

# THE RAD READER



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April 2008 Issue

## Letter from a Happy Home

It was by chance that Joey, a 1 year old Springer/Pointer cross, got my attention at Petco. RAD was having an adoption day and Joey stuck out with his sleek body, brown and black spots, and a baby face you could not refuse. He had been rescued by the group from an over-crowded shelter. After getting acquainted with Joey, I decided that he should meet another member of my family, Rose, a female Eclectus which is a tropical bird. Both parties got a long fine, so I invited Joey to my home to meet the rest of the flock. I have 18 hard-to-adopt tropical birds; over half of the birds are from Parrot Valley Rescue. Joey, a bird dog, treated the birds like true friends. Joey even lets Rose take a bath in his water dish.

Joey is so full of energy I decided that he needed a play mate. Spot, a 1 yr old Australian cattle dog mix from RAD became a member of the family about a month ago. When I first met Spot, he was afraid of human contact, which was the exact opposite of Joey. Spot was raised in a kennel with several other dogs and had no human contact. Spot hardly knew what a door was and had to be led by a leash for the first week to entice him to cross over the threshold. Any loud noise or sudden movement would send him scampering through the house and hiding in the furthest corner. Day by day, Spot relaxed in his new environment and took his place at the corner of the bed. I remember the first day he asked for attention, the paw came out and he bowed his head to get petted. Soon after, Spot was asking Joey to play and pawing me for attention every morning.

When Joey and Spot are together, they remind me of the Laurel and Hardy comic team from the 40's. Joey is tall and skinny and always finding ways to unleash his energy; Spot is short and stocky and goes along with Joey's schemes. Even though they get their daily walk with the cold weather, I can't wait until it warms up so I can play outside in the yard with this team. I cannot believe that these were unwanted animals. Just the sight of their big eyes peering through the crack of the door to greet you when you get home, or the ritual of the finding the exact place to sleep with you at night shows that these animals can show love just as well as they can receive it.

-Wendy

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Wendy and Joey (top), Spot (bottom)

## The Importance of Foster Families

Foster homes are the soul of our organization. Rehome A Dog is in need of more people willing to open their homes to dogs in need.

Fostering is very rewarding. It gives you the opportunity to save a dog and in many cases brighten the lives of other people. Those who adopt from RAD Rescue are so grateful to our foster people for positively affecting their lives by caring for their new family member prior to adoption. Area shelters are also thankful that dogs who would otherwise be euthanized have a second chance that they the shelter were not equipped or able to provide.

Fostering is fun. Rehome A Dog makes use of the outdoor splendor of our area. Group hikes, afternoons at area lakes, and playtime at the dog park are often times group activities.

Don't be misled, fostering can also be trying. That being said, our foster people are a tightly knit group of dog lovers who enjoy dog ownership and all its rewards. We support each other and we are all, most concerned, with what is best for our foster-dogs.

### Fostering for RAD Rescue

#### Who is Rehome A Dog?

We are a group of dedicated volunteers who help homeless dogs. Our primary mission is to find them permanent loving

*The thought of these great dogs wasting away in a shelter or much worse, when there are so many great homes out there, can only be deemed a tragedy.*

homes where they can thrive and become the happy dogs they were meant to be.

We are an "all breed" dog rescue, meaning a dog's breed, size or color does not exclude him or her from finding a loving home through the efforts of our organization. Some dogs that come into our rescue are housebroken and trained, and with some dogs, we start from scratch!

#### How does Fostering Work?

We will have already asked for a commitment from you about a dog coming into our program. We only ever make arrangements for a dog to enter our program, after we know we have a foster family for them to go to. We then arrange a time for you to pick up the dog or have the dog dropped off at your home. The average time for a dog in foster care can range from 2 weeks to 4 months in some cases. We ask our foster homes to commit to a particular animal until they are placed as it is very difficult (on them and us) to move them into another temporary home.

Please see *Importance* on page 5

## Measuring Success

### *By The Numbers:*

**22 Adoptions Dec07-Mar08**

**41 Adoptions since Aug07**

Abby – Plot Hound	Hogan – German Shepherd/Golden Retr.
Ally – Australian Cattle Dog/Blue Heeler	Josie – Plot Hound/Whippet
Bernie – Black Lab/Shetland Sheepdog Sheltie	Lily – Catahoula Leopard Dog/Golden Retr.
Carson – Yellow Lab	Max – Black Lab
Gabby – Collie/Golden Retriever	Nike – Cocker Spaniel
Ginger – German Shepherd /Golden Retr.	Oli – Poodle/Pekingese
Gracie – Yellow Lab	Olive – Rat Terrier
Gretel – Terrier/Cattle Dog	Pippy – Border Collie
Guinness – Flat Coated Retriever	Rev – Boxer/Border Collie
Guinness – Shetland Sheepdog Sheltie mix	Spot – Australian Cattle Dog/Blue Heeler
Hannah – Redbone Coonhound	Wilson – Redbone Coonhound

