



# The Peppertree POST

**What do we do?** Rescue Dogs of good temperament who need new homes • Cooperate with and assist other rescues, shelters, and animal control • Educate the public about how to obtain a companion animal.

SUMMER 2005 ISSUE



*At the Ark,  
Griz  
welcomes  
a friend*

## Paws as Just Friends

**Many physicians and therapists have written articles about the relationship between humans and canines for a 'healing environment'. This is an area of research that is not only fascinating but true. My article is one that is delivered on a much closer level to home... just being a regular person who loves to share their time with furry friends.**

I purchased my first home in the Summer of 2000. While cleaning, painting, and making cosmetic changes to my own abode... I drove to Columbia Greene Humane Society to 'check out' the awesome pooch that 'Pet Connection' displayed for adoption. This dog was GREAT, but too much dog for me. Instead, after walking many canines for the day, I fell in love with a shy, malnourished, black lab mix... who now carries the name, Annie. She was deemed a canine who was skittish, unreliable, and depressed. I know her as Annie, "Big Girl of the Ark"...she has grown and flourished under loving hands... a silky coat, and confidence that builds daily.

About one year after having Annie, I wanted to find a companion animal to keep her comforted during my work day. After visiting many dog clinics, I stepped upon Peppertree Rescue. One of the only groups who listened to my particulars: super shy canine, free run of the home, looking for a mate who would not challenge her, but become a friend.

Within two weeks we began the foster application and trial placement of Hero, a wonderful boy who was abandoned at birth and lived with his sibling in a junk car lot in NYC. Having no experience with nurturing and human contact, Hero was a canine of fear and seclusion.

The Ark chose to adopt Hero, and it's been the most rewarding union of canines. Annie and Hero have established a partnership of trust and caring kindness. Hero welcomes each new foster to the Ark with tail wagging abandon and direction.

Who would ever know that this priceless boy, who slept under an end table, would become the "Cruise Director of the Ark?" My eyes fill when I watch him welcome new fosters and show them the 'land'.

The Ark now has five canines, most recently adopting a long-term foster. Some people think that, that is crazy... four dogs and taking a fifth? What they don't understand, from hands on experience, is that four is no different than five. Giving a home to a canine in need of love and attention, is a special need in many of our foster homes. WE are not collectors of animals, but make room for a dog that fits the rofile of our home.

If we can take in a canine in need, give them a home to flourish in, it makes the adoption process so much more meaningful. The dog is assessed and the foster home is aware of the canine's needs, dislikes, etc..

In doing so, we provide an environment that is healthy, nurturing and encourages mutual acceptance in life. We assist a canine who has had separation issues, medical, etc., and make the transition to a forever home more at ease.

Canines in need are my friends, my hope is that life will prove easier as the road paves its way.

— Liz Ammian

# Fundraising

## Dog Walk

Cathy Wagoner and her amazing team at Calbak Farms Classic Dog Training, again held their Annual Dog Walk For Charity on Sunday, June 12th. Peppertree Dog Rescue was 1 of 3 organizations chosen to benefit from funds raised from the walk and at the end of the day, over \$1,500 was raised for Peppertree



Rescue. A very special thank you goes to Cathy for her support of our group and all those dogs and walkers who turned up on, what must have been, one of the hottest days of the year so far.



## Donations

On June 4th this year, Peppertree Rescue was very excited to be asked to hold an Adoption Clinic, in conjunction with an event at the Children's Museum of Science & Technology, in Troy. Sarah Smith had organized the event – "Working With Animals: Search, Save & Support" and it was a wonderful opportunity for children and adults alike to spend the day learning how animals can help us in our everyday lives. There were demonstrations by

the Rennselaer County Search & Rescue Team, Guiding Eyes for The Blind and North Country Wild Care Animal Rehabilitation.

Whilst at the event, a girl scout from Troup 63 in Mid-Hudson made a special visit to us with her Mom to present us with dog cookies that she had made especially for our dogs. Jean Balint, one of our volunteers, and Theo, were very happy to accept the cookies from her. Thank you Maria for taking the time to make such a lovely gesture.

