



Newsletter

Spring 2025

Dear Friends of NCSR,

Spring is here already and it's time to give you an update on our year-to-date intake of rescued Shelties. So far this year we have received eight Shelties with an average age of six years. All of them came from surrendering owners, due to deaths in the family. Our Special Needs program currently has five dogs: Hershey, Snickers, Sequin, Gabby, and Teddy. We are grateful for the foster parents who give them the best lives possible while dealing with a multitude of medical and behavioral issues: Rhonda (Hershey & Snickers), Carole (Sequin), Lynn (Gabby) and Nancy (Teddy). These dogs are all seniors, with the exception of Teddy, who has a congenital and life-threatening heart illness.

We've been successful in reserving Performance Dogs in Action in Pleasant Grove for our annual picnic this year on May 17. Please see the message below and the flyer on our website. This year Lynn and Syema have offered to chair the raffle, along with help from Tex, Linda, and Pam. Once again, Nola Jones will be conducting herding instinct tests. This day is a very rewarding one for all of us at NorCal Sheltie Rescue, visiting with our friends, fosters, adopters, and Shelties and treasuring the good work of our rescue team.

This newsletter contains information about our major fundraising effort (see page 2), as well as an article about heatstroke in dogs, an update on DCM (dilated cardiomyopathy), keeping dogs safe, and a tribute to several of our special volunteers. The most entertaining part of the newsletter is always the gorgeous Shelties in all their colors, sizes, antics, and poses. We love receiving updates and photos of your Shelties, so please keep them coming.

Our succession planning continues, with Chantal, Andy, and Lynn attending Board meetings and taking on some of the responsibilities of our nonprofit organization. In addition, we commend all of you who pick up, transfer, foster, adopt, donate, and offer to help with whatever tasks need to be done to help a homeless Sheltie. Thank you! We hope to see you on May 17!

Warmest regards,

Gale Ann

NorCal Sheltie Rescue, Inc.
501(C)(3) not-for-profit dog breed rescue
TIN: 20-4107630
www.norcalsheltierescue.org



NorCal Sheltie Rescue, Inc. Board of Directors

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Chantal Jenkins, Secretary
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Annual Sheltie Celebration

May 17, 2025
10 am – 2 pm
Performance Dogs in Action
Pleasant Grove, CA

Fundraising Campaign

We are pleased to announce that our fall fundraising campaign, ending in December of 2024, has resulted in \$21,100! Thank you very much for your support. The second phase of our fundraising has been completed this spring, with enrollment in Sacramento's Big Day of Giving on May 1, a nonprofit grant application just recently submitted, and donation requests sent to several dog-loving celebrities. We took in fewer Shelties last year than the previous year and our Special Needs dogs are down to only five dogs. 2024 was a better year financially and we hope that continues for 2025.

Volunteers Going the Extra Mile

NorCal Sheltie Rescue is a nonprofit organization run entirely by volunteers. We are fortunate to have a large group of supporters we can count upon when a Sheltie needs a new home. The work is shared by many and the rewards are numerous. We'd like to take a moment to acknowledge, and thank, a few of our members who've been instrumental in our recent rescue efforts.

Kathy & David: These two are what we affectionately call our "mission impossible agents." No matter the request, they respond immediately, and they have yet to refuse a task. They have picked up, transported, fostered, and handled adoptions, all with a smile. Congratulations on their own recent adoption of Lindsey (see page 4)!

Liliane & Kathie: They said yes immediately to fostering two very needy Shelties. The dogs were a challenge both medically and behaviorally and they got the care they desperately needed in this loving and capable home.

Mark: This gentleman has fostered and adopted several dogs from us. He's currently fostering a Sheltie that has unexpectedly required a long period of care. We thank him for encouraging us to join the Big Day of Giving and taking the lead on our enrollment. We are already seeing donations coming in.

Pam: Our transport volunteer drives long distances to facilitate a pickup or transfer. In addition, she helps with our annual picnic raffle. **Note: she would like to have her senior Sheltie, Zoey, stay with one of our supporters for a week this summer while she attends a family event. If anyone is available and willing to help, please respond to tgarycool@gmail.com and I'll connect you.**

Andy & Chris: This couple has taken on the task of writing a nonprofit grant proposal which could result in the receipt of a substantial addition to our veterinary fund. We greatly appreciate the time spent in gathering information, reviewing and editing the project, and submitting the final document on time.

Marty & Gail: These previous fosters and adopters never hesitated when Terry called to ask if they'd be willing to foster or adopt a senior Sheltie whose owner died. Not only did they agree, on the spot, but they decided to adopt her right away. Congratulations on their adoption of Siobhan (see page 4). Thanks, too, to **Rosalind** for picking up Siobhan and transporting her to her new home!

