

SOUTHWEST COLLIE AND SHELTYE RESCUE

Serving Arizona, New Mexico, and West Texas



The Online Newsletter Spring 2020

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Recent Arrivals at SWCS Rescue



Wounded Dogs All Patched up

Buddy, left, is a very young collie-mix found wandering in Eastern NM. He still had his baby canines so he was somewhere between 4 and 5 months old. It appeared that Buddy had had an encounter with a coyote trap. Uh-oh! Buddy had two broken-and-partially-healed toes, and his fur had been ripped away to expose the wound. Never fear! SWCSR volunteers took him to some very special veterinarians to get him all fixed up. Buddy didn't understand what the fuss was about; he is such a lovely, happy little guy that all he wants to do is play with his foster family. He has full use of the foot now, and is ready for adoption.

The Amarillo Animal Shelter had a lost collie on a three-day hold; on January 9 we were alerted, in the event the owner did not show up.

Ouch! Poor Shaggy was attacked by another dog at the shelter the next day!!! After the attack, the shelter agreed to let SWCSR get him out sooner rather than later, changing their usual procedures. Our wonderful Texas volunteers, Bev White and Lisa Miller, responded by quickly driving Shaggy to a vet who could treat his wounds, rehydrate him, and get him on his feet.

Shaggy was a pretty withdrawn dog there for a while. Several times, Shaggy went back to the vet to deal with the aftermath of his wounds. He required drains inserted in his head and neck to get the infection from the bite-wounds properly treated.

Then suddenly our boy was walking and eating! Yay!!! That might sound like small news, but it was the key for restoring Shaggy to the collie he was meant to be. He has gained five pounds (amazing what good food can do for an underweight collie), he is always hungry (what a surprise), and he is definitely acting more lively.



Shaggy was listed as 14 years old, but he is acting more like a 12-year-old collie; clearly he still has several happy years ahead of him. He quickly captured the heart of one of his rescuers, and now has a permanent home. Good dog!

SOUTHWEST COLLIE AND SHELTYE RESCUE

Letter from a Sheltie Family

By Lisa and Terry

When we first saw the pictures of the Senior Sheltie sisters Lexi, age 11 and Calleigh, age 10 on the AZ Sheltie Rescue Facebook page last fall, we were heartbroken. We had just lost our Molly, age 14, whom we had adopted three years ago; we were still so sad over our loss. The thought of adopting another senior Sheltie made us nervous at first. However, we knew these two sweethearts needed to stay together, and so we offered to foster them both until a home was found.

Well, we put the F in Foster Failures! We officially adopted them both after a month. There's no denying it: we love senior Shelties! We realize they come with aches and pains, but no more growing pains like a pup. We realize they are set in their ways, but so are we. We know they may not have many years left, but it is a matter of quality of life, not quantity. Do they need to go pee in the middle of the night? Yes, but we do too! Hahaha!

We all want the same thing in this life: a smile, a hug, and a treat every day, right?

When a Senior Sheltie becomes a part of our family, we promise them that they will be loved every day and that they will take their last breath with us by their side. We promise them they will never suffer, because we will not be selfish in our desire to keep them around despite a declining quality of life. The smiles and joy they bring to our home are priceless. So let us introduce these pups to you.

Lexi is a shy little Sheltie who doesn't bark, and she now feels comfortable coming to us for a pet on the head or a belly rub. Though it took six months, she now wags her little tail! With rescue dogs, it's so important to be patient and let them come to you when they feel safe. From previous experiences we know that moment is solid gold - the payoff for giving them their space.

Calleigh is the spunky little sister with a sassy-pants attitude. She gets very excited when we play tug of war with the big dogs (Baby, a 4-year-old smooth collie/husky mix and 5-year-old Sampson, a husky mix). This girl is the life of the party and we adore her.

Since July 2016, we have adopted seven Senior Shelties from this rescue organization. At the time of adoption, Molly was 11, Montana was 11, Mitzi was around 10, Tucker was 13, and Grizz was 9. Montana is still going strong at 14. Now add in Lexi and Calleigh—and life is grand!



Lexi has become much more friendly.

A Flurry of Adoptions = Cause to Celebrate

Heartwarming news flash: Adoptions are really popular at SWCS Rescue!

Toby came out of Eastern NM and now lives a comfortable life in AZ.

Mozart immediately found a new home, after showing up at the Gigantic Yard Sale.

Foxy was adopted by her Foster Family—hahaha—which we call a Foster Failure!

Dollar, the dog found outside the Dollar Store, has found a forever home.

SOUTHWEST COLLIE AND SHELTYE RESCUE

One of Our Biggest Challenges

Recently SWCSR traveled to Tucson to pick up two dogs that had been living in McNeal, Arizona. A Craigslist ad offered a 4 year old collie mix named DC and an older mutt named Sarah; on arrival, we discovered that Sarah was actually DC's mother. DC's father was a pure-bred collie who resided at the same address.

The owner admitted to providing little care for the dogs. Both dogs were relegated to being outside on a ranch all their lives, and have had very little human interaction. Neither dog had seen a veterinarian in years.

