



www.purrfectplay.com

Holiday Season 2009

Dear Friends:

It has been months since we produced a newsletter. Our intentions were good but life has been bumpy. We hope you will understand.

This fall we said goodbye to our special dog companion, Rosa. She was a rescue from the beaches of Mexico. She looked into our eyes on that blazingly hot day and we were smitten. Even mangy, nearly hairless, and bitten up her beauty shown through. She came back with us and has been the light of our home for 9 years. Rosa was diagnosed with a fast moving cancer in early October and 6 weeks later she was gone. Her absence from our life is everywhere.

Rosa's simple narrative: being abandoned, being rescued, and then giving unconditional love to a new family is part of an even larger story—one personally familiar to many of us. Dogs and cats can come to us with stories of loss and fear. They were alone or hurting and then they joined our families. Being part of a family who will love and care for them is its own kind of miracle- for both the pet and the family.

Just a few weeks ago we got a newsletter from a rescue in Pennsylvania— the Hillside SPCA. <http://www.hillsidespca.com/guardian-angels.htm> One of their stories really hit home. Albert Schweitzer, a gentle shepherd mix had been abandoned. Malnourished and covered with fleas he also appeared to have a broken leg. Sadly they found he actually had bone cancer with severe lung involvement. They could do nothing more for him and gently let him go. This poor dog most probably never felt the deep love of a family and was left to suffer on his own until Hillside rescued him. Now here is a story worthy of tears.

I am constantly amazed by those who fight on the front line for homeless and abused pets. They have the courage to process the sad stories and the hope to develop and bring forth the happy stories. They have earned our deep thanks and ... our support. In these last few days of 2009 consider firing off a check to a pet rescue organization. The world is full of dogs like Albert who deserve so much more!

Hold fast to those you love. Happy Holidays!

Pam Wheelock

Owner, Purrfectplay.com

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Each year we dedicate a full 5% of retail sales to no-kill and rescue organizations. These are some of the places we gave the 5% we generated in 2008.

Show-Me Vizsla Club <http://showmevizsla.homestead.com/Rescue.html>

Tree House Humane Society <http://www.treehouseanimals.org/>

Chicago English Bulldog Rescue <http://www.ebullymatch.com/>

Paws and Claws Humane Society <http://www.pawsandclaws.org/>

The Anti-Cruelty Society <http://www.anticruelty.org/>

SPCA Wildlife Care Center <http://www.wildlifecarecenter.org/>

Animal Protection League <http://www.apl-shelter.org/DotNetNuke/>

Central Indiana, trap/spay/return of feral cats, colony management <http://indyferal.org/>
Spay-Neuter Services of Indiana, Inc (SNSI) <http://www.spayneuterservices.org/>
Great Pyrenees Rescue of Greater Chicago <http://www.gpcgc.org/rescue.htm>
Newton County Emergency Management <http://www.newtoncountyin.com/>
Dogs Deserve Better, Illinois Chapter <http://www.dogsdeservebetter.com/>
Heartland Animal Shelter <http://www.heartlandanimalshelter.net/>
Adopt a Husky Siberian Rescue <http://www.adoptahusky.com/>
Harmony House <http://www.hhforcats.org/>
Furry Fun Walk of Ruston, LA http://www.ruston.org/adult_rpar/#q4027
Best Friends Sanctuary—Lint Roller Party- Hollywood, CA <http://www.bestfriends.org/lintrollerparty/index.htm>
Humane Society of Atlantic County <http://www.hsacpet.com/>
Poplar Spring 5K Run <http://www.animalsanctuary.org/>
Independent Cat Society <http://www.catsociety.org/>
Love your Pet Expo/Charity Auction Event <http://loveyourpetexpo.com/charity.htm>