

Adoption Tails

The Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire

Summer 2010



A Day In The Life

Animal Cruelty Investigations & Community Outreach

Since joining the Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire in 1996, Maureen Prendergast has held many different roles at the League. In addition to her duties at the League, Maureen started up the first ever obedience classes in 1998 and continues to teach classes of all levels to adopters and the general public to this day. Maureen has been the League's Animal Cruelty Investigator since 2005. Many of you have expressed an interest in what Maureen's typical week may entail, she graciously agreed to give us a glimpse into her world.

Monday

I have 15 new voicemail messages. Returning messages in this line of work can be difficult because the calls and requests for help are so extreme. Some folks will call with the expectation that we have a 24-hour hotline that someone is going to answer. Often there will be messages coming in with a time stamp of 3AM or another odd time frame. Sometimes a message left at that late/early hour is slurred or hard to understand and may involve an animal medical emergency that sadly we are not able to assist with.

My first outreach trip of the day is to drop off some food through our food pantry program. A majority of the food pantry clients reside in Manchester and with many unable to find reliable transportation to the shelter, I will deliver their food, often times making many stops in one day to several homes in the city. Some food drops are quick, but most involve the families wanting me to come inside, perhaps take a look at their animals and answer any questions they may have which range from behavior to medical. Sometimes they just want someone they know is very interested in animals to listen.

Back at the shelter, usually in between several other duties I will check up on animals that I have brought into the shelter. Some are the timid animals that I can't help but get attached to, it's especially hard being in the position I am in I often go into the homes these animals come from, and see the life they have lived and what they have been through. The attachment forms at that point and I cannot help but want the very best future for that animal. Checking in on them at the shelter each day and becoming their advocate is part of the job.



Maureen Prendergast
Animal Cruelty Investigator &
Community Outreach

It leaves me thinking about the animals that are now going to have to wait until our next clinic (we hold one every other month). Because of this, I will now scramble to find the most high-risk animals an alternative resource at an earlier date than our next clinic.

Although the communities we commonly serve are ones that are in close physical proximity to the shelter, I often receive complaints and calls for assistance throughout many parts of the state. Today I have to return a call from an animal control officer in the northern part of New Hampshire who has questions about a possible cruelty case he is working on and would like some advice on how to best proceed. Another complaint I received today comes from a woman in Berlin who has questions about

What's Inside?

The Mont Vernon 44 Page 3

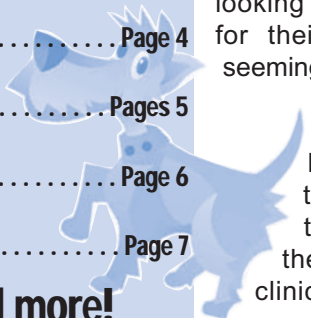
Evening of Compassion Page 4

Special Events Pages 5

Obedience Happenings Page 6

Adoption Spotlights Page 7

...and more!



continued on page 3

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of New Hampshire
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Mission Statement

Pets give us so much. They teach us compassion, protect our families, work as therapy professionals, and entertain us. Pets comfort us when we've had a bad day and touch our hearts with their unconditional love.

At the Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire we save pets' lives, and they enrich ours.

Message From The President & CEO

Dear Friends of the League-

An incredibly busy spring has reinforced our gratitude for the good fortune to be part of a strong and caring community.

You may have seen our most public hoarding case regarding 44 small breed dogs taken from a home in Mont Vernon in April. But did you know we've had 13 hoarding cases already this year? We've taken in 47 dogs and 150 cats (197 animals total) through these multi-animal cases, animals that don't always get the publicity that leads to donations of goods and money for the extensive medical care these cases need. These numbers are just hoarding cases - they don't even include our "onesy-twosy" cruelty/neglect investigations. Medical costs for a cruelty/hoarding case per animal are almost double our average cost, \$718.84 vs. \$409.57.



Hoarding case Toy Poodle Lulu models her new sweater in her new home. Lulu had to be shaved down to remove all the mats and grime.

We are also still seeing a lot of abandoned animals. In April we had three Chihuahua-type dogs come in - two that were abandoned at our door and one abandoned in a grocery sack at a Londonderry Market Basket.