## Upcoming Events

### Saturday, 4/12/08 – Adoption Day @ Petco 1–4pm

RAD dogs up for adoption will be at the Onalaska Petco to meet and greet

### Saturday, 4/26/08 – Adoption Day @ PetSmart 1–4pm

Come meet the RAD dogs up for adoption today at the Onalaska PetSmart

### Friday, 5/2/08 – Adoption Night @ PetSmart 6–8pm

Join the RAD dogs for an evening at the Onalaska PetSmart. Our idea of a happy hour is a lot more fun.... or should we say Yappy Hour ☺

### Saturday, 5/17/08 – Adoption Day @ Petco 1–4pm

Come see who's up for adoption from today at Petco!!

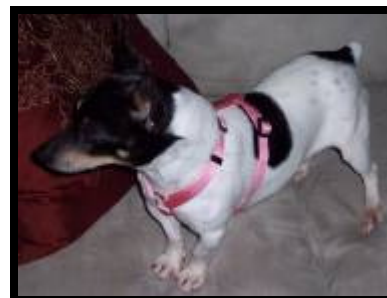
### Saturday, 6/7/08 – Adoption Day @ Petco 1–4pm

The weather is beautiful; don't you wish you had a RAD dog to join you for a walk? Come meet the RAD dogs up for adoption at the Onalaska Petco.

### Saturday, 6/14/08 – Adoption Day @ PetSmart 1–4pm

Did you come and visit with the RAD dogs at any of those last 5 events? No?

What are you waiting for? Come say hi; they can't wait to see you!!



*Olive (top), Gracie (bottom)*

### Interested in a RAD T-shirt??

Send us an email or give us a call and we can get you the details on the styles, colors, sizing and prices.

We know you look great already, but everyone looks better in a RAD shirt!

## RAD Recipes

### Joey's Jumbled Sauté

*A doggy delight that hits the "Spot"*

#### Ingredients

- 2 Cups brown rice, uncooked
- 1/2 Cups finely chopped carrots
- 1/2 Cups finely chopped broccoli
- 1 Teaspoon vegetable oil
- 1/2 lb. lean ground chuck
- 1 garlic clove, crushed

#### Preparation

Brown the ground chuck, drain and rinse meat with warm water. Cook rice in steamer. Steam the carrots and broccoli until tender. Warm the vegetable oil in pan over medium heat. Add hamburger and garlic, and sauté for 3–5 minutes. Combine all other the ingredients. Allow to cool before serving. Refrigerate leftovers.

**Cut me out and keep me!!**

## Training Tips

By Dana Niedfeldt

Does your dog get pushy to get its way? Does your dog try and control playtime with you? Does your dog have selective hearing when you call his name? If so, it's time for you to take back the lead of your pack. Here are a few simple tips to help you on your way of becoming your dog's pack leader.

**Before you go outside with your dog, they must be sitting quietly at your side.** Tell the dog to stay and then you walk out of the door first and then call them to you. If your dog starts to walk out without being invited, gently grab the dog's collar and lead them back into the sit position and start over. There is no need to yell at, or punish your dog for walking out the door; simply putting them back where they started is punishment enough, because now they have to wait longer for their outside fun to begin.

**Before your dog eats,** have him sit and stay while you put the food bowl down about four feet from him. If your dog starts moving towards you, simply pick the bowl back up and place your dog back in the sit stay where he initially was. This may take a few repetitions, but eventually the dog will figure out that by him moving, the bowl gets moved back out of his reach.

Once you are able to successfully have the bowl sitting on the floor, happily call your dog to you and let him eat.

**Giving a treat to your dog** happens only after they have completed a command that you have given them. Make your dog work for his treats by performing a task such as: sit, shake, lie down, or going in his crate on command.

Remember, the more time you put into training your dog, the more he will want to offer good behavior to you and the more well-rounded and obedient he will become.



