

BARK Community Newsletter  
June 2011

[www.barkva.org](http://www.barkva.org)

804-449-BARK

**Bandit's Adoption and Rescue of K-9s**

**Fingers Crossed!**

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## Fingers Crossed!

We recently received this email from Patty Nevadomski, Senior Producer of WCVE television's Virginia Currents. We don't know the results yet but hope to report great news next month.

*Hi Bob - hope you're doing well.*

*I submitted the piece we did on BARK for a feature news emmy & it has been nominated! I thought since you're the star of my piece as well as your wonderful, furry friends - that you should know. Just being nominated is an honor & a thrill for us. Thanks to all that you & your volunteers do & thank you for letting us capture it for our viewers.*

*The winners are announced in Washington, DC late in June. I'll keep you posted.*

[Click here](#) to view Virginia Currents' Emmy nominated footage.



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## BARK's First Doggie Wash Day

On June 4<sup>th</sup>, BARK volunteers held the first doggie wash day at the Ashland farm. Organized by BARK volunteer Tracey Thorpe, the event was a huge success with 35 lucky dogs being washed – likely the first time ever for many of them! A huge thank you goes out to Tracey, Ms. Davis, her girl scout troop and the parents, who came prepared with bathing suits and lots of shampoo and even conditioner for the dogs. Many of the BARK dogs absolutely loved being bathed and they all looked (and smelled) great afterwards!

The next BARK dog wash day will be held on **Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>**. If you'd like to help, please contact Tracy Thorpe at 804-467-4874 or [fireauxco1@yahoo.com](mailto:fireauxco1@yahoo.com). As you can see, this is a fun, family-friendly event!



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## Harley and “His” Fawn

A few weeks ago, former BARK volunteer Donna Rae Woods got quite a surprise when her golden retriever Harley brought her an unusual gift - a fawn who had wandered into her Atlanta, GA yard. Like the little bird in the Dr. Seuss classic “Are You My Mother?,” the young fawn had become separated from her mom and approached Harley. Donna searched unsuccessfully for the fawn’s mom before enlisting help from a local wildlife rehabilitator. In the meantime, the fawn was clearly comforted by Harley’s presence and the two became fast friends. [Click here](#) to view Fox News’ coverage of Harley and “his” fawn.



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## Missing Puppies Update

Henrico County Police are continuing their investigation of the puppies stolen from the Short Pump adoption stand and have asked us to be patient. As soon as we have more information we’ll be sure to let our volunteers and supporters know. Thank you to everyone who has kept an eye out for these two!



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## Morgan's All Natural Pet Products

"Morgan's All Natural" pet care products are formulated to soothe and calm skin irritations while maintaining a shiny, healthy coat. pH balanced for all breeds. Safe for daily use.

- Clementine Zest & Lemongrass Doggie Shampoo
- Lavender & Mint Doggie Shampoo
- Crushed Organic Lavender & Rosemary Dry Dog/Cat Shampoo
- Crushed Organic Lavender & Rosemary Leave-on Doggie Conditioner

"Morgan's All Natural" pet products donates \$1.00 of each product sold to BARK Rescue.

Email: [morgansallnatural@hotmail.com](mailto:morgansallnatural@hotmail.com)

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## Helping the Community: Adoption News

Most BARK dogs are rescued from local public shelters. These shelters are open admission facilities, meaning that they are required by law to accept all unwanted dogs, such as those picked up as strays or surrendered by owners. When public shelters run out of room to house the dogs, they sometimes euthanize as a means of population control. BARK and other rescue groups offer lifesaving alternatives by transferring at risk dogs to their facilities, where they are housed until adoptive homes are found. In addition to finding forever homes, BARK vaccinates, spays/neuters each dog and provides appropriate veterinary care.

We are proud to report that **54** dogs found loving homes in May.



BARK Dogs Enjoying  
the Strawberry Faire  
in Ashland

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## Adoption Spotlight: Casanova, Jane and Suni

Dogs featured in the Adoption Spotlight were selected as personal favorites by BARK volunteers. We hope you enjoy reading their comments about these wonderful dogs. If you want to know more about a dog, [click here](#) for Petfinder bios. If you are interested in meeting a dog featured in the adoption spotlight, please submit an application online at <http://www.barkva.org/AdoptionApplication.aspx>, send an email to [adopt@barkva.org](mailto:adopt@barkva.org) or call 804-449-BARK (2275).

Casanova is as handsome as his name implies and is waiting patiently for to be discovered by the perfect family. He is a three year young terrier/retriever mix who has spent too much time in a kennel. He has a strong muscular build, short easy-to-groom coat and eyes that melt your heart.

