

KGARL NEWS

Quarterly News of the King George Animal Rescue League

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July 2007

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Letter from the President

July marks the mid-year point of 2007. As I look back on the year so far, I am proud of how far we have come and excited about what the rest of the year holds in store. As you know, we have added two new members to the KGARL Board of Directors: Deb Silber as Treasurer and Sandy Capone as Secretary. These two women are great to work with, they are very talented and dedicated. I am very thankful that they have volunteered their time to help KGARL move forward and achieve our goal of helping the animals of King George and surrounding counties.

The new KGARL Board has been meeting monthly to discuss ideas. We are currently creating a Membership Guide to introduce new members to KGARL and Standard Operating Procedures to document the steps for bringing animals into foster care and adopting them out. There are many other great ideas in the works, but our best ideas come from our members and adopters. Please let us know what we can do better by sending us an email at info@kgarl.org!

We have also been working very hard at providing free spay and neuter surgeries to people in need. I am very excited with the progress of our spay/neuter program. We have spent almost all of our current grant money and are in the process of applying for new grants. Our goal is to focus on the animals in King George County and to reach all residents, especially those without internet access who may not be aware that we can help. To reach this goal, we need all of our members to spread the word about this great opportunity. Please pass on our information to anyone and everyone that may benefit from this service.

If you've peeked at the "Upcoming Events" column at the right, you'll notice that we have a lot of events coming up! In addition to many other great events (see page 5), we will have monthly dog walks at Caledon State Park. For the summer months, we'll meet at 10 AM on the first Saturday of each month at the head of the trails. In July, we'll meet on the second Saturday due to 4th of July plans. Please join us, this is a great time to socialize your dog and have fun with your fellow KGARL members and adopters. Don't forget to bring water for you and for your dogs. I hope to see you there!

Michele Shipman

Upcoming Events:

- 7/7 – Adoption Day
PetSmart in Southpointe
- 7/14 – Caledon Walk
- 7/16 – KGARL Meeting
- 7/21 – Adoption Day
PetSmart in Southpointe
- 8/04 – Caledon Walk
- 8/04 – Adoption Day
PetSmart in Southpointe
- 8/18 – Adoption Day
PetSmart in Southpointe
- 8/20 – KGARL Meeting
- 9/01 – Caledon Walk
- 9/01 – Adoption Day
PetSmart in Southpointe
- 9/17 – KGARL Meeting
- 9/29 – Hurkamp Park Market
Days
- 10/7 – Hurkamp Park Dog
Festival



"Barkley Baloo Veiga is doing great! We've been so blessed and just wanted to say thank you for choosing us to bring him home"
~ Stefany and Jason Veiga,
proud new parents

Recently Adopted Pets!

Oliver (now Max) - adopted by the Higgins family of Stevensville, MD.

Lacey - adopted by Susan and Michael of Manassas, VA.

Monty - adopted by the Eric and Phillip of Richmond, VA.

Crissy - adopted by the Canning family of Montross, VA.

Connor - adopted by the Carhart family of Norfolk, VA.

Pebbles - adopted by the Williams family of Troy, NY.

Ricky - adopted by the Wright family of Manassas, VA.

Jack - adopted by the Domzalski family of Timberville, VA.

Kadey (now Katey) - adopted by the Kidd family of Virginia Beach, VA.

Sophie – adopted by the Godfrey family of Lorton, VA.

Cowboy – adopted by the Lippard family of Millersville, MD

Too see pictures of our adopted pets with their new families, visit our website at www.kgarl.org and click on "Adopted Pets"!



Max is living it up at his new home! Picture compliments of Max's proud parents: Cathy and David Higgins

KGARL Pets Currently in Foster Care

Featured Pet - Sparrow!

Sparrow is a loving, sweet and playful Rottie Mix puppy. She is about 4 months old, up to date on shots and spayed.



Sparrow is very smart. She already knows how to sit and wait for her food. She is learning how to wait and let people walk through doors ahead of her. And her foster brother is teaching her how to shake just by watching him do it!

