

“ . . . I saved one animal and it didn't change the world , but surely the world changed for that one



PLACING PAWS

“in the hearts of their Forever Homes”

www.PlacingPawsRescue.org
PlacingPaws@Yahoo.com
PO Box 121
Libertyville, IL 60048-0121

New Life and New Beginnings

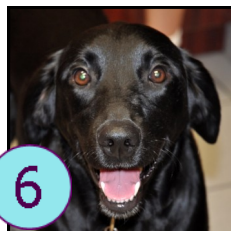
Wow! Look what Placing Paws has done in 2012.

Despite the still tough economic times and with the help of our wonderful foster homes, volunteers and generous donors, we have saved 148 dogs and 42 cats! 2012 was the year of raining “puppies and kittens” and among these saved lives were 69 puppies and 36 kittens.

We are forever grateful to all of the wonderful foster families that volunteered their time and opened their homes and their hearts to save the following families of puppies and kittens. Without our foster homes and generous donations from people like you, we would have never been able to save so many dogs, puppies, cats and kittens in desperate need. We also give a heartfelt thank you to the many volunteers that helped these animals by driving transport, helping to intake the dogs, raise money, donate money and supplies and the many other countless ways everyone has helped out along the way. We can't do this without you!



We started off the New Year by welcoming Dora and her precious litter of 6 puppies to Placing Paws. Dora was rescued in December, already pregnant. She came from a small central Illinois town where the "animal shelter" is an unheated building without windows. Once safe and warm, Dora delivered her 6 puppies in her foster home in the middle of the night. While her foster mom slept, the new mama welcomed her 6 puppies into the Placing Paws family. Dora was so efficient that by the time her foster mom awoke at 7am she had all of the pups cleaned and nursing. Dora and her puppies were all placed into wonderful homes.



Then in February we received a desperate e-mail from one of our rescue partners in Southern Illinois. A very pregnant Golden mix was about to be euthanized in a small town pound. Under-resourced, the Animal Control Officer had no interest in caring for puppies and his solution was to put her down if rescue wasn't found on one day's notice. Luckily for Sierra and her crew, her story was told to the right person who then contacted us. We were lucky to find a foster home for Sierra just in time and on Monday the 6th of February we agreed to take her. She arrived to Placing Paws the next day via a volunteer transport. Unfortunately Sierra had not been well cared for and had not been well fed, so she had some catching up to do! She ate everything in sight as her body prepared itself for the delivery of her pups. She delivered her litter of 11 pups on February 17th in the loving care of her foster home. When the pups were 3 days old Sierra developed mastitis that limited her nursing to her 11 hungry pups. Worried that her pups weren't receiving proper nutrition, she and the pups were rushed to the emergency room. Sierra responded quickly to the antibiotics and her teats began to produce milk again and her foster mom was spared having to bottle feed 11 puppies! Sierra and her puppies were all placed into loving forever homes.



The spring brought 3 more mama dogs to Placing Paws. A very pregnant Buttercup, a beautiful and sweet yellow lab, was left by her family after they moved away and left her to fend for herself. Poor Buttercup was abandoned when she needed her family the most! She arrived to Placing Paws via transport on May 8th and was placed into a wonderful and caring foster home. Her foster dad built a brand new whelping box for her where she delivered her 6 pups in comfort. Buttercup was adopted by her foster dad, she was just too special for him to let go. He also adopted the "mama's girl" of the litter, and the rest of her pups were placed into loving homes.

Then came Zoey, a beautiful black lab who wound up in a shelter in Missouri after delivering her litter of 9. Zoey and her six week old pups were saved when a wonderful Placing Paws volunteer drove 4 hours one-way to meet the Missouri foster mom of Zoey and pups. She then turned around and drove them all the way back to Libertyville, with a stop along the way so they could nurse. They were taken directly to their new foster family where they were cared for until adoption day. Zoey and all her pups were adopted in the beginning of June and are all living the lives they deserve. Zoey and Dora were adopted by a father and daughter and they now get to have play dates with each other!



Misty, another wonderful and sweet black lab mix, joined us May. At a visit with our friends at Care Animal Hospital, Misty had an ultrasound where the vet saw 8 puppies - a reasonable litter for a lab. But Misty's belly didn't tell the full story at her vet visit. The morning that Misty went into labor she fairly quickly delivered 8 pups . . . and then 2 more . . . and then another one and then 2 more! She had a total of 13 healthy puppies. She was in the same foster home that Dora delivered her pups in. Misty quickly became exhausted trying to feed 13 puppies so her foster mom was vigilant in making sure that each pup got his or her fair share of nursing time. Misty was a trooper and did what she had to do to take care of her puppies and they all grew into happy healthy puppies that all found wonderful homes.



Izzy was found outside of a church in South East Missouri in the spring of 2012. Most animal controls in that area do not have the capacity to house cats. Usually cats and kittens there face a horrible fate. Lucky for Izzy she was found by a rescue worker that couldn't bear for her fate to be sealed. After bringing her to the vet it was discovered that Izzy was pregnant. Placing Paws secured a foster home for her and she was brought to us on a long transport. On April 25, just four days after settling in to her foster home, the beautiful orange tabby delivered 4 orange tabby kittens. While two of her beautiful babies were adopted early, Izzy, Crew and Dozer remain in search of loving forever homes.