Here's what one volunteer says about him: "Casanova is definitely a diamond in the rough. He came in over a year ago with his brother, Cupid, who quickly found a home. Unfortunately, Casanova is still waiting for that special day himself. He is smart, eager to please, and loves human companionship. Although he is strong, he walks well on a leash, particularly when using a gentle leader. Casanova would be a great companion for an active owner and would love regular runs or the ability to enjoy a fenced in yard. More than anything, this sweet boy deserves a warm, soft bed to call his own. I just know he would thrive in a home where he gets the love and attention he craves. If you're looking for an absolute teddy bear of a dog, Casanova is your man! If a never ending supply of hugs sounds good to you, please consider adopting Casanova."



Casanova

Jane is a lovely 6-year old beagle looking for a home. Here's how her volunteer friend describes her, "Jane is the sweetest dog with a wonderful disposition. Whenever I visit her at her kennel, she always comes up to the gate looking for love and a rub on the ears. She is gentle, easy to handle and walks well on a leash. She gets along fine with other dogs. She's not a puppy, so she doesn't need lots of play, but she does enjoy taking walks. She would make a wonderful companion to anyone who wants a dog beyond the puppy stage. She is very loving and would love to just sit on the sofa next to you while you read a good book or watch a movie. If you are looking for a friend and loving companion, please consider Jane."



Jane



Month after month, volunteers vote Suni as their favorite BARK dog. Here's what her newest friend says about her, "One of my favorite "girls" is Suni. She has been at the farm a while and think she is getting bored with the whole thing. She is such a loving dog, when I come to her kennel she will come to the side to be petted and talked to, she loves it when I take her out and just sit on the front porch!! Suni is not only a beautiful dog but would be a loving and loyal asset to a family with no kids. She deserves a chance for a forever home.!!



Suni

Suni is a wonderful medium sized female girl with a soft white and red coat that will require minimal brushing. She is around 2 to 3 years old. She is gentle and once she warms up to you, she will walk right next to you on a loose lead and will not pull or try to run. She enjoys trips down to the creek at the BARK farm and loves the water. Children seem to make her nervous in a home environment, so a calm, quiet all adult home would be best for her. She would also prefer to be the only dog in the home. Suni has learned to get in her crate and is getting used to being in one for short periods of time. She leans into you for affection once she gets to know you, loves to be brushed and sits quietly for grooming sessions.

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## Volunteer Corner

### Volunteer Wish List

This month we especially need:

- Experienced dog handlers at the Short Pump adoption stand
- Evening feeders at the Ashland farm (call Linda Lane at 804-883-7740)

### Monthly Meetings

BARK now holds monthly meetings at the new spay/neuter clinic (12300 Farrington Road, Ashland, VA) every second Thursday of the month. The meetings begin at 7:00 pm and food and drinks are provided. Topics include such items as: How to make BARK better, Fundraising, Clinic and Marketing the Clinic to bring in business, Adoption Success Stories, Issues from the Farm, as well as open discussions. Please plan to attend!

### We need your volunteer story too!

Since BARK has so many dogs, it is difficult for volunteers to get to know each of them in the limited time they share at the farm or at an adoption stand. In an effort to better showcase some of the wonderful dogs currently awaiting their forever homes, we are asking volunteers to share their stories of working with spending time with the BARK dogs. Please “vote” for your favorite dog and explain what makes “your” dog deserving of his or her very own forever home. Does he walk well on a leash? Does he know how to sit or shake? Does he love the water? How does he act with volunteers and other dogs?

The “winning” dogs, along with the volunteer descriptions, will be featured in the adoption spotlight portion of upcoming BARK newsletters. These stories will help readers get to know the dogs and hopefully generate adoption interest. Plus, they’re a lot of fun to read! Remember, your personal experiences could make a difference in the life of a very deserving BARK dog. Submit your “votes” to [robin@barkva.org](mailto:robin@barkva.org).

## **FARM DOGGIES NEED MORE HOUSEKEEPERS and FRIENDS!!!**

### **We'll work with your schedule and time constraints**

**Students and teachers – please come help during your summer break!** We'll work with your schedule and time constraints. With the constant change of schedules and the juggling of jobs and children and “LIFE”, we are constantly looking to replace volunteers. The regular long term kennel keepers who clean the kennels and care for the dogs find themselves needing more cleaners. We have walkers, but not so many cleaners. So if you can spare some time, enough to do even just 4-6 kennels, once a week or so, please call Linda at 804-883-7740 and we'll welcome you with open arms.

