

COLLIE ADVOCATE



Tri-State Collie Rescue Newsletter

2019 TSCR CALENDARS!

BUY YOURS NOW ONLINE



Christmas gifts for friends and family!

Limited supply so order early.

Photos of our TSCR collie family!



Our second annual calendar fundraiser starts now! Featuring photos submitted by our collie families, reserve yours before they are sold out. The calendars are \$15 each or 2 for \$25 with shipping of \$3*. Order using PayPal through our website or Facebook links or send a check payable to Tri-State Collie Rescue at 3009 Pebble Brook, Jeffersonville, IN 47130. These perfect Christmas gifts for friends, family and co-workers will be mailed in November. This is a great way for you to help us help collies in need.

Be sure to add your name and address when using PayPal.

*at cost for larger orders

ADOPTION UPDATE

Adoptions in July: 3

New York, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1

Adoptions in August: 13

Alabama, 1; Florida, 1; Illinois, 1; Indiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Michigan, 1; New York, 1; Ohio, 3; Pennsylvania, 2; Washington, 1

Adoptions in September: 13

Indiana, 2; Maryland 1; Michigan 2; N. Carolina, 1; S. Carolina, 1; Tennessee, 1; Virginia, 2; Ohio, 3

In this issue:

- Calendars
- Adoption Update
- Lost Dog
- Trixie Update
- How You Can Help

Lost Dog...

Rocky, now known as Luna, had been raised in Kentucky as an outside dog. His only usefulness was to breed. Unsocialized, he was never in a house; just raised in a barn with other breeding Collies.

He had the run of a horse field from which he would often escape, either climbing over or jumping through the fence. When he would return, the male owner and son would do something bad to him for leaving the property. We also assume that Rocky had been locked in a cage for some time as well. He has 5 broken teeth including his canines and a huge bare patch on his body where he may have been burned. The owner was finished with him now and he was going to be shot. Tri-State Collie Rescue stepped in and both, he, his sister and a puppy were surrendered, with a cost to TSCR.

Rocky had only been inside the foster parent's home for 1 hour when, unaware he was a fence climber or his history, the foster left him alone in the backyard for 10 minutes inside a 3 foot high chain link fence. Within minutes, Rocky climbed the fence and was gone. To make matters worse it was freezing outside and January was set to be the coldest we had seen in a long time in Ohio with temperatures dipping down to minus 3 degrees and an average for the month of 23. Even with a fur coat it was going to be difficult finding food and water that was not frozen.

When a dog is lost and days or even weeks go by, many people give themselves a reason

to stop looking, in part because they don't want to think of the suffering. They rationalize that "a dog could not survive such bitter weather, that maybe it got hit by a car and was laying off the road or in a ditch where no one could see him, or that Animal Control had caught him, or he was killed by a coyote or that maybe someone found him and wouldn't give him up because he was a beautiful purebred."

BUT until there is a true ending to each lost dog story you CANNOT give up looking. We were the ONLY shot Rocky had.

One week, two weeks, three weeks went by. Sightings were all over the map and there would be days and sometimes a week in between sightings. He had traveled over 13 miles north and then miles and miles each day in all directions. The hope, although it seemed futile, was that he would settle in to a certain area, maybe in someone's yard. That wasn't going to be the case with Rocky. Some days he would be seen traveling a 3 or 4 miles. Often he would be seen standing in a huge field, or in the middle of a frozen lake or near a busy highway. Each time there was a sighting, traps were set in that area along with a food trail.

Unfortunately, he wouldn't stay in one place long enough to find the food. He'd be gone each time he was seen and not return.

Continued on page 3

TRIXIE

Our Heart Patient's Adoption Story



Back in May, Tri-State Collie Rescue volunteers began scrambling in order to accommodate "The Great Eight" -- eight smooth collies who were coming into their care from a breeder. Little did they know that one of their charges, a very small and very timid female, was dying.

According to Tri-State's resident vet, Dr. Rae M. Neumann of Middletown Veterinary Hospital in Ohio, Trixie suffered from a life threatening heart condition which could have been easily corrected while she was a puppy. Could have been, should have been, would have been if only the breeder had taken the pups to the vet for routine health checks.

Had her condition been found while still a pup, Trixie's patent ductus arteriosus could have been corrected and none of her associated problems would have developed. But that never happened. Now, Trixie suffered from tricuspid valve dysplasia, mitral valve dysplasia, an enlarged heart, aortic stenosis and premature ventricular beats. Simply put, Trixie was in heart failure. Without two or possibly three surgeries, Trixie was going to die. And, according to Dr. Neumann, she was going to die soon.