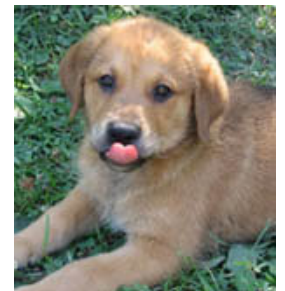
Sparrow is such a good puppy. Everyone that meets her falls in love instantly. She is so cute and playful, you can't help but laugh. Sparrow is looking for a home that will continue with her training, as she really loves to learn new things!

Casper and Max were found as 4 week old kittens, barely holding onto life. KGARL took them in, bottle fed them and they are now healthy and beautiful. Casper and Max have been vet checked, dewormed and are up to date on shots. These beautiful boys are about 8 weeks old and are ready to be adopted now. You can see their pictures on page 3.



Diego was 5 weeks old when he was picked up after KGARL received a call requesting help. He is now 8 weeks old and ready to find his forever home. He has been playing with Casper and Max (also listed on Petfinder) and they all get along really well. They all wrestle and act like anyone would expect from boys!

Inca, Maya, Dakota and Shawnee are 12 week old Lab/Chow/Shepherd puppies that were picked up after KGARL learned that they were living along Route 205 in less than ideal conditions. Dakota is very people-oriented. He will come trotting over to just sit in his foster dad's lap while the other three are off romping. Maya seems to be the most independent of the crew and can be quite stubborn. It's possible she may have an alpha personality. Inca runs a close second to Dakota when it comes to being people-oriented. He likes getting attention too and will forego play at times to get it. Shawnee is more of a follower and is most likely to be wherever the majority of the pack is.



The pets in foster care change frequently as pets are adopted and new ones are brought in. To see the most up to date foster pets, please visit our PetFinder page at www.kgarl.petfinder.com.

If you are interested in fostering or volunteering your time to help us review applications, please contact KGARL at info@kgarl.org.

A Taste of Parenthood

By Stephanie Gardner



Let me start by saying how much I have grown to appreciate parents over the last few weeks! Speaking only from personal experience with animal babies, they are quite a lot of work, especially when they outnumber you. My husband and I are fostering three little kittens for the league and since we got them at about four weeks of age, they had to be bottle fed. This was not a practice we were familiar with so we were not prepared for the feeding frenzy that was to occur when two of us tried to feed three hungry kittens. Now I know why female cats have eight teats because when those babies are hungry they do not have the patience to wait for you to feed their brother or sister! Many battle

wounds were endured but when they settled into the suckling it was very rewarding to watch them eat and purr with contentment once their tummies were full. The bottle was dismissed after two weeks in exchange for dry food and the late nights and early mornings were over. They are growing so fast and have graduated from needy, loving babies to curious, independent climbers, jumpers and explorers. We said goodbye to the first sibling this weekend and although we were sad to see her go, all the work and love was worth it to see her in the arms of her new family. We look forward to finding homes for the rest of the little ones and are happy we could give them a chance at a great life...even if it cost us a few hours of sleep and a tube of Neosporin!



Transports Make a Difference!



Georgie is a female Boston Terrier that was in danger of becoming a statistic at the King George Animal Shelter. Kristin Pritchett, the KGARL Member at Large, worked very hard and was able to find a Boston Terrier group that would take in Georgie! Kristin transported Georgie to Virginia Beach, where she is currently being fostered. According to Kristin, "It's very rewarding to give a dog or cat a second chance, especially when all that is required is a few hours of driving to make the difference between life and death."

There are many more stories of animals whose lives were saved by a single person who gave a few hours of their time to help in a transport. Unfortunately, there are also many stories of animals that didn't make it because a driver was not available.

Transporting cats and dogs from high kill shelters to rescue groups or forever homes is extremely rewarding! If you have ever wished you could do more to help, this is your chance. Transports occur at every hour of the day, every weekend of the year. Erin Silks (of Fairfax, Virginia) is the transport coordinator for our area. Erin works very hard to

organize and monitor transports to and from shelters all over the country! Please email Erin at tierbee@aol.com if you would like to help on future transports.

