



M U S H R

MINNESOTA'S UNWANTED SIBERIAN HUSKY RESCUE --- NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2010

Introduction: MUSHR takes in Siberian Huskies from humane societies, animal controls and owner surrenders. While we would love to rescue them all, the amount we rescue is largely dependent on how many foster homes are available. Currently we have 5 dogs in need of placement into a foster home, including:

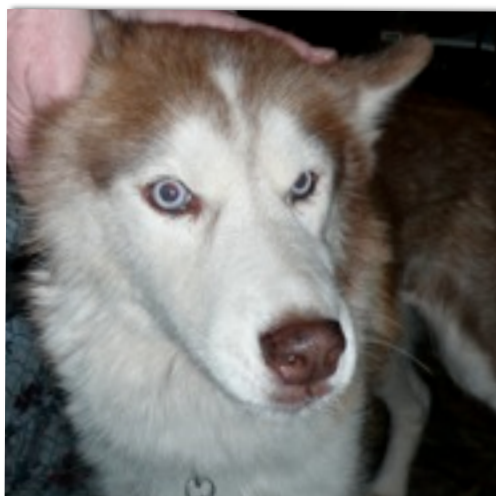
- * 4 year-old female, black and white, with a possible back problem.
- * 5 year-old male, gray and white, odd-eyed that's good with cats.

If able, we welcome any size donation to go towards possible treatment for the back problem.

Foster Homes are the foundation of MUSHR. We are in great need of more foster homes. If able, please consider fostering. Call 612-867-4013 or email mushr@earthlink.net and another volunteer will call you to discuss. Your help is greatly needed and likewise greatly appreciated.

Success Story

Despite having worked with sled dogs (Siberians aka Sibes) for years in upper Michigan, when Lynley was ready to adopt a dog, she did NOT look for a husky! But, while looking at a variety of other dogs, Lynley never really felt like that was the dog for her. Now, fast forward to a call she had with her dear friend, Angie. As Lynley put it, "Blame it on Angie!"



Featured Foster

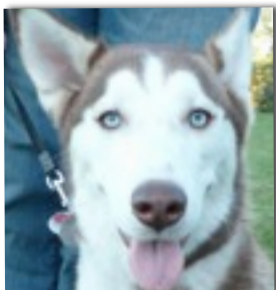
Angie was looking at Sibes and found a young red and white puppy named Papaya. She told Lynley to check her out online. Lynley took one look and said, "she should be my

Her name is Fancy, but her life started off as anything BUT fancy. Fancy was the victim of a puppy mill; having several litters of puppies. Fancy is now spayed and was given some much needed dental care. But more importantly, Fancy got love!

I got to meet Fancy and the first thing I noticed was she has "happy feet." My old Siberian had that - like a baseball player that steps up to the plate - moving the feet back and forth, up and down. It cracked me up! She is very light on her feet.

Fancy was a bit shy when I first arrived. This was not a surprise as she probably didn't interact much with humans at the puppy mill. But within about 5 minutes, everything changed! Fancy was curious about me and started to smell me and get a bit cuddly.

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Exciting Events

Adoption Days

When: January 29, 2011

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Where: Chuck and Don's

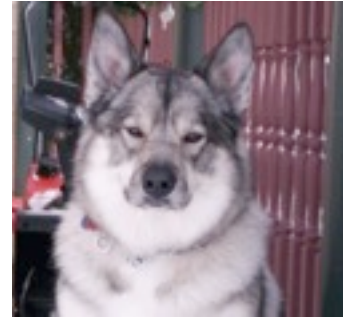
3525 Vicksburg Lane
Plymouth, MN 55447

Website

Check out MUSHR photos at:

gallery.me.com/mushr

If you click on the link above, it will bring you right to the site! Enjoy.



Trainer Tips/Healthy Hints

Halloween has come and gone, but the holiday season is just getting started. What is the one thing all the holidays have in common? Chocolate! Many of us love to have candies and chocolates around the house during this festive season, and we know that our dogs love these sweet treats as much as we do. The one problem is that chocolate is toxic for our furry friends.