Everyone fell in love with the petite girl who hoarded toys and was afraid to come out of her kennel -- the vet techs at the clinic, all of the TSCR volunteers who knew her and, most importantly for Trixie, a kind-hearted woman who lived in North Carolina named Cheri.

Cheri was following the Facebook posts that featured Trixie's plight with more than a little interest. Even though she has been involved in rescue for many, many years, rarely did she fall in love with a dog she hadn't even met. Until Trixie. She reached out to the adoption committee to express her interest in adoption as soon as Trixie was well.

When she was strong enough and stable enough for surgery (and after much fundraising by the TSCR volunteers and a large donation from the Collie Rescue Foundation), Trixie

underwent the lengthy procedure to repair her sweet collie heart. Luckily, the repair could be done through a large vein in her leg and groin area making for a less invasive surgery and quicker recovery time.

The surgery was a success and Trixie released back to Dr. Neumann, who was amazed at what she discovered during Trixie's first post-surgery exam. "She acts like nothing happened, but my stethoscope says something like a miracle happened to her in that surgery," declared Dr. Neumann.

A few more weeks after the operation, Trixie went on to recuperate with one of TSCR's incredible fosters who lives in Ohio, Bev Furnish. At Trixie's follow-up examination with her heart surgeon, Dr. Gianni Giatis, he reported, "Today's evaluation revealed improved heart sizes with no evidence of congestive heart failure. This is great news!"

And then, when she was strong enough -- well enough -- the greatest miracle of all happened. Her own guardian angel came to pick her up and take her to her new home where, we are happy to report, she still likes to hoard her toys but is no longer afraid to come out of her crate.

Trixie and Cheri Heading for Home



Alert: Problems Reported with Flea and Tick Medications



The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is alerting pet owners and veterinarians that some flea and tick medications can cause adverse reactions in dogs and cats.

Some animals receiving drugs in the isoxazoline class have experienced adverse events such as muscle tremors, ataxia, and seizures, according to the FDA.

The medicine includes Bravecto, Nexgard, and Simparica. Another product in this class is Credelio, which recently received FDA approval.

The FDA says these products are approved for the treatment and prevention of flea infestations, and the treatment and control of tick infestations.

If your dog or cat experiences and adverse reaction, they say you should contact your veterinarian.



To report suspected adverse drug events for these products and/or obtain a copy of the Safety Data Sheet (SDS), or for technical assistance, you can contact the manufacturer(s):

- Merck Animal Health (Bravecto): 800-224-5318
- Elanco Animal Health (Credelio): 888-545-5973
- Merial (Nexgard): 888-637-4251
- Zoetis (Simparica): 888-963-8471



LOST DOG (CONT'D)

And it seemed that when posters were put up, as helpful as they were in getting a sighting, it would also mean that more well-intentioned people would chase him even though the signs said DO NOT CHASE.

Rocky was becoming more fearful by the day. If a car traveled 5 mph slower than the normal traffic speed, he would bolt. If a car stopped he would run. If someone saw him and whistled or called him he was gone. He was now fearful of EVERYTHING; people, cars, other dogs. He was in survival mode, in flight mode which can happen to almost any dog. Instinct had kicked in.

Days had passed since he was last seen in an extremely high traffic area near Polaris, a shopping center in Delaware, Ohio. Almost one month after he disappeared, a call came in from a police officer who had seen Rocky in a new area. TSCR flew over only to see Rocky in the middle of a dog park. But with a dog who wouldn't come to his name and who was now afraid of dogs, all they could do was watch as he bolted south from the park with a friendly dog chasing him wanting to play.

More signs went up that night. More calls came in. One woman even got out of her car and ran after him and watched as he fled towards railroad tracks which went under a freeway.

The whole rescue effort seemed doomed to fail. We had sightings but what good were they when he would run? We had traps but he always left the area.

As it turned out, snow and freeing temperatures would prove to be a life saver for Rocky. Because he was a large dog he also had large footprints. It was easy to distinguish between his and those of coyotes which roamed some of the areas he traveled.