Angels to the Pets

A very special thanks to All KGARL members who consistently give of their time & effort to assist with the countless tasks needed to help accomplish our mission.

Fostering

Paula Bailey
Stuart and Lisa Blom
Kim Boshela & Roger Martino
Sandy and Martin Capone
Scott and Stephanie Gardner
Wendy Gonzales
Michele and Chris Shipman
Deb and Joe Silber

Volunteering

Scott and Stephanie Gardner
Brandi and Tim Janezeck
Kristine Pritchett
Michele and Chris Shipman
Malinda Shortt
Joe and Deb Silber

Donations

Charles and Rebecca Boyer
Valerie Burton
Martin Firth
Carole Garrison
David and Cathy Higgins
Sharron Johnson
Barbara and John Maines
Kim Boshela & Roger Martino

Featured Websites

Animal Rescue Sites

www.hsus.org

Pet Supply Sites

www.sitstay.com
www.doggonegood.com

Reference Sites

www.api4animals.org

Recent KGARL Events

Richmond International Raceway

KGARL was lucky enough to participate in the Richmond International Raceway this past May. The race was held on Friday, got rained out on Saturday and was held on Sunday. KGARL volunteers worked alongside volunteers from the Girl Scouts and the Peace Lutheran Church. We sold hot dogs, hamburgers, fries and many other treats. To the right is a picture of Brandi and Tim Janezeck working hard at cooking up the burgers!



Dahlgren Dog Walk

On Saturday, June 2nd, the Dahlgren Navy Base held a dog walk for all dog lovers to just have fun! Thanks to Scott and Stephanie Gardner, KGARL had a booth at the event. We made \$63, and a good time was had by all! The event included a walk, complete with water stations and dog treats. There were also competitions held for the largest dog, cutest dog, prettiest eyes, longest tail and best trick. Our very own Phoenix Shipman took third place in largest dog and longest tail!

All KGARL dogs in attendance were on their best behavior. To the right you can see Boomer Pritchett, and Shadow and Chloe Silber showing off their perfect leash walking skills!



KGARL Business Spotlight

“DOG KRAZY”

Dog Krazy is a specialty shop in Downtown Fredericksburg that caters to all beloved dogs and their humans! They welcome all four legged and two legged people to their store. They carry everything from much needed training items to gourmet cupcakes and cookies!

1013 Caroline St, Fredericksburg, VA
www.dogkrazyva.com, (540) 373-4168

Did you know?

You can see details of our upcoming events on our PetFinder page at www.kgarl.petfinder.org. Just click on: "Click to see our events!"

Copperhead Warning!

Recently, Deb Silber's dog Shadow killed a Copperhead in their backyard. Luckily he was not bitten during the encounter! This is a reminder that we do have poisonous snakes around here and to keep an eye on your pets when they are outdoors. If one is bitten there is a very limited amount of time to get them treatment before it's too late. Keep your yard clean of wood piles, leaves and brush that snakes can hide under.

If your dog is bitten by a snake do not use ice or other cold applications and do not apply a tourniquet as these may increase the dog's anxiety and cause him to struggle, making the effects of the snakebite worse. Instead, keep your dog as calm and quiet as possible and drive immediately to the nearest veterinarian.

Address Change

Please update your contact lists, KGARL has a new address:
P.O. Box 1003
Dahlgren, VA 22448

Upcoming Fundraising Events

KGARL is working hard to raise awareness about spaying and neutering, fostering, adopting and caring for animals in our homes and community. Volunteering at one of our events only takes a few hours, but it can make a huge difference. Below are some of the activities we have planned for the future. Please come out and support KGARL, volunteer your time and help us help the animals of King George!

