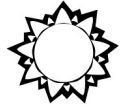




ICARE

News!



Inyo County Animal Resources & Education

Dedicated to the welfare of the Eastern Sierra's companion animals

Rudy, the Rescue Dog Who Started It All! *by Lisa Schade*

One day, ten years ago, Ted and I visited the Inyo County Animal Shelter and were amazed to see kennel after kennel full of Australian Shepherds. We learned the dogs had been part of an animal abuse/neglect case in Mono County and over 100 animals had been confiscated, including Australian Shepherds, Cocker Spaniels, Malteses, Shih Tzus, rabbits and Siamese cats. Because of the overwhelming number of animals seized, Inyo County assisted Mono County and made room for many of the dogs at the Big Pine Animal Shelter.

Ted and I offered to help the displaced Australian Shepherds find new homes by contacting the Aussie Rescue Placement and Helpline (ARPH). We met with their representatives at the Shelter to evaluate the temperament of the Aussies for adoptability and were able to find homes for many of them.

Of course, we adopted one of the young Aussies for ourselves and named him Rudy, our first rescue dog. What a dear boy he was from the get-go! Especially in view of the fact that he had never known the loving touch of a human during his first six months of life. Basic needs, like food and water, hadn't been consistently met. The first two weeks after we brought Rudy home, he was delighted to have access to as much drinking water as his heart desired. He would actually fall asleep with his chin resting on the water bowl for fear it wouldn't be there when he awoke. He was so thin, we were able to increase his weight by 15 pounds the first month.

During the initial rescue visits to the Animal Shelter in Big Pine, Ted and I realized the Shelter needed improvements. The Animal Shelter is a 70-year old block cement dairy barn that was never designed for housing cats and dogs. The Shelter had outdoor kennels to place the dogs while their indoor kennels were being cleaned, but the

outdoor kennels were uncovered and nearly impossible to use during the heat of the summer. Ted and I decided we could at least provide the dogs with some shade. We purchased redwood lattice panels and worked with Tim Proffitt and Nancy Smith of Inyo County Animal Services to install them over the kennels to create a protective shade cover.

As a direct result of the lattice project,



a small group of animal lovers met with Inyo County Animal Services in November 1996 to discuss ways we could raise money to make more improvements to the Animal Shelter. We formed the non-profit organization ICARE and held our first fundraising dinner in April 1997. No group had ever held an animal welfare fundraiser in Inyo County before, so we didn't know if we would succeed or not. We were blown away when over 700 people attended the dinner and we raised over \$20,000 to improve living conditions for the dogs and cats at the Animal Shelter!

With the money raised, a volunteer labor force got busy with renovations to

the Animal Shelter. Additional outdoor kennels were installed with a solid roof, the interior was completely gutted, epoxy coating was applied to the concrete floors and new indoor kennels were installed, as well as all new stainless steel cat kennels.

Since that first fundraising dinner, ICARE has held a dinner each April with proceeds now going to our Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program. This fund subsidizes the cost of spay/neuter surgeries for pet owners in need. So far, ICARE has helped nearly 5,000 cats and dogs get spayed or neutered. The effectiveness of this program can be measured by the Animal Shelter's statistics. Since beginning our spay/neuter outreach in 1998, the number of cats and dogs euthanized annually at the Animal Shelter has decreased 88%.

It's amazing to think this all came about because some neglected Australian Shepherds ended up at the Inyo County Animal Shelter. What started out as a horrible situation turned into a victory for companion animals of the Eastern Sierra and continues to save countless precious lives each year.