Visit our website  
for the link to the  
Peppertree Store  
at Cafe Press

Help dogs while shopping  
through iGive.com  
[www.peppertree.org/store.htm](http://www.peppertree.org/store.htm)



Grace and Nell planning their escape...

**Peppertree Rescue, Inc.**  
(A 501 (c) (3) Not-for-Profit Charity)

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## Making a Difference

In June, a very special group of young people from the 6th grade class at Holy Cross School in Albany donated items including leashes, collars and blankets. These were put to great use both by both Peppertree Dog Rescue and Shaker Vet. Thank you for making such a wonderful effort on both our behalves.



## Garage sale

Garage sale professionals braved the heat to make their way to Albany for our Annual Fund-raising Garage Sale. The date – Saturday, June 25th. The location – Liz Ammian's home off Whitehall Road. We had some wonderful treasure available, and thanks to everybody's generosity, we raised over \$450 that day towards helping dogs find new homes. Thank you all, without your kindness, we wouldn't be able to carry on this great work.



## Did You Know?

Did you know that Peppertree Rescue is run totally by unpaid volunteers?



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Declan



Elmer

Declan magically appears. I must have not latched the gate and he pushed it open and decided to join me - so the jailbreak is on.

I race back to the gate and start looking for Sheltie heads. The only one there of course, is Elmer who in the time the gate has been open could not have gotten halfway down the driveway if he hailed a cab. The other two, Lenny and Tegan, however, are no where to be found. So I stuff Declan and Elmer back into the yard, close the gate and go racing down the driveway. I look right and Lenny is heading for the nearest pedestrian looking to be petted. I look left just in time to see Tegan's furry butt turning the corner onto Holmesdale - at least he is heading away from Western Ave. So I run over to Lenny and the man walking tells me he saw "the other one" heading the other way, but does not offer to hold Lenny or anything so I can get Tegan. Not wanting to waste time running Lenny all the way back down the driveway to the backyard, I scoop him up and race after Tegan. As I turn the corner onto Holmesdale, Tegan has about a 40 yard lead on me and he is trotting down the sidewalk like he is late for lunch in Delmar or something.

So, here I am, carrying one Sheltie while chasing after another one. I figured I could catch up to Tegan, but after about half a block (which is actually the length of about 3 normal city blocks), I realize I am not gaining much on Tegan, I am about to have my third coronary, and the "huge" protein boost from the two chocolate donuts I had for breakfast at the Dunkin Donuts at the clinic this morning (thanks a lot, Rich) is about expended. So I start to call Tegan's variety of names. I start with Tegan, go to Jock (his name when surrendered) and move onto Jacques, which is what Nancy (his previous foster parent) was calling him. All I have now accomplished is to alert him to my pursuit and he now turns back to look at me about every ten feet to make sure he is maintaining his 30 yard lead. I now move on to calling him a few Sheltie expletives, neither of which help at all.

## Ain't Rescue Fun!

**Kevin Wilcox is a seasoned Peppertree volunteer and foster parent. He is also very involved with Sheltie rescue. This is a taste of an afternoon in the life of a foster parent, it can be such fun.**

Ok, I have to share my afternoon with you all. I got home from the adoption clinic at about 3:30 (soaking wet from bathing with the puppies at Unleashed Pet Supplies) so I figured before getting out of the wet clothes, I'll pick up some dog poop in the backyard with my new pooper scooper I also bought at Unleashed, while, at the same time giving four of the Shelties (Declan, Elmer, Tegan and Lenny) some outside time with me. Then I remember the dead squirrel that Emily and I discovered in the garage Friday night, so I go to the garage to bag that to throw it out. Once I get the squirrel and am heading out of the garage,



**Lenny**



**Tegan**

As I approach the end of Holmesdale and am probably more than a third of a mile from the house, I come to the realization that he is headed south and not likely to stop until he reaches the toll booths at the Tappan Zee Bridge! Of course, carrying Lenny's extra 30 pounds plus my own extra 30 pounds is not helping and I am starting to think about dropping Lenny in a snow bank and hope he stays put while I get Tegan. I am looking around for someone to either hold Lenny or stop Tegan, but no one is around. Just as I am starting to panic that I really won't catch him, Tegan, who has severe pooping anxiety in front of anyone and has never gone on a leash for either me or Nancy, stops to take a poop in the middle of the sidewalk on Holmesdale.