PetSmart Adoption Days - Saturdays

Starting July 7th, KGARL will begin taking our foster pets to the Southpointe PetSmart every other Saturday. The times will be from 11:00AM to 3:00PM. We need people to help transport foster animals to and from the event and to pass out information and answer questions during the event.

Microchip Clinic – July 16

At our next monthly meeting, we will be offering Microchips for \$15 each. Please email us ahead of time at info@kgarl.org so that we know how many animals to expect. The monthly meetings are held at the American Legion building on Dahlgren Road on the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30PM.

Fredericksburg Market in the Park – September 29

KGARL will have a table at the Market in the Park event at Hurkamp Park in downtown Fredericksburg. The Fredericksburg Market in the Park hosts a diverse selection of vendors who sell handmade crafts, commercial items, flea market and yard sale items. This event will be from 8:00AM to 2:00PM. We will need people to help setup and tear down from the event. We'll also need workers. If you can help, even if only for an hour or two, let us know!

Fredericksburg Dog Festival – October 7

This is a family style event - focused around the family dog. Kids and adults alike will be bringing their favorite pooch to show their stuff and enjoy a day out together at Hurkamp Park in downtown Fredericksburg. This event will be from 12:00PM to 2:00PM. We will need people to help setup and tear down from the event. We'll also need workers. If you can help, even if only for an hour or two, let us know!

Ongoing Fundraising Opportunities

Finkleberry Candle Sales

When Finkleberry Candles went out of business, they were kind enough to donate their remaining candles to KGARL! We have dozens of candles for sale in both 8oz and 16oz sizes and assorted scents. If you would like to buy candles, or would like to sell candles, please email info@kgarl.org for more information.

Food Lion Shop & Share Program

Register your MVP card with KGARL at www.foodlion.com! Click on Fundraising and when you register your MVP card a portion of the proceeds of your purchase will go to benefit KGARL at no cost to you. Just one more way your daily activities can influence your community for the better!

Donate your old Cell Phones and Ink Cartridges to KGARL!

We can get up to \$5 for each phone or cartridge. Email info@kgarl.org for details.

Chloe & Shadow Silber Featured Product: Head Halters

A head halter is a special kind of collar designed for dogs who like to pull their people when they walk. It consists of a strap that goes around your dog's nose and another strap that goes around his neck, just behind his ears. The leash fastens to the halter under the dog's chin to a ring that's also attached to the nose strap. When your dog begins to pull, the design of the head halter causes the dog's nose to be turned down and back toward you, which makes it physically difficult for him to continue pulling. Some brand names of head halters include "Gentle Leader," "Promise Collar," and "Halti."

Chloe (Newfoundland): *Like many other large dogs, I don't know my own strength. Sometimes when walking with my people I would see something **really** interesting and quickly move to investigate (before my brother, Shadow, could stick his nose in). For some reason, my people really didn't like this arrangement and bought a Gentle Leader for me to wear on walks. At first I really hated it; it felt very strange to have something across my nose. Once I became used to how it felt, I realized it wasn't too bad! The only big negative is that my people now have direct control over my head, so no more unauthorized investigations for me. On the other hand, they seem very pleased with this arrangement and take me for more walks!*

Shadow (Border Collie Mix): *When I was first introduced to the leash, I loved investigating the new and interesting places my people took me. The only problem was that my people would be very aggravated by the time we returned home from our adventures. I'm not really sure why, didn't they have a great time following me to every bush and pole? They tried a variety of strange devices around my neck and shoulders. I didn't really care until they came home with this Halti device. It irritates my nose and whenever I attempt to check something out, my head gets turned in the other direction. I really hate the thing but my people seem happy about it. I've finally decided that it's not worth the effort to surge ahead anymore and while it's not as much fun, I do get to go on a lot more walks and see many more new places! I still try to paw the thing off my face every chance I get!*

Member Spotlight – Malinda Shortt

You have probably never heard of Malinda Shortt, but she is a very important member of KGARL. Malinda is the photographer behind most of the King George Animal Control (KGAC) updates that we send out. Malinda works in Arlington and lives in Dahlgren with her 2 rescued cats, Alley and Missy.