Rudy enriched our lives for over ten years. I am heartbroken to report that we lost our beloved boy unexpectedly to cancer on June 30. We miss our sweet dog who put up with all sorts of foster dogs and puppies coming into our home over the years. He seemed to understand that these homeless pets needed our help just as he once did. His legacy lives on in the thousands of animals that have been helped and continue to be helped by ICARE through your support. Good boy, Rudy, good boy! 🐾

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NEWSLETTER

Design & photos
 by: Lisa & Ted Schade

Message from the President, Ted Schade:

Dogs on Chains Can Only Watch as Life Goes By

Mutts comic strip creator, Patrick McDonnell, often gives voice to his characters to tell animal welfare messages. Above, the character known as Guard Dog expresses the loneliness and futility of life on a chain. You probably couldn't invent a crueler punishment for a dog than to be chained day after day only seeing someone at feeding time. Dogs are social creatures that need to be with their human family.

Dogs are pack animals. The ideal solution is to bring him inside to be a part of the pack—your family. It's a myth that dogs get used to living outside. Unless you are outside to share time with them, the backyard quickly becomes "solitary confinement." Barking is a cry for attention. If a chained dog stops barking, it's not because he is content, but rather that his spirit is broken and he has given up any hope of ever being rescued.

A dog on the end of a chain is at the mercy of every scary thing that comes into his territory. Consequently, chained dogs must constantly "watch their back," which can cause them to become aggressive. Imagine never being able to

completely relax and always being on the defensive—truly a living hell.

A chained dog is no threat to an intruder. An indoor dog is actually a much better watchdog. An intruder will think twice when they hear your dog barking from *inside*

the house.

All dogs need mental stimulation to ward off boredom. They need to run, sniff and explore. All dogs need to go for walks every single day. It's good for you, too! Toys are also important for keeping your dog happy. Tennis balls are cheap and great for a game of fetch. Remember, **a tired dog is a good dog**. Dogs also need to chew, so give them dog-safe chewies to gnaw on.

Dogs chained because of behavior problems, will only become worse with isolation and confinement. Your dog has no idea what you expect of him—a dog obedience class will teach him what he needs to know to fit into your pack. ICARE has many valuable tools, including training videos, to help transform a formerly miserable outdoor dog into a happy, well-behaved family member. To learn more, please visit: www.DogsDeserveBetter.com 🐾

Thank you for your Donations: [\$25 or more listed]

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Memorial donations:

♥ Myrle & Ed Baker for our cat Sugar Plum ♥ Nancy Bay for Chris

Harrington and Rudy Schade ♥ Carol & William Benefiel for Roxanne Tallman's Sierra ♥ Lesley Booker for Oliver ♥ Herb & Peg Brons for Misty ♥ Gary & Lupe Conner for Rudy Schade ♥ Melinda Creel for Amour ♥ Margarita Cuellar for Dizzy ♥ Alex Fabbro for Dave Thompson ♥ Celeste Flynn for Boris Molina ♥ Bonni Forbes for Missy Eason and my cat, Alex ♥ Cathy George for Mark ♥ Roberta Harlan for Beth Drazil ♥ Wayne & Gail Hayden for Bae ♥ Betty Heimforth for Delilah Schade ♥ Joshua Vendig & Caitlin Higginbotham & for Fred ♥ Bill Hines for Pete Cundiff ♥ Lisa & Julian Jimenez for Spider ♥ Irene Lamos for Shelly, Big, Roosky, Sketch & Shooter "forever in my heart" ♥ Jan & Rich Larson for our darling dog, Spooner ♥ Nita Lindsey for Delilah Schade ♥ Laura Loyd for Libby ♥ Joanie Lubeck for Bubba Cat ♥ Kathy McFedries for Inky ♥ Bill & Vivian Mitchel for Buster Wilts ♥ Marvin & Rosalie Nelligan for Scamps ♥ Nancy Perry for Cash Lewis ♥ Don & Kitty Peterson for Pete Cundiff ♥ Cathy Powell for Barbara Toth ♥ Bill Rich for Jean & Scooby ♥ Ralph & Dorothy Rickords for Maggie ♥ Mary Rohan and Cliff & Lucille Crickette for George & Marie Rohan ♥ Ted & Lisa Schade for Rudy ♥ Robert Schaubmayer for Petra ♥ Jeanette & Joanne Schneider for Cubby & Rusty ♥ Tyson & Stacy Sparrow for Dr. John Anderson ♥ Nick & Jean Sprague for Sharkie ♥ Judi Stern for Abby Hilmo, Queenie Dostie & D.C. Russi ♥ Fred Thompson for Rags ♥ Clark Trowell for Burney ♥ Sandra Whitehouse for Gretchen Von Bubble Up ♥ Leslie Whitmore for Nancy Whitmore ♥ Wayne & Millie Winch for our dog, Zeus ♥ Sandy & Bob Winzenread for Chief ♥

