



# BARK ALL ABOUT IT!



## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Windy City and the Blackhawks
- We're going "Nuts for Mutts"
- Adopt, Don't Shop!
- Engage your 'Pawsonality' with Lola.
- Community work in the "Kitty Korner"

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## Windy City is going Nuts for Mutts!

Windy City has been lucky enough to build relationships with happy adopters over the years, none



*"Nuts for Mutts" students, posing with Windy City Volunteer Blake Racich and adopted dog Henson.*

more enthusiastic than Dinah Barthelmess. This amazing woman adopted a dog from Windy City in the summer of 2007 (see page 2 for their story), and is now mentoring young animal lovers and advocates in her position as a teacher in Wilmette.

Dinah and her dedicated students created a club to celebrate all things dog, called "Nuts for Mutts". This fantastic club also provides learning opportunities, where students hear from dog



*Dinah Barthelmess enjoying the face painting booth*

experts, such as Windy City rescuers, police K9 trainers, dog behaviorists, etc.

Members of "Nuts for Mutts" were so excited about their club that they decided to create their own "Canine Carnival", with proceeds to be divided among Windy City and another deserving rescue

organization. There was no limit to the creativity in this event, where students created all the dog-themed elements and attendees enjoyed face painting and games.

The "Canine Carnival" exceeded all expectations, raising over \$1000.00 and 209 pounds of dog food, toys and treats for the chosen rescue groups! To a rescue group like ours, this was a truly precious gift. We extend our sincere thanks to Dinah and the "Nuts for Mutts" group for your amazing spirit and generosity on behalf of WCAF!



*Students gather at the "Canine Carnival"*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Happy Tails 2
- The Windy City Top 5 2
- Happy Tails 2
- Pawsonalities 3
- Kitty Korner 3
- Partners & Donations 4
- The Holiday Wish List 4

## Windy City Hosted by The Chicago Blackhawks!

The Chicago Blackhawks have a lot to brag about these days! Besides winning their way into the Stanley Cup playoffs, they have supported Chicago-area shelters and rescues, and Windy City in particular.

On a cold Sunday evening in March, the Blackhawks hosted Windy City at a home game, providing us a table to collect donations and spread the word about pet adoption to 22,000

screaming fans! They even featured one of our pets for adoption on the Jumbo Tron!

The kindness of the Blackhawks will not be forgotten, nor the hard work of WGN pet expert Steve Dale, who advocated for a collaboration between the Blackhawks and members of the Chicago Area Shelter Alliance (CASA) of which Windy City is a member. We feel so humbled by the opportunity to reach thousands of Chi-

cagoans with the pet rescue message.

For now, we'll be cheering loudly for our home team in the playoffs, in solidarity for the way they give back to Chicago animals in need. Woof-Woof! Meow!



*The Windy City Booth at the Blackhawks Game*

## Happy Tails! Sparrow Finds a Home



Sparrow (previously called Little Miss) While waiting patiently for a home

When Sparrow was rescued, she appeared far older than her 10 months, with facial scars and a timid demeanor as a reminder of her rough life as a stray. This little girl would require extra patience and training to fully blossom. Luckily, that extra patience was found in adopter Dinah Barthelmess.

Dinah said, "I went to look at dogs with a friend who wanted to adopt. We came across Sparrow, timid and charming. My friend brought her home on a foster basis, yet it soon became clear she had some anxiety issues. Cowboy, my other dog, does too, so I thought we might be able

to help her. So, she ended up coming home with me!"

When asked how Sparrow is adjusting, Dinah shared, "Now Sparrow is a happy pup. She loves me, but ADORES Cowboy, and has never met a squeaky toy she doesn't love. She



Dinah, Sparrow and Cowboy the happy family!

will happily bring it to me time after time to throw down the

hall, and will then roll on her



Sparrow, Home at Last!

toy, her silly self just enjoying a squeaky massage. She's easily learned to sit, down, stay, come, and will wait at the door until invited to go out. Her best move is the "Baby Slide" where she stretches out her back, with her front paws down, then slides forward all the way, with her little legs splayed out behind her. So cute! She's our girl and we feel lucky that she's ours!" Windy City couldn't agree more.



