



Echo Dogs White Shepherd Rescue Newsletter

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Echo Dogs White Shepherd Rescue
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Remember Me?

Hi everyone! Last you knew of me, I was in the hospital. Well...a LOT has happened since then! Let me catch you up...

It was a long road, but my foster mom took really good care of me after my surgery. She took me to work with her every day and never left my side unless she let me have a sleep over with some doggy friends. Her co-workers even gave me a part-time job when I started feeling better. I helped them file and copy and all sorts of things!



I had to go to the vet a LOT while I was in foster care. They kept wanting to take my blood as I was still having some low levels from my sickness, but that's all better now! And

pills...let me tell you - I will be happy if I never have to take another pill in my life!

Donations from you folks paid for all those vet visits! Thank you!

On March 21st, an even more amazing thing happened to me. I got adopted by my furever family! Oh boy did I hit the jackpot! I got to fly on a plane all the way from NC to FL and I have been a traveling puppy since then! I spent some time at my new home in Florida; then headed up north to spend some time at my home in Pennsylvania; then to New York to my lake house. Did I already say what a lucky dog I am? I absolutely adore my new parents. They have been spoiling me rotten. I am the only dog, but I have doggy friends at all my homes that I can play with. My favorite place is the lake house. I like to lie on my bed in the bedroom in front of the big window overlooking the lake and bark at people as they walk by! That's really fun! It's a pretty amazing view at sunset too. I've also learned to swim!

Yep – I've been having a blast this summer!

I'm not sure if you have heard the news or not, but I'm running for President – on the Puppacratc ticket! My family has supported my decision 100%. They have even printed cards and flyers and now – BANNERS announcing my candidacy. There are even T-Shirts available! Just email info@echodogs.org if you would like to wear one and support me! You can get your Puppy Olaf for President bumper sticker online at

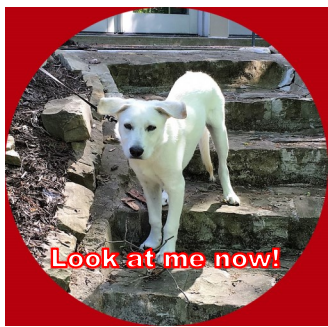
<http://www.cafepress.com/echodogsrescue.1891233826>

or a Puppy Olaf for President car magnet at

<http://www.cafepress.com/echodogsrescue.1893267927>. Don't forget to vote for me!

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Calendar time is coming up!

It's getting time to send in your pictures for the 2017 calendars. This year we are planning some themed calendars, so we need action photos and other cute poses (a shepherd head tilt for sure)! Watch the Echo Dogs Facebook page for ideas. Send your photos to joyce@joyceking.com.



They Had a Raffle!

Francine Palm had three white shepherds in her life and happened on the Echo Dogs website while surfing the internet for news about white shepherds. When she read about Puppy Olaf, his story spoke to her heart. After making several donations, she continued to think about how she could help more. The answer that came to her was to have an open house/raffle fundraiser.

Francine's husband, Steve Palm, and her neighbor, Rachel Kuntz, joined her in her plan. They solicited donations from local businesses and personal friends, preparing for the fund-raising gala.



They sent out cute invitations, and people came from all over the Chicago/Milwaukee metropolitan area. They brought their dogs, too!



After their fun time, and including some donations, they were able to send Echo Dogs a check for \$1420! Thank you!



"Worst Case Scenario Foster"

By Alicia App

Dogs needing rescue need fosters. This should come as no surprise to anyone, we cannot rescue dogs without foster homes. So I thought to myself, "Who better to give the ins and outs to fostering than me, The Worst Case Scenario Foster?"

Everyone wants the perfect situation, with the perfect dog, and as much background information as possible, or the one with the most heartbreaking story. You know, the ones that make your eyes swell up and a lump form in your throat? I am here to tell you almost EVERY DOG should make your eyes swell up and give you a lump in your throat, they just don't have the communication skills to relay that to us.

These dogs are pulled from kill shelters, found starving on the sides of roads, and turned in to pounds because their humans couldn't or wouldn't stand by a decision they made to care for another living creature. We have little to no background on these dogs. We have no idea if they are housebroken, food aggressive, or are good with cats or kids. That's our job as foster parents to learn these things.

Clearly the safety of the household is very important and we do our best to make these judgements before sending them out to you. Just don't be surprised when the dog who is starved and full of worms growls at you when you try to pet them when they're eating. Don't be surprised when the dog you've been fostering for two days, who has lived outside on a chain for their entire existence, pees on the floor. Sh*t happens. It'll clean up. These dogs usually have no training, zero socialization, and are generally jerks when we first get them.

I know what you are thinking, why in the hell would I want to foster after reading that? Because as hard as it is, it's just as awesome.

