

Summer 2011



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG RESCUE

K9 Currents

Making Memories with Mocha

Mocha (formerly Moira) has been such a joy to have in our family. She was 8 months old on May 12th and she's grown by leaps and bounds in the months since we got her. Speaking of leaps and bounds, she LOVES to jump and run in the yard and especially loves to play ball. Football is her favorite but she likes to chase a tennis ball and when she's in the house she "kicks" around a basketball (we call it playing soccer). Mocha likes any toy we bring home for her too but for some reason she thinks she needs to have two in her mouth. It's fun to see her figure out how to get a ball and a toy in her mouth at the same time.

She keeps us smiling!

Sometimes when she's in the house and I can't find her I'll see the top of her ears sticking up from behind the chair in front of the window. She likes to keep an eye on the neigh-

borhood from that window and lets us know she's protecting us if someone walks by on the sidewalk. She loves her whole family but is especially fond of Leigha, our 9 year old. Mocha even sleeps in her bed sometimes.

We are all looking forward to taking her camping this summer as she really likes to be outdoors. We're so happy to have our new family member and can't thank Brian and MVGSDR enough!

~Ann, Steve, Logan and Leigha, Muscatine, IA



To see more Happy Tails, go to www.mvgsdr.org/happy_tails

I Survived a Car Crash

This handsome boy was found after being hit by a car, and we were contacted by the animal hospital. His adopter decided to name him Isacc,

which stands for "I Survived a Car Crash".

Here is Isacc today, happy and healthy.



2012 Calendars are coming soon! Watch for more details.

Cedar Rapids PetCo Round Up Event

MVGSDR has been invited by the Cedar Rapids PetCo to store to be their round-up partner for the month of October. This means that customers will be asked at check-out if they want to “round-up” their total to benefit MVGSDR.



If you can help or if you have any questions, please contact us ASAP at

germanshepherdrescue@gmail.com.

This will be a huge opportunity for us to raise funds to help more dogs that are in need. We can't do it without you!



There will also be a big wheel game where people can donate \$1 and spin the wheel for a prize.

This also means that we need to have a presence in the store on Saturdays and Sundays in October. Volunteers are needed to answer questions about MVGSDR, sell items, and showcase our dogs available for adoption.



Pet Products & Recalls by Norma Jewell

I started looking into current products on recall lists and was stunned at the number and variety of complaints. Product recalling for pet products never really hit the news until the many deaths following ingestion of tainted food hit newspapers nationwide. Now there are consumer web sites for any product recall but my interest is how to avoid this tragedy altogether. You would think those companies would have gone broke after that but that's not the case. Education isn't working for the masses, unfortunately.

Of the thousands of products marketed to help clean your pet's teeth, none of them are digestible. Higher end products state they are all natural and you assume then that they are safe. You can literally read labels all day and still not get the correct information, and sometimes it's too late.

The most recent email I received about a pet being harmed was regarding Dingo Dental Treats. Greenies have labeled that their dental chews are fully digestible, and in

fact, they are not. Raw-hide chews are

probably the oldest dental product for dogs out there. My question is, why? Why are we even worried about dental health in dogs now and paying hundreds in dental cleanings every year? Anesthesia is not risk-free by any means but it's required for dental cleanings. It's because of marketing, and kibble fed pets.

So then what do you do? I like to save money ;) I buy raw bones at the grocery store, round soup bones often labeled as dogs bones. The down side to this is the potential for chipping a tooth if you have an aggressive chewer, or a dog with dental surgery procedures already notched on



Buyer beware when purchasing pet products.

his belt. All my dogs are considered aggressive chewers. Not a single 'tough toy' survives my dogs. I just know this is a waste of money so I really don't buy 'toys' all that much. I've had dogs chip teeth but not as a result of chewing bones. Bear caught a plastic Frisbee with his teeth once and there went part of a canine tooth. He also collided with Kindl's mouth for a second break. It happens, especially when dogs come to us so malnourished the first year of their life.



If you want to clean your dog's teeth, brush them. I like to feed raw food that does the work for me. Nature thought of this long before my time. If you want to feed a safe food find out where the food is manufactured. Then find out where it's distributed from, and then where did the ingredients originate. Any one of these several processes can be the source for tainted food, and no one really is checking these facilities. It isn't regulated by the government to maintain product safe-

ty for pets like it is humans. Buyer beware is especially appropriate when purchasing pet products.

