

## A NEW LEASH ON LIFE

#### PEOPLE'S ANTI-CRUELTY ASSOCIATION ALBUQUERQUE ANIMAL RESCUE

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# SOFOLD

### by Toby Koch, a PACA volunteer

On a cold January day I got an urgent call from Trish, PACA's dog coordinator, asking me if I could rescue six senior poodles. The poodles had belonged to an elderly couple who had passed away a few months previously. Another PACA volunteer and I loaded up crates, leashes, harnesses, water and whatever else we thought we might need. When we arrived at the poodles' home, I met the deceased parents' daughter outside the house. She told me she and her brother had been visiting their parents' home to care for the poodles. When I went into the house I saw a very sad and chaotic state of affairs. The heat had been turned off for





about two months and it was cold! The old dogs only had sweaters for warmth. There was one water bowl and one food bowl for six dogs. There was no outside access, so they had been going to the bathroom inside on the carpet. There was trash and broken furniture

scattered throughout the house. Their fur was filthy and matted. The dogs were very frightened and confused. One of my main concerns was that they had been abused or might be aggressive due to their fearfulness. To get control of the situation I asked the daughter to pick up one poodle at a time and put them in separate rooms. We sat at the dining room table and she gave me their dogs' histories. My initial worries about aggression were unfounded. Once I started working with them, I soon realized that they were all very loving and sweet.

The youngest male at nine years of age, named Oso, had on a biker jacket. Obviously a free spirit! The others are Estrella, Luna, Sol, Moose, and last but not least, Blackie, who had turned completely grey due to age. I thanked the daughter and assured her that she was doing the right thing in contacting PACA and giving PACA the poodles. I could tell this was very hard for her.

We took the poodles directly to Doggie Den to have them groomed. The owner, Dawn, and her staff, proceeded to shampoo and trim their unruly fur. The groomers were very good at calming the poodles down. Everything was so new and different from the life they had had before coming to PACA.



The next step was to take them to TLC Pet Hospital, the main vet for PACA dogs". Since they were old and neglected, they had critical health issues that needed to be addressed. There was so much help from the community once the poodles' story was told. I am happy to report that we found homes for every one of them. Truly a happy ending!

A big thank you goes out to Dawn and Doggie Den Grooming for taking such good care of these little dogs and doing such a wonderful job helping find homes for them. THANK YOU!!







## **More Senior Poodles**

PACA received a call for help in taking a senior miniature poodle. His owners were having medical problems and could no longer take care of him. Blueboy was thin and dehydrated when PACA stepped in to help. Trying to get him to eat was a daunting task for his very dedicated foster mom. With persistence and home cooking she finally got him to eat and to gain some weight. He was used to living on hotdogs. At Blueboy's vet visit, we discovered he has a few medical issues: urinary tract infection, protein in his urine, low thyroid, bad teeth, and kidney problems. He is undergoing treatment and has perked up quite a bunch. Thanks to his foster mom, Maria, for doing such a good job! Unfortunately she isn't going to be able to foster him as she is moving out of state. We are looking for another foster or permanent furever home. Please consider helping him, he is an easy-going guy and doesn't take up much room. PACA pays for all medical bills for their foster dogs.

# Grafffucle follows least on life

For many years Long Leash on Life, a healthy pet food store at 9800 Montgomery NE, has organized a pet food drive before the holidays. PACA, along with many other pet rescues and animal shelters, has been a recipient of hundreds of pounds of dog and cat food each year. This food is greatly appreciated by the dogs and cats in our care. We just wanted to say "THANKS!"









Manzano Day School First Grade - Philanthropists in the Making

When Manzano Day School's first grade teacher, Ms. Fonseca, requested a presentation from PACA about responsible pet ownership, our volunteer Julie jumped at the chance to talk to the kids. PACA is always willing to teach children about the responsibility and importance of being a responsible pet owner in hopes to reduce the need for dog rescues. Julie developed a short Powerpoint presentation explaining that dogs need the basics of food, shelter, and water, but they also need safety, mental enrichment, and respect. Julie explained that although many dogs tolerate it, many do not like being hugged. She showed photos of dogs that like to be touched and those that are asking to be left alone. It is important children learn to recognize dog body language and to consider the dog's feelings. This understanding will reduce the number of dog bites to children. Julie finished with a demonstration of her two former PACA foster dogs' abilities at finding a hidden tin containing a certain odor. The teacher hid the tin, and then her dogs found it by using their amazing sense of smell. The kids thought this was pretty cool. The session finished up with questions from kids eager to learn.