We turn to you this holiday season and ask you to continue your generous support. It was through your support in 2012 that we were able to save nearly 200 animals facing disease, hardship and an almost inevitable death. To do this, Placing Paws spent over \$75,000 in 2012. At Placing Paws, we pride ourselves on not just saving lives, but on saving the lives most at risk. We save the sick and the weak to make them healthy and strong. We offer not only food in bellies and roofs over heads, but the very best in healthcare.

We find the unloved and lead them into the hearts of their forever homes. Will you help us to save even more lives in 2013?

Can we count on you to help save the lives of those in need?

As 2012 draws to a close, your charitable donation will help us save even more lives. Here are some of our favorites.



Ducky

This May, SEMO Animal Rescue in Missouri received a call from local police about a dog running loose with an injured leg. When the rescuer arrived to save Ducky, she learned from Ducky's family that he had been hit by a car a few days earlier. Instead of taking him to a vet for treatment, they duct taped his leg up and let him keep running the streets - hence his name. After a vet visit SEMO learned that although no bones were broken, Ducky suffered severe nerve damage in his left leg. When Ducky came to Placing Paws in July he saw rehabilitation specialists and an orthopedic surgeon who confirmed his nerve and muscle damage. To heal Ducky's leg, he required intensive therapeutic treatment that, coupled with pain treatment, that cost nearly \$2,000 in the first four weeks alone. Despite what he's been through, Ducky remains sweet and affectionate. He doesn't let his bad leg stop him!

Sheba, a Rottweiler mix from Missouri, was found as stray with a severe hip injury. She and her best friend Pedro, a Chihuahua, travelled to Placing Paws for rescue. Our vet believes Sheba suffered from a pelvic fracture that left her with two injured hips, each of which requiring surgery to heal properly. Sheba has recovered from both surgeries and required a specialized walk schedule so her hips could strengthen and heal. She was fortunate enough to find a loving foster mom who was so captured by her gentle nature and friendliness towards any person, dog, or cat she meets that she decided to adopt her. Sheba's expensive surgical treatments and therapies remain one of Placing Paws largest expenses in 2012 as we strive to place paws in the hearts of their forever homes.



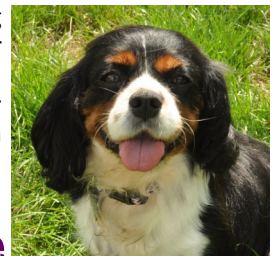
Sheba

Earlier this year, Placing Paws got word of a litter of puppies living outside of a gas station in rural South Georgia. The three siblings, two girls and a boy, were among the thousands of homeless dogs in their region just like them: without food and water, shelter, or proper medical care. Among these puppies was Bo, a black lab mix. This sweet young pup came to Placing Paws this fall after being struck by a car and left to heal on his own. The rescue worker who saved Bo wrote "after I got him he was so bloated he threw up plastic caps from gallon jugs". Unfortunately for Bo, his leg sustained major damage in the collision and healed improperly. The break occurred just below his elbow, and as the bone healed it twisted leaving it too weak and too small to be fixed surgically. For Bo to live a long and healthy life, his damaged leg was amputated on November 6th. Following his surgery, Bo remains the sweet and affectionate young dog we have always known him to be.



Bo

Chelsie, a precious Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, is happy to have gotten a second chance at life thanks to Placing Paws. When we received the obviously neglected pup this fall she visited Care Animal Hospital, just like all of our dogs. We came to learn Chelsie had chronic infections in ears, a bladder infection, and such an unhealthy mouth that 16 of her teeth were removed. In fact, some of her teeth were so unhealthy you could wiggle them using your finger like you would for your child's first loose tooth! After undergoing her treatment, Chelsie was placed in a foster home where her new caretakers quickly learned that she is deaf. Chelsie also suffers from mammary tumors, a condition that often develops in female dogs who have had too many litters in their lifetime. Chelsie's foster mom says of her, "she has the gift of unconditional love, which I know all dogs have, but there is just something different about the way she shows it. Everyone should have a friend like Chelsie."



Chelsie

Lady a beautiful and sweet purebred buff colored Cocker Spaniel was received into the loving care of Placing Paws on October 23, 2012. She travelled to us all the way from Southern Illinois after being given up by the only "mom" she ever knew. She was purchased from a breeder as an 8-week old pup and was given up after 8 years with her family. When Lady arrived our vet, Dr. Morrison at Care Animal Hospital, examined her. She immediately started treatment for a terrible skin infection, multiple hot spots and a double ear infection. Lady has likely been suffering from untreated and severe allergies her entire life - imagine the discomfort of having yeast infections in both ears and all over your skin for 8 years!

Lady also tested positive for heartworm disease and the treatment for this is both long-term and costly. Two mammary tumors were found and will be removed at the time of her spay. She has already begun treatment for her heartworm infection and is absolutely the sweetest dog you will ever meet. She loves all people and gets along with both dogs and cats. She is totally housebroken and fits into her foster home as though she has always lived there. She enjoys going on walks and does very well on leash. One of her favorite activities is the belly rub. She will plop down right next to you on her back and just wait for her rub. Lady is a perfect name for this beautiful girl as she is quite the Lady. She has lovely house manners, is very quiet and gentle and is a very polite little girl.



Lady

We ask for your continued support so that we can strive to save even more in 2013!

For your convenience you may go to

www.PlacingPawsRescue.org

All of us at Placing Paws wish you peace in this holiday season.

Becky, Cindy, Christie and Jeanne



In loving memory of Trevor, Ruby & Otto and all of those who have crossed over the rainbow bridge.

“ . . . I saved one animal and it didn't change the world , but surely the world changed for that one animal . . . ”