Alley was given to Malinda by the mother of a friend because she needed a home. Malinda describes her as "a beautiful white cat with a bit of attitude." Missy is a cat that Malinda met on one of her trips to the shelter. Her owner had surrendered her because they were expecting a baby and the man told the shelter that the cat would have to go. Missy is 14 years old and her kidneys are failing, so she requires special care and lots of vet appointments. Malinda describes her as a loveable cat and as soon as you look at her you fall in love with her, she loves everybody.



When asked why she likes to take the pictures of the shelter animals, Malinda said "I go and take the pictures of the animals at the shelter because it gives me a chance to love on the animals, and I get to give them some one-on-one attention and more importantly I feel like I am helping them find a loving home because their pictures are out there for more people to see."

The work that Malinda does has no doubt saved the lives of many animals in King George. The pictures that she takes are posted all over the internet and the KGAC has been getting so much more visibility. KGARL and the animals of King George are very grateful for the work that Malinda does!

KGARL Wish List

We are always in need of supplies to help care for our foster pets. Here are just a few of our current needs:

- PetSmart gift cards
- Frontline for dogs (all sizes)
- Advantage for puppies
- Advantage for cats
- Blankets
- Dog toys
- Leashes
- Kuranda Beds
- Dog houses for community outreach programs
- Yesterdays News Litter
- Scratching posts
- Cat toys
- Printer Paper
- Paper towels



Pet Birthdays

July

Willie Ellington
Smokey Gardner
Splitty Gardner
Dinah Pastore
Lucy Shipman

August

Abby Blom
Phoenix Shipman

September

Caesar Capone
Barney Ellington
Boomer Pritchett

Meet the Breed Yorkshire Terrier

Continuing this issue with our coverage of the most popular breeds in the United States, we introduce the occupant of the Number 2 spot, the Yorkshire Terrier (please see April 2007 issue for an article on the most popular breed, the Labrador Retriever). Although this article series will look at purebred dogs, mixed breed dogs can inherit the best or worst characteristics or health issues of its parent breeds.

The Yorkshire Terrier traces its roots to Scotland and the Waterside Terrier, a long-coated, bluish gray dog, weighing 6 to 20 pounds. In the mid 1800's the dog was brought to Yorkshire by migrating weavers. It was first known as the "broken-haired Scotch Terrier" at a bench show in England in 1861, and later, in 1870 they became known as the Yorkshire Terrier. The first Yorkshire Terrier known to be born in the United States was in 1872.



Yorkshire Terriers, or as they are more affectionately known, Yorkies, are 6 to 7 inches tall and weight about 7 pounds. They have a long, fine silky coat, which is straight. They have a lot of hair, which make it necessary for the owner to tie, or regularly trim, the hair on their head, so that the dog may see, and also so that they don't end up with the hair hanging into their food dish. Because of their long coats, they need regular grooming. On a positive note, the Yorkie sheds very little.

With the Yorkies diminutive size, they can be suitable pets for those who live in apartments or have little or no backyard. They prefer warm climates. Although they do not require a lot of exercise, they are a very active dog that will enjoy running and playing.

Yorkies are affectionate with their owners, but may have problems with strangers (human and canine) and small animals. Their devotion to their master may be seen as demanding and dependent. This breed needs a human who can give it a lot of attention! Their very sweet and loving nature should make providing this attention its own reward for those that have the time available.

Yorkies have a life expectancy of 12 to 15 years. Common health problems include bronchitis, early tooth decay and digestive problems. Spine problems or herniated disks may cause paralysis in their hindquarters.

KGARL Health Watch

Are You Feeding Your Pets A Healthy Diet?



“Hello, we just wanted to let you all know that Bo is still doing great, he is getting along great with Lucy and Desi, he loves his kennel and his little pool we put in there for them. He continues to do very well, he's is very loved and he definitely mommy's boy. He only weighs about 25 lbs and will stay a little guy, he does hold his own with Desi (40 lbs) and Lucy (45 lbs). Take care and again thank you for giving us the joy of raising Bo”
~ Pat and Lori

To have your pet featured in our newsletter, please email an update and a picture to adoptions@kgarl.org.

