



# CSDR NEWS

CHIHUAHUA & SMALL DOG RESCUE, INC.

## Rescue # 100!!



and loves to play. Fancy was never allowed in the house before, so she's learning the rules and joys of living in a house and enjoying the warmth now that the

CSDR started in October 2005 with a goal of 100 rescues for the first year. We just made it with Fancy arriving a couple of days before the anniversary party.

Fancy is a 9 pound Chihuahua-Italian Greyhound mix. She's one year old

weather has turned colder. Fancy is crate and dog door trained.

CSDR's goal for 2006-2007 is 200 rescues. To accomplish this goal, we'll need more volunteers to help with fostering, transport, and home visits.

## From the Editor

Welcome to the inaugural issue of CSDR News, a newsletter for volunteers and adopters. In each issue, you'll find news and helpful articles. Volunteers and adopters are encouraged to contribute articles and ideas for the newsletter. Send articles and ideas to [csdrnews@yahoo.com](mailto:csdrnews@yahoo.com).

In this issue, we're highlighting our 100th rescue. Also in this issue, you'll find tips from our volunteers for ensuring successful adoptions, an overview of first year events, how to conduct home visits, tips and fun facts.

*Jeanne*

## From the Prez: Sue Fisher

No one person can do it all. Every person who has joined our organization has opened up their lives to help our furry friends, whether by fostering, doing home visits, transporting or working with shelter personnel. Each and everyone is making a difference for a little one getting a second chance at life.

This organization has grown every month that we have been in operation. We have gone from just three of us to 28. Every one of our volunteers are special people and if it weren't for them, this organization would never have accomplished what it has.

We celebrated our first completed year in October. We are very proud to announce that we were able to rescue over 100 little ones and have found over 80 wonderful forever homes in our first year. We would not have been able to do this without foster homes and volunteers. We can only save as many lives as we have foster homes. As much as we would like to take in every single Chihuahua and small dog there is, we just can't. We could do this if we had an unlimited number of foster homes, but like every other rescue group, we just don't have that privilege. It breaks our hearts when we have to tell a shelter sorry we are full. We do not put a little one to sleep to make room for another.

It is so rewarding to take in an abused, neglected or abandoned little one and get him or her the medical care that is needed and then watch the progress

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everyday as his or her true personality comes out. The little scared boys or girls become warm and loving members of our families. They become sure of themselves and all they want is to be loved. The sick and injured are all

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## Tips for Successful Adoptions

*From Becky Rippy*

Know your breed and the personality of the dog you are adopting! Don't adopt based on how cute a certain breed is, but whether that breed fits into your situation. Hyper dogs with boundless energy don't fit well into small apartments with no fenced yard. A temperamental dog prone to nip won't fit well into a house with small children. A large breed guard type dog needs a big area to

roam. A powerful energetic dog needs athletic, adventurous owners who can regularly exercise the dog. The best tool for a successful adoption is knowledge. Ask a lot of questions and listen to the answers.

--

*From Tracie Wingo*

When we first get a new foster we find out what they know (sit, stay, walking on leash, using a doggy door or being potty trained), the basics for living with a dog and helping it become as safe and adoptable as possible (including interaction with other dogs and people). When we know exactly what skills the dogs have and what skills they need work on, we begin our training. Then when



someone comes to visit the dog, we show off the skills he has learned, letting the prospective adoptee know that we taught the dog these skills in the little amount of time we had with him.

## Our First Year

History of Chihuahua & Small Dog Rescue	
<b>October 21, 2005</b>	Filed incorporation papers with the State of Colorado Applied for Charitable Org. in the State of Colorado
<b>October 2005</b>	Rescued first four Chihuahuas Joined Petfinders and 1-800-Save-A-Pet
<b>November, 2005</b>	Recruited volunteers as foster parents
<b>December, 2005</b>	13 rescues and 8 adoptions since October Started rescuing from Pueblo Animal Services
<b>January, 2006</b>	Became member of Denver All Breed Network
<b>May, 2006</b>	Rescue #50 Working with Planned Pethood in Denver
<b>June, 2006</b>	Received Pet Animal Care Facilities Act (PACFA) license from Colorado Dept. of Ag. Working with Denver Dumb Friends League
<b>July, 2006</b>	First fund raiser
<b>August, 2006</b>	Rescue #75 Approved by Pro Plan to be Ambassador
<b>September, 2006</b>	Working with Pikes Peak Humane Society, LaJunta Humane Society, Grand Junction Humane Society, Intermountain Humane Society
<b>October, 2006</b>	Rescue #100!! Silent auction of 2 cat sculptures

### Fun Facts

Long hair Chihuahuas can be a little more reserved with strangers than the short hair variety. Give them a little more time to warm up.