I am the worst case scenario foster. I almost never say no to a dog in need. I know that they are going to hate their crate, they are probably going to hate my resident dogs, and they will probably even hate me. That's what I signed up for. I am here to provide a safe haven for these dogs and help guide them into being acceptable family members. Sometimes I am successful, once in a while, I'm not.

Here are some examples of worst case scenario fostering:

Litter of parvo puppies. I had seven puppies and their momma dog, They came to me from Puerto Rico. I started with seven puppies and only one survived. Momma Dog (NKA Mia) was in horrific condition, she had every type of intestinal and topical parasite known. She was not housebroken, she also had open sores all over her body,

she was severely underweight, and had severe separation anxiety (one day she broke out the window and was found on the roof), but she was a good mom to those puppies. I cried, she cried, we all cried. Six of her puppies died of the parvo they brought with them. Finally, the day came and she was adopted. I made her adoptable. She has gone on to live an incredible life with her adoptive family and Tank, her surviving puppy, is thriving. Do you know how good that feels?



Glory: She is the 10 year old disabled dog found abandoned on a snow bank. We know she was abandoned because, well she COULDN'T WALK. Who does that? I had Glory for a very short four months. I knew she would never leave me and was a hospice case. She lived the greatest four months a dog could live.. She was happy go lucky, loving, and loved. One day Glory told me she was done, she had served her purpose in this world and it was time for her to go. She died in my arms, and it hurt BAD? But as much as it hurt do you know how amazing it was to give her the best 4 months ever?

A lack of socialization makes many dogs unpredictable in new situations. Sometimes they are great with other dogs, sometimes they aren't. I've come across a few situations where my dogs and the foster dogs just don't get along. This means crate and rotate. Crating and rotating is for everyone's safety and wellbeing. Currently there are two separate packs in my house. Sig and Rysen, my resident dogs, like each other. They go out together and foster dogs go out together. Seems ridiculous but even when everyone doesn't get along, you can still foster. Sometimes we just have to work a little harder and follow a schedule. Most of the time a foster dog can be integrated into your pack but you have to be willing to put in the time and effort it takes.

So the next time you think you can't, or the situation isn't perfect, or the dog has issues, remember how it feels to watch the broken, pathetic excuse for a dog walk off into the sunset with their new family. I promise you it's worth every roll of paper towels, every chewed up couch (yep, a dog ate my couch), and every sleepless night. EVERY DOG we take has a story that makes you swell up with tears. Just because they can't tell it doesn't mean you shouldn't foster them.

Fostering, it saves lives and you can whine about your foster dog (trust me, I whine), but help them through the worst moments of their lives so they can go on to have the best moments.

Rescue on my friends,
Alicia- Worst Case Scenario Foster Mom

Demodectic Mange

Bella, whose story is on the right, came to Echo Dogs with demodectic mange. This is a mange caused by a mite and is carried by all dogs and a lot of people. The mite does not cause mange unless the dog's immune system is suppressed, either from disease or malnutrition.

Demodectic mange should not be confused with sarcoptic mange, which can be spread to other dogs and humans.

History of Echo Dogs

Even though one of the original sires of the German shepherd line carried the white coat gene, at one time white shepherds were often "disposed of" by German shepherd breeders because they were disqualified from the AKC ring. As the white dogs became more popular, they were registered by the UKC.

Mark Echterling had been involved in many things with his white shepherds, Max and Shadow, including Search and Rescue, Dog Scouts of America (DSA), American White Shepherd Association (AWSA), and was always there with his talented dogs to help raise funds for needy organizations.

In late 1999 Mark founded Echo Dogs White Shepherd Rescue. The organization began in Cedar Lake, Indiana, with about five people. The name "Echo" came from their name. Today EDWSR has expanded to be an interstate network of foster homes and transport volunteers.

Mark lost his year and a half long battle with lung cancer and passed away in September, 2004. He will always be remembered for his hard work with white shepherds.



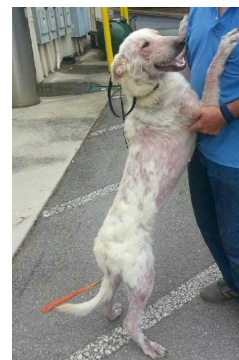
Bella

Echo Dogs was contacted by an individual who said her father had found a stray WGSD in rural Georgia. The poor dog was terribly underweight and had severe skin issues. Although he kept her for two months and tried his best to put weight on her and address her skin issues, he just couldn't get it under control.

Bella joined the Echo Dogs program July 10. She went straight to a vet in Georgia and was cleaned up and started treatment for demodectic mange. She was so skinny they felt her immune system was so compromised that they refused to vaccinate her with the exception of rabies as required by law. She also tested positive for heartworm.

Now in her foster home in Pennsylvania, her demodectic mange is being treated with monthly doses of Bravecto. The weekly medicated baths are continuing. She is looking much better but it will take a long time for her fur to grow back in.