## Top Five Reasons... to Adopt rather than Shop

1.) According to the Humane Society of the United States, between 3 and 4 million animals are euthanized each year in the U.S. because there aren't enough homes. You would absolutely be saving a life by adopting!

2.) By adopting from your local shelter or rescue group, you help to reduce the number of animals bought from backyard breeders and puppy mills, where animals may suffer abuse or neglect.

3.) Did you know that approximately 30% of shelter animals are purebred? If you love a particular breed you can probably find a pet in your local shelter.

4.) When you adopt, you can select a shelter that screens for behavior issues and provides spay/neuter and vaccination, all for a low cost! All you need to do is select a pet that suits your lifestyle, and provide the love and home your pet needs.



5) Without adoption, amazing pets like Oliver (left) and Maggie (above) would be passed by, just because they are in their golden years. These pets make the best companions, just ask their adoptive families!



Truman, patiently awaiting his Chicago foster home



## Rescue Partnerships: The Truman Story

As a rescue group, we know all too well how difficult it is to find foster homes. When we heard Truman's story, we needed to do all we could to help this handsome guy, even though he belongs to a fellow rescue. Poor Truman was found on a highway in southern Illinois. His little companion (a doxie) was hit and killed by a car, and Truman stayed by his side until he could be captured and placed in the safe care of Hope Animal Rescues. When he ar-

rived, it was found that Truman would occasionally fall down and tremble uncontrollably, and needed more care than Hope could offer. Then wife of Chicago White Sox pitcher Mark Buehrle, Jamie Buehrle, happened upon Truman in a visit to the shelter. As a long time supporter of Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Utah, Jamie knew they could help. She contacted them, and pledged to support Truman's rehabilitation so he can find a good home.

Best Friends contacted Safe Humane Chicago, to find Truman a local foster home where he can participate in the Best Friends Training Partners Program. Cynthia Bathurst of Safe Humane Chicago has partnered with a local trainer and needs to find the right foster home where Truman can heal and receive the training and love he deserves, hopefully with another doggy playmate. If you think you can help by fostering Truman, or have any questions about the process, call Safe Humane Chicago at (312)409-4790.



**Lola, SERIOUSLY looking for her forever home!**

You may remember Lola. This beauty has been featured in Pawsonalities before. In fact, Lola has been with Windy City for almost a year! You see, Lola came to us as a 6 month old puppy. This adorable little viszla / pit mix was begging for rescue, and we were happy to oblige. She found a lovely home and we were very happy for her.

However, as Lola progressed into adolescence, she began to exhibit symptoms of anxiety. When Lola was adopted, she became protective of her new owners, sometimes to the detriment of house guests who found her barking to be quite scary. Her adoptive parents worked with a trainer to try and resolve her anxiety, but ultimately decided she was not the right fit and she was returned to WCAF.

# Pawsonalities... a Home for Lola?

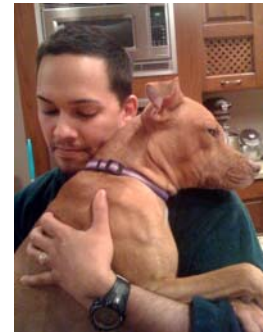
Lola has been doing very well managing her anxiety. WCAF found a trainer who was willing to work intensively with Lola, and also the most loving and patient foster home in the world! In the care of foster parents Candido and Beth, she has flourished! She lives with several cats, two other dogs, two adults and a teenager, and she enjoys everyone, particularly her canine companions, Gia and Mystic.



**Lola and her foster sisters enjoying a game of tug-of-war (above) and cuddling (below)**



Although Lola has an amazing temporary home, she is still dreaming of a permanent home to call her own. She would do best in a home with another energetic dog, as she loves to play and has quite an energy level. Due to her anxiety issues, Lola will not be placed in a home with very young children. Lola also loves, loves, loves to cuddle (see pics at right), and would do best in a home where someone is around all day to give her the attention she demands. In fact, this girl believes that she is a lap dog, and would enjoy squishing with you into your favorite lazy chair or spooning on the couch.



**Lola, loving her foster father (top) and her foster mother (bottom)**

Over the past couple of months, WCAF has been pursuing even more options to help Lola with her anxiety, and she is progressing nicely. She just needs the right home to continue to blossom into a happy, healthy adult dog.

