



Southwest Collie and Sheltie Rescue

Serving Arizona, New Mexico and West Texas

Family Photo Album

March 2021



A picture is worth a thousand words, right? So without a bunch of words, we can still tell the stories of the dogs from SW Collie-Sheltie Rescue.



Little **Rey** is growing up! The blind collie pup from the Chaparral Gang is shown here, reading the morning newspaper with her adopted dad, David. Rey has settled into her new life easily, and as you can see, she loves a good cuddle. Pass the coffee, Rey!



Nathan and Ilene of No. Phoenix talk about their recent adoption. "**Daphne** is an extremely affectionate young lady that loves to be petted for long periods of time. She is very protective of our property as she likes to bark and, yes, bark continuously as she chases the birds away." The darling Miss Daphne also is a wiggly worm, and won't sit still for a photo!

Sundance, our senior Sheltie in Tucson, has been on permanent medical hold. His foster parents, Alan and Marie, report that they spend a lot of time with him outside because he loves to walk around, guard the property, and make sure everything is okay. Sundance relies on his fosters to give him subcutaneous fluids, daily medicine, and ozone treatments. We are forever grateful to the foster families who volunteer their time and energy to make our rescue a success.



What a smile! **Teddy** loves his forever home with Cyndi and Pete—and he sure loves to play in the snow.



Blue, the 8-year-old Sheltie, has been living in his new home for a little more than a month now. He's proving to be the smartest dog George has ever had, and George has had Shelties for about 25 years now. Blue quickly trained George to give him treats if George wanted him to come downstairs -- Good boy, Blue!

This dog came to SWCSR with cancerous tumors which we had removed; he now seems totally ready for years of active living.



Gigi, formerly of the Chapparal Gang, is settling into her new home. Owner David says, "Gigi is adorable, goofy, and a ball of energy. She has also been a welcome breath of fresh air during pandemic lockdown, as she reminds us to keep it light by playing and taking naps whenever possible!"

Oh look! **Abby** has found herself a new home -- And because Sherri looks so happy, Abby knows it will be easy to train her new Mommy to spoil her rotten!



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Editor's Choice

Buddy, our cover-story dog from December, has finally found a home.



Andy is one lucky dog! Picked up by the Albuquerque animal control as a stray, he had an unregistered microchip. Program Manager Judy Buckland knew he would make a fine pet once he was cleaned up. So she authorized the shelter to pay for his initial vetting: neutering, shots, and teeth cleaning.

Way to go, Judy! Then she contacted SWCSR to find him a home -- and we did!

Andy now resides in a Rio Rancho home with his new owner, Kenneth.



SWCSR volunteers wish to express our sympathy to Betty and Peter, on the loss of the lovely **Lady**. This little dog has been on permanent medical hold for some time, as she came to us with both heart problems and orthopedic issues. The efforts that Betty and Peter made on behalf of this little creature are truly heartwarming and extraordinary. We are blessed to have such kind and generous people in this organization.

The Sad Passing of a Rescue Dog

SWCSR received these emails in the last few days.

"I am terribly sad to inform you that our sweet **Brodie** crossed the rainbow bridge yesterday. We are heartbroken as we would've loved to have had more time with him. He was the absolute best dog we have ever, ever had.

We are so blessed and grateful that others passed him over, so that we could have him for his forever.



He taught our children so much about compassion, patience, and gentleness, as they navigated the house with their busy energy to be mindful of where he was so they didn't bump into him.

He followed us everywhere. Into the bathroom, into the kitchen, made circles around the table during every meal, and waited at the bottom of the stairs each morning as we came down.

He was our shadow. I can not think of a time when he was ever home alone, and that makes me happy for him. We loved him. The house feels incredibly empty now...we can sense that a soul is missing."

The Ambassador by Kathy Wallis

About twelve years ago, I was finishing up my first year with SWCR as a volunteer. A pretty tri-colored rough boy came in from a family in Hobbs. They had said Ziggy was too rough with their smaller dogs. I fostered Ziggy and quickly discovered he was a happy and exuberant guy.

Soon after, Ziggy and I were at the dog park. While watching Ziggy romp around, I was approached by a retired gentleman. "Beautiful dog" he said to me while watching Ziggy. He introduced himself as Wayne Anderson. "He's a rescue, doesn't have a home yet. Where's your dog?" I asked. Wayne pointed down toward his feet, and sitting next to him was a pretty tri-colored Sheltie...who looked just like a miniature Ziggy.

The rest is history. Wayne submitted an application and was approved after a home visit. Ziggy was re-named **Duke** in memory of John Wayne, and became best buddies with Cody the Sheltie immediately.

That Collie brought Wayne into my circle of friends and thus allowed many great dogs to be fostered here in our area. Duke became one of our Collie Rescue ambassadors, attending adoption events, parades, and so forth. Duke is also the Collie Celebrity who appears in the Grooming the Collie video posted on YouTube and the SWCSR website.

This morning, Tim and I accompanied Wayne and Duke to Dr Miller's office, where we helped Duke ease out of his struggle with old age. Duke was almost 13 years old; Wayne has chosen a nice spot for Duke on the property. It's been a difficult day for all of us.



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Southwest Collie/Sheltie Res-
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Been Waiting a While?

In 2020, SWCSR adopted out 21 collies and 20 shelties. As you might imagine, during the pandemic we have had many, many more adoption applications than we have dogs. Most of these applicants are very qualified people, with extensive prior history with the breeds. This has created a strong demand, even for our loveable seniors.

The practical result is that when we adopt out a dog, we make one adopter very happy, and then we have many disappointed applicants.

In response, the Board has to manage expectations and to focus our program on good outcomes; we need to reduce our incoming applications. We have decided, with rare exceptions, to only accept applicants in Arizona, New Mexico, and West Texas. This practice of 'staying in territory' is currently used in many other rescues, so there is precedent for it.

Also under consideration by the Board: maintaining applications on file for only a limited period of time (perhaps six months). We find that applicants waiting for extended periods often tend to find dogs from other sources. How to update and notify applicants is a process still in development.

In summary, we sympathize with your desire to own one of our wonderful shelties or collies. We remain vigilant for at-risk collies and shelties, and continue to help all the collies and shelties that we can.

If you find a rescue sheltie or collie from another source and SWCSR can assist you in securing that dog, please let us know. We can perform a required home visit, for example, and SWCSR may be able to assist with transport. Our goal is to help the breeds survive and thrive, and to that end we are willing to do the work.

We wish to thank you for your continued enthusiasm for these breeds and your support of our operations.

Bill Ferrell
SWCSR Board President