



Echo Dogs White Shepherd Rescue Newsletter

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**Echo Dogs White
Shepherd Rescue**
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Special Interest:

- * Don't forget the Chicago Family Pet Expo, March 15-17.
- * Remember to join iGive so your regular online purchases can help Echo Dogs. www.igive.com
- * We need fosters!

The Year of the Puppy!

Wow, 2012 was really the year of the puppy for Echo Dogs. While we are used to one or two litters a year, we had four litters at about the same time in the waning weeks of 2011. Those puppies were adopted in 2012.

BB had five beautiful pups, Emma/Ziva had ten, Haley had ten and Belle had nine. That's 34 puppies in a little over one month (between November 10th and December 24).

Our application processors were swamped, and lots of volunteers pitched in with home visits. Echo Dogs owes a big debt of gratitude to everyone who helped.

We had three more litters in 2012. Some of them were adopted in 2012. The last litter left their foster home in January of 2013. Pearl had five beautiful puppies. We took in a litter of four from Indiana, and then sweet Liberty finished out the year by whelping eight pups November 17, exactly a year to the day of Ziva's puppies.

Pearl's litter, four boys and a girl, had some genetic problems. Three of the boys were born with megaesophagus, a condition in which the esophagus stays enlarged and does not push the food down to the stomach. Without very careful feeding techniques, food stays in the esophagus and is regurgitated or decays there and can even be pulled into the lungs through breathing, causing pneumonia. The condition is not reversible in the genetic form.

All three of the stricken boys found excellent, caring homes dedicated to following the necessary feeding techniques. The little female was born with a condition of her urethra that required surgery. Donations from many special givers allowed her to have the surgery, which was successful.



Puppies:
Emma/Ziva—10
BB—5
Haley—10
Belle—9
Pearl—5
Indiana Litter—4
Liberty—8



Is Jack Frost Nipping at Your Dog's Toes?

Most of our shepherds love winter. They roll in the snow with happy grins. But, there are risks to keep in mind during the winter.

Ice

Frozen ponds, lakes, creeks look solid, but the ice may not be strong enough to hold your dog's weight. Also, broken ice can be as sharp as broken glass.

Health Conditions

What may be a fun romp in the snow for your young dog could be dangerous for your older dog. Some health problems like diabetes, kidney disease, heart disease, and just plain old age may hamper your dog's ability to handle cold weather. Talk with your veterinarian. The stiff joints of our senior pets may be more tender in cold weather, too. Offer comfortable bedding to soothe their aching backs.

Salt

Salt and other melting agents can be very hard on our pets' paws. If your dog is walking on surfaces that have been treated, carefully clean their paws with a wet cloth when you get back home.



Hypothermia

If weather conditions or health conditions combine to cause your dog's body temperature to fall below normal, hypothermia sets in. Some of the symptoms of hypothermia are weakness, lethargy, and shivering.

As hypothermia gets worse, their muscles will become stiff and their heart and breathing rates will slow down. They may not respond to stimuli.

Keep your dog warm and seek emergency veterinarian assistance.

Frostbite

Frostbite is a little hard to see on a dog. But it can certainly happen. Frostbite occurs when a body part is damaged by exposure to temperatures under 32 degrees F.

Watch for pale skin at the extremities of your dog: ears, lips, tail face, feet, etc. The areas will turn red as the dog is warmed.

Second degree frostbite is diagnosed when the skin blisters. The worst stage, third degree frostbite, causes the skin to turn black and can result in gangrene and possible amputation.

Heat Sources

Carbon monoxide leaks are as deadly for your pets as they are for your family. Be sure all heat sources are monitored. A carbon monoxide detector is a necessary item in your home.

Be sure dog beds are not flammable and are not too close to a heat source. Be sure your dog's paws and tail are never too close to hot surfaces and that lovely winter accessory, the family fireplace.

Senior Dogs in Winter

Large dogs are considered seniors once they reach the age of about seven years.

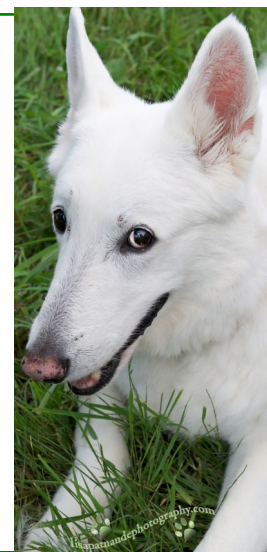
We need to realize the changes that they may be going through and how to deal with those changes to keep them happy and healthy through the cold months.

