



gerdy's Newsletter

gerdy's
RESCUES
& ADOPTIONS

LES RESCAPÉS
DE GERDY

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And you'll also find us on
www.petfinder.com.

We would be pleased to pro-
vide a printed copy of the
Newsletter to a friend on re-
quest.

Si vous desirez recevoir une
copie de nos Nouvelles en
français, SVP nous contacter.

Layout time volunteered on behalf of:



Elizabeth Storey

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Dear Friends

You have been remarkable in your efforts to help Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions to continue our mandate to provide the needed care and assistance to suffering, neglected, and abandoned cats and dogs that we have become so well known and respected for. We could not have done it without your help in providing the means to bring new hope and lives to the animals we care for so well. I thank you for your continued financial support, encouragement, and friendship. This is a cause for which each and every one of you can be proud because it is **YOU** who made it possible to help **ZOE**, the pup hit by a car, found by Good Samaritans by the side of the road, and taken to a vet. Because of your donations, Zoe lost a leg but retained her life and zest for living, and is now living happily with her new adopted family and big brother dog. Because of you, we were able to have sweet **CAFÉ** the cocker spaniel treated for heartworm—a lesson to all to keep doing heartworm prevention, because it is a threat to our animal friends. You helped tiny 6 pound **TANGO** the Pomeranian to not be euthanized, but to have life-saving surgery on his badly injured leg, restoring its use. I think of you, helping **REXY**, a dog given up because of “allergies” that turned out to be painfully inverted eyelashes. With surgery he has restored vision and is now pain-free for the first time in his 10 month old life. Because of you, we were able to rescue 4 big dogs from a life of hell shut in a windowless barn all winter without heat. Neutering and spaying and good medical attention, along with loving care, resulted in the adoption of all four into forever homes. Our cats have fared remarkably well. Because of your contributions, **GARFIELD** had an eye removed because of infection. **JULIUS** was thrown into the woods to fend for himself when his owner moved. **TIGER** and **TINKERBELL** were found together in an abandoned apartment. The owner of **DUTCH** left the country—and him. **MEMU** and **SPIKY** were given up because of allergies. **NELLIE** at 14 years old suffers from a thyroid condition. **TUX, SHANNON,** and **MAX** had all been abandoned outside. Thanks to your help, we were able to take on these cats and get them all adopted after treating most of them at the vets. **GEORGIE**, a 17 year old Siamese cat that we took on after she was found and got her vet treatment was reunited with her frantic owner—who is very grateful to Gerdy's Rescues for their compassion. By no means is this a complete list! Since Gerdy's Rescues was formed 3 years ago, we have placed over **400 animals**—including a llama, rabbit, mouse, guinea pig and bird! Spay/neuter has been a huge part of our mission to help animals. Thanks to the **Bond Foundation for Animal Welfare** and you, we are able to provide help to people unable to afford this process, and thus prevent more homeless cats and dogs. As you all know, we do not as a policy adopt out any animals that are not spay/neutered first, the Bond Foundation has been invaluable in assisting us financially us with all



our spay/neuters, and for that we are most grateful. To the veterinary clinics we work with, continued thanks and gratitude for doing your best to help our animals. Some of you have done fundraiser garage sales and donated the proceeds—bless you all as every penny counts to keep us going—I am very thankful for your support and confidence. To those of you who have donated by our new PayPal and CanadaHelps, heartfelt thanks. And to those who have known and supported my mission in life, whether since yesterday or from years ago, you keep me going! Financial assistance is **EVERYTHING** in animal rescue, the funds must always be there to be in place for emergency treatment and unexpected illness to be taken care of quickly. Antibiotics, Revolution treatments of each dog, Shots, and injuries due to abuse or neglect all are regular expenses we incur. I continue to take on animals as the need arises, I do not pick and choose only the easily adoptable ones. I am proud of the fact that we find good homes, and are becoming well known as a rescue that is thorough in its care of all our adoptees. We adopt out healthy animals, and if you see on our website Tales to Tell, people delight in telling us how much they are loved and appreciated—a tribute to you again, as your support is the backbone of our existence. In a perfect world, I would not need to ask for your continued help—there would be no abandoned, homeless, mistreated, or otherwise uncared for cats and dogs, puppies and kittens. All would be wanted and have ready homes and loving arms reaching out. Until then, these helpless creatures need advocates like you and me. Together we can accomplish so much in improving their lives and give them a chance, not to just survive, but to live the lives we would wish for them.



THE STORY OF ZAIRA

We at Gerdy's Rescues have tried unsuccessfully to bring before the media public eye the tragic story of the death of Ashley Emond's beloved dog, **ZAIRA**. The touching memorial to Zaira in the IN MEMORIAM section of our website brings to the forefront the lack of adequate laws to deal with situations such as this. In Zaira's memory we ask that you take active interest and remind the government of Quebec that stronger animal cruelty punishment must be put in place, that this is a province that should be an example of intolerance for acts of cruelty against defenceless animals. Only with the objections of its citizens will anything change in the treatment of animals here. Please be an active part of the solution so that in the near future, the excuse "it was only a dog" cannot be in future used to excuse the deliberate killing of a defenceless and already injured pet. Make Zaira's short life count for something. That a defenceless dog can be deliberately killed in front of witnesses, with impunity, is a shame shared by all who allow this to happen in today's Quebec society.