Chocolate toxicity is caused by a component in chocolate called Theobromine. It is toxic because your dog's body can't process it as effectively as a human can. So while we have no ill effects from eating too many chocolate bars, except maybe a stomachache, your dog can get very, very sick. It does make a difference what kind of chocolate your dog eats since each kind of chocolate contains a different amount of Theobromine. Things like Oreos and chocolate ice cream, and white chocolate contain little or no actual chocolate, so therefore no Theobromine. There is also a large difference between baker's chocolate and milk chocolate. The weight of your dog makes a large difference; a 5 lb Chihuahua doesn't need to eat as much as say a 55lb Siberian Husky. Below is a table to explain the amount of each type chocolate that your dog would potentially have to eat, by weight, to be potentially toxic.

Any time that you think your dog has eaten any chocolate or think you are seeing any signs of chocolate toxicity call your vet immediately. It takes very little time for symptoms to start showing especially in the case of bakers chocolate or cocoa powder. There are many different symptoms to chocolate toxicity ranging from mild to very dangerous:

- vomiting/diarrhea
- excitement, nervousness, and/or trembling
- excessive thirst and urination
- muscle spasms
- seizures (in very serious cases)
- coma and/or death (in rare instances)

There is no specific cure for chocolate toxicity, but fast response and supportive care, such as induced vomiting and IV fluids, can make the difference in what could be a very bad situation. When caught early chocolate toxicity very rarely causes death.

So, while you are enjoying family time, watching that Siberian of yours revel in finally having snow on the ground, remind all your friends and family that they can't share chocolate with your pets. Keep that candy jar handy, but always away from your furry family members.

Featured Foster - con't

Then came the kisses! It became very obvious to me that all this little girl needs from a future family is a little patience and plenty of affection. She will warm up to the family and return the affection multiple times over. She is just so darn sweet! As her foster mom, Carol, said, "Fancy has been through so much and how much she brightens up in just a couple of days is the best of feelings."

Fancy is petite at only 35 pounds. She looks great. She has a small waist, proportionate body, beautiful blue eyes and a ridiculously bushy tail! It is almost as big as she is. That tail just keeps wagging and wagging and wagging. She is now a very happy dog!

Fancy loves to play outside, smelling all the smells, chasing squirrels, and just playing like a normal dog. She's learning how to play with toys, for now, just shaking them. It's a start.

Fancy definitely has the energy of a Sibe, but at about 6, she also has the calmness to sit by your feet (or on a nearby rug) and just hang out with you. Did I say how sweet she is?

When I spoke with foster mom Carol, one of the things she first said was, "She is the greatest pet." I know what Carol means. In just a short time, Fancy has learned that people can be good. In the short time with Fancy, I could start to see this great little girl start to shine. Her tail was wagging, she was giving kisses and her eyes seemed to say, "Hey, you're nice; thank you!"

The most difficult part of my meeting with Fancy was leaving! She followed me to the door, almost as if asking me to stay. I can't help but say it again - Fancy is so sweet!!

So, here's the question: Who's going to be the lucky owner of this precious little girl that didn't have a great start but who shows all the promise to be, "the greatest pet?"

FEATURED FOSTER - TAKE 2

This issue is also featuring another foster - Cooquies. We wanted to let our readers know

that MUSHR focuses on Siberians and Sibe mixes, but from time to time, we try to help out other breeds deserving of a great home. Cooquies is certainly no purebred Siberian, but, she's great! We were told Cooquies was a Sibe/keeshond mix, but we believe she is a Norwegian elkhound/ keeshond mix.

Carol also fostered Cooquies for awhile before being placed with another volunteer, so I asked her a bit about her. As soon as I mentioned Cooquies, Carol's eyes lit up. Her immediate response was, "Oh she is so well behaved!" Cooquies is crate trained, house trained and loves to play. She even shows signs of being interested in fetching!

Unfortunately, Cooquies has been in MUSHR for a long time. This loving, gentle girl needs a likewise loving and gentle family.