I became so frustrated 22 years ago when I literally made my dog sick feeding what the vet recommended, and decided to educate myself. I did everything that was recommended because they know best. Back then it was harder before the internet and consumer advocacy sites were born. What a rude awakening that was, and too late for Maxine. I am compiling a file of just safety issues that range from treats and food, to toys if you are interested. Just send me an email and I will forward the links to you. It's not enough to just open a link and assume it is accurate. Then you have to research that source to make sure they have provided facts instead of unverified reports. It is very frustrating and has to be done in small segments or you will go insane sorting through the truth and lies.

Remember, the main source of advertising is product representatives giving free food and sample products to vet clinics. They, in turn, sell that product for 100% profit and no effort. Next highest advertising dollar comes from the mixed media with visual ads and claims, but that costs the company a lot of money. Drug companies do the same for human products but they are regulated more closely, and people can tell someone when they feel sick following ingestion of a product. Dogs can't....

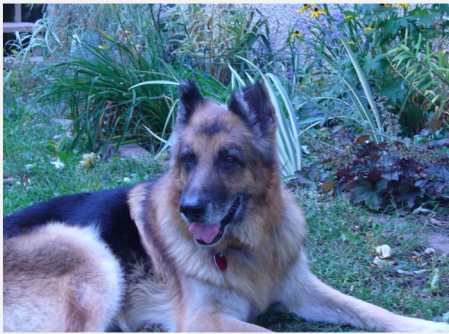
normajewell@gmail.com

"If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you; that is the principal difference between a dog and a man."

~ Mark Twain

Rainbow Bridge

*In loving memory
of our friends who
have gone to the
Rainbow Bridge
recently*



Lindy
Axl
Patsy
Conner
Rusty
Shane
Shiloh
Jack
Murphy
Heidi (Micki)
Susie



*Just this side of
Heaven is a place
called the
Rainbow Bridge...*

Relationship With a Significant Other

If you want someone who will eat whatever you put in front of him and never say it's not quite as good as his mother's... then adopt a dog.

If you want someone always willing to go out, at any hour, for as long and whenever you want... then adopt a dog.



If you want someone who will never touch the remote, doesn't care about football, and can sit next to you as you watch romantic movies... then adopt a dog.

If you want someone who is content to get on your bed just to warm your feet and whom you can push off if he snores... then adopt a dog.



If you want someone who never criticizes what you do, doesn't care if you are pretty or ugly, fat or thin, young or old, who acts as if every word you say is especially worthy of listening to, and loves you unconditionally, perpetually...then adopt a dog.

But on the other hand, if you want someone who will never come when you call, ignores you totally when you come home, leaves hair all over the place, walks all over you, runs around all night and only comes home to eat or sleep, and acts as if your entire existence is solely to ensure his happiness... then adopt a cat!



You thought I was going to say marry a man, didn't you?



President: Marti Lee
Vice President: Katy Talone
Secretary: Molly McGee
Treasurer: Julie Penrod
Directors: Brian Pospichal, Norma Jewell

Email: germanshepherdrescue@gmail.com

***Where the gentle current leads
them home.***

Our purpose is to save, rehabilitate, and place German Shepherd Dogs from shelters and those that have been abandoned, abused, neglected and/or relinquished by their owners (on a case-by-case basis) into secure, permanent homes. Through education, training, and fundraising, we are dedicated to caring for and finding good homes for German Shepherd Dogs that need assistance for any reason.

We are an all-volunteer organization; we do not have a shelter facility. All of our dogs are cared for in our network of foster homes across Iowa and Illinois. We are licensed by the Department of Agriculture in both states.

We're on the web!

www.mvgsdr.org



[Click here to become a fan on Facebook!](#)

Donate

I want to help homeless German Shepherd Dogs. Enclosed is my contribution amount of

\$ _____

Please mail your check to

MVGSDR Treasurer

Julie Penrod

600 34th St NE

Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

For credit card donations go to our website www.mvgsdr.org

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Thank you in advance for your donation. An acknowledgement letter will be sent to you. Mississippi Valley German Shepherd Dog Rescue, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions are deductible to the extent allowable by law.