All dogs need exercise. Don't let your dog become a couch potato just because it's cold outside. Teach your dog new tricks indoors! Play ball, or get on the floor and wrestle a little, if that's what she likes to do.

Take her for walks, remembering the rules for cold weather mentioned earlier.

When she is outside, make sure she wears identification in case she gets loose and becomes confused. If she is losing vision and hearing, you may have a hard time finding her. Be sure your dog's microchip information is up to date.

Watch for any changes in her health. If she turns down food or wants more, that's a change. Vomiting or diarrhea lasting more than a day may require veterinary help. Help your senior dog enjoy winter!



New Officers

There were some officer changes during 2012. Early in the year, **Terri Lamb** took over the treasurer position. **Joyce King**, former president, resigned when she moved to Montana, but will continue on the Board of Directors and as newsletter and calendar editor.

Former Vice-President, **Terry Demag**, accepted the job of president and the adoption coordinator, **Laura Cox**, added the position of vice-president to her duties.

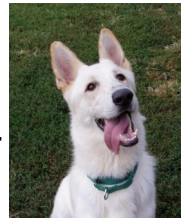
Mary Gleason accepted the position of secretary.

Gretchen Schnoor became the new foster coordinator and **Amy Lusty** and **Alice Donovan Magby** are sharing the transport coordinator duties.

Cheryl Terranova handles applications and **Lori Overton** coordinates the website and Petfinder.

Corette Stahley coordinates home visits.

Heike Brueckner keeps the medical records straight.



President: Terry Demag

Vice-President: Laura Cox

Treasurer: Terri Lamb

Secretary: Mary Gleason

Foster Coordinator: Gretchen Schnoor

Application Coordinator: Cheryl Terranova

Website and Petfinder Coordinator: Lori Overton

Transport Coordinators: Amy Lusty and Alice Donovan Magby

Home Visit Coordinator: Corette Stahley

Health Records Coordinator: Heike Brueckner

Board of Directors

Terry Demag Laura Cox Terri Lamb
Mary Gleason Joyce King Corette Stahley
Jeanette Potter

Fostering

Fostering, anyone?

Will you consider fostering in 2013? Please let us know! The only way we can grow the number of dogs we can help is by increasing our foster home base. I won't tell anyone it is easy. Occasionally it is, but it can be difficult. There are no guarantees on the dogs. We need foster homes to evaluate them.

It can be very rewarding, though.

We will be creating a list of dogs in need and will be distributing it to anyone who wants it. If you want to be on that distribution list, let us know. We can also send you our fostering policies and procedure to review if you want to know more about how fostering works. Just ask us!



Alex suffered from blastomycosis, heartworm, and he had been shot. He is now living the good life in Pennsylvania.

Fundraising Opportunities

Funds are always needed, and here are some creative ways for Echo Dogs supporters to help the organization.

Have a yard sale

In regions where there are several adopters, join together to host a yard sale. Collect used items from friends and family and advertise it in your local paper. The items can be a tax deduction. Not sure if there are other local adopters to do an event or a get together? Ask! We'd love to get adopters in contact with others in their area.

Gather used shoes

The used shoe collection is ongoing. Again, collect shoes from friends and family and clean out your own closets.

Regional Expos and other gatherings

The Chicago Family Pet Expo is a big one, and is scheduled for March 15-17 at Arlington Race Course. There are coupons that, if handed in at the door when you attend, deliver a contribution to Echo Dogs. Keep up with other re-

gional gatherings by reading the Echo Dogs Facebook group page.

Candle sales

Once again, we will be selling candles to benefit Echo Dogs. We will supply the information for how to order candles directly from Yankee Candle who will send the proceeds to Echo Dogs.

Other ideas? Don't hesitate to let us know! You can reach the officers with one email to info@echodogs.org.

Echo Dogs White Shepherd Rescue

www.echodogs.org

info@echodogs.org

donations@echodogs.org

From the President...

I can't believe that I'm heading into my tenth year with Echo Dogs. It's been quite the journey. Typically I get so caught up in the day to day emergencies and tasks that need to be done that I forget to look back and see how far we've come and all the good we've done. It's easy to get disheartened and stressed by all the pleas to help dogs that we don't have room for, the neglected and dying dogs, people who get rid of their dogs, and the dogs who have tough issues to work through, that I forget to see how many we've saved, how many have been given a second (and sometimes third and fourth) chance, the adopters who develop special bonds with their dogs, and the families Echo Dogs helps to complete.