Pat M: She reached out to us about an out-of-state multiple dog intake, then facilitated the transfer and personally drove "the extra mile" to ensure that the dogs made the journey safely.

Lynn & Syema: Coming from quite a distance, they offered to organize the annual raffle at our picnic this year on May 17. It's a big job (Kathie & Liliane did it beautifully for over 10 years) and they're ready and able! **Tex & Linda & Pam** will be there to help.



Thank You!



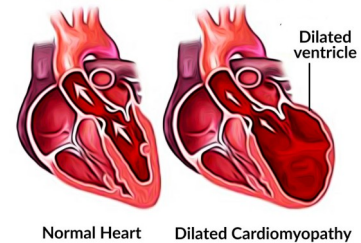
Update on DCM (Dilated Cardiomyopathy) + Grain-Free Foods

In July 2018, the FDA warned about a potential link between DCM (Dilated Cardiomyopathy) and the consumption of grain-free pet foods—or, more specifically, pet foods containing peas, lentils, other legumes, or potatoes as their main ingredients. Since then, many studies have been conducted, with no definitive conclusions or specific advice. The FDA recently announced it would no longer publish DCM updates unless new information comes to light. In the fall of 2023 we included an article on this topic in our newsletter, recommending that we choose foods that include taurine as an ingredient.

Recently one of our supporters wrote to tell us that her senior Sheltie has been diagnosed with DCM. He's asymptomatic for now but on medications for treatment. Although Shetland Sheepdogs are not listed among the most common breeds to develop this issue, it is wise that you check with your veterinarian if you have concerns about feeding a grain-free diet or if your Sheltie exhibits any of these symptoms:

Early signs of DCM may include:

- Lethargy, decreased energy
- Persistent cough
- Difficulty breathing, rapid or excessive breathing, shortness of breath
- Episodes of collapse
- Anorexia (chronic loss of appetite)



Research recommends varying a dog's diet over time, not limiting food to one particular brand. Fortunately, Shelties are usually eager eaters and responsive to many different flavors. Foods with fish oil are good for their coats. Adding a spoonful of canned food to kibble allows for lots of variety, too. Have fun with all the possibilities and just remember to focus on quality in whatever choices you make for your dog. Don't forget the taurine!

Keeping Dogs Safe

This can be applied to any dog of any breed at any age. Too many adult dogs are lost within the first 48 hours of leaving their previous homes. Some will say accidents happen; yes, they do, and they WILL happen if you leave room for them to happen. You should understand that as soon as these dogs leave the care of their previous owner they will become scared. This doesn't mean they haven't been raised right. This means that you are not their person and this new place is not their home. If you give them the opportunity to escape they will absolutely take it and they will NOT come to anyone they do not know. Dogs can slip out of flat collars and harnesses, and they can bite you out of fear to escape. The safest place for them is in a crate inside your vehicle. If they might need a potty break, it should only happen inside a securely fenced area. If they have an accident in their crate during transport, it's a lot easier to clean up rather than trying to catch a scared dog on the run. Don't take the dog out of the crate during transport unless absolutely necessary. Don't try to walk the dog outside of a location that's not securely fenced; instead, just move them to and from in the crate. Don't let the dog off-lead at your home if you do not have a fenced yard. Don't let the dog roam free in the home if the front door (or any door) is not protected by a barrier of some kind. This is a big concern with homes that have children running in and out).

Kathy Ryan

March 2023



Note: NorCal Sheltie Rescue has added new language to our foster and adoption contracts to further protect the dogs in our program by preventing them from bolting outside. We now require that a barrier of some kind be placed in front of any door in the home leading to an unfenced area. This could be a latched screen door, a baby gate, an exercise pen, or a piece of plywood.

Adopted



Kelsea
Adopted by Pattie



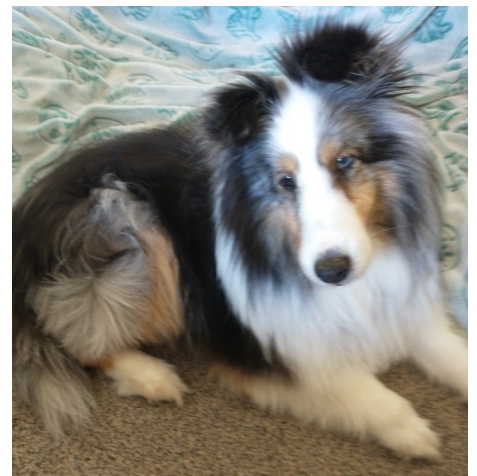
Gray Dawn
Adopted by Joanne



Lindsey
Adopted by Kathy & David



Siobhan
Adopted by Marty & Gail



Brad
Adopted by Jeanne



Sammie
Adopted by Bill



Lucy
Adopted by Paul & Susan

HEAT STROKE

Know the Signs



How to keep your dog cool on hot days

- Restrict exercise
- Never leave in car, hot room or sun trap
- Ensure drinking water and a cool, shaded spot is always available
- Walk early in the morning or later in the evening
- Spray with cool water

Steps to take if you're worried your dog has heat stroke

- Move somewhere cool
- Offer small amounts of tepid water
- Using wet towels, douse with cool (but never, ever cold) water
- Place in the breeze of a fan
- Contact your vet, or after hours, your nearest Vets Now pet emergency clinic immediately.