Julie received a phone call from Ms. Fonseca asking her to come back in to receive a donation the children had collected. The children had designed and made pet inventions such as turtle houses, cat toys, hamster habitats, and dog leashes to sell. The money they received from their sales was donated to PACA and another worthy rescue, Tootsie's Vision. The Manzano Day School first grade raised \$700 for each rescue. PACA wishes to thank all of the children that worked so hard and passionately to raise



#### Certificate of Gratitude

Manzano Day School First Grade Class 2018-19

Your generous gift allowed
PACA
to save this
senior dog named
Glory.
Thank you!



money for our animal rescue. Thanks to the first grade at Manzano Day School!! If you would like to see information to help children be safer around dogs please visit www.stopthe77.com.

# Copy Calls

"Just wanted to give you an update on Valette, who is now Gypsy J She is doing wonderful, she is such a great addition to our family. And I think she loves her new home. She sleeps in the bed with us each night."





#### SAM, IZZY and CLEO

Being involved in rescue we see a lot of bad stuff, but we also witness miracles. Izzy, Sam, and Cleo were to be homeless when their mom decided to leave them to move to Hawaii on a whim. This is the bad stuff we see, but PACA helps dogs, even if their owners are irresponsible. So PACA told her we would try to find them a home together. The dogs were 6, 10, and 12 years old and had a few medical issues common for seniors like weight management, arthritis, thyroid medication, and urination problems. It would take a miracle to find these dogs a home together before they had to go to the shelter. A miracle happened. A couple of angels contacted PACA who had an empty house and were looking to fill it with love. They weren't quite expecting to take on three babies but couldn't bear to separate them. Their angels are so happy they took them in and love them so.









"Just to let you know how our new family member, Francis [Stanley], is doing. We have had him for a month and he is doing wonderfully! He is still a little shy, but has become a permanent fixture on my lap! He has become a very playful, loving kitten. I thought I would send you pictures of him to show what a joy he is to have!"



Two PACA dogs in one! A lovely family adopted Lucy, a once scared dog PACA pulled from the shelter, and a few months later they also adopted Apollo. Lucy loves to play with other dogs, especially a dog as handsome as Apollo.





Hershey-Found by a road in the middle of nowhere as an itty bitty puppy, making new friends in her new home.





"This adorable little munchkin is officially part of the family! Both the boys got toys to celebrate! We love Remi & he loves us. He & Tazi play together which is the sweetest thing ever."

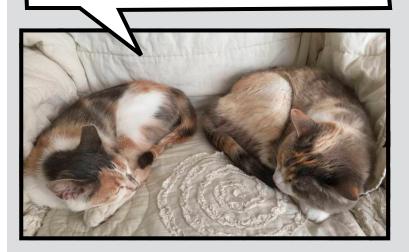








Thank you, animal lovers, for rescuing Olive, a beautiful dilute calico formerly known as Lil' Bit, from an outdoor cat-colony life as an unspayed teenager. I spotted her at the adoption clinic at PetSmart on March 23, 2019, and fell in love when this shy, 2-pound kitty with olive colored eyes and a clipped ear climbed onto my lap in the visiting room.









# TRAINING FOR PACA DOG VOLUNTEERS BRINGS FUN AND NEW KNOWLEDGE

PACA tries to offer the dogs in its care the very best. Learning new things allows us to help dogs better. When a volunteer's friend and dog trainer, Phyllis Smuland of Canine Counselor Inc., was coming to visit Albuquerque, she organized some training for our volunteers. We used PACA foster dogs as examples. About thirty people attended the day-long workshop. We do a lot of rehabilitation work with our rescue dogs. This means we help a dog that has been in a bad environment recover from traumatic events or lack of exposure to the world. If the dog's temperament is sound, dogs can overcome an unfortunate past situation. Phyllis helped us learn how to help dogs more effectively.

## **WILMA FINDS A FAR AWAY HOME**

PACA helped out Wilma, a shepherd mix, when her owner had fallen upon homelessness and concerns of being able to care for her. A dedicated foster family took in Wilma. At first she was quite fearful, but quickly became an active, fun loving dog that loved to explore. Wilma is an example of a dog that can be rehabilitated after a bad environment because her core temperament was stable. Wilma caught the eye of visiting dog trainer Phyllis Smuland. She thought Wilma would be a good match for an active family that she knew. PACA used FaceTime to have Wilma and this family meet virtually. Then Wilma made the 1615 mile car trip to Virginia. The dog trainer kept her for a few weeks to ensure she was a match and to train her leash and house manners. Wilma is now living the good life with her new family in the Washington DC area. Here she is with the two kids of the house, Milo and Sophia, giving Milo a big kiss.





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Eleni Otto and Gregory Arnold

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Nell Kroeger

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