



# CSDR NEWS

CHIHUAHUA & SMALL DOG RESCUE, INC.

## Cowboy Finds His Forever Home by Heidi Sue Harris

A while back I decided to adopt a new dog and discovered the small dog rescue site on Craigslist. We went to Colorado Springs to meet one of the dogs we saw on the website, named Cowboy. We loved him immediately, and he has fit into our home as if he lived here the whole time. We feel very blessed, especially after the loss of my Rat Terrier in December. He has filled a void in my life and I cannot thank the rescue group enough. We have since decided to foster and have faced many challenges, but overall we cannot express how wonderful this organization is. Their efforts to bring happiness to these animals' lives are worth so much. We could never do enough to show our thanks.



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## Buddy's Adoption! by Laurie Mietzner

My name is Laurie and my fiance, Mark, and I adopted Buddy who's now 2 years old a year ago in February. He was a little under weight according to his vet and VERY skittish of males and new people in general. He had a bit of separation anxiety

and so we really worked with him for a good month or two. After weeks of coming and going a little bit at a time he finally calmed down and realized that eventually mom and dad do come home! Over time Buddy has become more aware that he is a



permanent part of the family and he knows how to work us to get what he wants!!! He loves sitting on the couch with us while we watch TV, and we've come to find that his favorite show is Planet Earth! He hasn't missed an episode yet! When

he's not relaxing with us, he's running amuck in the backyard with his older brother Pablo, our other Chihuahua. Buddy has been a wonderful addition to our family, and he is always happy and in the mood to cuddle whenever you need it!

## From the Prez: Sue Fisher Why We Rescue Dogs

People have asked me why we rescue dogs. My answer is always because we are saving lives. A good friend and a client of mine for many years said to our Vice President, who in turned told me one day after this organization was started, "I don't understand why you are doing this, why don't you just let them die." Well needless to say, a friendship of several years was over the very moment that I heard this, and I also told her to go find another accountant, as I would not have a client who feels this way. Let them all die was not and is not an option for me.

When I started Chihuahua & Small Dog Rescue, Inc., I thought this wasn't going to take up much time. Oh how wrong I was. All the little scared faces at the shelters were telling me they needed help, and it was time for me to start helping. As President of Chihuahua & Small Dog Rescue, Inc., my life has been turned upside down. I have very little or no time at all for my own personal life. My life has turned to the dogs, and I love every minute of it.

As I have looked back over the last 1 ½ and noticed that my time was

getting less and less for personal time; it occurred to me that my life is all about rescue now. I barely have time to mow the yard, get a haircut or just go out for dinner. Actually, I can't even remember the last time I went out to dinner. Then about 2 months ago I was facing a medical issue and there was a good possibility that I was going to have to have an operation, and I said this just may be the vacation that I am needing but then realized that if I did have to have an operation, that within 24 - 48 hours I would have my laptop and cell phone next to me in the hospital bed doing everything I could to help our little furry friends. Well, the good news came and no surgery was needed. I was overjoyed that I didn't need surgery, but then I was a little sad because I didn't get a chance to relax for a day or two. OK, so now you all think I am strange saying a hospital stay is a vacation; well those first 24 - 48 hours from the time they take you in for the surgery to the time you wake up and became coherent again, was going to be my little time of rest. I am very happy that didn't happen because that would have been 24 - 48 hours that I

would have lost for our little furry friends.

Each and every dog that we have rescued, whether I fostered him/her or a foster parent of the organization was the foster, that little one touched my heart. The joy of knowing that we saved a life is so gratifying that I can't imagine myself ever not doing rescue work. I honestly wish that I was independently wealthy so that I can do this full time, but I have not been blessed with unlimited funds, so I work a full time job and then go home and take care of the little ones that I am fostering, answer emails and return phone calls that are all related to rescuing.

I am a rescuer and will be here for the little ones that need me so desperately. I will stop my vehicle in the middle of the road and jump out with the vehicle still running to catch a loose dog. I will hold a sick dog all night long in my arms to comfort him so he can sleep. Whatever it takes to help a dog. It is all about the dog and nothing else.