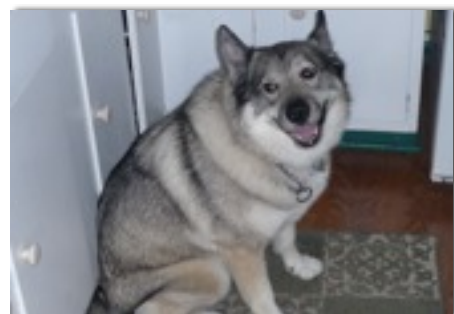
To help dogs like Fancy or Cooquies, obviously an adoption is needed. But also, monetary donations are needed to assist with veterinary care of all dogs that come to MUSHR (shots, spay/neuter, microchip) as well as to assist with more involved care (surgeries). Donations are greatly needed. Any help is appreciated. Also, MUSHR is in need of additional foster homes for dogs like Fancy and Cooquies. If you are interested, please call or email. If you have not fostered before, a volunteer will contact you and explain the process and expectations. If you have fostered before, are you willing to foster again? If so, please call/email. Thank you to everyone for all your donations and to all our foster families! MUSHR could not survive without you!

Thank you to foster mom Carol Clancy.

Written by Corrine Evenson

Cooquies pictured below and previous page.

Fancy at beginning of article.



Success Story - con't

dog." It was an instant connection. It was as if Papaya was saying, "Hi, I'm your dog!"

Lynley immediately called the MUSHR phone number and started the process. Within days Lynley met Papaya and the first meeting only emphasized the immediate connection. A few days later they met again at Lynley's house and the rest is history. Papaya, now Paya, is all Lynley's.

The bond between Lynley and Paya has only grown. Lynley knew of the challenges with Sibes and so immediately began obedience classes. Paya picked up everything so quickly. Lynley is quite proud of her little girl! Lynley recommends every Sibe owner take their dog to school. The dog loves it; the owner loves it; it is great socialization and it makes the owner/dog relationship just get better and better.

Paya has changed Lynley's life too. Now Lynley is involved with a ski-jour club, an outdoor and snow lovers group and a dog walks and dinners group. Lynley is actually looking forward to winter - now with Paya.

Paya loves to play. I got to witness this when I met with Lynley and Paya. She is a fast dog! So many of my pictures were of the back half of Paya because she is so fast my camera (ah, and me) couldn't keep up. But, I hope you enjoy these couple of pictures. Oh, remember Angie, who had Lynley look at Paya's picture - thank you! Lynley and Paya are clearly meant to be together!

If you want your dog featured on one of our "Success Stories" please email MUSHR.

Written by Corrine Evenson.



Trainer Tips - con't

Weight (lbs)	Milk chocolate (oz)	Semi-sweet/dark chocolate (oz)	Bakers chocolate (oz)	Cocoa powder (oz)
5	4.4	1.4	0.6	0.4
10	8.7	2.8	1.2	0.9
15	13.1	4.2	1.7	1.3
20	17.4	5.7	2.3	1.7
25	21.8	7.1	2.9	2.2
30	26.1	8.5	3.5	2.6
35	30.5	9.9	4.1	3
40	34.8	11.3	4.6	3.5
45	39.2	12.7	5.2	3.9
50	43.6	14.1	5.8	4.4
55	47.9	15.5	6.4	4.8
60	52.3	17	7	5.2
70	61	19.8	8.1	6.1
80	69.7	22.6	9.3	7
90	78.4	25.4	10.5	7.8
100	87.1	28.3	11.6	8.7

Written by Melissa Furmanski.

If you would like help training your dog, MUSHR offers private lessons for a fee. This fee then goes back to MUSHR.



Miscellaneous

Previous Featured Foster: Andy (from Sept/Oct 2010 edition) was adopted within days of the last edition! Thank you. Let's keep the string alive!

Theo: There apparently is a little theme to this edition - not only Sibes need and deserve a great home. Check out our other four legged furry friend - Theo the cat! Yep, cat! He was dropped off at a vet office where some volunteers work. They couldn't say no that that cute mug! Who's interested?