Sophie (left) and Lucy were abandoned at the shelter in April and spent their 28-day abandonment hold period in a League foster home. They now live happily with their new families and each is enjoying being the center of attention!



Spartacus, a bossy Chihuahua with a Great Dane-sized personality was abandoned in a grocery sack at a Londonderry Market Basket. He now lives with two rescued Pugs and an ARLNH alumnus Dachshund and will be spoiled and doted on for the rest of his life.

We are pleased to share that all the adoptable Mont Vernon dogs (the owner retains ownership of thirteen that are living at our shelter while the court case proceeds) and all of the Chihuahua's have wonderful new forever homes thanks to your support. And with your continued support we can continue to serve these deserving animals and this compassionate community.

Thank you so much for your support, encouragement and compassion for these homeless animals that deserve a second chance.

Best regards,

Caroline Boyd

President & CEO

cats that are left outdoors during the day. She would like me to follow up on them and check on their care ASAP. It's difficult to manage complaints at such geographical distances, which is why part of my job is to be able to communicate and coordinate with local police departments or animal control officers that are better equipped to follow up on time sensitive complaints like this.

Some of my weeks are planned very far in advance in which I will dedicate an entire day to go to a distant area like Berlin and spend the day following up on either multiple complaints or outreach requests.

Wednesday

Part of my job is putting evidence and case reports together on complaints that I have worked on. I will spend a great part of my day labeling photographs and attaching veterinary statements for 44 dogs that were removed from a home back in April.

There is an upcoming court hearing for the case next week, and it's critical to have all the evidence and documentation properly labeled and organized. The animals' lives depend on it.

Thursday

I have two open multiple cat (hoarding cases) that I am currently working on with town officials in the respective towns. Each situation is different from the next and requires a lot of careful planning on what the best approach is, and how to best handle what is usually a large number of animals at once. In both cases there are also outside factors which contribute to the difficulty. Working in an animal field I often encounter folks that care so much about animals and are so passionate about them that they often want me to essentially ignore the law and react in a way that will ultimately cause suffering for the owners involved. They often don't see the big picture in which if we were to take an approach like that the outcome for the animals would surely be detrimental. Needless to say for all the animal handling skills I have acquired in my almost 14 years in the animal welfare field, it's my people skills that have to remain the sharpest.

This week will end a little differently for me. I have been contacted by an agency in a southern state that has an open cruelty complaint on someone that transports animals to New Hampshire. This will require me to basically go undercover and try to follow these folks as they are expected to be in the state this weekend. I will then follow up with the agency at the start of next week in order to share any information that I may have gathered. Like I said, never a dull moment!

One of the best parts of the job is how much variety there is and that not one single day or week is ever exactly the same!

To report a case of potential cruelty or abuse, contact me at (603) 471-0888 and leave a message. If it is an emergency, please contact your local police department right away.

The Mont Vernon 44

Many of our donors and supporters ask us daily; "what happened to those poor dogs that were taken from the home in Mont Vernon?" Although we still do not own all of the 44 dogs that were taken from the home that day, the healthy dogs that were surrendered to us were placed in homes almost immediately after being altered, groomed and declared medically sound. Here are the stories of three of these dogs.

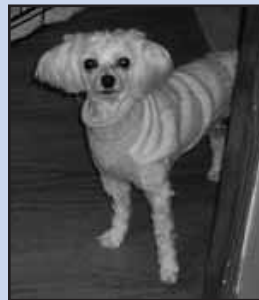
Star



Star "before"

Star was adopted by a family with a huge heart. They had several dogs already but were ready to add one more to their home. Star was happy to be in a new home and after a few

days no longer shook and started to become playful. Star is now very spoiled! She started by sleeping on the couch and then moved to sleeping on her new owner's pillow. She does well with the other dogs in the home and enjoys spending time out on the deck. Star's favorite color is pink and she has lots of new outfits to choose from.



Star- happy in her new home and in her new pink sweater

Sunshine & Jeremy

These two poodles were adopted together. Their new mom loves them and brought them to the shelter for a visit so we could see how great they looked. Both were walking with harnesses and Jeremy was confident enough to explore while Sunny followed. Jeremy is the leader and takes care of his smaller sister.