Sarah was vet-checked that evening. She received bloodwork, and was treated for any worms that she may have had. She was a very robust 83 pounds which reflects the effects of the free feeding that she received.

We have actively searched for an all-breed rescue to take Sarah, but this attempt was unsuccessful. In the meanwhile, we are keeping her and making her adoptable. Luckily, she is learning to move on a leash. She seems receptive to human attention and seemed willing to walk with our rescuer (yet she would not walk for the vet tech). Sarah seems to be somewhat socialized.

Her son DC is a terribly sad case. He is one of the most unsocialized collies that SWCSR has ever seen. He is not leash-trained and he actively fights any attempt to move him on a leash. He bit the owner pretty hard, when the owner attempted to get him in the crate for the transport to Phoenix. Because of DC's size and resistance to interaction, our own Bill Ferrell seemed like the best candidate for fostering him.

DC is very, very large—102 pounds at time of rescue—which significantly compounds the lack of socialization. While exercising caution, Bill has given DC a place in the family home. Being indoors is a major change, and a welcome change, for this big fluffy dog.



DC during grooming



Bill was worried about the dog's thrashing and pulling, which caused TWO training collars to pull off and almost allowed DC to escape. Based on our description of DC's condition, the vet prescribed some tranquilizers to initially take the edge off and help DC to transition.

DC was soon scheduled for a grooming, which he apparently had never had before. Dirt and dreadlocks covered his back end. In the photo above, you can see how he is struggling with fear in order to get through the grooming process.

DC has had no vet care in the past. Remarkably, he was in pretty good health when we picked him up, and now he has received the appropriate vaccinations. He is scheduled to be neutered very soon.

Look at this handsome guy, now that he's all cleaned up! We have complete faith that DC will some day have a place in a loving home, thanks to extraordinary efforts by SWCSR volunteers.

DC after grooming

SOUTHWEST COLLIE AND SHELTYE RESCUE

Your Help is Always Appreciated.

These last few months, we have encountered several wonderful dogs who needed medical care. Because of your past support, we have been able to restore these pups to health. But the work goes on!

We know you are busy, so —You can quickly **contribute through our website**, www.SWCSRescue.com

In addition, we are a verified charity at AmazonSmile. Simply go to **Smile.Amazon.com** before you do your shopping, and select Southwest Collie and Sheltie Rescue Inc. as your preferred charity. Amazon then donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to our rescue. Isn't that easy?

Want more ways to support this energetic group of volunteers? There are plenty to choose from.

The **Auction Page for SWCS Rescue** is a Facebook page where you can see and bid on items of interest. This year's auction is running from March 4 through March 8.

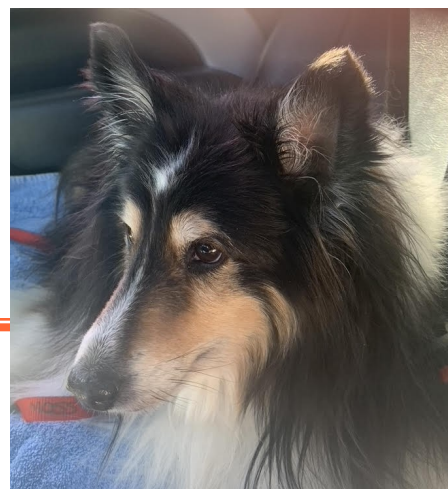
The **Gigantic Yard Sale** takes place in late autumn in Phoenix; the exact date for the 2020 event is under discussion. Dog-related items are particularly popular, but we also offer household goods of every kind. You can help SWCS Rescue in several ways! Do you have something to donate? Do you have space to store some donations for us, prior to the sale? Can you bring your friends to the sale, and spend lots of money?!?! Whatever you choose, your help will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Cindy Reel at the email address below to start the conversation.

We know you have fabulous skills in something. Perhaps you can **put your skills to good use** for SWCS Rescue.

- If you want to sponsor an event of your own —
- If you want to foster one of our dogs ——
- If you can help with transporting a dog ——
- If you have dog-related things to donate or share —
- If you are a genius at public-speaking, web-mastering, etc ——

These fine dogs need your help. You will work with a fantastic group of volunteers who, like yourself, care deeply about the treatment of Collies and Shelties. Please contact one of the volunteers below so your talent can be added to the mix.

Thanks so very much!



Not just a pretty face! Bogey was adopted at the age of 12. Now 14 years old, Bogey just became an official Therapy Dog for a care center in Prescott. Wow!

Website: www.SWCSRescue.com	Contacts:
Mailing Address:	Cindy Reel–Phoenix – (602) 570-2951– reelracer@aol.com
SW Collie & Sheltie Rescue	Peg Cass–Tucson – (502) 904-5733 – sneekypie@msn.com
116 N. Pioneer	Bill Ferrell– Phoenix – (602) 525-3313 – bkferrell@cox.net
Gilbert, AZ 85233	Arlene Starkey–Albuquerque–(505) 886-2685 – Arlenestarkey@outlook.com
Editor: Maryanne at 575-534-0459	Kathy Wallis–Alamogordo– (575) 430-2361 -- Katwallis1@msn.com