### **Volunteer Groups**

The good news is that we have so many new and wonderful volunteers. The not so good news is that sometimes too many show up at the same time. So, all groups must be scheduled before they can visit the farm (experienced or not) to walk and/or help take care of the kennels. We are limiting the number of visiting groups on any one day for the safety of all. Please contact Carol Murray at [murrsan@verizon.net](mailto:murrsan@verizon.net) to arrange a date.

### **Current Schedule for Kennel and Dog Care**

**Flexible starting and ending hours – The number of volunteers determine how long it takes to clean.**

We are pleased to say that our flexible work schedule has proven to be a success. Once a volunteer receives an orientation and gets a little experience, he/she can come on out and clean when it is convenient on the day they have chosen to volunteer – morning, noon or night. We prefer that no one come alone unless very experienced and that you let the crew lead know your schedule beforehand. Having a buddy system makes it more fun anyways. Grab a friend or family member. Volunteers are there 7 days a week at various times throughout the day, so we are sure one of those times will work for you. Everyone must have an Orientation, hand in their paper work to a crew lead at the farm (not only on line), and read the required material before becoming a volunteer. Orientations are scheduled with a crew lead at a mutually convenient time. Children under 14 must be supervised by an adult. If 14 or older, the young person must have written permission to volunteer and be a very responsible young adult. Everyone is required to read the guidelines for both cleaning kennels and walking dogs.

Every new volunteer will receive an “Informational Package” by e-mail. Contact information for crew leads is included in along with the required reading, the application/waiver and directions. If you misplace that contact information, write Linda at [billindaphoto@mindspring.com](mailto:billindaphoto@mindspring.com) or (804)883-7740 before coming out and she'll let the crew leads know and send you another copy. Additionally, please make sure you don't forget to mark the two chalk type boards: one for the row(s) you cleaned and one

for dogs you walked; this helps the volunteers who come after you know what is left to be done. You'll learn of this during the orientation.

**Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays:** Volunteers are there at various times between 8:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. (Fridays start at about 10:30 a.m.) We have morning, late afternoon and evening crews on these days.

**Tuesdays and Thursdays:** We have volunteers who arrive at 5:00 p.m. or later but again, flexibility is the name of the game. Once oriented and experienced, you can come anytime morning, noon or night – again, preferably not alone. Just make sure the crew lead knows and that you mark off the row(s) you clean and dogs you walk.

**Saturdays:** We start anywhere from 10:30 a.m. (or earlier) and go until the dogs return from the adoption stands late in the afternoon or until you have to leave. These are good days for individuals and groups (if scheduled) to help clean and then walk/exercise dogs. If you are with a group, please make sure we know your group plans on coming out – we can only handle so many groups at a time. Also, we could use help loading and unloading dogs for the adoption outings.

**Sundays:** We never seem to have as much help on Sundays as Saturdays. All above for Saturdays holds true for Sundays.

Remember, the dogs depend on us. Won't you consider giving them a little part of your week – just a couple of hours or so?

## Volunteer News

### Kennel Volunteer Programs

Thanks to a core of volunteers, we are constantly improving the **Quality of Life** for our dogs. Here are our volunteer needs:

- ❖ Walking and Exercising Program
- ❖ Kennel/Shelter Care and Maintenance
- ❖ Volunteer Follow Up
- ❖ Special Projects/Facilities
- ❖ Feeding
- ❖ Transport
- ❖ Groups and Community Service
- ❖ Medical Care
- ❖ Intake

If interested in volunteering, please visit our website, [www.barkva.org](http://www.barkva.org), and fill out a volunteer inquiry form. The phone number for BARK is 804-449-2275. Linda Lane, shelter coordinator, is always available at [billindaphoto@mindspring.com](mailto:billindaphoto@mindspring.com) or 804-883-7740.

**Finally, welcome to newcomers: Beverly Banaszak, Chaz Barracks, Jason Borgert, Taylor Burton, Melissa Collins, Betsy Comita, Roquel Flockhart, Ashley Goodnight, Taylor Gray, Will Hager, John Herrin, Dallas Joseph, Darren Kalten, Rachel Kiscaden, Mary Maier, Ashley Martin, Amanda McGhee, Tyler Minix, Nancy Mountjoy, Erin Nesbit, Morgan Niles, Corinne Reinert, Aaron Smith, Lindsay Smith, Rebecca Springer, Joyce & Derek Warner**

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## Thank You Notes

- ❖ A huge thank you to BARK volunteer Tracy Thorpe for all her hard work planning the first BARK doggie wash day!
- ❖ Thank you again to Ms. Davis, her girl scout troop and their parents for their help bathing the dogs at the farm!
- ❖ All the dogs at BARK would like to thank Ashley Roth and all the residents of Moreland 2nd East at Randolph Macon College for the donation drive ending in lots doggie treats. Yum and Woof Woof!