*Charlie (available for adoption, as well as his brother Diego) waiting patiently to go back inside after playing in the backyard.*

### Incky Biscuit

#### Ingredients

- ½ cups extra virgin olive oil
- 4 tablespoons Parsley
- 2 cups beef broth
- 2 cups barley flour
- 3-4 cups rye flour

#### Directions

Preheat oven to 350 ° F. In a large bowl, combine olive oil and parsley. Heat the beef broth until steaming, and then add to the olive oil mixture. Stir in barley flour and let cool until lukewarm -- or cool enough to work with. Gradually blend in rye flour, adding enough to form stiff dough. ■ Transfer to a floured (rye flour) surface and knead until smooth (about 3-5 minutes). Shape the dough into a ball, and roll to ¼ inch (6 mm) thick. Use the cookie cutter of your choice or cut into small squares and transfer to un-greased baking sheets, spacing them about ¼ inch apart. ■ Bake for 30 minutes. Remove from oven and turn over. Bake for an additional 30 minutes, or until golden brown on both sides. After you finish baking all batches of biscuits, cool for a few hours or overnight.

**Did you miss me in our last edition?**

*Importance from on page 2*

The dog's information is made available on our [website](#), and we ask that you bring your foster dog to Adoption Days. We generally schedule two, three-hour, Adoption Day events each month. Our Adoption Days are scheduled for weekend days in Onalaska. People who are interested in adoption can meet the available dogs, fill out an [application](#), and follow our [adoption process](#).

Foster families are asked for input on any potential home. While they do not always have the "final say", the foster family's opinion on a potential placement carries a great deal of weight. Foster families are asked to review the application, speak with the potential adopter and then form an opinion on the placement. We value the opinions of our foster parents as they often times know the dog best.

**What does RAD expect from its foster homes?**

We will provide medical care for the foster dog. We usually have food, a crate, collar and leash to provide for your foster dog as well. We also occasionally have donated toys and treats. Any additional supplies or extras are the foster homes responsibility.

We ask you provide an **ID tag** with your contact information on it, and we ask that the foster dog wears the tag, while in your care.

We ask that you be able to transport your foster to vet appointments and Adoption Day events, however in rare cases another volunteer can help with this if you are unavailable.

Through the use of straightforward forms and with some coaching, we ask that each foster home keep accurate care and medical records for their foster dog, and complete a foster family assessment on each dog.

**What makes a good foster home?**

Simply put, good foster people love dogs!

Because we have a diverse compliment of people looking to adopt dogs, we need diversity in our foster homes.

We ask that all our foster homes make an effort to acclimate their foster dog into a normal home environment. While we ask that each foster home use a crate as a training tool, we also ask

See conclusion on page 6

## Yes, The Stories You Hear About Puppy Mills Are True!!

Nike was a puppy mill rescue, previously living her life locked up in a small, dark and dirty cage where her comfort, health and happiness were never taken into consideration by the breeder that used her to make money. When she came into rescue she was in horrible condition; covered in matted hair and toenails literally grown around the wire grate floor of her cage. It breaks our heart to think of the pain and suffering she and other puppy mill dogs endure.

Nike thrived every day in her new foster home! Her once sad eyes were filled with glimmer and hope. Her tail wagged from excitement and when she looked at you it's as if you could almost hear her simply saying "Thank You", appreciative of the kindness and affection she was now receiving. (Sadly, this is a feeling many puppy mill dogs will never experience)

Nike enjoyed every person she met, including her rescuers, groomer and vet. She did wonderful with the young children and other dogs in her foster home. And wouldn't you know it, just before this newsletter was completed... **She was adopted into the "forever-family" she so deserved.**



*To learn more about the fight against animal cruelty visit:*

*American Society for the  
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals  
[www.asPCA.org](http://www.asPCA.org)*

### Conclusion of *Importance*

that foster dogs be exposed to a normal home environment as well.

Because we stress to any potential adopter that fun, exercise and activity are important components to good dog ownership; it is also helpful if RAD dogs get to experience these things while in foster care. We want our foster homes to take their dogs on walks and hikes. Often times during the summer, RAD foster dogs can be found swimming in area lakes or playing at the dog park with their foster people. Petco and PetSmart are great places to shop with a foster dog in tow. These types of efforts are what set Rehome A Dog apart from shelters or other foster-based, dog rescues.

### Get Started!

Fill out our foster application. It can be found at [www.rehomeadog.org](http://www.rehomeadog.org)

Once you are approved we will meet with you and your family to teach you more about our process and start notifying you of dogs that are in need of help. If there is a dog you are interested in fostering we will work to place them in your home.

Interested in Adopting,  
Volunteering, or Supporting  
RAD Rescue? Give us a bark!

**Phone:**  
608-783-BARK

**E-Mail:**  
raddogs@rehomeadog.org

Don't you wish you had a  
RAD Dog??

41 Lives  
Changed  
And  
Counting!!

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*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*  
[www.radrescue.org](http://www.radrescue.org)

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PO Box 471  
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Place address label here