



January 2015

Monthly Howler

Finding Peace Working in Rescue

On January 17th MAJR celebrated its 200th and 201st adopted dogs. There was no huge fanfare just an internal sense of relief and accomplishment that our little rescue that could, did and then did it again on the same day.

Because loving families decided to adopt and because of the amazing work of our foster homes (many of whom are doubling up to fill the need), we are able to pull dogs from shelters throughout the Mid-Atlantic region and beyond.

Sadly we can't save them all. On January 14th Jake was killed in a high kill shelter in Florida. He was a year old and was scared and a bit nippy so he would have needed a special foster home (someone had stepped up to be that foster). Jake also needed a registered rescue to accept him. There was someone in Florida trying to find that rescue and save Jake. The shelter had to agree to release him to that rescue and a transport had to agree to drive Jake to that rescue and /or meet that foster mom. The rescue had to be able to pay the transport and Jake's vet bills and the rescue had to have willing and active volunteers to work with Jake and have social network presence to show Jake and get him adopted. Every single one of these things needed to happen quickly (3 days or less if owner surrendered) for Jake to live. One or more didn't or couldn't happen fast enough to keep Jake alive.

We couldn't do enough and so Jake died (as humanely as the shelter could afford) and his little body was thrown in a dumpster like thousands of dogs and cats every week. Rescues know about these dogs when they are alive. We read their bios. We see their eyes. If we have space we contact the shelter and we try to make all the pieces fit quickly to save them. When it doesn't work or there is no space we see them, in our minds, and feel them in our hearts all the time. These are the ones we couldn't help. We cry for them because no one else will. Most of all we honor their lives with the passion we give to saving and loving as many other Jakes as possible.

In the three years Mid Atlantic Jack Rescue has been in existence, we have worked very hard and been able to make a significant impact in the survival rate of Jacks, Jack mixes, special needs Jacks and Jack wannabe's in those shelters that are willing to work with us. We work with Jack rescues to the north (Jacks Galore), the south (Raintree Jacks) and the west (Oklahoma Jack Russell Rescue) and coordinate efforts and resources. We don't save them all, but we try. Life matters, no matter the vessel that holds it. We hold Jake (and all the others) in our hearts so that we can hold another in our arms and pass that life on to the arms of a forever home to be valued and loved - for Jake's sake.

Jake



Save the Date

PLEASE COME TO OUR ANNUAL LUNCHEON AND FUNDRAISER

Put it on your calendars. We have a date!

Sunday, March 22 from 1 – 4 will be MAJR's third annual luncheon and silent auction.

The luncheon will be at the ***Iron Hill Brewery, 620 South Madison Street, Wilmington DE.***

This event has been a beautiful affair the past two years and this year we are sure will be just as great. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet the heroes of MAJR as well as enjoy great food and the silent auction.

Last year the auction helped us raise much needed money to move forward as an organization.

If you can't make this event, but would like to participate in the fundraising, we are looking for items for the silent auction. If you have an item you would like to donate, please contact me at picsurthis@comcast.net. We hope that you will join us and celebrate our growth and most all the lives MAJR has touched this year.

There are talented Jack's and then there are the special Jacks with a back story. This will hopefully be a series of stories highlighting famous Jacks and sometimes their famous owners.

Ivette White and Zip

It all started in the summer of 2007. When I first saw Zip, I was not looking to add another dog into my home. I was a board member of Talbot Humane Animal Shelter in Easton, MD. I had come in for our monthly board meeting and my fellow board member and friend, Nancy Thompson, asked me to go to the kennel area to take a look at a Jack Russell Terrier that was brought in as a stray several weeks ago. Zip was picked up on the side of the road near a boarding kennel. My best guess is that someone dumped him near the kennel in hopes the kennel owners would take him in. I was already owned by one JRT and Nancy had two of her own. We figured we might be able to identify the stray pup and possibly find him a home. When I met Zip he had been at the shelter for almost a month.

If anyone had lost him they were clearly not looking for him.

They say that you don't pick your dog, your dog picks you. Nothing could be truer in our case. As soon as I saw Zip, something inside me said he belonged with me. I watched him

in his run for a few minutes, non-stop jumping and acting very "Jack-like." I immediately called my husband and told him we had to bring this dog home with us. While I hoped Zip would eventually do agility that really wasn't even a factor when I made my decision to bring him home.

When Zip first arrived at our house he was somewhat reserved, not very toy motivated at all. However it didn't take

long for his true personality to come out and it was full of pep and play! Zip was estimated to be about one year old. He was a natural when we started our agility training. He was quick, focused and could turn on a dime. It did not take long for Zip to be ready for the show ring.