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## Notes from the Farm: by Rolph

Hi friends!

I know I haven't actually seen a lot of you in the past month. I'm not in hiding...I've just been vacationing at my summer home (Bob's house). Thankfully all of my friends in the old neighborhood have been keeping me in the loop. It sounds like I missed out on all kinds of great fun this month. I was hoping to make it to the dog wash day, but my transportation fell through. Don't worry - I've been assured that I can make an appearance at the next one. You and I both know I could definitely use a good bath! It's just amazing that the volunteers were able to bathe 35 dogs in one afternoon. I'm sure that those lucky dogs will make a much better first impression when they go to adoption events and meet their potential new family. What a great idea that was!

I also heard that the back kennels now have a huge new fan thanks to volunteer Steve Phillips. The fan will keep all of the dogs in the back a lot cooler in the summer, which I know they'll definitely appreciate. Last year was a real scorcher!

Lastly, it sounds like the new BARK spay/neuter clinic is getting closer and closer to opening. I haven't heard when the planned opening is yet, but apparently the new floors have been poured and the walls painted. I bet the new equipment is next! It sure will be nice to have the clinic right down the road – both for the BARK dogs and for regular folks. If you want to stay in the loop, be sure to check out the monthly meetings on the second Thursday of the month!

Well, until next time...



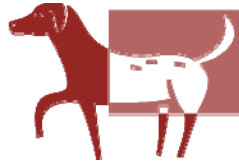
Rolph

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## Doggone Important Info: Keeping Pets Safe in the Heat

With the start of summer quickly approaching and the temperatures rising, it's important to ensure your pets are safe in the heat. Please [click here](#) to read important tips from NBC news for keeping your pets safe in the heat.

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**Happy Tails...Waggin' Good News**



Scottie is now Rocket (thanks to our 6 year old). He is a delightful dog with a demeanor that no one can believe--friendly to both people and dogs. He is adjusting well with only a few in-house accidents and now is easily crated. His biggest issue is chewing which for a 7mos old we can't expect anything less.

I've told so many people of the wonderful experience that I have had with your organization. You were able to take my application and match a great dog for my family's life.

We couldn't thank you enough for finding us the perfect new family member.

*Best, Kerri*



Rocket

Otter is doing just FABULOUS!!! He is the most awesome dog in the world and I know God blessed me with putting him in my life! I have attached a few recent pictures of him. He loves to be the center of attention and when friends come to the house he has to show off how happy and energetic he is by running full speed in circles around my house and back yard! He is so well behaved and trained and I attribute it to the wonderful foster dad he had, Rob Sullivan! Rob and I continue to keep in touch and I hope to always keep in touch with Bark as well. If it wasn't for you all, I would not have my best friend and companion for life!!!

Thanks again for everything you and BARK do!

*Kara*



Gunnar (a.k.a. Will) has settled in well! When we brought him home, we were amazed and pleased at how well/quickly he adapted to us and into our household. (He is house-broken, walks and runs well on a leash, fetches, knows basic commands and showed no signs of aggression towards people.) After a few weeks, the dreaded separation anxiety kicked in and he became "Houdini"... bending his crate door to escape, jumping over the fence, digging under the fence, etc. After a couple months of unsuccessful containment attempts, we are happy to say we have finally figured out how to keep Gunnar inside the fence during the day and everyone is happy! He has an amazing temperament and is wonderful with our 21-month old son. Our friends, family, neighbors, vet, and groomer all love him. I have attached a picture that sums up a typical morning in our house. Thanks for allowing us the opportunity to have Gunnar as a member of our family.

*Crystal*



We're great! Billy is now called Milk (he wasn't responding to Billy and Kelley thought it would be OK). We recently spent the week at the beach where his Mommy and his Daddy got engaged (!!!) so the three of us are very excited about that! He loves his bones and goes through them rather quickly. He's not a great fetcher, but loves to chase things and then play keep away. You know he is happiest when he lifts his little head and just howls away. When he gets really excited, he wags his whole butt -- we call this the Milk Shake. He loves the dog park down the street from us and is the biggest snuggle bug in the world, and we couldn't be happier!

