



Pets In Need

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

A No-Kill Animal Shelter for
Homeless Cats and Dogs

Volume 15 • Fall 2008

Home Sweet Home

On a cool November afternoon last year I received a call from Animal Control of Jefferson, South Carolina. The man on the other end of the phone, Jeff, said they had found one of our dogs. He went on to tell me that he located us by scanning the dog for a microchip. It appeared that the dog had been loose for some time. Reports of a dog running at large had been called in to animal control and the female German Shepard mix was running in the woods when they finally caught her. She was very thin and "a real mess" as animal control put it.

Without hesitation I immediately began thinking about how I was going to get her back home. I thanked Jeff for making the extra effort to call us and told him we would do whatever it takes to get her home. We had some time to figure it out as she had to be quarantined for ten days, a standard procedure for animal control to ensure that the owner has adequate time to recover their lost pet.

I began calling Board members and my close friends to tell them what was going on, that we had to get a dog back from South Carolina and I needed to figure out a way to do that. The only option I could think of at the time was to fly the dog home. I called Renee, a Board member, and although she had never done this before she offered to research this option. She proceeded to call several airlines to find out what was involved and found that it would cost \$300 to fly the dog home. This was merely the cost of the flight, we would be responsible for getting the dog to the airport with the necessary paperwork and approved transportation crate. Two of our Board members, Kathy and Renee, offered to pay for the transportation costs. One issue solved, but many more to be resolved.

Since we did not know if the dog had been properly vaccinated, that was the first step. But administering the rabies shot meant

waiting a minimum of ten days before the dog was capable of flying. This would entail boarding the dog for the required time period. Fortunately, Gary Willoughby of the Aiken SPCA offered to keep her until she was ready for the flight.

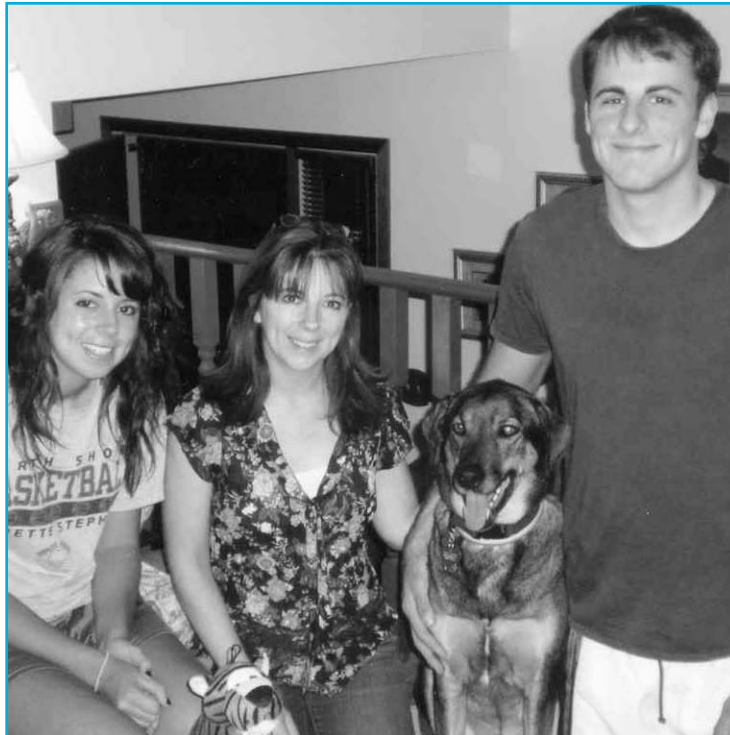
We still had the problem of transporting the dog to the airport, which was over 50 miles away from animal control. How would we go about finding a volunteer to assist us in South Carolina? We were also concerned that the dog might not handle the stress of a flight very well, given her physical condition and the fact that it was now late Fall and temperatures were quite cool.

As we struggled to make these arrangements, I recalled how other dogs made their way back home through volunteer drivers that formed a link from one location to another. Depending on the distance, dozens of volunteers offer to transport pets from one city to another forming a link from start to finish. I

called one of our volunteers, Barb, and told her the story and asked her if she thought we would be able to "link" the German Shepard mix back to Ringwood. She said, "Well, I've never done anything like this before, but I'll see what I can do."

Barb began searching the Internet and found someone who could help transport the dog by locating people to link it all together. It took many weeks to get the volunteers needed to put a route in place. During the many weeks of planning I began to worry that time was getting away from us, it had been nearly 8 weeks now and I was concerned that the dog would be put down because they could no longer keep her.