Zip quickly advanced through the ranks in agility levels and before I knew what happened we were showing at the Masters level, the highest in our organization. Pretty soon Zip was ranked in the top ten top dogs in the country and he has stayed in the top ten each year throughout his agility career. We began competing at the national level in 2009 and made it to the finals and the podium at those events. In 2011 we were selected to represent the USA in

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England for the World Agility Open Championships. This team selection would be the first of seven total team selections throughout Zip's career. We have represented the USA throughout the world, competing in England, Belgium, Spain, Italy and the Netherlands, winning countless medals along the way.

To say this dog changed my life is an understatement. It is because of this little white dog that I have seen the world, had grand adventures and made friends all around the world. Even without all the glory, Zip is my best buddy and I could not imagine my life without him. He is

always there to cuddle on the couch and is great at keeping my lap warm as I work on my computer. So many people say that by adopting a dog from a shelter you are giving life to a soul. I couldn't agree more, although I feel that it could be the human soul that is benefiting more than the dog's.

Hidden Heroes of MAJR

Most of you, who have adopted dogs from MAJR, know Barb Eppert. If you're a foster you know Barb Eppert and if you're the Dog Warden you know Barb Eppert.

Barb's title is Secretary of MAJR but she does so much more and what she does is a full time job. We could not survive without her organizational skills and patience.

In recent months MAJR has received about 20 - 30 applications a month either to adopt or to foster. Barb pulls all the adoption applications and volunteer forms off the website. She makes all the reference and veterinary calls and makes sure all our adopters and fosters have good references. If there is more than one application for a dog, Barb is the one who keeps track what dog gets what applications.

Once all reference checks are done, she emails the President, Vice President and the foster home with the results. If the foster thinks the home is a good fit for its dog then a home check will be set up. Barb stays in contact with all the adopters through the process to make sure that all questions are answered and concerns addressed.

You'd think that was all Barb does but that is just a small part of what she does.

Every dog we bring in has medical records, a shelter card, a health certificate (if the dog is from outside of PA), transport documentation (from a PA licensed transport company), photos and a write up to add to the dogs applications and eventual adoption contract. Barb creates the files for all the dogs and makes sure all the dogs have the necessary documents for inspection from the Dog Warden. You'd think this is an easy task but transport companies have to have licenses and dogs have to have current health certificates. Everything has to match up to the letter.

At least twice a year MAJR is audited by the Dog Warden at Barb's house. He comes without warning and will ask to see our paperwork and records. Barb has to give him whatever files he randomly chooses and answer all of his questions.

That's 235 dog files and counting that have to be correct and she has to know all the files.

Now you'd think that was job enough but Barb does home checks and transports, helps at events, maintains all the day to day correspondence of the rescue and also all Board activities and votes .

Barb is a volunteer who donates her time doing an eye popping and sometimes frustrating job. Barb is a hero to the dogs that enter our organization and a hero to all of us who know how hard she works. Thank you Barb!



Diogi's Big Adventure by Barbara and Steven Loska

Diogi's journey home to Sequim WA, began in December of 2014 when his foster mom Marie Romatini posted photos and video of her new charge on a Facebook page called, I Love My Jack. This group has over 8,000 members and we were so fortunate to see her photos and video.

We fell in love with how sweet and gentle and playful he was in her video and when I reached out to her, she instantly was supportive and told me to contact Pamela Heyman at Mid Atlantic Jack Rescue and the adoption was in the works!

Emails and pictures and references were completed while Pam worked out transport through Delta Animal Rescue and Transport with flight attendant and founder Jean Van Ness Hornsby.



Marie Romantini took Diogi to the Philadelphia Airport on Jan 3, 2015 and he was handed over to Delta flight attendants Heather Saunders and Erica Staton who had a nail biter adventure getting a flight to Atlanta, Ga. where he was handed over to Jean Van Ness Hornsby for the flight to Seattle, Washington the next morning.

Jean was early to the Atlanta Delta hub the next morning and sailed through security with this adorable little guy and was fortunate to land an aisle seat for the over 6 hour flight to Seattle...unfortunately, she spent a good bit of time in the bathroom with him as he was very vocal about not liking the transport kennel.

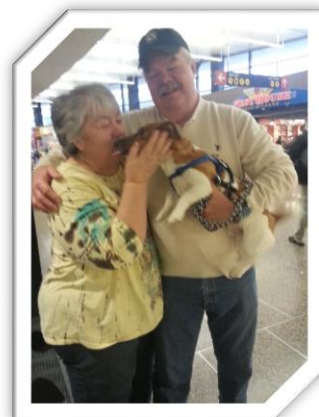
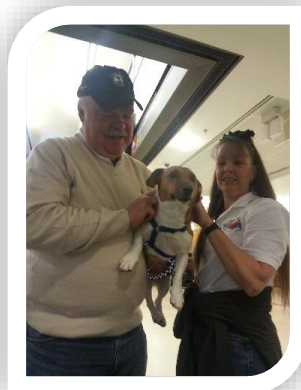
My husband Steve and I made the 2.5 hour drive in from the Olympic Peninsula in record time and were in position to meet them at the security exit early and were so nervous and excited.

When Jean sat his carrier down and started unzipping it, he came out so fast he was just a blur and I could not get a clear photo. Steve was right there and ready and Diogi went right to him. And I got his first kiss in Washington **state!**

Exhausted, thirsty, confused and hungry, he was still a sweetheart. He slept most of the way home after a potty stop, a drink and a hamburger patty. He and our female Jack, Bella have become good friends in just a few days, he has settled in and made himself at home.

We are thrilled beyond words and cannot express enough our thanks to Mid Atlantic Jack Rescue, President Pamela Heyman, foster mom Marie Romantini, Delta Animal Rescue and Transport and Delta flight attendants Jean Van Ness Hornsby, Heather Saunders and Erica Staton. It must be remarked that these wonderful, amazing flight attendants donate their free time and love to this humane transport of rescues to their forever homes... and only ask for puppy kisses and love.

Barbara and Steven Loska



Sad News

It is with much sadness that I report the passing of 3 great dogs this month.

Kim Park's Fletcher died at 16. Although his health had been failing the past few months, Fletcher lived life right to the end. He gave Kim many years of happiness and we honor his years of dedication to Kim and extend our deepest condolences.

Nicole Kosits lost her faithful friend, Bailey. Bailey lived to the ripe age of 18 when he passed. Bailey saw Nicole through so many life events both good and bad. He was her best friend, her angel in life. Thank you Bailey for protecting the heart of such an amazing woman.

We honor the memory of Winnie, the companion and agility partner of Diann Gastley. Diann rescued Winnie from a shelter and made him one of the top agility dogs in his height division on the east coast. Winnie was a fixture at agility trials long after he retired. He was a funny crotchety old man who took no prisoners and he was loved for his honesty and his wonderful humor.

The paths we share with our dogs is so short. Celebrate each step.

We extend our hearts and your deepest condolences to Kim, Nicole and Diann.



Winnie



Bailey



Fletcher



January Statistics

Dog	Status	State
Chico	Available	PA
Tonka	Available	MD
Tessie	Available	PA
Buddie	Deceased	PA
Axel	Available	PA
Olive	Available	PA
Bailey	Deceased	PA
Rocky	Available	MD
Dottie	Available	PA
Tippy Girl	Available	PA
Pebbles	Available	PA
Daisy	Available	PA
Ginger	Available	PA
Rocky	Available	PA
Nash	Available	PA
Penny	Available	PA
Leo	Available	PA
Mojo	Available	PA
Roscoe	Available	PA
Jessie	Available	MD
Scruffy	Available	PA
Jager	Available	PA
Spencer	Available	PA
Scarlett	Available	PA
Jack B Nimble	Adoption pending	PA
Spot	Adoption pending	MD
Nubee	Adoption pending	NC
Stan	Adoption pending	PA
Little Boy	Adopted	PA
Diogi	Adopted	PA
Mayo	Adopted	PA
Baby	Adopted	PA
Otis	Adopted	DC
Huck	Adopted	PA
Tootsie	Adopted	PA
Alvin	Adopted	PA
Ollie	Adopted	PA
Sparky	Adopted	PA

January Summary

As of January 25th 2015, we have rescued 233 dogs (143 males and 91 females) and found forever homes for 202 dogs. 4 dogs have died of natural causes or illness while in our care. The average length of stay with MAJR is 50 days.

In the month of January we had 34 dogs in our care. We accepted 17 new dogs into the rescue. We adopted 11 dogs, 4 dogs have adoptions pending. Of the 11 adopted, 1 is a foster failure. 1 dog was returned. All dogs are available for adoption. The average age of the dogs now in MAJR is 3.5 years old.

Congratulations to all the dogs that got adopted this month and to their new families. We wish you many years of happiness.

Please welcome our new foster homes: Gretchen Friedberger (PA), Nadya Sinn (MD). Joann Boyle (MD), Cara Wynnndham (PA), Clint and MelanieMcCandles (PA) and Jennie Deephouse (PA) and our new volunteers: Dr Wendy Zimmerman, Dana Sobieski and

Many thanks to all the volunteers who took the time, stepped up, helped out this month.

MAJR is driven by volunteers and dedicated to saving lives when and where we can.

Upcoming events

<i><u>Date</u></i>	<i><u>Event</u></i>	<i><u>Location</u></i>
2/8	Pet Supplies Plus	1610Kings Hwy N, Cherry Hill NJ
2/21	Petco Exton	125West Lincoln Hwy, Exton PA
3/1	Adoption Day	Conshohocken, PA
3/22	Annual Luncheon	Iron Hill Brewery, Wilmington DE
4/11	Woofstock	Bellevue State Park , DE. Figure 8 Barn