Here are a few pictures you are more than welcome to share!

- 1 - Milk and his cousin Bailey at the beach
  - 2 - Snuggling with cousin Bailey again
  - 3 - Milk and Mom, Bailey and Aunt Jenn
- Ashley*

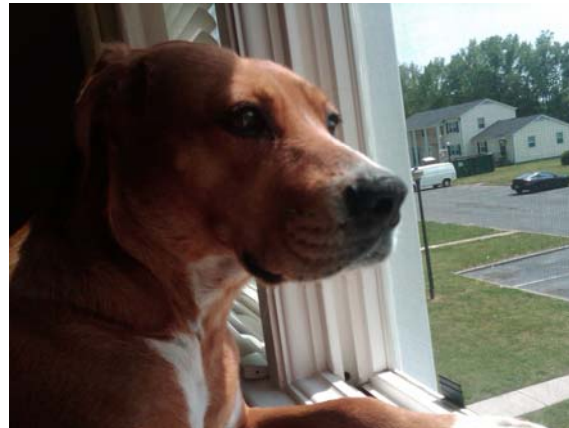
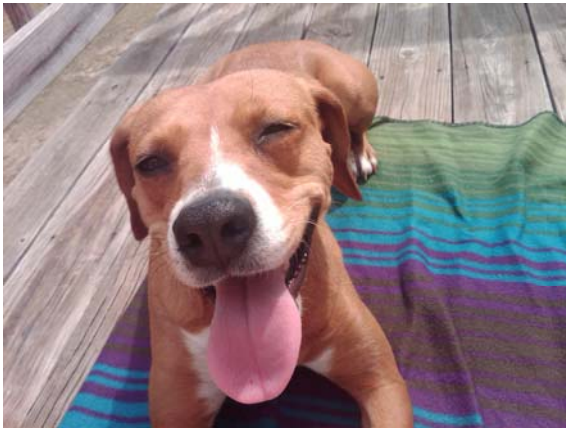


Charlotte is doing well. Still can't get her fully potty trained but she is trying. She likes to wake at 530am for potty and that is ok when there is school but might be annoying during summer. She is just a cute fat little beagle and my daughter loves her so. She seems to answer to Beagle instead of Charlotte, but my daughter Nicole calls her CharChar or CharBear and she answers to either. I will ask Nicole to get some pictures together and I will send them soon.

*Laura (no picture included)*

Eloise is doing wonderful! Although she has become the princess around the house. We love her very much and so does everyone else. We have been taking her to the dog park at least once a week so she can run free and play with other dogs. She has a lot of energy and is always keeping me going. She loves to go for walks and loves to howl with her dad. Eloise has come so far since the day we brought her home. BARK is more than welcome to put any pictures I send of Ellie in the newsletters. She is truly a fantastic dog and we are nothing but happy to have her! Thank you BARK for giving us an opportunity to raise a precious princess!

***Brittany and Adam***



Knox is doing great, we are so thankful that we found him and he quickly stole all of our hearts. We have him in class at Petsmart and bring him by every Saturday to see Vickie and play with some of the dogs.

***Lee (no picture included)***

I haven't taken many pictures of our Yellow to send since he was a little spooked by flashes at first. We call him Lalo, after the way my children said "yellow" when they were little. He is doing wonderfully. He is currently set on defending America from squirrels. He makes us laugh a lot -- which is something we really needed. He and our older dog, Emily, reenact WWF wrestling daily -- again much to our amusement. Having him, so full of life and so loving, is just what we all needed!

***Best,***

***Priscilla (no picture included)***

I just wanted to share our total pleasure with our new adopted Tonya [formerly know as Latonya]. She has not made a mistake in the house since Saturday at 1pm when we brought her to her new home.

She is so much fun and a grand addition to our house and family. We are both retired so she has company all the time and she loves people and loves to be brushed and loved. My husband said Sunday afternoon, I think we got really lucky getting such a good dog. Thanks so much,

***Bill and Kitty***



Tonya

We changed her name to Lola and she is settling in so well. My three children have learned to be comfortable around dogs--this is so important and a terrific benefit to our family. She is learning a lot from our obedience class that we just finished at PetSmart.

All three of my children and my husband are all taking part in caring for her and training, although most of the responsibility is mine. I grew up with dogs and forgot how much I missed having a dog to love! Lola is terrific and I'm happy to share some pictures of her.