Sunshine "before"

They get very excited when their mom comes home and all the neighbors bring them toys and treats. This lucky pair has a stroller so they can "walk" the mall and even have a booster seat so they can see outside while riding in the car.



Jeremy "before"



Jeremy and Sunshine enjoying some love from their new mom

The 6th Annual Evening of Compassion

The staff and Board of Directors of the League are very excited to share the news about our 6th Annual Evening of Compassion! This important event was presented by Centrix Bank, a local business that shows true compassion in their willingness to give back to the community. Supporters of the League once again filled the Event Center at C.R. Sparks to near capacity. Thanks to our many amazing volunteers, we were able to present more animals available for adoption than ever before at this fundraising dinner. In fact, one of our hard to adopt dogs, Spike the Rottweiler, found his new forever home that very night!

There was hardly a dry eye in the room after our touching video about Tobey the blind Boston Terrier was played to the crowd. The video was filmed and edited by our talented volunteer videographer, Doug Tricarico. His incredible video set the tone for the evening

and helped us to raise money for the animals. The event also included our Volunteer of the Year Presentation in which we honored Joan Bajek. Joan truly embodies what volunteerism is about, and she looked beautiful that night, tiara and all!



2009 Volunteer Of The Year, Joan Bajek with 2008 Volunteer Of The Year, Anne Greer and Volunteer Coordinator Laurie Galletta

Now for the big reveal...the League netted over \$71,000.00 at this important mission-aligned event! This amount surpassed our expectations and will

provide much needed funds for our animals. So many people pulled together to make the evening a success. Our sponsors played a huge roll in enabling us to make our Evening of Compassion a beautiful event that our supporters continue to attend year after year. A huge debt of thanks again goes to our presenter Centrix Bank and the following sponsors: William Steele & Associates, P.C., Animal Medical Center Emergency & Referral of New England, RiverStone Resources, LLC, Ferdinando Insurance, Visual Persuasion, LLC, McLane, Graf, Raulerson & Middleton, P.A., Alapage, E.J.'s Bakery, Orr & Reno, Derry Animal Hospital, The Doggie Bag & Day Spaw, Barkeasy Pet Grooming LLC, Big Dog Appraisals, Janet L. Spalding, CPA, Joanne Laychak; Coldwell Banker, Ladybead and Rook, LLC and Infantine Insurance, Inc. Their ongoing support is truly appreciated!

Our Tobey Merlot Has Hit the Shelves!

The shelter is very proud to announce the official arrival of our newest wine family member; "TOBEY MERLOT". The early reviews of this smooth, rich merlot have been very positive with one vendor selling an entire case the morning it was delivered! This particular Merlot took the silver medal at the 2009 Finger Lake International Wine Competition and Grape Time Winery owner, Dave Williams is quite proud of the newest addition to the Animal Rescue League of NH wine series.



After Dave heard the inspirational story of Tobey, the blind, homeless Boston Terrier he chose him as the newest wine "poster pup" because, like the wine, he's unforgettable. Tobey was found wandering the streets of Manchester in mid-winter on a freezing cold day. He was excessively thin and obviously neglected. The shelter staff to this day wonders how Tobey was not injured as he was found on a busy road, blind in both eyes.

After Dave decided to portray Tobey on the new wine, Tobey's likeness was beautifully created by local artist Molly Poole. Molly has also designed the seven other wine labels in the series.

The Tobey Merlot and all of our other wonderful wines can be found at:

Harvest Market in Bedford and Hollis, The Wine Studio in Manchester and Londonderry, A Market Natural Foods in Manchester, Sully's Superette of Goffstown and Incredibrew in Nashua

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Come And Join The ARL of NH At Our Fundraising Events!



The ARL NH receives no state or federal funding. In addition to donations, we depend on the income from the events each year to sustain our programs and services, which collectively cost over \$75,000 per month.

Please attend these events and show your support for the League.