So, I am able to catch up with him and re-gather my lungs, which are now on the sidewalk beside me. Just then, some old lady comes out of her house and gives me a dirty look because I have no bag to pick up Tegan's deposit. Fortunately, I was able to stave off the overwhelming desire to tell the old lady that Shelties are #1 using the middle finger on my right hand.

I am now probably half a mile from home, with two dogs and no leashes. So, I have to walk all the way home, stooped over holding onto their collars, wishing that I did Great Dane rescue so I could at least stand upright bringing runaways home. I can't tell you how many people must have driven by me thinking, "hey buddy, there is an easier way to walk your dogs – it's called a leash."

We finally made it back home and I immediately made a chiropractic appointment for my aching back and bought gym memberships for both Lenny and I to lose a few pounds. Declan the instigator, of course was jealous as if I had been out on a pleasant jog with the other dogs and wanted his turn. So I stuck his butt on the treadmill and hit the fast button – just kidding, I don't own a treadmill – I put him on the elliptor instead :-)

*Ain't rescue fun!*

**Kevin**

## 2005 PEPPERTREE ADOPTION CLINIC SCHEDULE:

clinic dates

**Saturday, July 16th**  
**Saturday, August 20th**  
**Saturday, September 17th**

Checker Hill Farm's Feed Store  
 53 Freeman's Bridge Rd., Scotia  
 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Saturday, August 6th**  
**Saturday, August 27th**  
**Saturday, October 1st**

Unleashed Pet Supplies  
 Main Ave., Wynantskill  
 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.



For locations of other Adoption Clinics:  
 Call our Voice-Mail 435-7425 or  
 consult our website (<http://www.peppertree.org>)

subscribe

Peppertree Post 1 year (4 issues) \$10.00

Peppertree Rescue Pins \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5.00 each

Peppertree T-Shirts (Original Teal Version)

(check one)  S  M  L  XL \$10.00 + \$3.00 shipping

Peppertree has a limited number of our original teal T-shirts left. To clear the stock we are discounting the prices for all T-shirts to \$10, including shipping. Order before the remaining stock disappears forever!

**Donation (Tax-deductible).**

Donation (Tax-deductible). Written receipts will automatically be provided for donations of \$50 or more. If you wish a written receipt for audit purposes for amounts less than \$50, please note. Any donations of \$10 or more will automatically be subscribed for 1 year to the Peppertree Post, unless noted that the subscription is not wanted.

If you wish to  foster,  adopt or  volunteer,  
 please check here and an Application will be mailed or e-mailed to you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. (with area code, please note if day or evening) ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Send form & check to: Peppertree Rescue, PO Box 2396, Albany, NY 12220

Applications can also be downloaded or copied from our website. Woof!!!!

# Rainbow Bridge

Remembering our pals  
who are no longer with us.



## My Tribute to Will

The day I fell in love with you..  
I found a piece of me.

The child within who needed love  
Came in the form of thee.

You'd seen the side of life not kind  
But worry not, there was more to find.  
A new beginning with love and care  
Hand to paw to guide you there.

Your time on Earth was short by far  
Your gift to life so rare.  
You taught me how to greet each day  
Without worry or a care.

Your goofy smile and big boy grin  
You burst my heart and woofed, "I win"

Three legs and illness stopped you none  
Your heart kept beating  
I love you... I won!!

We're at the bridge, my heart feels lost  
I hold your head... my heart so lost.  
Friends for life... you silently say  
Friends for life... together some day.