So many little lives have been and will be saved because I am no longer just sitting and saying, oh someone else can do that. The joy, love and warmth that these little ones give back to you is total unconditional love, and they are so happy to see you come home from work so that you can spend time with them. To nurse a dog back to a happy, healthy and loving life again just makes everything worthwhile.



A dog's day consists of eating, playing, and sleeping, and while sleeping, the dog dreams of eating and playing.

— Anonymous

## Why We Foster By June Bamber

In a corner I sat with my head pressed against the wall, wishing that I could just vanish in it. I felt so sad, so confused, so scared, so lonely, even angry, and in shock at the same time. How did I end up here? I had always tried my best, but master and his family never seemed pleased. How I wish that I could go back to my mama's warmth. There was always food and shelter she provided; but mainly I missed the love I had always had from Mama. Although the love was never as deep as mama's, my new home had showed some attention until I grew out of my puppy stage. While I was still with mama, I remember her crying when she thought we were all asleep and praying that all her babies would find good homes and now look.

The days I had to endure chained to that tree where unbearable. It was too hot in the summertime and so cold in the winter. The pain of the hitting and kicking

just for the fun of it still makes me cry. It was almost every day at the end until I growled to tell them that I had had enough. He set me loose and threw rocks at me until I ran off yelling that neither him nor his kids would be hurt by me.

Many days and nights, I hunted for food and water, dodging traffic until one day I was so weak I could barely stand. I was picked up by animal control. The new smells and noises bothered me, but the uncertainty and the smell of death were the worst. For days I was there hardly eating for lack of appetite, but one day I heard my door open. Someone picked me up and walked down the hall then handed me to a nice man who began to soothe my feelings by his gentle talk and constant pats. He carried me as if I were the most precious cargo in the world. It felt so good to be out of that place, but I couldn't trust

him even though I wanted to so badly. I heard him say that I was now a part of Chihuahua & Small Dog Rescue.



It wasn't long until I was seeing a vet for the first time in my life. I was spayed (thank goodness, no more homeless, unwanted puppies!!!!), put on a special diet and dental work done. I had been so neglected, but now I was being treated as if I were so special!! Then I remember being put in what was called a foster home. I still refused to show any affection—I just couldn't trust anyone even though I truly wanted to. Those people just kept working with me. The morning walks and evenings of massages became something that I really looked forward to. My defenses were slowly

being torn down. Even when I pottied in the house, I was never hit, kicked or screamed at. I just followed my people outside and heard the words in soft tones, "Potty here." I finally caught on after days, and I was rewarded with a treat. After that, I was eager to learn what they wanted.

I wasn't stupid, as the others had called me; I just needed the consistency and loving to learn. Soon I began to enjoy life, to play with the other fosters, to run like the

*(Continued on page 4)*

## New Volunteers for May

**Welcome to CSDR!!!**

Pat Benson

Susan Harris

Heidi Sue Harris

*Sign up for free email alerts about recalls, including the pet food recall*

The pet food recall continues day after day. More foods were recalled in late May. The National Institutes of Health have set up a listserv to send out alerts as they come in.

<https://list.nih.gov/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=fda-recalls-l&A=1>

## Why We Foster Continued

wind, to just lay out on the grass and hear the birds chirp, all with a full tummy. I never realized all the beauty and peace around me, but most of all I didn't realize how wonderful the security of a family was and how I had craved the feeling of belonging.

One day a family came to see me. My foster mama was happy for me but sad too. She tried to explain it all before they came, but I couldn't really understand. I just knew it was something good for me. When she opened the door, I saw the couple, and I knew this was "my" family. How they squealed for joy and how their eyes sparkled when they saw me. They wouldn't quit talking about how pretty I was, how smart I was, and how I was just what they were looking for!!! I wanted to go home with them. It all made sense now.

My foster mama taught me about life, all the lessons that I needed to learn to prepare me for my brand

new life with a wonderful family who wanted me.....me!!!! What an unselfish, kind person. I thought of how I came to her: aggressive at times, mistrusting, not potty broke, depressed, etc. She gave me her patience, her care, her love and nursed me back to health--both body and mind. As we drove off, I looked back to see her smile but wipe a tear from her eye. I wanted to tell her thanks and that there were so many more like me that needed her. I saw them at the shelter, but my master picked me up, pressed my cheek on her's and said, "I love you ever so much." My mind reflected back to when I was a puppy at the side of my mama sharing milk with my brothers and sisters--mama would be so happy!!! Mama would say, "Thank you God for foster parents." And I do too.