For more information about any upcoming event, please refer to the event page on our website at <http://www.rescueleague.org/events.cfm>, call Robin McCune or Jill Terzian at (603) 472-5714 or (603) 472-3647 or e-mail robin@rescueleague.org or Jill at jill@rescueleague.org



McGowan Fine Art Presents...Unleashed! An Art Show to Benefit the League

McGowan Fine Art will be holding it's Unleashed! art show from June 22nd through July 30th at their Gallery at 10 Hills Ave in Concord. The opening night reception will be held on Friday, June 25th from 5-7pm. A percentage of all work that sells from this show will benefit the Animal Rescue League of NH.

Framers Market, Dog Days Show to Benefit the League: Reception; Thursday, July 22 from 5-8pm



"Teddy" by Janet Duncan

The Framers Market, 1301 Elm Street Manchester, will be hosting the opening reception for its summer art show Dog Days on Thursday July 22 from 5-8 pm, an Open Doors Manchester Trolley Night. This canine art show will run from July 22 through September 3rd, with a percentage of the art sales to benefit the Animal Rescue League of NH. Artists exhibiting in this show will include Molly Poole, Robin Kent, Tracey Carrier, Judy McLean, Nancy Brown, Kim Logan, Lorraine Kulik, Dan Greuling and Janet Kollman. There will be free raffles, including the chance to win a mini oil portrait of your favorite pet. Well behaved dogs are invited to attend!



7th Annual Pet Step - a Dog Walk Fundraiser! Saturday, September 18th Presented by: Animal Medical Center Emergency & Referral of New England



Seventh Annual Dog Walk
for the Animal Rescue League of NH
Saturday, September 18, 2010

If you have attended the annual Pet Step, you will know that it is a fun event that grows each year. This year the event will be held on Saturday, September 18th from 9:30-2:30pm at the Hillsborough County 4H Center in New Boston. With plenty of parking and room to expand, we are doing just that!



12th Annual Live and Silent Auction: Friday, November 5th



We are in the planning stages of our 12th Annual Live and Silent Auction which will be held on Friday, November 5th at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester. Please check back for event start time and on-line ticket sales, but be sure to save the date!!!

A Naming Opportunity With Dogs In Mind

Here's Peaches sitting pretty in one of the new dog kennels!



The Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire's new Dog Adoption Center is state of the art. It includes a total of sixteen kennels consisting of a variety of sizes, ranging from small to large. Also included is a special room that will be used to evaluate the dogs when they first arrive at the shelter. Our goal is to provide a center that is as stress-free as possible while our dogs are waiting for adoption.

Here is how you can help. Four of the sixteen kennels have already been reserved. You too, have the opportunity to celebrate a loved one, special pet, or both! Your name and/or inscription will be "etched" on one of the kennel doors for an "in perPETuity of use" donation.

Won't you consider reserving one of the twelve remaining kennels? Your gift will assist ARLNH in successfully maintaining the programs and services it takes to operate the Dog Adoption Center. If you have questions or would like a private tour, please call Donna Nicholaides, Director of Philanthropy at 472-5788 or e-mail donna@rescueleague.org. Hurry while supplies last!

Obedience Happenings

Summer is here! The days are longer, the weather is better, why not plan a fun, nighttime activity for you and your dog and join one of our obedience classes? Held Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday evenings, the Animal Rescue League/The Crazy Canine offers Puppy, Basic and Advanced level courses. Any age or breed dog can find a class that will be appropriate (and fun) for him/her.

Many families look forward to bringing new pups into their home during the spring and summer seasons. With work schedules changing and kids home from school, it seems like the best time as more family members are available to help train the puppy. Keep in mind, although everyone agrees they will take a part in the puppy's training and be responsible for bringing it in and out to go to the bathroom (even on a summer night 2AM can be exhausting!) training and raising a puppy often falls on one, maybe two people in a household, typically either mom and dad.

It's very important for the whole family to take part in training and raising a puppy or any new dog that you bring into your household. It is also important for new canine family members to learn that they have to work for and essentially respect all members of the family. This is often hard for a dog to do when only one or two people are working with the dog. Keep in mind, re-enforcing commands and making your dog work for a living is essential!

