come to an
end, and you will go off to your new home,
happy and healed.
As a parting gift, I will give you
a piece of my heart to remember me by.
I may shed a tear...
not for my loss, but for your gain.
Perhaps our paths may cross again for a
fleeting instant, and I will be comforted by
the aura of love that surrounds you.
There will always be a bond between us,
though we walk separate paths.
After we reach our heavenly reward our
paths may cross again.
You may try to return the piece of my heart
with thanks for all that I did for you.
I will tell you to keep it and thank you
for showing me I could be better
than I thought I could be, and that I learned
in giving came the greatest gifts.
The pieces of our hearts
are like grains of sand.
*They are pulled along a current beyond our
control until they come together
and form a safe haven.*

If Airedale Rescue is a Ship, Foster Care is a Life Boat

Joyce was an eager, but first time foster Mom. She had no expectations, but wanted to help a needy Airedale. Here is her story. Foster homes are always desperately needed. It is only through this first line of the rescue process that the right decisions can be made for the life of each dog.

For me, Airedales are the ultimate dog--boisterous, bouncy, and full of life. They bring their owners years of delight with their zany antics and unconditional love. I have owned Airedales all of my adult life. I was shocked to learn that many Airedales were homeless. Wanting to help in some way, I offered to foster. Amos came to me.

I was shocked at the deplorable condition he was in. Neglected for two years, his coat was thin and his skin bumpy from tick bites. His discolored teeth were worn down much too short for his age, his eyes were runny and cloudy. He was heartworm positive. He did not hear well.

Amos seemed so depressed, lost and confused. I sat with him every day and encouraged him to eat. I bathed and groomed him, took him for nice walks, and gave him lots of special love and encouragement. It was extra work for me, caring for a dog with special needs, but very rewarding. Every week I saw positive changes in his mental and physical appearance. Amos was a great first foster dog. Through all of his ordeals (heartworm treatment, allergies, eating problems) he was always incredibly sweet.

He had a great Airedale smile, and it made me feel so good the first time he greeted me with a boisterous body wiggle. I thought a lot of what his former owner said as he relinquished Amos to the shelter to be killed. "He's a great dog!" That shelter only keeps dogs for two days! Well, he is a great dog, and he now lives in Wisconsin with his new forever family.

If you've been considering fostering, try it! You can transform an Airedale, and you'll get that feeling that you did something GOOD. Joyce, Missouri



Zack's adopters live on an island. Here he is on a boat that truly is taking him to home port

A Storm Called Sassy

Tropical Storm Allison poured up to thirty inches on the Texas coast. Much of Houston area was left under water, affecting everyone's life in some way or other.

Soon afterward, the devastation of terrorism affected everyone every where. These two events also affected a young female Airedale named Sassy.

In October there was a frantic call from a young man who had to find a place for her, as he had been recalled into the Navy because of 9/11. He had had her only a short time, as she had lost her home only months earlier when her previous family had been flooded out.

Sassy came into a very busy rescue scene. Her foster home found that she more than lived up to her name. Sassy was willful, Sassy had no manners, Sassy had learned no boundaries.

Slowly the transformation began. Over the next couple of months in an experienced foster home, she calmed down and started listening, started focusing. She was becoming a wonderful, lovable Airedale, and it was time to find her forever home.

A family that had recently lost their beloved family was interested. Sassy went for a visit, and was instantly comfortable there. They live on a big lake, so Sassy's world has gone from turbulent floods to calm water. Sandi, TX

"Ava (now Ava Banx, what locals call the Outer Banks) is such a hoot! She has a great temperament, always friendly and playful. She follows me everywhere...like having a toddler. She has gone on many boat rides, has discovered porpoises (she barks at them), and has taken many walks on the beach. All in all, we're having a great time!" Kathy, NC

"Dylan and Vincent wanted an energetic and playful Airedale. When BB met them, you could see the joy in her face as she greeted them--she almost shouted, 'I've got kids, oh boy, oh boy, I've got kids!' Sally, FL

Sally, FL

Ship Shape

Igor was a stray shaggy dog. Could there be an Airedale Terrier under those dreadlocks? This is typical for many Airedales found in shelters or living a neglected outdoor life. Rescuers learn to



leave their car windows down even in the winter for trips with certain dogs!

Then, after a bath and meeting with the clippers...the transformation is astounding. And how good the Airedale feels when relieved of the mats and burrs and dirt. Even if a means a close shave.



Just ask Igor!
Karolyn, IL

Airedale Rescue

911

The Annual Newsletter
Of the ATCA Rescue Committee

3 Carter Road
Cornwall Bridge, CT 06754

CONGRATULATIONS! YOU ARE A WINNER! You have won an Adventure Cruise Aboard Airedale Rescue 911

Come aboard with us, and sail
Around the country. On the trip of
A lifetime! This vessel travels
wherever the crew steers,
Regardless of weather or conditions.
You will meet a wide assortment of
Passengers as they *embark* and *disembark*.
You will share adventures with the
Dedicated crew, mates who ply these
Treacherous waters on a regular basis,
And who can find a safe port even when
You fear all is lost.
So climb on deck, and get ready to sail
The storm-tossed seas of
Airedale Rescue 2002.