Is Gerdy still available for adoption?

Now we have seen it all!! We get about 20 -40 emails per day on average, asking about adoption and other matters, some very serious. Advice is given in hopes it helps keep a cat within the current home instead of being given up or abandoned. We get calls to take dogs, some desperate, some not caring, some on the verge of dumping on the street, some needing encouragement to leave an abusive relationship and keep their cat or dog. Receiving emails and replying can be very uplifting or very depressing, depending on the subject. But imagine our surprise at receiving an email that asked—obviously a mistake in the name of the animal—"Is Gerdy still available for adoption? If so, can you tell me more about Gerdy?" Now, how could we resist that!! So, just for you, the person who asked the question and who shall remain nameless:

Gerdy

She can be snappy on occasion, but her bark is worse than her bite. Not for Compassionate Placement because there is life in the old girl yet. She has a bit of arthritis, but she still manages to be quite active. She does not like dog parks. She is very good with cats and other animals. Some people she does not like and will not sit still for their nonsense. Is not good at the laying down command. Does not heel well. She has an independent spirit and a very kind heart and will fight to protect the underdog or cat. Does not eat kibble, but holds out for pasta or a good pizza. She is very generous and will share with others. She has a lovely grey coat which is groomed regularly. She is high maintenance because she loves car rides day til night, but travels well. Likes to sleep in her own home with free run of the house, no crating. She is not a speedy girl, but arrives on time. Prefers to pitch the ball, not catch it. Vets love her spunky attitude and she is excellent with other animals in the waiting room. Perfectly housetrained. Will not chase Frisbees, she prefers to relax in her down time. Her favourite toys are her pager and cell phone, which she plays with often but sometimes feels like chewing instead. She is a good listener but is an independent girl with a mind of her own. Give her loyalty and she will be your best friend forever no matter what. **A rare breed, she is one of a kind.**

God, Grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Compassionate Placements

Every now and then we get a request to place an older or unfortunate animal that still has an enjoyment of life left, but is in dire need of assistance in finding a retirement home with kind people. We have had, thanks to you, perfect success in placing every Compassionate Placement we have featured on our website. Not only did people come through for these animals, but we hear that the animals have given in return much joy, love, and satisfaction to the people who took them in. A win-win situation for all! Our thanks to you emotionally generous souls who have adopted: Elmo, Ethan the llama, Milo, Niki, Garfield, Crystal, Peanut, Nellie, Puppy, Pinotte, Morris, Mitsou, Dudley, Orlando, Pal, Denny, Bo, Nikita, Moka, Tommy, Saki. Twenty one animals all in loving homes. Denny, sadly, passed away earlier this year.

Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions Trivia

LUCKIEST DOG: TASHA the Boston Terrier who was going to be euthanized on her first birthday! Gerdy got her instead! Now happily adopted.

SECOND LUCKIEST DOG: GYPSY, alone at the end of a driveway in the blazing summer heat with no water or shelter, with a sign **DOG TO GIVE AWAY**. Thanks Ryan for liberating her and bringing her to Gerdy's Rescues! Now adopted, Gypsy has begun her career in agility training competitions!

BABY RESCUES: FANNIE the Basset hound, **LILA** the Saint Bernard, **LITTLE MAMA** cat and her babies, **MAGGIE** the Border Collie mix

FLEA MARKET FIND OF THE YEAR: POCO, laying in a cramped cage, filthy, and covered in fleas with internal parasites—now healthy and in a happy home where he is loved

OLYMPIC DIVING CHAMPION: SAKU, who now has his own inground pool to practice in, along with a new brother

GERDY'S MOST UNUSUAL ADOPTION: ETHAN the Llama—thanks Kim Hodgson for placing Ethan in just the right home!

MOST GORGEOUS EYES: BORIS the cat, **STAR** the Husky, **SPIRIT** the Lab mix, and **GARFIELD**, who flirts permanently with his one eye

MOST GENEROUS CAT: MIA, who donated blood to save other cat's lives, still in a foster home herself, unwanted.

DOG WHISPERER: CALLIE the lab mix who takes new dogs under her wing and builds up their confidence.

MOST DRAMATIC RESCUE: CRYSTAL, the 12 year old ShihTzu rescued from busy traffic by a passing motorist!
THANK YOU FOR BEING HER GUARDIAN ANGEL WHOEVER YOU ARE!

BIGGEST GIRL: FANNY the Saint Bernard



BIGGEST BOY: MOUSE, the amazing huge mix

MOST HELPLESS ABANDONED CAT: MAX, declawed on all four paws, outdoors—now safe in a loving home.