2012 was a record breaking year for adoptions for Echo Dogs, at least as long as I have been tracking. This is mainly due to the large number of litters of pups we had come through this year—very unusual for us. We had 34 pups in foster care at once, an amazing amount to care for, screen homes for, and place in a short time. (See [“The Year of the Puppy,”](#) page 1.) We all know caring for these cute little buggers is a ton of work, but I also want to thank all those who helped us screen all the applications. I can't even tell you how many applications we received. It was an unbelievable number, but we are thrilled with the homes our pups found.

In addition to all our pups, we placed a large number of other dogs **from** all over the eastern US.. **to** all over the eastern U.S. (See [Adoption Statistics,](#) page 5.) That's a lot of adoption coordination and transports. Thankfully, we

now have TWO transport coordinators to help us move more dogs. Thank you Amy Lusty and Alice Magby for all your hard work. We are even working on flying one guy to Joyce in Montana!

Many other changes occurred within Echo Dogs last year. We've had a change in our officers and other volunteers. (See [New Officers,](#) page 3.)

One very sad aspect of being involved for so long is that we are starting to see more and more updates about dogs that have left us. As the dogs that were placed years ago age, we are losing them to cancer, heart failure, DM, and other causes. Some live to ripe old ages and some leave us way too soon. Though we all know, for a loved family member, it's never long enough, we try to take comfort in the years of happiness we have given them and they have returned to us. (See [In Loving Memory,](#) page 6.)

In looking ahead to 2013, there is so much I would love Echo Dogs to accomplish—from increasing the number



of foster homes and adoptions to better administration and data organization. I'm sure this next year will bring its share of sadness and challenges, but I hope there are more successes than ever. If you are interested in fostering or any other volunteer opportunities, please contact us. (See [Fostering,](#) page 3.)

We will be having our usual rounds of events and fundraisers, so stay tuned as the year goes on for information about the Whisker Walk, Pet Expos, Pet Rock, yard sales, candle and coffee sales, and other activities. Any support AND IDEAS are welcome!

And, as always, snap some amazing shots of your Echo Dogs dog for our yearly calendars. It's never too soon to try for that perfect shot!

Thank you all for your support and for giving wonderful homes to our rescued pets.

Terry Demag

President



ECHO DOGS
WHITE SHEPHERD RESCUE

2012 Statistics

2012 Recap

Here are some statistics for 2012, which was a record year.

Following are statistics for dogs ADOPTED in 2012. We do not count dogs still in foster care. These are statistics for unique adoptions in 2012.

Total: 133 dogs adopted in 2012

Top six states for adoption:

Illinois	26
New Hampshire	17
Indiana	13
Pennsylvania	13
Massachusetts	9
New York	9

Top states adopted dogs came from:

Born in foster	37
Indiana	20
Illinois	12
North Carolina	9
Georgia	8
Florida	7

A few other interesting statistics:

17 dogs were adopted by previous adopters
10 dogs were adopted by their fosters



STATE	Dogs Adopted to:	Dog From:
Alabama	0	4
Arkansas	0	1
Born in foster	0	37
Connecticut	4	1
Florida	5	7
Georgia	1	8
Illinois	26	12
Indiana	13	20
Iowa	0	1
Kentucky	3	2
Louisiana	0	1
Maine	3	0
Maryland	2	0
Massachusetts	9	3
Michigan	7	1
Mississippi	1	1
Missouri	2	1
Nebraska	1	0
New Hampshire	17	1
New Jersey	5	0
New York	9	1
North Carolina	2	9
Ohio	6	5
Pennsylvania	13	6
South Carolina	0	1
Tennessee	0	7
Texas	1	1
Vermont	0	1
Virginia	1	0
West Virginia	1	1
Wisconsin	1	0
	133	133



In Loving Memory

The Fragile Circle

"We who choose to surround ourselves with lives even more temporary than our own, live within a fragile circle, easily and often breached.

Unable to accept its awful gaps, we still would live no other way.

We cherish memory as the only certain immortality, never fully understanding the necessary plan."

...Irving Townsend

Merry (Paulette Penzes)

Randall (Peter Kaufman)

Breeze (in foster with Kathi Edwards)

Polo (in foster with Bill Hanley)

Dunn (Chris Sullivan)

Oliver (Melissa and Erik Hjelm)

Kodie (Melissa and Erik Hjelm)

Jada (Lynn Santosuosso and Jenn Danks)

Chaucer (Valerie Schraml)

Vixen (Barry Bowen)

Gus (Mike and Sandy Seely)

Gus (Libby and Tim Fandrei)

Tristan (Sharon Kay Penman)

Biscuit (Carol LaBollita)

Precious (Bev Cleary)

Angel (Mary Chapin and Brett Astin)

