

THE LAB'S TALE

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*Midwest Labrador Retriever Rescue, Inc.
"We give Labs a second chance"*

MLRR GOES INTERNATIONAL!

...At least the dogs, that is. In January this year we received an email from the Animal Friends League of Kuwait asking us if we would take a dog. As it turns out, they had a 5-year old Saluki and a 14-month old yellow Labrador that needed a home. On Saturday February 27, Jenny, her husband, and their new son drove to O'Hare Airport to meet Lufthansa flight 430 coming from Frankfurt Germany. The dogs cleared Customs easily, even faster than the people coming off the flight. Apparently, the two of them didn't have anything to declare but the fur on their backs.

Kauai (Finley as she is now known), is a beautiful yellow lab, a bit on the small side, but a cutie no less. Snow was a new sensation for her so she spent much of her second day, jumping and playing in it.



She made her first home visit on Day 2. She was still a bit hesitant and wasn't sure about a fox statue that stood by the fireplace; after all, it could be real! By Day 3, she was getting comfortable in her surroundings. On Day 4, she did her second home visit and got to play with two other female labs; now she was in dog heaven.

With a personality like hers it was not long at all before she was adopted. Today she is living the life. She is a happy, energetic, content member of her new family in Geneva. No more worries about her next meal; her only concern now is who is gonna give her the next hug.

As it turns out there are dog lovers everywhere, regardless of what side of the pond you are on – people who open up their homes and more importantly their hearts to these crazy, energetic, drooling, 4-legged critters. So from Finley and all the foster dogs that have come into MLRR, comes a big sigh of contentment and a big thanks to all of you for their new, permanent homes.

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SAFETY BULLETIN

MLRR volunteers were recently made aware of a scary situation that a vet came into recently. A dog ate a child's teddy bear and was very sick. She thought the dog had an obstruction, but when she opened him up she knew the dog was not going to make it, and she was very surprised at what she found. Whatever was in the teddy bear had caused massive damage to his intestines and unfortunately the dog didn't make it.

The vet called the manufacturer of the Teddy Bear to find out what the gel was and what killed the dog. As it turns out the stuffing in children's toys contains ingredients for flame retardants and mite control and is highly toxic.

While it may be tempting to buy a plush-toy loving dog a stuffed animal at a goodwill store, or garage sale, please do not do so. Make sure any toy you give to your dog is in fact meant for, and safe for our furry friends.

Her forever Mom, Cheryl, got in touch with the Animal Friends League of Kuwait. Below is the note they sent.

"Thank you so much for contacting us. We love to hear about how our dogs are doing once they reach the other side of the pond. Finley actually came in as a stray so we have absolutely no history on her. She was found wandering in an industrial area and was picked up by a good Samaritan and brought to us. With us she of course was just a perfect dog. Unfortunately dogs are not highly valued by the locals and they will often spend a tremendous amount of money importing a dog from Europe only to dump them months down the line when they become too much trouble. She is definitely one of the lucky ones and we would love updates and photos. Good luck and give her a big hug and kiss from all of us here in Kuwait."



ADOPTIONS: We are pleased to say that over 40 dogs were adopted in the last quarter!

Abby	Mike & Shelly H
Angel	John K
Barney	Peter W
Bear	Christy S
Bella	Lisa S
Blossom	Christina & Jeff H
Callie	Rebecca & Steven Gray K
Charlie	Assisted Living Care Facility c/o Lisa K
Charlotte	Joseph & Dorothy K
Cleo	Dave & Carolyn K
Coal	MaryJo & Tom S
Cooper	Kris & Jeff S
Dominic	Kathleen F
Emma	John K
Grant	Michael & Denise E
Hannah	James B
Holly	Michael & Meghan G
Hunter	Denise B
Jimmy	John and Victoria H
Joe	Richard and Michele W
Julie	Linda & Stephen S
Kai	Jeff & Lisa B
Kauai	Cheryl & Ray H



Maxx	Matt & Michelle M
Mia	Dale & Melinda R
Mindy	Ryan M
Newman	William & Geena M
Nick	Ryan & Therese L
Noel	Sue and Deron S
Odie	Michelle & Chad R
Patty	Brandon and Molly B
Pepper	Mary & Matt L
Princess	Chris and Heather S
Ramona	Lauren W
Rosie	John & Julie K
Rudolph	Shaun & Tracy S
Shadow	Beverly & Ernest F
Shelby	Marie K
Sierra	Debbie & Andy B
Spring	Karen & Bob L
Tank	James & Docia F
Taz	Richard & Earlene B
Toby	Dennis L
Veronica	Francee & David F N
Willis	David & Tracy S
Wrigley	Jill M

News and Events **Midwest Lab Rescue will have a table at these great pet boutiques. Come join us and learn about what we do and how you can help!**

Mark Your Calendars Now!