Honorarium donations:

♥ Gretel Enck for Uncle Scott Hanye ♥ James & Nancy Kennedy for Clementine ♥ Paul & Barbara Laughon for Tucker, Buckley, Dylan & Cowboy ♥ Kim Lehigh for Lesley Booker ♥ Marty Leithold for Molly, the joy of my life! ♥ Jim & Kris Nelson for our cat, Ginger ♥ Tasmin, Larry & Kyra Chu for

The "House Pets" Catch Ghost Town Fever



Cat & Mike House with Cerro, Ripley and Beaudry

Serious "exploraholic" is how Cat (Cathleen) House describes herself. She has been exploring ghost towns for the last 15 years, most of those years with her female Lab/Malamute mix dog, Ripley. She married Mike in 2000 (with Ripley as their flower-dog!) and Mike's been part of their ghost town adventures for over 12 years. They also enjoy hiking, backpacking, camping, 4-wheeling, snowboarding and photography.

In October 2001, Cat and Mike adopted

an 11-week old jet black kitten. They named her Cerro after the Cerro Gordo ghost town. Cat swears they were not looking for a kitty, but she was shopping at ICARE's off-site adoption venue when a kitten reached out her paw and meowed in the cutest way. Cat beat a hasty retreat because she didn't even want to *look* at a kitty! But, she couldn't stop thinking about that darned kitten. So, two days later Cat asked Mike to go with her to "just look" at the kitten. Cat says, "He and I both knew that meant we would be bringing her home. Now we call her our 'lap fungus' because she is ALWAYS on our laps!"



Cerro as a kitten

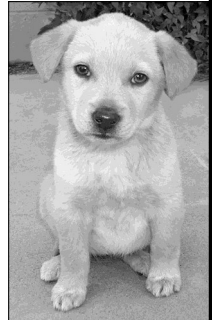
Resident dog, Ripley, isn't fond of cats, preferring instead to chase them. So when Cerro arrived, she wasn't too happy. Cerro followed Ripley around and tried to lay next to her, but Ripley always got up and walked away. It took about two months, but Cerro eventually won Ripley's heart and the two became pals.

In the Spring of 2002 Cat and Mike moved to a home with a large fenced yard and were ready to rescue a homeless dog. Since Cat had brought Ripley and Cerro into the family, it was Mike's turn

to choose the next family member. Once again, they visited ICARE's off-site adoption venue and met a 10-week old female Yellow Lab mix puppy they named Beaudry after Victor Beaudry of Cerro Gordo mining history fame. Cat explains, "She did that little 'butt tuck' run and had an impish look in her eye—Mike was immediately sold on her!" In fact, Beaudry and Mike have become such good friends that Cat feels Beaudry is now Mike's dog.

Beaudry adored Ripley from day one and followed her everywhere, but it took Ripley awhile to warm up to the pup. They're good buddies now. Cat and Mike say that Beau is a real comedian and cracks them up just about every day.