***Gwen***



Lola



We're the parents who adopted the Beagle Lacey last November (we renamed her Lolly). I realized recently that I never sent you an update on her and how she gets along in our household with Mojo. She's amazing. We just love her and she makes a great companion for Mojo. Attached is a picture I took of them recently. It was after a very long day and they were so tired. It's clear from the picture just how tired they were. The other picture was taken by my fiance. They stopped for a few minutes to hang out on the couch after running around the house playing together.

Lolly is a true hound and will turn her nose to the wind at every chance. She loves to try to chase squirrels and rabbits but we have to be careful because she'll run for the hills in search of the animals she's trained to sniff out.

Thank you so much for helping us adopt her. She's a great addition to our family. We're so very thankful to the BARK organization helping us find a pup that's perfect for our household.

***Thank you,  
Dalynn***



Here is a picture of Alex Rose, Emitt, and Bennie (the little white dog) taken this morning.

***Alice***



**Emitt**



Dodi (formerly NT) is doing fantastic! He truly is the perfect dog for our family. He's the sweetest and lovable boy. Everyone who meets him falls in love.

We noticed a few weeks back he had lost his luster coat (turned dull) and Jeff reached out to his former foster dad Andy for ideas and we took him to our vet to rule out any allergies, etc. It was determined the shampoo that was used at PetSmart dried out his coat. So, we got him some oatmeal shampoo and fish oil for his good and it's back. We now take him to a doggie place where you give the dog a bath yourself at their facility. We love it.

He's doing better with stay, come and sit commands. He hasn't mastered retrieving the ball yet, but with a 7 year old boy that shouldn't take to long. He has a field day chasing rabbits, birds and squirrels in our yard. He has also been great when introduced to other dogs.

This is funny, Andy failed to share with us, Dodi is a major wind breaker (passing gas) but we still love him.

We are so lucky to have Dodi, he's a perfect addition to our family!

***Melinda***



Dodi

Angel is well. My camera is broke though so I can't take pics. Her tail is healing well and is a very sweet dog.

***Thanks,***

***Brian (no picture included)***

We changed Stanley's name to Gideon and he is doing fine. We love him very much and his playful antics.

Gideon is a very good boy in the house; never jumps on the furniture or bed and has learned quickly that his bathroom is outside. Gideon is still learning his manners where food is concerned. I had to laugh when my husband was having two hot dogs, one on his plate, which Gideon assumed was for him, and the other in his hand. Gideon promptly helped himself without any hesitation and though I wanted to laugh, I had to tell Gideon a stern "No" and "manners". Gideon loves the outdoors and we have birds and squirrels a plenty here that he can chase and hope he never catches. Gideon will wear you out playing ball and his favorite toy is a hedgehog that he tosses around and romps with all over the house. When I go on quick trips to town (one item, in and out of the store quickly) I take Gideon with me. He loves to ride and is very good company.

Each dog has his own personality, just like people. My previous dog would put his head on your hand to wake you to let you know he needed to go out. Gideon, however, gets up and flaps his ears. Gideon is also a nibbler when it comes to eating. He eats a few bites and moves on. I guess that is why I hear him sometimes after midnight crunching his dry food. Do not worry about his gaining weight though, Gideon moves like greased lightning and is beautiful to watch as he races around our 1.5 acre fenced yard.

In case you have not already guessed, Gideon is spoiled rotten, my vet told me if he were a dog, he would love to go home with me. I feel like Gideon at some point in his life was mistreated and we are doing our best to make up for it. Little by little, Gideon, I believe, is feeling loved and part of the family. You see, I have no pets.....Gideon is family.

***Blessings,  
Kristi (no picture included)***

Mason is the best little dog. When I went to look at dogs a few months ago at the BARK adoption in front of PetSmart, I was looking for a hound. Instead I saw this sweet little dog whom everyone loved but no one wanted because he was eight years old. I felt sorry for him and took him home. What a joy he has been. He loves Corky, my 13 year old corgy-chow mix and he gets along with my cats. Mason was totally house broken and instantly felt right at home. I started walking the dogs together every morning and evening on my rural 10 acres and tried an experiment one day. I walked Corky on a leash and let Mason run free. This little dog obeys voice and hand commands. If he starts to wander onto the neighbor's property, all I have to do is say "Mason" and point over to where I want him. He stays close by and never wanders too far off. And talk about a voice!!!! He didn't bark until about 3 weeks after I got him. He is only 29 pounds but has the voice of a 100 pound rottweiler!!! Mason is all personality. I could not have asked for a better dog. Thank you so much for saving him. I believe this was meant to be.