(continued on page 3)



Illinois Daisy with her new family.

Pets In Need Midwest
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Pets In Need

About us . . .

Pets In Need Midwest is a nonprofit no-kill animal shelter. We are recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c-3) charitable organization, which allows donations to be tax deductible.

Incorporated in October of 1991, our mission continues to be "To Champion the Humane Treatment of Domesticated Animals."

We seek to aid people in the community by raising awareness on the importance of spaying or neutering of pets, educating the public on animal safety for children, facilitating the adoption of pets by senior citizens, and by expressing responsibility and humane treatment of animals.

We strive to attain a 100% no-kill environment in McHenry County as well as the State of Illinois.

Poison Alert!

According to a veterinarian in Danville, Ohio, raisins and grapes can cause renal failure in dogs. Dr. L. Morris, DVM, witnessed this firsthand after a 5 year old Lab-mix ate half a canister of raisins. Unfortunately the dog could not be saved. Please be aware that as few as 7 or 8 raisins or grapes can be toxic to your pet. Also, onions, chocolate, cocoa and macadamia nuts can be fatal as well.

Memorials/Honors

Honor and Memory of:

Clarence K.Langille	James & Ingeborg Lentz
Sonja Treptau	Elizabeth Cannell
Catherine Ekstrom	Pat & Rudy and all your furry friends at PIN
Narcy Coy	Pat & Rudy and all your furry friends at PIN
"Smokey"	The Byte Family
"Boomer"	Vern Weidner & Company (Vern & Janice)
"Tica"	Robert & Kathryn Hert
"Muffin"	Mary Hammond

The troops serving to preserve Peace and Harmony for all humanity. Support our troops and their families. Pray for Peace.

In Honor/Happy Birthday:

Happy Birthday Rick Robert & Kathryn Hert

Special Thanks:

FCL Graphics	Vision Mailing Services
Riverside Grooming	Lucky-E Kennels



Pat and Rudy Klimo
Founders of Pets In Need Midwest

Meet Our Board

Executive Board

Pat Klimo - President/Founder
Rudy Klimo - Treasurer/Secretary/Co-founder
Katy Brookes - Executive Director
Kathy Hert - Vice-President
Renee Mahovsky - Creative Director

Advisory Board

Larry Lichtenstein - Legal Advisor
Nancy Lichtenstein - Real Estate
Alice Johnson - Animal Training/Instruction
Bill Caprio - Animal Welfare Ambassador
Bob Rothlisberger - Communications
Mary Telfer-Holden - Community Ambassador
Barb Blaski - Volunteer
Mary Forni - Volunteer
Linda Cuvala - Volunteer
Debbie Smith - Volunteer
Maryann Moreano - Volunteer
Tiffany Lee Stokes - Volunteer
Ann Carbonara - Volunteer
Dr. Rudowski - Veterinary Care
Dr. Shakir - Veterinary Care
Tom Reese - Electric Fencing/Volunteer



Learn about Dewey
on Petfinder.com

Pets In Need Stories

Home Sweet Home (cont.)

But through continuous, open communication with the Aiken SPCA they recognized our efforts and understood that we were sincere in our efforts to get this dog safely back to us and they generously gave us the time we needed.

We were so close to having everything arranged; Barb assured me that the links were almost complete with only two more 50 mile links to make. And one of the links missing was the very first one in Jefferson, South Carolina. But the kindness of strangers is a wondrous thing and Gary of the Aiken SPCA offered to provide the first link and drive our dog to the first stop.

Things moved quickly then and the dog we began calling Illinois was soon on her way home, one 50 mile segment at a time. Transferring from one vehicle to the next, from one volunteer to another. Somewhere along this trek she picked up the name Daisy so we named her Illinois Daisy.

Our volunteer Barb made the final transition from Libertyville back home to Ringwood. That Saturday evening after meeting the other driver she thanked her and immediately drove straight to my house. There she was, our Illinois Daisy, home at last. (There were many devoted people who helped us to get Illinois Daisy home and we have included the transportation route below to illustrate just exactly what was involved.)

Throughout this saga I continually worried for this animal's life. It is extremely rare for a facility to hold onto a dog for over two months when procedures dictate termination after a set period of time has passed. But the wonderful people of South Carolina knew we were doing everything in our power to get her home.