Cerro, the cat, stalked Beaudry, the puppy, for the first week or so watching her every move. Before too long they were actually playing. Now all three pets get along just dandy and have added much joy to Cat and Mike's lives. 🐾



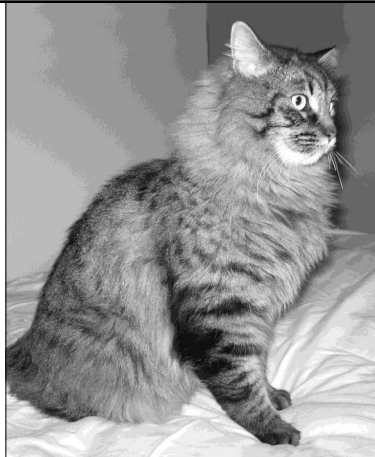
Beaudry as a puppy

The Cat Who Refused to Move

New Year's Eve and the ICARE phone was ringing. It was a distraught pet owner. She and her husband had packed up the moving van and were moving to another city hundreds of miles away. But, just as they were ready to leave, they couldn't find their Maine Coon cat. Could ICARE help?

I offered to set a cat trap at their vacant house and to let them know the minute their cat was caught. The caller tearfully thanked me and agreed to drive right back to Bishop for their cat once he was caught.

I set the trap and checked it every day. But, day after day, there was no sign of the cat who refused to relocate with his family. Finally, two weeks later, success! I had one very frightened and hungry cat in a trap. I called the family with the good



news, but they told me they were no longer interested in a reunion. So much for commitment!

So, I took the cat home and settled him into the guest room to recuperate from his two weeks on the streets. In the meantime, I began searching for the perfect home for the now homeless cat.

Enter Linda Anderson of Bishop who had been looking for a cat to share her home with. Introductions were made and it was a perfect match. Linda named him Baxter and is thrilled to have this handsome fellow to spoil. She's glad he refused to relocate. Now Baxter has a forever home with Linda! 🐾 *Lisa Schade*

Dogwalkers Rock!

Have you ever wished you could help Shelter animals, but didn't know how? Well, volunteering as a dogwalker at the Inyo County Animal Shelter in Big Pine is a great way to help homeless dogs become more adoptable by teaching them basic obedience and leash manners. The dogs get exercise and fresh air, which calms them down and relieves their boredom.

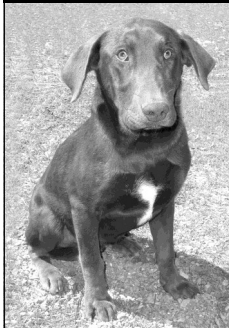
Nancy Hardy is a dogwalker with a soft spot for the misunderstood Pit Bull breed—she even adopted one herself (Rosie). Of course, she knows all Shelter dogs deserve a second chance and how rewarding it is to help them become more adoptable. You can help, too! 🐾



Nancy Hardy and Feather

ICARE's Stitch Fund

helps ill or injured Shelter animals by providing them with the veterinary care



Budda, a stray Chocolate Lab puppy, arrived at the Inyo County Animal Shelter in bad shape. He had a fractured pelvis and crushed hip. Thanks to your Stitch Fund donations, this sweet pup had the surgery he needed and is no longer disabled. He lives in Montreal with his new family, Ben and Claudia Beland, who were visiting the Eastern Sierra when they adopted the dog of their dreams in Big Pine. They tell us that Budda is doing magnifique! ☺

**Yes, I want to help Shelter animals
with my donation to the Stitch Fund!**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Please make check payable to ICARE & send to:

ICARE ♦ P.O. BOX 76 ♦ BISHOP, CA 93515

Don't Get Stuck ...

**with a litter of unplanned
puppies or kittens!**



**Do you need help getting your dogs
and cats spayed or neutered?**

ICARE's Spay/Neuter Fund can help!

**Do it for your pets. They will live
longer, healthier and happier lives!**

Call ICARE today at 872-3802

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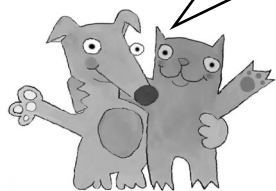
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The first half of 2006 is looking great for Inyo County Shelter animals. January through June 126 pets (64 dogs & 62 cats) were adopted. Yippee!!!!



Adopt a Pal and Save a Life!
Visit the Inyo County Shelter
on County Road in Big Pine
938-2715

Want to recycle and educate?