

Small Breed Rescue of East TN

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Summer 2007

SBRET Update

We are a little over the halfway mark for 2007 and SBRET has already found forever homes for 55 dogs who otherwise may not have been so lucky. In 2006 we found homes for about 60 dogs so as you can see our SBRET volunteers have been very busy. We have already attended 11 adoption events, answered countless phone calls, and assisted getting many dogs into other rescues.

SBRET has been a nonprofit corporation for about 5 years but we have now applied for our nonprofit 501c(3) status. Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible by donating money to cover the very expensive application fee and time getting all the paperwork together. Hopefully, we will be able to report on the status of our application sometime over the next 2 to 3 months. Having nonprofit 501c(3) status will allow us to hold adoption events at stores like PetSmart and to apply for grants. One of the biggest benefits will be to our generous contributors who will be able to deduct any donations they make to SBRET.

It looks like SBRET is moving forward and that 2007 is going to be another busy year.



Fundraising Events

Boy are we lucky to have such wonderful volunteers! One of our members thought a garage sale would be a good idea and got us all moving on it. After a lot of sorting, pricing, and arranging we can announce that the first annual SBRET garage sale was a success and raised over \$1,000 for the rescue. **Please save your household items for next Spring when we plan to have another garage sale.**

Another one of our members has decided to take on the role of Fundraising Coordinator. We

participated in the Smoky Mountain Street Rod Association Convention in June and raised over \$200. She has secured another spot for us at the upcoming Smoky Mountain Auto Fest in Sevierville on September 28 and 29. We are going to be having some fabulous items to sell and raffle, so please plan to attend (details about the event will be on our web site). So if you have any fundraising ideas, please give us a call, and we will pass on any and all suggestions to our new Fundraising Coordinator!

Where Does the Money Go?

SBRET like other rescues does charge a nominal adoption fee of \$175 which will cover the veterinary expenses of one young, healthy dog. If that dog needs a dental or any extra care we have to rely on donations to cover the rest of the expenses.



As an example, we just took in a young poodle who was failing to thrive. We have had to spend several hundred dollars on tests and medications to help turn her into a healthy, adoptable pet.

Another example is Marlee, a senior cocker mix who had an untreated heart and thyroid problem which required testing and treatment. We have taken in dogs with Demodex mange and Ringworm, both of which require expensive, lengthy treatments. Our veterinary expenses this year to date are already over \$12,000. Donations make it possible for us to continue taking in the dogs that need extra medical attention and a chance at finding a happy, forever home.



Thank you to everyone who has supported us in the past. We hope you will continue your support as we grow and make improvements.

Foster Homes Needed !!

We receive countless pleas from shelters all over the South and from desperate owners no longer able or willing to keep their pets. The pleas from the shelters often include the exact time the dog is going to be euthanized if we don't respond. The pictures and stories can be overwhelming and heartbreaking at times.

We understand that we can't save them all but we could certainly save a few more if you decide that you and your family would be willing to open up their home and hearts to a foster dog. We had 3 past adopters this year who helped us out in a crunch and took in a foster dog. SBRET will cover all the dog's medical expenses and provide you with a crate, leash and collar, and heartworm/flea preventative and lots of moral support! Won't you please consider adding your picture to our Volunteer page? You will save a life and I promise you that your own life will be enriched by the experience.

Foster applications are available on our web site. Looking forward to hearing from you!

Warm Weather Tip

Don't leave pets in parked cars for any period of time. Every summer, animals left in parked cars suffer brain damage and die from heatstroke. On a warm day, even with the windows cracked, the temperature in a car can reach 120° in a matter of minutes.

Contact Info

Tyrine Hawthorne - 865-426-3955
Karen Marquand - 865-966-6597

Email: rescue@sbret.com
URL: www.sbret.com

Mailing address:

Small Breed Rescue of East TN
P.O. Box 4661
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

Other Ways You Can Help

Donations made via PayPal on our website or by check to our mailing address are always appreciated so that we can continue to help dogs with special needs.

If you cannot foster but would like to sponsor a dog by paying for its veterinary expenses, we can keep you

updated so that you can be involved in that dog's progress. Also, we always need donations of crates, beds, dog toys, grooming services and Frontline flea preventative. Thank you to everyone who has helped in the past and we look forward to your continuing support.

Why Do I Foster?

"Give me your tired, your poor ... send these, the homeless ...". The poem inscribed on the Statue of Liberty was inspired by America's relationship with the immigrants coming to its shores, but the sentiment is true for those who foster dogs as well. As a favor to a friend, I answered the plea to "just take one dog" because a load of Maltese had been rescued in the middle of winter from an outside kennel; Small Breed Rescue was desperate.

Our family has two big Golden Retrievers; I worried how overwhelmed a little fru-fru was going to be in our home. Well, we soon discovered that our Golden not only got along great with the little ones but actually seemed to allow them to settle in quicker. If a foster wanted to play, the Golden were glad to accommodate them; if they wanted to be left alone or wanted to follow them around the yard - that was fine too. They were intuitively gentle and kind. It also helped that our first foster, Mikey, was such a special personality.

Our family became hooked. Becoming a foster family really does take the entire family, including the critters you have already given a "forever" home too. One of our Golden, Katie, is a great foster Mom herself and is probably the one most responsible for being, not only a great welcoming presence, but so kind.

Some of the foster dogs have been very hard to part with but the joy they have provided to their new family make it all worthwhile. I keep up with the forever Mom of one favorite imp often; I see one of my fosters leading her Mom on their daily walks in our neighborhood; one of my best friends turned our first foster into a real beauty while they became inseparably bonded. Each dog, with their new family, can write a new life story - they are no longer among the poor, tired, and homeless.

My new foster is old, deaf, and not very healthy. I don't know what kind of life story she will be able to write but I do know that, for now, she feels happy, loved, and secure. Her tail wags a little more each day. That is what it's all about.

Thank you to everyone who donates their time and opens their hearts and homes to help rescued animals!



Kermit with one of his Golden buddies