On January 29th, I, along with one other person, tracked Rocky's prints in the snow for 7 hours, careful not to be seen by him for fear he would leave this area too. From the railroad track and under the freeway (270), down to the bottom of a ravine and back, along side the highway (down below eye sight of cars), over fences he appeared to travel. Thank God. For the first time we had a pattern. He was circling the area. But for how long?

There were business offices in the area and they were closed for the weekend. Come Monday, this could be a different story. He would be easily seen along the ravine and if chased or called or whistled at he would bolt. If he was going to be caught, it HAD to be this weekend.

It was Saturday night January 29th and traps were put out and filled with chicken and burgers. They were checked at 1am and 5 am --EMPTY..NOTHING IN THE TRAPS.

Sunday he was tracked again. According to the new fallen snow, the prints showed he was staying in the area but had missed, or didn't want to go in, one of the 5 traps that were strategically placed where we saw his tracks. Maybe he was gone. Maybe he was fearful of going in a trap even with the food in them.

A call came in Sunday that he was seen in the same place and miraculously the person didn't chase him or call him. Finally someone who did what the poster said, DO NOT CHASE.

Traps were reloaded/ refreshed and some moved closer to the area he had been. We left quickly. Monday morning was only 12 hours away and parking lots would be full of people and cars. Office windows could be a good vantage point for sightings and well intentioned people would try to rescue him, no doubt scaring him away. Rocky was not going to stay there if we didn't catch him Sunday, we are sure.

Sunday morning passed, afternoon passed, and evening was upon us. Traps would be checked at 5 am on Monday. As luck or fate would have it, I talked to a trapper in Michigan who had helped rescue a Sheltie once. I got some more tips and decided to make minor changes to the traps that night by adding my dogs' feces and yellow snow to attract him.

I visited the first trap and then the second. It was dark and I heard a faint bark. Was it coming from someone traveling down the highway with a window open and their dog barking? Could it be from someone's dog in a car coming from a 24 hour vet clinic down the road or could it possibly be Rocky in one of the traps?

Not wanting to get my hopes up, I left the one parking area and made my way to the main road in order to get to the third trap which was accessible only through the second parking lot. As I turned in, the barking grew louder. It had to be him. Flipping on my bright lights there was the most beautiful sight...a Collie barking away in the freezing night inside the trap. It was Rocky!

At 7:30 pm on Sunday night January 30th, the long journey was over. Rocky was safe at last with luck and effort and God's help. I sat down next to him in the snow and talked gently to this boy who had been on the road and in the fields and in the middle of frozen lakes and crossing highways for so long. Not a growl, not a bark. He was quiet.

My friend came up from Grove City to help me load the trap and Rocky in to my SUV. With him inside the trap, he was taken to my home where he remains today. He is slowly coming along and learning to trust people one at a time. He enjoys being part of a pack of 5 dogs and 5 cats and learns things better from the dogs than from people. They have taught him it is okay to climb stairs, to go through doorways, that the kitchen always has yummy cookies in there and he has even learned to sit (from my husband).

While he is still a huge flight risk, he is safe, very loved and he has a new name, Luna which means moon in Spanish.

Looking back at this rescue it was uncomfortable for all of us. Actually it was awful, one of the most difficult things I have ever done in my life. We were frozen putting up signs and setting traps. Trying to sleep at night we felt guilty under our blankets knowing Rocky was out there. We could have rationalized over and over again why we should have called the rescue effort off but we didn't. We had to know the ending. We had to rescue Rocky. We did!

Just never give up, because when you do, the dog has no one.

Rocky/Luna was owned and loved by the family of Peggy Kaplan from Columbus, Ohio. A few years ago, Peggy wrote this beautiful story of how she and Luna formed their precious bond. TSCR founder Sharon Goodburn, along with volunteers Leah Cottrill and Gail Kirk, helped the Kaplan family for the entire month-long search through cold and snowy weather. They would all drop whatever they were doing when a call came in that Luna had been sighted. It didn't matter if it was 10pm, dinner time or whenever, they came to help. They put up hundreds of signs, traveled in all kinds of weather and walked in snow up to their knees searching. The effort paid off and their dedication to rescue was never forgotten.

Luna passed away on August 13, 2018. He was 13.

WISH LIST

How can you really help us help them?

Foster. Foster. Foster.

We are constantly in need of loving foster homes.

Along with fosters, we also need:

Transporters

Gas Cards

Volunteers

Discounted Veterinary Care

Grooming Services

Large Crates

Petco/PetSmart/Chewy Gift Cards and Cash Donations