Thank you Will, for days of joy  
Smiles of love for my big goofy boy.  
Rest in peace for all is well...  
You're in my heart... you make it swell.

– Liz Amman



## Kiki

You came to me Thanksgiving weekend.  
I didn't know what to expect.

I never had a dog before.  
Well Kiki, my love, you are one decision  
I will never, ever regret.

Although our time together was brief ...  
A little less than two years.

You will always have a special place in my heart,  
In spite of my current tears.

Kiki, my doggie, you taught me so much.  
You taught me so much about life.

Each day with you was a blessing to behold.  
How lucky I was to have you in my life.

You woke each morning with your tail wagging,  
And a beautiful smile on your face.

Off to my bedside you would stroll,  
Shaking your collar, then gently licking my face.

"It's time for breakfast," you would say.  
"You know it's the most important meal of the day".

Every day on my lunch hour, home I would drive  
Just to have you walk by my side.

Rain or snow... sunny days too,  
They were all the same to you.

The past it's forgotten. The future, what's that?  
The present is all that we have got!

Each night when I came through the door,  
You would flip and flop and roll on the floor.

What fun we would have just playing dog games.  
You hopped on my back and broke all my chains.

Your appetite was strong from beginning to end.  
Was it me or food... Who was your best friend?

You have touched the lives of many people.  
We all know how special you are.

Mere words can not describe your gifts,  
Or the place you hold within our hearts.

I love you my Kiki girl. I miss you.  
Your forever mommy...

– Lisa Taber



## Jacob

January 22, 1995 – March 20, 2005

Pepper's 1st Lieutenant and  
Kelly's Faithful Knight

## The Happy Dog's Bedtime Prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep,  
The queen-size bed is soft and deep.  
I sleep right in the center groove  
My human being can hardly move!

I've trapped her legs,  
she's tucked in tight,  
And here is where I pass the night.  
No one disturbs me or dares intrude  
Till morning comes and I want food!

I sneak up slowly and it begins  
My nibbles on my human's chin.  
She wakes up slowly and smiles  
and shouts,  
"You darling beast! Just cut it out!"  
But morning's here  
and it's time to play  
I always seem to get my way.

So thank you, Lord, for giving me  
This human person that I see  
The one who hugs and holds me tight  
and shares her bed with me at night!





**Angus** Our little runaway. This sweet boy kept us on our toes when he decided to take off for a while from his original adoptive family. Literally every Peppertree volunteer took part in the week long search for him. Once found, Angus then met Valerie Longfellow and his new family. He is now doing wonderfully with them and no more attempts to wander, we understand.



**Maddie** Through our volunteers, we have developed great partnerships with a number of area vets. One such partnership is Hernas Vet in Schenectady, where Carol McNally works with Dr. Hernas who has graciously given Peppertree the opportunity to work with, and successfully place, a number of pitbull and pitbull mixes such as Maddie. Maddie was a beautiful, young and lively pit/lab mix and at one adoption clinic it was her time. She was spotted by a family and they wouldn't leave without her.



**Tracy** Again, this totally sweet girl shows what wonderful dogs come into the program from way up the Northway. Cheri Reynolds and Sandra Lester assess and foster dogs in that area and Tracy was a very special girl that came to Cheri for fostering. Tracy is diabetic, but at an adoption clinic, earlier this year, Jason DeRocco and his family fell for her and she now loves being with her- new family.



**Lena** Well, if you want bags of personality, then Lena is the dog you must meet. Smart, lively and quite vocal – Lena was a perfect candidate for agility training – but – on a leash, totally unaccepting of other dogs. One of our newer volunteers, Sharon, spent weeks working with Lena to help her work with this problem. We honestly thought we'd never place her, and then... along came Rick and Holly and they overlooked every other dog at the adoption clinic, in favor of Lena. Working with a great trainer, Joni, Lena is turning out to be a wonderful dog and her family loves her.



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[www.peppertree.org](http://www.peppertree.org)

*A Rescue For Dogs Of Good Temperament*