What can break your heart and yet make it soar with joy--fostering. The attachment level raises high each

day that you have the little one, and yet you know in the back of your mind that the day will come when you must let go. You may even think that you are the best home for this little one, but you know that someone out there is searching for this little one. When it comes time, you graciously let them in your home, watch as they pick up, pat and talk to your little one. Then you see your little one respond back, and you know this is going to be all right. There will be pictures and days of remembrance, but you know you are doing the right thing. And then you hear the phone ring. Yep, it's Sue with her ever-present question, "We need to rescue five little ones. How many can you take?"

As with all rescue groups we do not have an unlimited number of foster homes. When we receive a call from shelters asking if we have room, it breaks our hearts when we have to say no. We all know what that

means when we have to say sorry we are full. But, for every little one that we can say yes to, we are saving a life, giving this little one a second chance at life. The story you read above is an everyday occurrence. If you have it in your heart and home to foster a little one, please go to our website at [www.chihuahua-smalldogrescue.org](http://www.chihuahua-smalldogrescue.org) and submit an online volunteer application. The joy of saving a life is priceless. If you can't foster there are many other things you can do to help save a life. Let us know what you can help out with by submitting an online volunteer application.

I want to thank every foster parent for the dedication you put into fostering. You are the backbone. Where would we be without you? Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

June

## Rescue a Dog —anonymous

If you want someone who will eat whatever you put in front of him and never say it's not quite as good as his mother made it, then rescue a dog.

If you want someone always willing to go out, at any hour, for as long and wherever you want, then rescue a dog.

If you want someone who will never touch the remote, doesn't care about football, and can sit next to you as you watch romantic movies, then rescue a dog.

If you want someone who is content to get up on your bed just to warm your feet and whom you can push off if he snores, then rescue a dog.

If you want someone who never criticizes what you do, doesn't care if you are pretty or ugly, fat or thin, young or old, who acts as if every word you say is especially worthy of listening to, and loves you unconditionally, perpetually, then rescue a dog.

But, on the other hand, if you want someone who will never come when you call, ignores you totally when you come home, leave hair all over the place, walks all over you, runs around all night and only comes home to eat and sleep, and acts as if your entire existence is solely to ensure his happiness, then buy a cat!

## Rescuing Little Ones Across Colorado

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CSDR News

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### Microchip Fundraisers

All proceeds go to Chihuahua & Small Dog Rescue, Inc. for medical costs of foster dogs.

Bring your dogs or cats to be microchipped so if they get loose, they will find their way back home.

Cost: \$35 per microchip which includes registration.

June 9  
Little Caesar's Pizza  
1175 S. Prairie Avenue  
Pueblo, CO  
10:00am-4:00pm

June 16 **also an adoption event**  
Thunder Mountain Harley  
Davidson  
4250 Byrd Drive  
Loveland, CO  
10:00am-5:00pm

### Ongoing Fundraisers

Bring us your old cell phones (without accessories) and ink jet cartridges to help with the medical costs of our little ones.

Order or renew your magazine subscriptions from our web site (on How You Can Help page), and CSDR will receive a percentage from each magazine that you order .

## News from May Events

The Petco event was tons of fun, and included the national Chihuahua races in which our Penny did very well. According to Kathleen, there must have been 500 to 1000 Chihuahuas there. Amy, Lafronne and Barb all entered some of their dogs. Barb and Roger's dogs Jake, Ralphie (former foster) and Penny (foster dog) each won their first heat. Penny did us proud by taking third in the second heat.



At PetSmart, we had two adoption applications, and we are pretty sure that Kylie and Rockie may be adopted. People drove up from as far as Colorado Springs. In Colorado Springs, we had a microchip fundraiser. Someone drove up from Pueblo West in hopes of visiting some of our little ones.

## CSDR Upcoming Events