Now it was time to get our Illinois Daisy to the vet and ensure that she was healthy and get her up-to-date on her shots. Our next step would be to find her a new forever home. As many of you know, I spend my weekends at various PETSMART stores. On this particular Saturday I was in the Crystal Lake store when a young woman and her daughter came in, saw Illinois Daisy, and immediately asked to take a look at her. Shortly thereafter they said, "we want her." I hadn't even told them her story and the ordeal she had just been through. But when they heard her tale they wanted her all the more.

Lucy and her daughter, Jennifer adopted Illinois Daisy that day. On a follow up call they told me she walked right into their house and made herself at home, as if she had been there her whole life. She has become a valued member of the family and they couldn't imagine life without her.

This happy tale is being told because of a microchip. A very small item about the size of a grain of rice that had a tremendous impact on a four year old German Shepard and her new family. I once again would like to thank the Aiken SPCA, specifically Gary Willoughby for all his help and remind everyone that we are still offering low cost microchipping services and urge every pet owner to protect their pet.

Pat Klimo
Pets In Need Midwest President



Transportation Schedule for Illinois Daisy

Lynn - Aiken SC to Columbia SC
 Dawn & Bob - Columbia SC to Spartanburg SC
 Mary - Spartanburg SC to Asheville, NC
 Amanda - Asheville, NC to Newport, TN
 Gaye - Newport, TN to Knoxville, TN
 Amy - Knoxville, TN to Corbin, KY
 Cheryl, Corbin, KY to Richmond, KY
 Bob & Kathy - Richmond, KY to Frankfort, KY
 Mary Anne & Randy - Frankfort, KY to Louisville, KY

Connie - Overnight in Louisville then to Columbus, IN
 Gina, Columbus, IN to Indianapolis, IN
 Sandra & Susan - Indianapolis, IN to Lafayette, IN
 Jean - Lafayette, IN to Crown Point, IN
 Kelly - Crown Point, IN to Chicago, IL
 Sunny - Chicago, IL to Libertyville, IL
 Barb - Libertyville, IL to Ringwood, IL

Special thanks to the transportation coordinator, Kelly!

We love hearing from you . . .

We want to share part of a letter we received from Luana, a letter thanking us for bringing Smokey into her life.

"Nine years ago this Thursday on Aug. 14th, you gave us a wonderful gift. We came in search of a pet to love, and after meeting 3 other nice dogs, Smokey knocked me over with kisses and said "You found me! Here I am." This 2-1/2 year old Australian Shepherd/Blue Heeler mix was so good on a leash and so full of playful energy. I remember him bounding around in the van from seat to seat all the way home. He took to his new surroundings right away and loved to go fishing with my husband and look at all the ducks and birdies. It was his favorite thing. He was such a gentle, loving, obedient dog."

"Earlier last month, on July 6th, we had to say goodbye to our old man. He was such a trooper and stayed with us as long as he could. Then, overnight it seemed, the condition took hold so that he could no longer walk on his own, He told us "guys, it's time to let me go." So we did what we promised him and each other we would do. And no, it doesn't get any easier the second time."

"Thank you for being there for us in 1999, and thank you for all you do to continue to find loving homes for pets in need. We will always cherish the memories and all the good times we had, and all the love that was shared over these almost 9 years with our Smokey. My husband and I so appreciate you."

This is why we do what we do everyday. Please help us to continue with this life-saving mission.



Update on Daisy

We received this update on "Illinois Daisy" from her family:

"Daisy is doing wonderful! From the moment we adopted her, she was a perfect fit! We love her very much! When we first brought Daisy home she was weak and tired. She slept a lot for the first few days. She also was very thin but had a wonderful appetite. Within a few days she was more energetic and she looked healthier.

Today Daisy is at her perfect weight! She is fun-loving, happy and strong! She enjoys walks in the park, playing with her two "friends" next door and just being with her family!

The Story of Twig

In mid-August I received a call from Laura, a volunteer, asking if I could help her with a kitten that a friend had found on the side of the highway. Her friend was on her way to work when she thought she saw something moving in a gully on the side of the road and it initially appeared to be two little black ears. As she continued on to work she decided she should turn back and investigate. She drove back, stopped her car, got out and discovered a 4-week old kitten, almost completely lethargic, with a stick protruding through her neck, on an upward angle very close to her heart. It went in one side and came the other side. She immediately picked up the limp body and took it to a vet. They started her on fluids and immediately removed the stick. She was put on antibiotics and everyone hoped for the best. Laura then called me and told me the vet would release the kitten to Pets In Need if we could take her. Naturally, we did. In turn, Laura became her foster mom. When Laura picked up Twiggie's little body it felt only like bones – no substance or fat was on her body; she was so fragile and frail. When she picked her up her little eyes seemed to be saying, "thank you for helping me."