Calendars, t-shirts, mugs: MUSHR has had recently and will continue to have some expensive, but needed veterinarian expenses. For example, Fancy and her dental work. Also, MUSHR obtained 4 dogs from a severe neglect situation in mid October. Besides much needed socialization, these dogs need critical veterinarian care. Donations are always appreciated, but you can also purchase the following great items (great Christmas gifts too):

2011 Calendars: \$25 each or 5 for \$100. This includes postage.

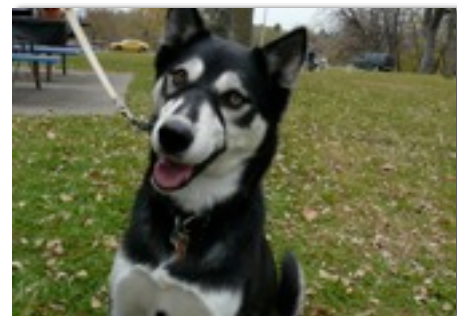
T-shirts: \$20 each. Includes postage.

Coffee Mugs: \$15 each. Includes postage.

Upcoming Article: The January/February 2011 edition will include an article about the 4 dogs from the severe neglect situation discussed above. (FYI: The situation caused some misty eyes to the volunteers.) By January we will have a better understanding of how the dogs are doing and hopefully can tell you about all the positive improvement the dogs have made.

MUSH-A-THON: On October 23, 2010 we had MUSH-A-THON! Thankfully the rain held off and much fun was had by all! Thank you to everyone who helped with the set up, who came and socialized, who purchased items and/or made donations. It was great seeing the MUSHR family! Below are some pictures from the big event. We hope to see you all and many more next year.

Thank You for donations: Lisa Mehsikomer, Barb Kennedy, Deb & Tim Marchiafava, Pat Seeley, Tim & Ann Marie Hanson, Beth & Frank Galatis, Corrine Evenson, Melissa Furmanski, Lauren Skildum, Nicole Pettit and Christopher Hime.





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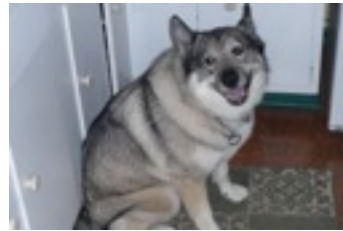
ADOPTIONS NEEDED - CALL OR EMAIL IF INTERESTED



FANCY

AGE: 6
RED AND WHITE
FEMALE
BLUE EYES

- *Started out as a puppy mill dog that had several litters. Now she wants to just be a dog.
- *Moderate energy. She loves her walks.
- *Good with other dogs and we believe even cats too.
- *Crate trained, housebroken and up to date with her shots.
- *Takes a bit to trust you but when she does, she will show her affection and give lots of kisses.



COOQUIES

AGE: 3
NORWEGIAN ELKHOUND
KEESHOUND MIX.
FEMALE
BROWN EYES

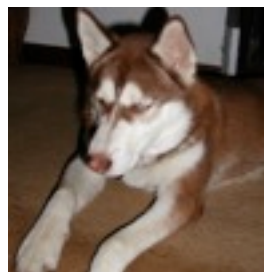
- *We were told she was a Siberian Husky mix but we just don't know. She is still worthy of a fantastic home.
- *She does display characteristics of a Siberian, such as pulling and needs to be on leash at all times. However, unlike her Siberian cousin she is willing to please. She knows sit, down and stay and is crate trained. Good with other dogs and cats too!
- *Cooquies is so sweet and loves people.



MABEL

AGE: 10
BLACK AND WHITE
FEMALE
BLUE EYES

- *Mabel is good with cats, currently living with several cats and other dogs.
- *She came to us because her previous owner refused to pick her up at animal control after owning her for 10 years.
- *She is very easy going and would be great for someone who is looking to help a dog in her retirement years.
- *She is crate trained and housebroken.
- *Lower energy for a Siberian.



WYNONNA

AGE: 2
RED AND WHITE
FEMALE
BLUE EYES

- *Sweet singin' Wynonna. Will sing her way right into your heart!
- *Wynonna is a stray from Missouri who came with her buddy Ruddles, a male red and white (will soon be on website).
- *Wynonna is a lovebug. She will want to snuggle and give all sorts of kisses.
- *She is learning how to have basic doggie manners such as crate train, sit and take a treat nicely.
- *She's young and looking for a great running companion.