Saturday May 15, 10am - 2pm
[K-9 Cookie Company](#)
 723 South Blvd, Oak Park



Sunday June 6, 8am - 1pm
[Hinsdale Humane Society](#)
[Annual Pet Walk](#)
 Katherine Legge Park,
 5901 S. County Line Road, Hinsdale, IL



Saturday May 15, 12pm - 3pm
[Bentley Corner Barkery](#)
 90 S Evergreen, Arlington Heights



Saturday June 12, 11am - 3pm
[All Things Woof & Meow](#)
 29 E Main St, Roselle, IL



Saturday June 5, 11am - 2pm
[Fit & Frisky!](#)
 1016 Davis St, Evanston



Saturday June 19, 12pm - 3pm
[Wet Nose](#)
 3041 Butterfield Rd, Oak Brook



Saturday June 5, 12pm - 3pm
[Two Bostons](#)
 103 W Jefferson, Naperville



Saturday June 26, 12pm - 3pm
[Wet Nose](#)
 1308 Common Dr, Geneva



DONATIONS: MLRR is able to help so many dogs thanks to generosity of so many donors.

Name	Comments
Joyce A	with thanks to Cheryl & Jim S
Anonymous	Allstate Giving Campaign
Anonymous	Allstate Giving Employee Campaign
Richelle A	in memory of Kijji & Stockton
Carolyn & Brad B	in honor of Maverick
Richard & Earlene B	
Danielle B	cannot attend the fundraiser
Jennifer & Michael B	In Memory of Gracey
BP Fabric of America fund	Kelly J E, BP employee, recommended MLRR as org. that makes a pos. contribution
BP Foundation	*employee is Mallory N
Alison B	towards heartworm treatment for choc labs
Greg & Meg B	cannot attend the fundraiser
Jennifer B	Allstate Giving Campaign
Scott & Jennifer B	donated dog food to foster dogs at Bark Avenue
Michael & Suzanne C	cannot attend auction/fundraiser
Sandra C	in honor of Jackson - he brings such joy to my life
Chicago Trading Co.	matching donation - from Lewis B
Jim C	
John & Katie C	cannot attend the fundraiser
Jan & Daryl C	Donation for Jan Matzuka Cooper Birthday Benefit
Deborah C	On behalf of Elfie and Greta
Rose & Joseph C	in memory of Murphy
Kathy D	cannot attend auction/fundraiser
Sue D	
Dust Doctors	Donation for Jan Matzuka Cooper Birthday Benefit
Christopher E	
Gale E	in honor of Wilbur - his birthday
Lori F	cannot attend auction/fundraiser
Bill & Sandy F	in memory of Jessie
Sally F	in honor of Honey - the best dog ever
Mike F	cannot attend auction/fundraiser
Fitness Zone	
Ramona & David F	Kids sold hot cocoa and donated to MLRR
Rose & Frank F	

Name	Comments
Ruth F	I have in laws who just bought a lab from a breeder. This is to right their wrong.
Andrea & Wilbur G	for Sadie's 3rd anniversary
Chuck & Maribel G	Allstate Giving Campaign
Karla G	
Dennis & Diana G	cannot attend auction/fundraiser
Garry & Michele G	
Gerry & Deborah G	In Memory of Gisele F
Bruce & Donna H	
George H	
Billy H	Donation for Jan Matzuka Cooper Birthday Benefit
Liz & Mike H	in honor of MLRR volunteers
Frederica & Tom H	in honor of Dexx's 10th birthday
Patricia J	on behalf of Pete W's b'day
Patricia J	Donation in the name of Pete W
Shelagh M & Gary J	cannot attend auction/fundraiser
Tim & Eryl J	
Judy K	donation of tablecloths for fundraiser
Alice K	in honor Jesse fka Ranger - 9 yrs w/ us
Heather K	In honor of R family's son's 1st birthday and their lab Charlie
Pamela K	
David & Patricia K	in honor of Molly fka Sandy
Jay & Ellen L	cannot attend auction/fundraiser
Paul L	Allstate Giving Campaign
Linda M	UP Fund for Effective Government
Gary & Christin M	Jan's Birthday
Chris & Kim M	cannot attend the fundraiser
Edward M	cannot attend auction/fundraiser
Ellen M	
Jill M	plus paperwork for Wm Wrigley Jr Co Foundation matching program
Robert and Shirley N	for Jan Cooper's Birthday
Dan & Colleen N	
Mary N	
Andrea P	Allstate Giving Campaign
Richard P	Allstate Giving Employee Campaign



Donations, continued...

Thanks to Jan's Birthday Bash
on March 5th,
MLRR benefited \$3000!