If you are interested in meeting Lola, to see if you are a good match, contact [patricia.wcaf@gmail.com](mailto:patricia.wcaf@gmail.com) or [joyculver.wcaf@gmail.com](mailto:joyculver.wcaf@gmail.com) to arrange a meeting, and hurry! Lola has been searching for a long, long time.



## Kitty Korner: Community Partnerships

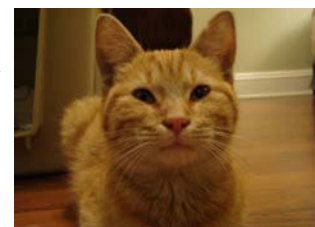
This past cold Chicago winter, Windy City was contacted about a group of cats who were living in a cold warehouse on the west side. The gentleman who contacted Windy City was an informal caretaker for these 'neighborhood' cats, and wanted to maintain care for the two adults. However, he was concerned that the six month old kittens were being 'pursued' by their father, and that more kittens would be the result. Windy City jumped

into action, convincing the gentleman to not only relinquish the two kittens for adoption, but to spay and neuter the mom and dad, so they would not continue to reproduce. He agreed, and one cold day two adult cats and one kitten were transported for surgery (the other kitten proved more difficult to capture, although was successfully spayed a week later). Both kittens were vaccinated, tested for feline leukemia and FIV, and adopted out

at the PetSmart Evanston adoption center. Indeed, the two were so friendly that potential families were in competition to adopt!

Meanwhile, mom and dad have been returned in good health to their caretaker, where they enjoy companionship, full tummies, and the prospect of a kitten-free, healthy future!

**Sophie, rescued and Adopted!**





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for our children and companion animals

Learn how you can help prevent violence toward  
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[www.safehumanechicago.org](http://www.safehumanechicago.org)

### Many thanks to our recent donors of funding, goods, or services:

- *Nuts for Mutts & Dinah Barthelmess*
- *Dan Bigg*
- *Robyn Hart*
- *The Chicago Blackhawks*
- *The Beverly Ridge Lions Club*
- *Doug and Margot Peterson*

Thank you for everything you do to support our work! Sincerely, The Windy City Board

## Get Involved!

**Foster:** Since Windy City doesn't have a shelter, we rely on the kindness of foster families who open their homes to our rescue animals. If you think you might be interested in fostering, contact us at the email or phone number above. Fostering is a very rewarding experience!

**Volunteer:** Are you an animal lover with a little time to spare? Then we have space for you! Volunteers help us at adoption events, assist with transportation of rescue animals to the vet, and help with other tasks. Do you have skills which would help us? Contact us and let us know!

**Adopt:** Check out our upcoming adoption events to find your new best friend. Adoption gives a homeless or unwanted animal a second chance. Visit our website to see the amazing animals we have available for adoption.

**Donate:** Windy City appreciates any donation to assist in the rescuing of animals. You can donate securely on our website (listed above), and a little bit goes a long way! You can also donate services / products for events or silent auctions.

Finally, you can donate items we need for the day to day rescue work we do. Here is our current **Wishlist:**

#### FOR THE DOGS:

- sturdy leashes (4ft or 6ft nylon preferred - all widths/weights)
- prong collars or nylon collars
- Kongs, Nylabones and balls
- Small training treats/Milkbones
- Premium food (like Solid Gold and Wellness)
- Collapse-able crates of all sizes
- bowls
- grooming supplies like brushes (for short and long coats), nail clippers and 'Quikstop',
- doggie dental care stuff
- doggie eye wipes
- dog beds
- blankets
- car seatbelts/harnesses
- doggie bathing supplies (including leave-in shampoo)

#### FOR THE CATS:

- carrying crates
- premium cat food
- litter boxes and litter
- kitty treats
- kitty eye wipes

#### OFFICE SUPPLIES:

- 6"x9" clasp envelopes
- printer paper/colored and black printer ink
- storage bins of varying sizes
- staples
- binders/dividers
- folders
- stamps

#### IN-KIND DONATIONS:

- dog training or walking services
- veterinarian services
- daycare/boarding
- office space
- graphic design or printing
- marketing/public relations
- fundraising/development work

## Check out our Wishlist!