***Paulette***



Camille's new name is Bella & she has settled right into our family. I've already submitted an update & picture that I believe was included in March's newsletter. Bella has potty trained well with only the occasional excited pee. She does have moments where I wonder what the poor thing had been through before y'all rescued her. She is scared of some silly things like the ceiling fan and she tends to get carried away with the barking & nipping when she plays but we are working on that with her daily. She has enjoyed making some new friends in our neighborhood and the local dog park & she is learning not to go crazy when another dog barks at her. She is a work in progress and thankfully we have the time & patience to help her be the best family pet she can be. She is a very loving soul and is happiest when she's laying on the couch or in bed with us getting her belly scratched. I think it is safe to say she is well on her way to becoming spoiled rotten! We all love Bella & are so happy that we were able to adopt her! Thank you for helping her find her way into our hearts.

*Sincerely,*

*Jennifer (no picture included)*

Violet is doing great! She finally came out of her shell about two weeks after we brought her home, and now she is one of the family! She thinks the couch is hers, though we try to remind her otherwise- lol.

Not long after we brought her home, we found out that she tested positive for heartworms. The vet said it that she was more than likely infected at the time of the ASPCA heart worm snap test, but that since the heart worms hadn't reached "adult" status, they didn't show up on the snap test, but did a month later (and was then confirmed via blood test). We have found a wonderful vet who is treating her, and she is almost half way through her treatment.

You'd never guess she's being treated for a serious condition like that--- she still acts every bit a puppy, and it is very difficult to keep her "calm" as our vet has said she needs to be! Here are a couple of photos from the day we brought her home... I'll have to get some more recent ones, (which I don't have with me!) and send them to you!

*Amie, Greg, Andrew and Violet*



Violet

Kristen - we are calling her Sol, because she is such a star! :) - is settling in very nicely. We ended up calling in Bark Busters to help us to work with some of her behaviors (mostly seeming to stem from some anxiety, which is understandable), and are so pleased with her progress. She is an absolute sweetheart - not a growl in her anywhere. I'm happy to share some photos, too!

We introduced her to the ocean at Bethany Beach last month. She wasn't too sure about the water, but took it in stride. The other photo is from a little hike in Great Falls - she's gaining more and more confidence on the trails each time we hike in a new place. She loves to play and hasn't met a dog she doesn't like. She's such a sweet girl, that they fall for her pretty quickly, too.

You may remember she was pretty under-weight when BARK took her in. She is continuing to fill out and put on some healthy terrier muscle - she looks great!

Thank you to all of you at BARK for the work you do, and for rescuing this little girl so that we could find her. She has brought so much light into our lives.

*All the Best,  
Dancer & DJ*



Sol

Emma was super mellow for the first week or so and then we noticed that she started falling ill. We took her to the vet to find that she had pretty advanced stage of hook work. After some medication and TLC she was a brand new dog. She gained about 6 lbs in 3-4 weeks and is full of energy.

We found that she is a super smart dog and is taking to instruction quite well and doing great with crate/potty training. With the exception of a few manners, she needs very little in terms of management and oversight. We invested in invisible fence and she now has ½ acre to run freely (WOW is she quick!). My kids 3.5 and 2 years old absolutely love Emma and she is great with them. Emma enjoys her alone time as well...every evening she settles down on her bed in the family room with a raw hide and takes a good long nap.

We thought for the longest time that Emma did not have a voice as she would not bark, but she finally began speaking her mind. While we have taken many pictures of Emma, we have not yet uploaded them to our home computer. I'll either send when we do that or bring her to PetSmart on a Saturday for a visit.

*Matt (no picture included)*

Preston is adjusting to our household. He definitely needs some training but we are working on that. He seems to love having other animals to play with. We have 3 other dogs. We also have a cat which he really wants to chase around and play with but she's not having anything to do with that. He loves playing with his tennis balls and having a big fluffy pillow to lay on when he needs to take a nap. We are thrilled to have him as part of our family. We really want to thank his foster mom Whitney as she took such good care of him when he was so sick and brought him back to great health. Keep up the good work BARK.

*Thanks so much,  
The Berg Family*



Preston

I am happy to report that Bentley (aka Pugsley to BARK) is doing great and has been making my days a whole lot more enjoyable. He is learning quickly and we have gone on many adventures. He seems to know what I'm saying when I ask him, "wanna go on an adventure buddy?" We have been spending many sunsets walking or playing in the dog park. I am so grateful for not only having him in my life but for you guys blessing me with such a great dog.