Name	Comments
Ken & Rose P	cannot attend the fundraiser
Craig & Heather P	
Ette & Declan Moss R	Donation for Jan Matzuka Cooper Birthday Benefit
Melissa & Joseph R	Allstate Giving Employee Campaign
Rizzo	Allstate Giving Campaign
Al R	Allstate Giving Employee Campaign / In honor of 2 great MLRR dog s- Bailey & Jasper
Matthew & Theresa R	in honor of Shelby
Elizabeth S	in honor of Buddy
R. Francis Jr. and Janet S	In honor of R family's son's 1st birthday and their lab Charlie
Stan S	Abbott Lab Employee Giving Campaign
Jeff & Sirkka S	cannot attend auction/fundraiser
Shannon S	In memory of Bearon, beloved lab of Linda and Wayne B
Sabine & Gregg S	
Catharine S	Donation in memory of Tess Roche, the best black lab
Mark T	Allstate Giving Employee Campaign
Tom & Arlene T	
Vine Tastings	Donation for Jan Matzuka Cooper Birthday Benefit
Laura W	in memory of Lotus
Florence W	cannot attend auction/fundraiser
Karen & Steve W	cannot attend the fundraiser
Meg & Curt W	in honor of Joshua fka Rory
Nancy W	sponsorship toward Rudolph's HW treatment

MLRR recently received a monetary donation from the Arboretum View Animal Hospital in memory of a beloved dog, Jenny.

This thoughtful contribution will be used to further companion research and service at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. Future generations of pets will benefit from this generous gift in Jenny's memory.

DONATING TO MLRR

Since Midwest Labrador Retriever Rescue is an all volunteer, non-profit organization, it relies on donations for funding. The primary expense is veterinary bills. All Labs which are rescued are spayed or neutered. The dogs receive vaccinations for DHLPP (distemper/lepto/parvo) and rabies. In addition, all dogs will undergo a heartworm test. Rescued Labs will receive treatment for other medical conditions that may exist at the time of their rescue at MLRR's expense. **MLRR is a 501(c)(3) organization, and all donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.**

Because MLRR has no paid employees, all donations go directly toward rescue efforts. Any and all donations are **greatly** appreciated. Even a small donation will truly help us to **save a dog's life**.

Would you like to make a secure credit card donation to MLRR? Simply visit www.midwestlabrescue.org and you can easily make a donation through PayPal. If you prefer, you can mail a donation to the address at the end of this newsletter.



A PETS 10 COMMANDMENTS...

1. My life is likely to last 10-15 years. Any separation from you is likely to be painful.



2. Give me time to understand what you want of me.

3. Place your trust in me. It is crucial for my well-being.

4. Don't be angry with me for long and don't lock me up as punishment. You have your work, your friends, your entertainment, but I have only you.

5. Talk to me. Even if I don't understand your words, I do understand your voice when speaking to me.

6. Be aware that however you treat me, I will never forget it.

7. Before you hit me, before you strike me, remember that I could hurt you, and yet, I choose not to bite you.

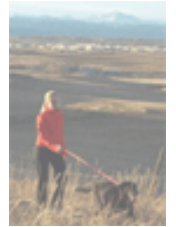
8. Before you scold me for being lazy or uncooperative, ask yourself if something might be bothering me. Perhaps I'm not getting the right food, I have been in the sun too long, or my heart might be getting old or weak.

9. Please take care of me when I grow old. You too, will grow old.

10. On the ultimate difficult journey, go with me please. Never say you can't bear to watch. Don't make me face this alone. Everything is easier for me if you are there, because I love you so.

Hiking With Your Dog

Your dog can be one of your best hiking companions. They force you to keep a brisk pace, provide you with a willing partner in your endeavor, and also cause you to be more attentive to the weather and trail conditions (on their behalf).



BEFORE YOU GO

- Be sure that dogs are allowed on the trails you plan to hike.
- Make sure your dog is wearing tags which are up to date.
- Your dog should also be current on their vaccinations, and their toenails should be trimmed.
- Don't feed your dog before a hike-- feed them afterwards. It's okay to bring along some treats, though.

ON THE TRAIL

- Bring along plenty of water for both you and your dog. Bring a bowl, too.
- If your dog has won a few obedience awards, maybe you can let them hike off lead-- but it is always recommended to keep your dog on a leash. Even if your dog is well-behaved, he might still frighten other hikers, especially children.
- Be sure to have a first-aid kit. Remember that your dog is hiking bare-foot, and the pads of their feet is the most likely place for an injury.
- Before climbing back in the car after the hike, scan your pet for ticks. You'll want to check them again after you get home for tick and flea infestations, as the hike exposes them to a much greater risk.



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MLRR is an **all volunteer**, 501(c)(3)
non-profit organization dedicated to
finding loving, permanent homes for
unwanted or abandoned Labrador
Retrievers throughout the Chicago area

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Show your support for Animal Rescue with
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