She will have her first heart-



worm injection August 25. Once her heartworm treatment is complete, she will be spayed and off to her waiting adopter in Illinois.

See the before picture above and the after picture on the left? This is what being a foster is about.

Are you ready to foster?

Echo Dogs White Shepherd Rescue
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Officers:

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Mary Gleason, Secretary (myrescuedogsrule@gmail.com)

Please have "Echo Dogs" in your subject line.

Troika

To quote a vet on one of the TV reality shows, “Dogs are really three legged and just have a fourth for a spare.”

Ginny Hays’ first WGSD was a tripod, so his photo pulled at her heartstrings. Ginny called two Echo Dogs friends and asked for their help. On April 23rd, Troika left the shelter in South Carolina on a paid transport to NJ. Sherri Kircher got up at 4:00 am to leave her home in PA and meet the transport in NJ. Sherri then hosted Troika overnight and the next morning Dorothy Laincz joined the effort and drove the middle leg of a mini-transport to meet Ginny and get Troika the 5 ½ hours to Pittsburgh.

The shelter said Troika’s lower leg was missing and already healed when he was picked up as a stray. No one knows how he lost part of his back leg, but speculation is in a coyote trap which is very common in that part of SC. Like most “tripod” dogs and cats, his missing leg has no impact on his mobility. He will not be a good jogging partner as he cannot go the distance, but he does great in a fenced yard and on regular walks. He likes to run and play with toys and go for car rides. He is very loving with all people, especially kids. He is a couch snuggler.

Troika was heartworm positive and is now finished with his treatment. He does well with 2 of the resident dogs in his foster home, but is now reactive to all new dogs so he needs a forever home with no other dogs.



Troika is a Velcro Dog. He is crate trained and very well-mannered in the house.

Typically, we include before and after photos of the rescues, but there are no sorry, sad looking photos of Troika. He was beautiful from the beginning.

Hemangiosarcoma

Way too many dogs have been struck down with Hemangiosarcoma lately. We’ve heard about them in emails and on Facebook. What is this terrible disease?

Hemangiosarcoma is a malignant tumor of blood vessel cells. The skin form (dermal hemangiosarcoma) can often be cured surgically, but other forms are much more serious.

Because the tumor tends to form in blood vessels, if it ruptures it can bleed extensively. Sometimes a ruptured tumor is the only sign the dog has a disease.

The tumors can appear almost anywhere in the body, but the spleen is the most common site.

It is not known what causes the disease, which occurs most often in mid- to large-size dogs. The dermal form occurs most often in short-haired white dogs.

Do you Smile and Walk?

Whenever you shop on Amazon, you can make money for Echo Dogs. Just type “smile” in the search box at the top of the Amazon website and you’ll be able to name Echo Dogs as your charity of choice.

Then, every time you shop on your Amazon Smile page, a portion of the amount goes to Echo Dogs. The donation can reach as much as \$800 a year!

Be sure to click on “Share” and let everyone on Facebook see that you support Echo Dogs.

WoofTrax is another way to make money for Echo Dogs without its costing you anything. Search for the “Walk for a Dog” app on your smart phone. Enter the name of your dog(s) (and picture if you like) and search for Echo Dogs as the charity you represent. Echo Dogs is listed in Sherman, Illinois.

Then, every time you go for a walk, click on the icon before you leave and when you get back home. Easy!

Facebook
Twitter
✉ E-mail

I just supported Echo Dogs White Shepherd Rescue at AmazonSmile. I shop. Amazon gives.

When you shop at AmazonSmile, Amazon donates to the charitable organization of your choice. Who will you support?

[Your sharing settings](#)

Share

In Loving Memory

*"We who choose to surround ourselves
with lives even more temporary than our own, live
within a fragile circle;
easily and often breached.
Unable to accept its awful gaps,
we would still live no other way.
We cherish memory as the only
certain immortality, never fully
understanding the necessary plan.*

...Irving Townsend

Smokey, Tom Schuster
Rory, Paula and Steve Darlington
LaRue, Mary Ann Joyce
Captain, Melanie Thurston
Jade, Susette Degen
Abbey, Darcy Culverwell
Walker, Tonia Garver
Spyro, Daryl Martin
Recon, Tammy Maki
Rickey, Karee Mantini
Kobi, Margaret Manning
Tbone, Sharon Young
Skynard, Richard Wilson
Zoe, Natalie Herring
Abby, Angela and Michael Scarpa
Boo, Sue Keller
Catrina, Jennifer Banachowicz
Loki, Margie Mook
Frosty, Annamarie Matuszewski
Lilly, Sharon Finley
Ella, Debbi Snyder
Zion, Cindy Dougherty
Charlie, Lori Thompson
Jersey, Mark Mucci
Annie, Frank Koehler
Mama Bear (aka Honey), Sandy Luper
Princess, Laura Cox (Foster)



Editor's note: I'm sorry, but I don't have a picture of every dog.