Twig was immediately started on an all natural food and is gaining weight and getting her strength back. She is now just like a normal kitten; she wants to run and play. She investigates everything. She loves to be held. She lays in your arms and purrs so sweetly. Laura has now had Twiggie for two weeks. Twiggie says, "You should see me now."



Volunteer Opportunities

Adoption Counselor **Fundraising**
Grant Writer **Event Coordinator**
Outreach Speaker **Animal Transport**
Correspondent **Handyman**

Seventeen years ago in October of 1991, Pets In Need Midwest officially incorporated and began actively working with the community to rescue unwanted pets and place in loving homes. We also sought to reduce the number of unwanted pets through our low-cost spay/neuter program while working to educate the public on humane treatment of animals. This organization was created by Pat and Rudy Klimo and run out of their home for over fifteen years. Although Pat and Rudy continue to lead Pets In Need they are no longer permitted to keep homeless pets on their property. As we work to raise the needed funds to establish a new shelter, we are currently boarding many of our homeless dogs and cats and also have volunteers that act as foster parents. Pets In Need Midwest continues to survive despite the hardships we face each day.

Help Pets In Need Continue It's Life Saving Mission!

We still have many expenses to keep our operation running. We are receiving a discount at the boarding facility, Lucky-E Kennel in Ringwood, but still incur daily costs in keeping our pets fed and sheltered. We have veterinary, food, and supply bills. We have the usual expenses any business would encounter such as office equipment, paper, phone, copy and mail expenses.



Since we receive no government funding, we survive on donations alone. Were it not for your generosity we could not exist, and the pets we rescue everyday would not get the second chance they deserve. Won't you please consider making a donation today? Can you sponsor a pet through a regular donation to help us offset these costs? Just \$8 a day would provide shelter for one of our homeless pets.

If sponsoring a pet is just outside your budget considerations, please consider a one-time donation to help us save homeless pets like Happy. He was found hobbling around with a broken leg and no one to care for him. He received the medical care he needed and has now found a loving home.

Amount: \$ _____ **Method of Payment:** _____ Check _____ VISA _____ Mastercard

(Check here for recurring donation _____ to be made on the first of each month.)

Credit Card #

Exp. Date

Signature

Match It!:

Sincere thanks to our anonymous "Donor Angel" for your substantial monetary contribution of \$30,000! Do you have the means to support this match or perhaps your contribution will be the next donation to match?



[Learn more about Bullseye on Petfinder.com.](#)

Donor's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Apartment #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Please make checks payable to:

Pets In Need Midwest • Post Office Box 58 • Ringwood, IL 60072 • (815) 728-1462



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Homeless Cats and Dogs**

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www.petsinneedmidwest.org

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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**We have found new homes for 113 dogs
and 69 cats in the past year!**

We're still here and we urgently need your help.

Recent economic conditions have dramatically increased the number of calls we receive each day asking for help in finding a new home for a family's pet. Many of these requests come from people that have lost their home and cannot keep their pet due to their current living arrangements. We have heard one tragic story after another as people struggle to recover from the loss of a home or a job, or in fighting serious medical issues. Unfortunately these people have no other option but to give away their pet and ideally to a no-kill shelter.

The number of pets being relinquished is staggering, with many shelters forced to turn people away. This can result in the pet finding itself on the doorstep of a "kill" shelter. These facilities are also being overwhelmed and forced to shorten the time a pet has to be adopted before it is euthanized. We receive emails from contacts at these shelters asking for help before perfectly wonderful pets are terminated. Currently we are seeing more and more young dogs, even puppies and kittens that cannot be placed. Their future is quite bleak.

At the same time, adoptions of homeless pets has declined. With people tightening their belts and trying to reduce expenses, adding another pet to the family is not likely to happen. What can you do? A monetary donation will go a long way in helping us continue our work or perhaps you have room for one more pet in your family? Perhaps you can volunteer some time or even act as a foster parent. And we ask that you please consider what would happen to your pet if something happened to you. Do you have a plan that would ensure your pet doesn't end up on our doorstep?