STILL THE ANIMAL'S FAVOURITE PERSON: Gerdy, of course!

We ought not to treat creatures like shoes or household belongings, which when worn with use, we throw away - Plutarch



SPECIAL APPEAL From **GERDY**: We have had people to volunteer to foster small quiet dogs for us, but in our experience, it is **LARGE** or **MEDIUM** size dogs that we need foster private homes for. We need people to foster **2 FULL DAYS** while a dog develops immunity after Bordetella (kennel cough) vaccine has been given before he can go into boarding. We need someone to foster on short-term notice for those 2 days. We need people to foster **UP TO A MONTH** while we place the dog for adoption. We need people to foster **FOR 10 DAYS** while a female dog recovers from spay surgery. As most of our dogs are medium to large in size, we appeal to those with friendly or no current pets in the home, people who are home most of the day or all day, with secure property so our dogs do not get lost or hurt. **PLEASE REMEMBER, THE MORE HELP WE HAVE WITH OUR ANIMALS, THE MORE WE CAN HELP!** We cannot do it alone! We **PROMISE**—you will not be stuck with the dog! The care is temporary.



our 400th Adoption

SOLLY A black lab whose new owners love him dearly, is a happy boy taking obedience classes to be the perfect walking dog

Happy Endings

ZOE Gerdy stepped in and saved the life of this 4 month old baby, hit by a car and left lying in a snowbank until 2 kind people found her and took her to a vet. This Siberian Husky girl who was unclaimed was scheduled for euthanasia when Gerdy took her over and had her badly injured back leg amputated. This girl with indomitable spirit was fostered and wonderfully cared for, then later adopted by this extraordinarily loving family.

POCO For sale at an outdoor fleamarket, this filthy little soul went from a life of neglect in a cage to one of love with a family after being saved by a member of our team.

KODA The big boisterous Belgian Shepherd adopted by a loving couple who persisted with his training to become the well-behaved boy he is today rather than give up on him.

TIGER & TINKERBELL 2 cats abandoned in an apartment together found a home with a very compassionate person who did not want to separate them so adopted both.



Tinkerbell



Tiger



Koda



Zoe



Ladybug



Poco

Still looking for a home

CATS:

SHERLOCK—declawed on 4 paws, this handsome white & orange boy is leash-trained!

PISTACHIO—found injured & abandoned, this gentle cat is a beauty!

LADY—a black cat found in the freezing cold last winter, does no one want a gentle black cat?

BIG MOOSE—This orange laid back guy with the John Wayne swagger lost his owner to a nursing home

LITTLE MAMA—This very young tabby mother and 3 of her kittens are too sweet to be unwanted

TOOTSIE—Dumped in her carrier in the middle of a shopping center in the heat of summer, this is a DEAR grey & white cat who needs a REAL HOME!

DOGS:

LADYBUG—GREAT DOG! All she needs is a confident person to make her feel safe! A very loving, beautiful dog with a lot to offer!

REXY: Good dog for older kids, not a mean bone in his active body! A real family dog, loving & kind!

SKYE: Golden Retriever, great hips, a loving & trustworthy dog, skin allergy but a SUPER personality—very loving!

THE MANY MIRACLES OF LITTLE RED

Sometimes the experience of the rescuer before connecting with Gerdy is the real story. In the case of Little Red, it is a beautiful and touching example of cause and effect. There is a lady who has fed stray cats every day, a very sensible and caring woman who has as many sterilized as she can get, at her own expense, then releases. This lady had just completed a food run and was walking in the area, somewhere along the north shore. Another couple out for a walk spotted her and asked her if she was looking for the injured cat! After a brief conversation, they indicated that they had no interest in helping the cat themselves—“it’s only an animal”—so the lady decided to search by herself. The **first miracle** was that she found him, off by himself, searching for food. She saw that his back had been burned. She went quickly back to her car for her cat carrier, praying the cat would still be there when she got back. **Miracle #2**—he was! Then she prayed the cat would not run off as she opened the cat carrier. **Miracle #3**, he went in on his own. She drove right to a local vet clinic praying he would be ok and had the cat examined and tested. **Miracle#4**, he was FIV and FELV negative! At some point he had been burned on his back, and the option was to treat it or euthanize. Problem was he was such a sweet orange cat but who would take on a burned cat? Especially at a time so many cats are unwanted. **Miracle#5**, Gerdy had just happened to call that clinic about another matter and was put on with the lady who explained the situation. Gerdy immediately said that we would take the cat over. **Miracle#6**—the biggest Miracle of all—we were later told that this lady had been praying constantly all through this event for help to come to this cat—and her prayers were answered. Now we need **Miracle#7**, a home for Little Red as the lady named him. This little cat obviously comes complete with his own Guardian Angel!



You cannot live a perfect day without doing something for someone who will never be able to repay you.
unknow