By the Numbers

K



50%

Average survival rate of dogs diagnosed with heat stroke



3°

This small increase in a dog's body temperature is all it takes for heat stroke to set in

60

Amount of days it can take for dogs to acclimate to temperature changes



101°

Dog's normal body temperature



15

Minutes it can take for a dog to die of heat stroke



109°

At this body temperature, a dog's organs begin to fail

6°

Average temperature difference between white cars (cooler) and black cars after an hour in the sun



CAR TEMPERATURE DOG SAFETY CHART

Running into the store for "just a minute" can be fatal for a dog left in the car!

IF IT'S THIS HOT OUTSIDE:	IT ONLY TAKES THIS LONG:	TO REACH THIS INSIDE:
75°	10 Min.	100°
75°	30 Min.	120°
85°	5 Min.	90°
85°	7-8 Min.	100°
100°	15 Min.	140°

DON'T LEAVE YOUR DOG IN THE CAR THIS SUMMER!



Keep your dog safe this summer



5 REASONS NOT TO shave your double coated dog

- IT WILL NOT KEEP THEM COOLER IN THE SUMMER
- IT WILL PERMANENTLY DAMAGE THEIR COAT
- INCREASES THE RISK OF SUNBURN & SKIN CANCER
- IT WILL NOT DECREASE THEIR SHEDDING
- IT WILL NOT HELP WITH YOUR ALLERGIES

Rainbow Bridge

A Dog's Last Will & Testament

Before humans die, they write their last will and testament, give their home and all they have to those they leave behind. If, with my paws, I could do the same, this is what I'd ask...

To a poor and lonely stray I'd give my happy home; my bowl and cozy bed, soft pillow and all my toys; the lap, which I loved so much; the hand that stroked my fur; and the sweet voice that spoke my name.

I'd will to the sad, scared shelter dog the place I had in my human's loving heart, of which there seemed no bounds.

So, when I die, please do not say, "I will never have a pet again, for the loss and pain is more than I can stand."

Instead, go find an unloved dog, one whose life has held no joy or hope, and give my place to him.

This is the only thing I can give...

The love I left behind.

Author Unknown



Kiley
Loved by Nancy



Penny
Loved by Jeanne



Parfait
Loved by Cherie & Steve



Cody
Loved by Luanne

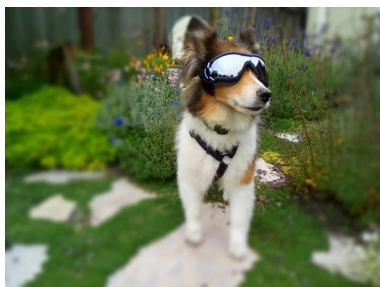


Fallon
Loved by Marty & Gail

Photo Gallery



Snickers in foster care



Snickers sports his goggles



Gray Dawn, Joanne, Rainier



The Bakersfield Five on Easter Sunday



The Orangevale Three
on a rainy day



Ditto's 14th birthday



Brad adapts to his new home



Shadow & Serena
The Giant and the Dwarf



MacDubh at rest



Our Veterinarians

Below is a list of veterinarians and clinics around Northern California that our rescue team and foster homes have used to care for our Shelties. All are knowledgeable about the Sheltie breed and a few give NCSR discounted services to Shelties in our foster program. We are grateful for their many contributions to our mission and to each and every Sheltie in their care.

Acorn Veterinary Clinic, Davis
Animal Medical Center, Auburn
Auburn Animal Hospital, Bakersfield
Bayside Animal Hospital, Granite Bay
Blue Ravine Animal Hospital, Folsom
Brighton Greens Veterinary Hospital, Grass Valley
Brink Veterinary Clinic, Shingletown
Carson Valley Veterinary Hospital, Gardnerville, NV

Franklin Ranch Pet Hospital, Elk Grove
Marina Pet Hospital, Marina
McKinleyville Animal Care Center, McKinleyville
Modern Animal, Berkeley
Muir Oaks Veterinary Hospital, Martinez
VCA Bradshaw Veterinary Clinic, Elk Grove
Yolo Veterinary Clinic, Woodland

NorCal Sheltie Rescue, Inc.
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first class mail

address correction and
forwarding requested