*Thanks,  
Blake*



Here's a link to the photos I posted on Facebook of Maggie (formerly Amy) this evening. Check 'em out.

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1906555437499.103805.1650193459&l=60a39b3f53>

Thanks again SO much for everything! We're very excited to have Maggie (her new name!) here w/ us. We love her so much already and look forward to all the fun we're gonna have w/ our (bigger) family.

*Many dog kisses,  
Artemis, Nicholas, Daniel (and hubby, Pete, who's happy to have her here, too!)*

Bailey has a new name. She is Maggie. She is doing well and is in her third and last week of personal training. We have taken a vacation together to FL. The car ride took a little getting used to as Maggie drooled like a faucet for a couple hours. She has her own car bed that she likes quite well. She has a very good friend named Sophia (a daschund/yorkie mix). They play everyday. We go on 3 mile walks most mornings. I think she is getting quite used to her new home.

*Claire*



Maggie

Brisco is well. He's learning about me and his new home.

*William*



Brisco



Misty (now little Monster). She is perfect! She fit right in the moment we brought her home. She frequently herds her big brother (Ben) and big sister (Bell) around the yard and house. She loves being around others and will follow us from room to room. She loves chewing her bones, and playing chase.

*Thanks again for your help!*

*Jamie*



Little Monster

Bluto is really starting to get used to the girls (Lacota and Daisy). We all went for a walk around the battlefield yesterday. He still gets a little scared of them (I know tough pit bull) but I knew they are going to be snuggling up with him soon. The girls are just so sweet and we are so happy to have them. Thanks so much again for all you and Robs help.

*Talk to you soon.*

*Kathy*



Lacota & Daisy



I just thought I'd send you a few photos of Bare (who I have renamed Loki). He has settled in nicely to his new home and I am very happy with him.

*Sincerely,  
Christopher*



Loki

Attached is a picture of Maggie, a new addition to our family thanks to BARK. The picture was taken Memorial Day weekend from the balcony of our hotel in Virginia Beach. Maggie loved "people watching" as much as we did.

We absolutely love Maggie. She gets along fine with our other dog and learned very quickly to tolerate our cats. She is magnificent and we couldn't have found a better dog for our family.

*Thanks a million,  
Melissa*



Maggie



Redford T. Bear is such a sweet gentle boy. He is good at giving kisses and hugs. My Mom and Dad finally met him on Memorial Day and fell in love with him. My husband keeps thanking me for bringing him into our lives. Redford and our other dog Chloe are getting along and even share the couch (see attached picture). He could not be more perfect for us.

Thanks for checking in.

*Kind regards,  
Judy*



Redford



I just wanted to share our updates with you. Scooby is doing great and has a companion as well. We adopted a rat terrier that same day and they get along well. Thank you for doing the work you do.

*Sincerely,  
Mary*



Scooby

If you have adopted a dog from  and have a Happy Tail or other contribution for the monthly newsletter, please forward it to [robin@barkva.org](mailto:robin@barkva.org).

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Anytime is a  
good time to  
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BARK!

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Bandit's Adoption and Rescue of K-9s is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and all donations are tax-deductable. BARK is operated entirely by volunteers, so 100% of your donation will go to the dogs. Your donation will help fund spay/neuter operations, medical treatments, and daily care and feeding costs for the dogs at the Ashland farm and in BARK foster homes. You can mail your donation directly to the address below or make a secure donation online at [www.barkva.org](http://www.barkva.org). Remember, every penny makes a difference in the life of a BARK dog!

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## Other Ways to Support

In addition to direct donations, there are numerous options that allow you to help support BARK and its mission. You can donate needed pet care items, purchase BARK merchandise or use a search engine that donates to BARK. Using these websites is super easy and a portion of your purchase will go directly to BARK. Please consider using these sites when shopping for your friends and loved ones this holiday season...

- ❖ In addition to monetary donations, is always in need of various pet care and administrative items. To view a complete inventory of “wish list” items, please visit <http://www.barkva.org/Volunteer.aspx>.
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- ❖ If you shop at Food Lion, BARK is now a charity with their MVP rewards. To register your MVP card, visit <http://www.foodlionmvpwards.com/>.
- ❖ How can you make searching and shopping for that perfect gift even more perfect? Use iGive, where with ever transaction a portion goes to benefit BARK. Raise a penny (or more) per search and generate donations from any of the 730+ stores listed with iGive, ranging up to 26%. Also, check out the new searchable coupons and deals, where you will find all available, up to the minute offers and specials. Just visit [www.igive.com](http://www.igive.com).
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