Some of the things we often recommend in classes is to try to

involve children or other willing human participants in the house, in some of the more important parts of the dog's daily routine. For example, many dogs love to eat and will get very excited around their meal times (FYI, we

recommend a twice-a-day feeding routine unless otherwise directed by your veterinarian). If there is a twice-a-day opportunity to get your dog to work for something it really, really wants (like their meals) try having your child ask the dog to do something to earn its meal. Something simple like the 'sit' command would work. Parents and adults should be prepared to help the dog 'sit' if they don't respond to the child's request. Please avoid repeatedly asking the dog to 'sitsitsitsitsitsit.' That isn't the same command as 'sit' and will often result in frustration on your part, and your dog seeing you as a bit desperate and out of control. Not a good quality for a leader! Having a dog work for things, such as their meals, not only helps reinforce important commands, it helps promote the human working with the dog as potentially being in charge. It's a win-win situation!

To join a class and learn more training tips please contact class instructor Maureen at thecrazycanine@yahoo.com



Puppy Course Graduates

Beware of Summer Hazards for Your Dog!

We've all seen it, that poor unfortunate dog left in the car while the owner runs into a store. Knowing that your dog has limited ability to cool himself, it's important to be aware of heatstroke. As much as "Scooby" would like to go on that car ride with you, please leave him at home where he can stay cool.

Certain breeds with adorable pushed-in squishy faces can develop breathing problems in the heat. Walking these breeds in the morning when it's still a little cooler outside will help to keep them comfortable throughout those hot summer months.

Ticks and fleas are more than a nuisance to our pets; they carry dangerous diseases as well. Once-a-month flea and tick preventative is a must and it can save your animals' lives as well as save you a bundle on vet bills to treat your pet for the multitude of problems that these parasites can cause.

If your dog likes to swim, keep an eye on him so that he doesn't become overtired in the water. Dogs can have a hard time knowing when to take a break and if they are unable to climb out of a swimming area easily, there is a possibility they could drown. Keep water play time at around 30 minutes and then have them take a break.



Adoption Spotlights

I'm Smokey, a ten-year-old neutered male. I mostly prefer cuddling up in the condo with another cat or two to stay cozy. I'm happy in here – you can hear my contented purrs. I am a gentle, sweet guy who came to the shelter in search of a home because my dad became quite ill. He and I had a quiet home, which suited me just fine. I liked to sit in his lap and be held. If you grace me with attention (which I am quite fond of) and stroke my super soft fur oh-so gently, I'll probably express my gratitude with several licks. I could roll over and show my tummy too, which, you know, means I trust and like you a lot. I never went outdoors and want my new family to keep me inside too. Pay little attention to my age – I still have a lot of loving left in me, and there's something to be said about a kitty who's matured. I'm hoping you are looking for someone calm to share your love and life, because that's what I want too. My Feline-ality is: Secret-Admirer – Purple



Smokey



Izzy

Hi, I'm Izzy, a 2-year-old spayed female. I'm one smart little girl and I love to learn. My previous owner taught me to come when I heard the word "treats" and then sit and "shake" my paw for them. Awesome, huh? I like attention, and petting, and will even hop on your lap but when I'm done, I'm done. I'm easy to read, though, you'll see. I love to play and will turn anything into a toy. I would prefer to be your only cat but a dog willing to let me rule the roost would be O.K. Sound good to you? Ask to visit with me! My Feline-ality is Orange – Sidekick

HEY KIDS... DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN HELP THE ANIMALS AT THE SHELTER BY CREATING YOUR OWN FUNDRAISER???!?!?



Summer at the shelter is always a busy time. We are full of animals in need. Here are some fun ideas for you to help these animals and feel good about giving back to your community!

- Have a lemonade stand! Be sure to make a sign letting folks know that the proceeds go to the Animal Rescue League.
- Hold a bake sale! People have a hard time resisting home-made goodies. You can sell them outside your home or maybe in front of a local store with the store's permission and help from mom or dad.
- Offer to help neighbors with summer clean up jobs. You can make a flyer explaining that you are working for donations for the shelter.
- How about convincing Mom to have a yard sale? You can clean out your room (Mom will LOVE this) and sell all that stuff you don't use anymore.
- Organize a kids' fun run in your neighborhood. Charge a fee that can be donated to the shelter. You can also sell your lemonade and baked goods at the start/finish line.

