

April was a busy month for MAJR.

April 7th was the annual luncheon and it was great. We had over 40 people attend including several adopters (which was so exciting for MAJR) who also donated to the silent auction. The food was great and, as always, the silent auction gave everyone a fun way to raise money for our rescue and to get some neat stuff. For the third year the big bids went for an original JRT painting by well-known, Bucks County artist, Mark McCoy.



In addition to the silent auction, Dar presented the annual slide show which is always beautiful. It recognizes all the dogs who have been come into the rescue and who have found their forever homes. We also had a wonderful speaker Christine Sandberg. She represents *Rescue Well*, a network

of rescues in the Baltimore area, which combines experience and manpower to serve more homeless pets more efficiently. All in all, the annual luncheon was a great event. A huge thank you to Elaine Cave who was the organizer and event planner.

In addition to the luncheon, Juanita Manzanares once again held the on line auction with the help of Elaine Cave. For a week we were presented with wonderful items and great bids. Juanita collects donations and solicits items all year long to make this semi-annual event not just a big fundraising event, but also a lot of fun. A huge thank you to both Juanita and Elaine.

While the auction was going on we were also having a flower power fundraiser selling beautiful flowers. And if the fundraisers and the luncheon weren't enough we had two very successful adoption events - one in Maryland and one in Pennsylvania. Events are always important to the rescues as it gets the dogs out and raises awareness of our existence.

We had seven dogs adopted in April! This is a big month as it allows us to save more dogs. Remember, each time a dog finds a forever home, that adoption saves three dogs – the dog that gets adopted, the dog that can come into our rescue because we have an open foster space (we hope) and the dog in the shelter that gets that extra time to get adopted.



MAJR will be attending this huge Rescue and Adoption event, June 5, 2016

www.facebook.com/AdoptAThonHorseParkofNJ



April was a busy month and we thank all those volunteers who give their time, effort and love to keep Mid-Atlantic Jack Rescue vibrant and useful.

Dog Bite Prevention week is May 15 – 21

MAJR has been a huge advocate of raising awareness of dog bite prevention especially in children. Please remember these four vital lessons to teach your children :

1. Teach your child that it is never okay to: hug a dog, pull a dog's ears or tail; or ride a dog like a horse.
2. Teach your child what to do if they encounter a dog unknown to them: If the dog tries to chase, then stand absolutely still like a statue or a tree. Don't stare at the dog (dogs can interpret staring as a challenge), and stay quiet until the dog leaves the area.
3. Teach your child to never put their face in front of a dog's face. Even if the dog is friendly, it may try to nip at the child's nose which, even in play, can do damage.
4. Teach your child to never tease or disturb a dog when it's eating or sleeping, especially in its own bed or crate.



Teach ALL children to respect ALL dogs

Do not Allow:

- ear pulling
- tail pulling
- smacking
- sitting on
- hugging
- hovering over
- etc.

Do not expect a dog to tolerate children's bad behavior.

Keep both your dog and child safe.

Be responsible!

This does not apply to all dogs and children but please be cautious with your animals and children. Please do not leave your child alone with your fur baby just to be on the safe side.



DON'T GIVE UP!

"I'm moving and I can't take my dog with me."

"We just had a baby and having a dog is just too much work right now!"

"My dog is a senior and can't hold his bladder/bowels for very long anymore."

"Our dog doesn't like our new puppy."

These reasons (along with many others) are what we often hear from people who are looking to surrender their pets. More recently, we've had surrender requests for dogs who were really ill (possibly due to years of neglect) that should have been put down peacefully by their owners. Instead, it was a MAJR volunteer spending the last 24 hours with someone else's dog, holding that dog in loving arms while they slowly drifted into eternal sleep.

We realize that there are occasions when a dog needs to be rehomed such as when a person dies and there is no one to care for that individual's pets or when you've tried everything you can (veterinarian, medication, training, etc.) to get two dogs to peacefully coexist and it just doesn't work; however, these are not the requests we get on a regular basis from owners. Kudos to any owner who is willing to go above and beyond to care for animals that just aren't easy to manage. Believe me, I know what it's like. I have 3 Jacks (2 of which don't get along) and 2 cats (and the cats/dogs hate each other) so we (2 humans) live in a divided house to make it work.

The daughter of an elderly woman who was unable to care for the dogs any longer turned these dogs into ACCT! At 12, these two were very bonded. Quiet and shy Pete was crying for his pal, Ringo, so the shelter staff put the two dogs in the same crate together. MAJR was able to pull this bonded pair, and a wonderful friend of MAJR adopted them together. A happy ending!



Taking care of a dog (or any pet for that matter) is a lifetime commitment just like taking care of a child. If there is a behavior issue, try to figure it out. Talk to your vet, consult a trainer, and try medication or supplements. If you have to move, research pet friendly apartments/rentals and plan ahead. Many places will purposely advertise that they are pet friendly to attract animal lovers. If you are short on funds, there are food banks for pets and vet clinics offering reduced prices in many communities. When your dog becomes a senior and doesn't have the same abilities as it once did, stay by his side until the end. Would you want someone giving up on you when you become incontinent and require more trips to the bathroom? It's a part of growing old and if you've had the dog as your best pal for all these years, how can you abandon him when he is most vulnerable?

It's incredibly heartbreaking for those of us in rescue to think of what it might feel like to be that "throw away" dog. Rescue isn't easy. It's an ongoing battle and those of us who choose to fight it don't get a day off. I often use the phrase "rescue never sleeps" because with technology what it is today, we can get a text, email, and/or private message on Facebook at any time, day or night about a dog in need so we always need to be ready. If you need our help, MAJR will be here but we'd prefer to provide it by educating and assisting individuals on figuring out how to keep their dogs instead of having to console a broken-hearted dog who has no clue why his family is gone.

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." Martin Luther King Jr.

Pam Heyman

President of Mid Atlantic Jack Rescue

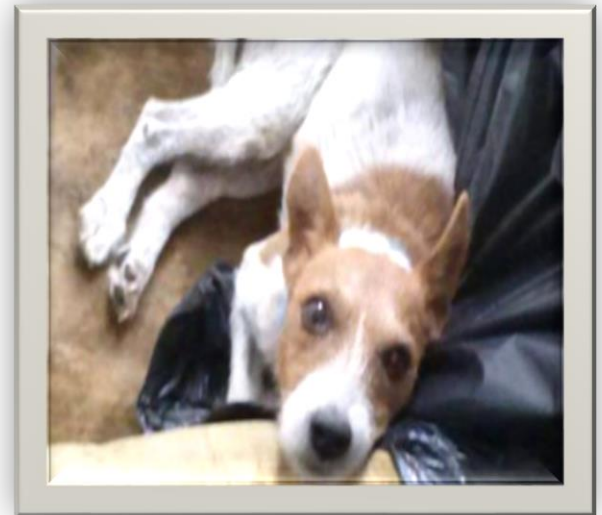
The Ugly Side of Rescue

To the Pregnant Woman:

Thursday night I watched in horror as you dragged your dog across the parking lot. He could barely walk, but you never turned around. I ran to scoop him up as my son burst into tears and ran back into the store to hide. Even at 13, he knew how bad it was. Sucking gulps of air, I hid my anger and listened to lie after lie you told about this sweet, little dog. Covered in dirt, urine and feces, blind with cataracts, toenails missing or rubbed down to the skin, you told me he was 11 and just had a little arthritis. It was immediately obvious that it wasn't true.

At home, he gulped down water as though it had been days since he last drank. He hungrily ate a nice bowl of dinner. Then he said hello to my pack. They all seemed to know this foster was special...fragile. Everyone was quiet and gentle. There was no mad barking, jumping and typical positioning that happens when a new dog comes in. I held him then in the warm water of the bathtub as my son helped wash off the layers of black grime. No amount of scrubbing would remove the stains. With several deep sighs, he relaxed and seemed to enjoy it. I held him up when it was time to go outside for the before-bedtime piddle when it was apparent he struggled to stay standing. Through the night I held him next to me, wrapped in a warm, fuzzy blanket, listening to the sounds of his labored breathing and petting him while he shook.