Did you know?

KGARL is on eBay!
Our username is **kganimalrescueleague**. We have a variety of items for sale and the inventory changes daily, so look frequently and buy often!

Spay & Neuter Stats

So far this year, KGARL has provided free spay/neuter surgeries for **57** cats and **26** dogs, for a total of **\$5136.70!**

In light of the recent pet food recalls, we thought we'd take this opportunity to talk about pet food. Researching the best dog or cat food can be very confusing. There are many conflicting opinions among vets and other “experts”.

If you haven't heard about the pet food recall, details can be found on the FDA website at:

<http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/petfood.html>

Have you ever given much thought to what you feed your dog or cat and why? Do you feed what's convenient? What's cheap? What your pet likes best?

The Animal Protection Institute (API) has written an article entitled “What's Really in Pet Food.” The article was updated in May 2007 to include information from the recent Menu Foods recall. You might be surprised to learn what you're feeding your pet. The API article can be found at:

<http://www.api4animals.org/facts.php?p=359&more=1>

Just like people food, what we like best is not always what is best for us! Unlike humans, pets don't mind eating the same thing every day. There's no need to change your pet's food on a daily, weekly or even monthly basis. With that said, it is a good idea to periodically (every 3 – 4 months) change foods to better ensure your pets are getting the necessary nutrition to meet their needs. Rotating foods, particularly proteins (chicken, lamb, venison, fish, beef, and duck) can also help protect pets from developing sensitivities to one food.

Here are some basics to consider when selecting a food:

- Avoid corn, soy, and wheat which are prime sources of allergies in pets. Corn is used as filler in low quality foods and is not digested by your pet. It has no nutritional value.
- Avoid artificial colors and chemical preservatives (including Ethoxyquin, BHA, BHT or Propyl Gallate).
- Avoid meat by-products. They include parts of the animal left over after the meat has been stripped away from the bone. Chicken by-products include head, feet, entrails, lungs, spleen, kidneys, brain, liver, stomach, bones, blood, intestines, and any other part of the carcass not fit for human consumption.
 - By-products are often obtained from 4-D sources (diseased, disabled, dying or dead animals including road kill).

The API website has an article entitled “Selecting a Commercial Pet Food” that provides valuable information. The article can be found at:

<http://www.api4animals.org/articles?p=361&more=1>

Proper nutrition is just as important as proper veterinary care in ensuring the health of your pet!

How can you help KGARL?

KGARL relies heavily on the enormous efforts of volunteers to raise operating funds necessary for our focus on spaying and neutering and to provide day-to-day support that is needed to promote humane values of protection, care, and compassion for companion animals. We also accept private donations to further our efforts to reduce pet overpopulation. Without our volunteers and the necessary funding, KGARL would not be able to help as many animals as we do.

If you can donate money or time to help our area cats and dogs, please complete and return the form below to:
KGARL, PO Box 1003, Dahlgren, VA 22448

Donate

I'd like to make a donation to KGARL in the amount of \$_____

Choose one of the following to have an acknowledgement card sent

- In Honor Of:
- In Memory Of:
- To Thank:

Name: _____

Street: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Please give us your address so we can thank you and send you a receipt for your tax deductible donation

Name: _____

Street: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

All donations are tax deductible

Volunteer

Name: _____

Street: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Best time to call: _____

Are you over 18? ___ Yes ___ No

OK to call at work? ___ Yes ___ No

Please indicate area(s) of interest:

- Foster home
- Community events participant
- Fund raising
- Transport (to/from vet; from shelter; owner give up)
- Print KGARL materials
- Assist in reviewing applications to adopt KGARL pets
- Take pictures of animals to put on our PetFinder site
- Help with the kgarl.org web page
- Other: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT