



American Maltese Association Rescue

Cinderella



Gayle Lash, Foster/Rescuer

Senior dogs are always difficult to place, so when we received an Owner Surrender form from a lady wanting to surrender her 11-year old Maltese female we were concerned.

It seems the lady worked full-time and could no longer take care of her dog. Cinderella was not getting any attention. Locked up for 10-12 hours a day and completely alone, she wasn't even able to go outside to relieve herself. Depressed, Cinderella was a picky eater, very thin at 4.5 pounds with horrible tear stains, skin sores, and well overdue for vaccinations and a dental.

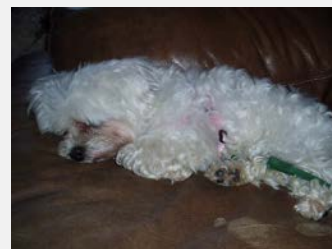
So Cinderella came to me as an AMAR foster child. She was lightly matted, but not like shelter dogs we get. She didn't know how to interact with other dogs. At first she ignored my dogs and did her own thing. Eventually, my Maltese male got her to play, and play they did. Oh, and we started calling her Cindy.

Once all of the medical issues were addressed, Cindy was listed as "Available" on our website. We figured Cindy would be with us for the long haul. Another foster dog came to me, and was quickly adopted. Cindy remained with us.

Then, one day out of the blue, a friend and business partner, Tom, called me to ask if Cindy was still available. You see, Tom's wife, Joanne, had been having stroke-like symptoms for over a year with no identifiable diagnosis. Paralyzed over half her body, and always gradually returned to health ... another set-back would occur. She quit her job due to the difficulties. Tom thought a little dog would be good for her.

Tom and Joanne met Cindy and fell in love. Normally, a happily-ever-after like this would be the end of this story. Not so, in this case. Cindy was not only great for Joanne, but when Tom began to teach her tricks she proved to be a quick learner. The kicker is that Cindy became a Therapy Dog. She works with the local library patiently listening as young children read to her.

This came from Tom recently, "Cindy the Wonder Dog is sporting her new Certified Therapy Dog vest and patch from the Valley Humane Center. She's now an official Paws to Read program dog, helping children in Livermore to learn how to read better, and had her first official duty on Wednesday."



When Cinderella arrived at her Foster home she looked defeated

(Cindy's after photo is on page 2)

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Cindy the Therapy Dog (formerly Cinderella)
Photo by Joyce Logan

We Believe

We believe all dogs deserve a second chance for a new beginning. We place great emphasis on the rehabilitation of sick and unsocialized Maltese, providing them with the medical care and social skills necessary for a truly healthy and happy life.

We believe in the importance of placing each dog in a loving and caring home environment as soon as possible. This is accomplished exclusively through our foster home program.

AMA Rescue is a national 501c3 non-profit, all-volunteer, animal rescue organization whose focus is finding responsible, loving and permanent homes for surrendered, abandoned, neglected and abused Maltese.

As a nationwide organization we have fosters located in Washington State, Oregon, Kansas, Florida, Pennsylvania, Texas, New Jersey and Northern and Southern California. We are affiliated with American Maltese Association.

Love Maltese and want to help? Volunteer activities include fostering, rescuing from shelters, home interviews, transportation, updating mailing lists and much more. We'll train you! Contact the coordinator closest to your location.

Who to Contact

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In Memory of Debbie Kirsch

Debbie Kirsch, long time American Maltese Association member and first AMA Rescue National Coordinator passed away in late September 2013. Debbie played a large part in the planning and structuring of the Rescue Committee and was involved with development of the first documents and contracts the Rescue Committee utilized. She chaired several Rescue fund raising events at past specialties and was instrumental in continuing the Rescue Program at a time when the program was in jeopardy.

Debbie was a successful Breeder and exhibitor of both Maltese and Yorkshire Terriers, although Maltese were her first love. She was a past AMA Vice President East and Director East and co-chaired the 2007 National Specialty in New Jersey. She served on the Specialty Advisory Committee where she served as Hotel Contract Liaison for the club.

Debbie was also very active in her local community theater. She became President of Hexagon Players of Mendham, New Jersey and under her direction Hexagon became one of the preeminent community theater organizations in New Jersey. She directed numerous shows, entertaining sold out crowds. Debbie was honored with three Perry nominations for outstanding community theater (NJACT). She was committed to bringing the joy of participating in the theater to both children and adults. She mentored dozens of children in Hexagon productions, providing a training ground that launched many Broadway careers. She extended her commitment to local children in the arts by directing "Cinderella", "Oliver", "Once Upon a Mattress", "Seussical", and "Honk" in Mendham middle schools.