Yesterday, I hated having to leave him to go to work. I skipped lunch, anxious to get out early so I could get him to the vet. Before loading him in the car, I took him out for a quick potty break. He fell trying to poop, laying down in the grass, unable to stand up while he relieved himself. We went back inside, I cleaned him again, gave him a treat and we were on our way. Later, in the vet's office, after confirming all of the obvious, clearly evident problems this sweet little dog was suffering from, I was stunned to learn he had some sort of severe fibrillation in his heart. Phone calls later and repeated summaries of his problems versus quality of life, the devastating and agonizing decision was made to help him cross the rainbow bridge.



So I held your little dog in my arms and cried and cried as he died, praying the entire time that there is a special place in heaven for animals. I am not an angel, a hero, a savior or anything anywhere remotely close to any of those things. I care immensely and love deeply, especially those who have no voice. I don't have thick skin. I'll never get used to this. Quite the opposite, in fact, right now I feel heartbroken, tortured and I haven't slept for two nights. But I did for your dog, your pet, your first "baby" what you couldn't or wouldn't do. I gave him dignity and unconditional love. His ashes will be buried next to my dad and other pets I love who are buried there. He will be honored the same as the others because it doesn't matter to me whether they are with me for 24 hours or 20 years. Each one touches me and each one takes a piece of my heart when they leave.

RIP Scrappy. You will be missed.

Nicole Kosits (Scrappy's foster mom)

With the Onset of Warmer Weather (maybe) Ticks and Fleas Can Become a Problem

Treatment and Prevention

Consult with your veterinarian if you suspect fleas to select a product that works best for your dog. It is important that all of your pets are treated for fleas including indoor and outdoor cats along with their environment as well. A nice comparison chart of flea and tick products is at <http://www.drsfostersmith.com/pic/article.cfm?aid=325>

- Topical or oral treatments or use of shampoos, dips, sprays and powders are available for used on pets
- Thoroughly clean your house. Severe cases may require using a spray or fogger.
- **Do not use products on cats that are intended for dogs.**
- Use a flea comb on your pet and wash his bedding once a week. Dip the comb into a container of water with detergent to kill the fleas.

Facts about Ticks

- Ticks also feed on the blood and can transmit diseases through their bite.
- Most active in late spring and summer.
- They live in tall brush or grass.
- They prefer to attach close to the head, neck ears and feet, but can be found anywhere on your pet's body.

Treatment and Removal

- Any contact with the tick's blood or saliva can potentially transmit infection to your pet or you. So wearing latex or vinyl gloves to remove ticks is advised.
- Throwing the tick down the toilet or trash will not kill a tick. Prepare a screw-top jar containing rubbing alcohol to dispose of ticks.
- Applying petroleum jelly, a hot match or alcohol will not cause the tick to back out and will potentially cause disease-carrying saliva into the wound.
- To remove, with a tweezer, grasp the tick close to the pet's skin and pull up. Combing it out with a flea comb works even easier. Avoid squeezing or crushing the tick because its fluids can contain infective organisms. Clean the wound with antiseptic and wash your hands.

Alternative Flea and Tick Treatments that can work in Less Infested Environments

- To cut down on the exposure to the chemicals used in tick and flea products try using the products 1-3 months as needed during peak times.
- Treat yard with natural pyrethrums, beneficial nematodes or diatomaceous earth.
- Bath pet in an herbal flea and tick shampoo containing citrus oils 1 to 2 times weekly for several weeks until parasites are controlled (leave the shampoo on for 20- 30 minutes).
- Between bathing try an herbal collar with citronella or an herbal powder containing natural pyrethrum from chrysanthemum flowers.
- Regular vacuuming and steam cleaning of carpets and furniture is also helpful.

Carol McCoy

We salute the heroes of MAJR

Here is Dobbie! He was
MAJR'S first dog.

He was adopted by a
wonderful couple in New York
State

He is deeply loved ~ and this
is why we RESCUE