## Home Visit Overview: Touring the Home

The purpose of the home visit is to meet the prospective adopters and to see the environment that they will provide for their dog. Chihuahua & Small Dog Rescue, Inc. essentially wants to know: Would you be comfortable leaving your dog with this applicant? Do you think that the applicant will provide a good and loving home, keep the dog's needs in mind, and provide for the dog's safety at all times?

When you arrive at the home, introduce yourself and briefly explain the function of the home visit. Tell them that you are visiting to meet them and to evaluate the appropriateness and safety of their home for a dog.

Tour the house, including the yard, basement, garage and living area.

In the house:

Check to see whether the living quarters are dog friendly.

Are there lots of small objects, exposed cords, houseplants, etc. that the dog may chew?

Are the cleaning materials secured in the cabinets?

Is the house reasonably neat and clean?

In the yard, check the condition of the fence. Is it in good repair? Is the yard totally enclosed? Can the dog get out?

Are there areas where the dog could injure himself?

Is the house situated on a busy road?

In the basement and garage:

Will the dog have access to these areas?

Are there hazards present?

When the meeting is over, don't tell the person whether or not they are approved. The information is relayed to a committee of three people who make final decisions on all adoptions. Not every home is right for every dog, so even great people can be wrong for a specific dog.

Volunteers, you can find the complete procedure on the web site.

Next month: Talking with Applicants



Just as houses settle, fences shift over time. Inspect fences twice a year, after every major weather event, and before bringing home a new dog. Check for gaps at gates, corners and under the fence.

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mended and when they start to feel better you can just see the love on their little faces.

As President of Chihuahua & Small Dog Rescue, Inc., I thank every one of our volunteers for opening up their hearts, homes and lives to make a difference for our little ones. You are greatly appreciated and please keep up the wonderful work you are doing.

I also would like to thank everyone who has made donations to our little ones. You have made the difference. Your donations have gone directly to the medical care of our furry friends.

A very special thank you to Mallon Development Company for your generous donations to help with the medical expenses for our special little friends.

Each and every supporter and volunteer has a special place in my heart and if it wasn't for all of you, Chihuahua & Small Dog Rescue, Inc. would not be here.

And for each and everyone who has adopted a little one from us, you are wonderful. It always saddens us when we adopt a little one, but we are also very happy that you have made a lifetime commitment to these wonderful little ones and we honor you for opening your homes to a new family member.



## Rescuing little ones across Colorado

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CSDR News

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### Fun Facts

Gidget, the Taco Bell dog, is a female playing the role of a male.

### Our Mission

At Chihuahua & Small Dog Rescue, Inc., we are dedicated to finding the *best possible home* for each Chihuahua and small dog we have in our care. Also, we are committed to good health and quality of life for each and every little one that we rescue. All of our little furry friends are placed in healthy, safe and loving foster homes and, therefore, are not housed in a shelter situation. Our Rescue is a no-kill organization.

Our Rescue's mission does not end with just placing dogs in new homes. We work hard to educate

the public on how to meet the needs of small dogs and how to avoid abusive and neglectful situations with these little pets.

Chihuahua & Small Dog Rescue, Inc. is an all volunteer organization. No one is paid for their wonderful dedication to the homeless, abused and neglected Chihuahuas and small dogs that come into our organization. We will not turn away a dog because it is injured, ill or elderly. Our seniors and special needs dogs will make a wonderful addition to your

family, so please also consider the adoption of one of our extra-special little ones.

When we receive a little one, he/she will receive all medical care that is needed. Prior to adoption, our little ones are spay/neutered, fully vaccinated, heartworm tested, fecal tested and have had all their veterinary needs met. If necessary, prior to adoption, we provide treatment for heartworms, luxating patellas, dental work, parvo, etc.

## I am a Chihuahua Rescuer

I enjoy fulfilling their needs.

I have bought dog food with my last dime.

I have hugged and kissed vicious and afraid dogs.

I have fallen in love with many of them and I have cried over a lifeless body.

I know of no dog unworthy of my time.

The abuse of animals makes my heart ache.

There is nothing more rewarding than saving a life.

No greater feeling than watching them thrive.

There is no better feeling than watching them play.

I am a Chihuahua Rescuer.

My work is never done

My house is never quiet

I am always broke

But my heart is always full.

Sharon L. Henson

Vice President

Chihuahua & Small Dog Rescue, Inc.