



SOUTHWEST COLLIE RESCUE

SERVING NEW MEXICO, WEST TEXAS & ARIZONA

Winter 2013 newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE

Collie news, p.2

■ Some animal rescue groups are in it for the money — or worse. How can you know which ones to trust?

■ What's the real cost of rescuing dogs? In 2012, SWCR averaged \$537 or \$590 per dog, depending on how you do the counting.

Collies at home, p.3

Gunther runs off p.4

His two-hour caper has painful consequences but a wonderfully happy ending.

HOW TO FIND US

Website

nmcollierescue.com

E-mail address

arlenestarkey@q.com

Mailing address

Southwest Collie Rescue
52 Estrada Calabasa E.
Santa Fe, NM 87506

Rescue Coordinators

New Mexico

Santa Fe, Lee More
(505) 989-3530
leemore@mac.com
Albuquerque, Arlene Starkey
(505) 892-8538
arlenestarkey@q.com
Alamogordo & Las Cruces,
Kathy Wallis
(575) 430-2361
katwallis1@msn.com

West Texas

El Paso, Bettina Ross
(915) 584-1619
collies6629@cs.com

Arizona

Gilbert, Phoenix area, Bill Ferrell
(480) 507-7996
bkferrell@cox.net
Phoenix, Cindy Reel
(602) 570-2951
REELRACER@aol.com
Tucson, Peg Cass
(520) 904-5733
sneekypie@msn.com

Board of Directors

Peg Cass, President
Lee More, Vice president,
treasurer, newsletter editor
Arlene Starkey, Secretary
Bill Ferrell
Vicki Loucks
Cindy Reel
Kathy Wallis

A terrified collie learns to trust at last

It took more than a year of patient, loving foster care, but now Lad is thriving in his forever home

After Lad was rescued from a breeder on July 14, 2012, he was so terrified that he wouldn't let himself be touched by his foster dad, David Pearson of Albuquerque.

David sent us detailed accounts of Lad's progress. Here are some excerpts:

7/17/12, "He will come up and sniff my fingers looking for a treat. If I move at all he quickly backs off. I have not yet been able to touch him."

7/25/12, "WE HAVE CONTACT! It only took nine days but he finally allowed me to pet him!"

10/15/12, "He looks at me trying to decide if I am going to hurt him or



David with his late collie Lucy.

not. He actually watches my hands and if I move too quickly he leaves."

12/31/12, "Has there been any progress? Minimal, I'm sorry to say."

4/5/13, "During a walk, Lad sat down and allowed one lady to pet him and even smiled when she did it!"

7/9/13, "He really wants

How are they doing?

An update on two collies being treated for major medical issues



Hershey (above) has Gray Collie Syndrome, a rare, life-threatening condition. Few collies who are born with it last more than three or four years, but Hershey is nearly seven.

Since the major dental surgery in 2011 that removed most of his



Lad (above) loves kisses, tummy-rubs, playing "Who's Got the Bunny" and running with Lady (near right).



me to pet him ... if I go slowly he will crouch down but not run away."

10/16/13, "His progress has been dramatic. He now walks into the room when I'm on my computer and stands next to me waiting for me to pet him!"

We tell David that a great couple in Arizona wants to adopt Lad. Is he ready for this? "Are they ready for *him*?" he asks.

They are. Ron and Jo, of Scottsdale, drive to Albuquerque. They fall in love.

Lad, enticed by a cookie, hops in their car and into his new life.

Update from Ron, Nov. 19: "If we're watching TV, Lad will jump on the couch next to Jo and lay his head in her lap for more than an hour. But sudden movements can still spook him ... What a great dog! We love this goofball."

rotted teeth, "he seems a lot healthier," says Valerie, his foster mom in Phoenix.

"He still gets his 'spells' every two weeks. That will never change. It is part of his condition. He's on antibiotics one week out of every month, which seems to help his spells from being as severe.

"He now will eat a little during a spell, and is a little perkier and doesn't drool as much.

"During his good weeks, I take him out to collie events to show him off. He attracts a lot of attention because of his unusual color. He also loves all the extra attention and petting.

"It's a miracle he's still alive.

"Hopefully he'll be around a long time. He's a very special and loving dog."



Ranger (above) was diagnosed with bone cancer in early March, just after we rescued him. Sadly, the cancer has spread to his lungs.

But the original lesion on his foot has healed, so "he runs and plays without a limp," says Wendi, his foster mom in Alamogordo.

"He still LOVES to eat and go for his evening walks, but they are much shorter since his lung capacity is quite compromised.

"He's a wonderful dog and Kevin [his foster dad] and I love him very much; it will be a very sad day when we have to say goodbye."