Despite battling cancer, Debbie continued to devote her energies and affections to theater in the community. She said "the cast and crew members are getting me through the cancer". In recognition of her extraordinary accomplishments, Debbie was named Somerset County outstanding woman of the year in 2012 in the category of Arts and Entertainment.

All theater members involved in Debbie's productions will remember her high standards and meticulous attention; the same qualities she will be remembered for her voluntary work to the AMA.



Cupcake is now recovering from multiple surgeries and is almost pain free!

Finally, Cupcake Finds Love



Bronwyne Smith Mirkovich, foster/rescuer

I have fostered around thirty dogs for AMAR and rescued even more, so I know AMA Rescue is fantastic. If you donate money to AMAR, 100% of it goes to vet bills and crazy ladies like me can help more Maltese.

We never scrimp on a dog and do whatever it takes to make them feel better – no matter how long it takes. We keep the foster dogs in our homes forever if it is not in their best interest to be re-homed or if no one wants them. Help us continue to be nuts about the old, injured and abandoned little white dogs.

As an example, Cupcake was rescued from a high kill shelter by a kind young lady who soon realized she was in over her head. A lovely old girl, Cupcake, a money maker for backyard breeders, gave birth to many pups who were sold online or in stores.

She never received medical treatment and when she got tumors her uterus gave out and she was taken to the shelter. She is emaciated and drained from having been used to breed puppies her entire life.

Cupcake has severe degenerative heart disease with severe mitral regurgitation, mild tricuspid regurgitation and mild pulmonary hypertension. She had emergency surgery last week for a uterus infection and they removed a chain of mammary tumors that turned out to be benign (yeah!). In a separate surgery she had dental work done. She has been treated for chronic ear infections and severe flea dermatitis. AMA Rescue now takes care of Cupcake's medical needs and will do so for the remainder of her life. Her rescuer can keep on loving her.

And the good news! When Cupcake got her stitches out she was groomed. The change in her rocks my world. I can already see a huge transformation in her and a joy and spirit to love her fosters and a renewed interest in food. She is well on her way to being pain free. Rescuing animals rescues the human spirit. I believe that. Go Cupcake!



Cupcake – old, used up and dumped at the shelter

Thank You Donors!

"Rescuing animals rescues the human spirit."

Please click on one of the links below to help save more Maltese.



AMAZON'S ASSOCIATES PROGRAM FOR NON-PROFITS

Click on the Amazon button on the front page of our website to donate to AMA Rescue.

<http://www.americanmalteserescue.com>



AMA Rescue has two new logos designed by Lori Lengen. Thank you Lori! And a special thanks to Bronwyne's dog Birdie who is the picture perfect model.



Chip, our AMA Rescue Spokesdog is honored

OMD! This is a really BIG deal for me. The Fall 2013 issue of American Dog Magazine has named me as one of the Famous Dogs of Facebook!!! It says I am "famous," but I'm not famous. I just meet some of the nicest friends on Facebook. Without YOU, I couldn't get the message out about AMAR rescue dogs and fostering. I love you all!!!! Thank you for being my friends!!!

Keep up with our latest rescues!

Like us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/americanmalteseassociationrescue>

BECOME A FAN OF CHIP

[Click here for Chip's Facebook Page](#)

All I Want for Christmas...



Sharon Binger, Foster/Rescuer

Marci has four children from a previous marriage, ages 6 to 13. The children have been begging for a dog for a long time so Marci and new husband Mark decided to explore the option.

They asked the children to make a list of why they wanted a dog; how they will help care for it and things they will do with him. Then Marci and Mark started researching breeds. Their main concern? The dog needed to be hypoallergenic as her youngest has allergies. If they found a dog suitable for their family they wanted it to be a Christmas present for the children.

They found Max on Petfinder, watched his video and decided to apply for him. Marci and Mark set up a meet and greet with Max's foster mom, Carla. They fell in love with Max but wanted the children to meet him before they decided. An accidental meeting was planned between Max and the children in a park. Of course the children loved Max and he loved them. The decision was pretty much made at that time, but Marci wanted to spend a little one-on-one with Max at her home to make sure.

Carla dropped Max off at Marci's home the next Monday on her way to work. The home visit went well and it was decided that Max was the one for them. BUT...when the children got home from school her youngest boy was lying on the floor playing where Max had been and had a severe allergic reaction. OH NO!!! Max was living with several other dogs but they needed to know if the reaction was from Max or the other dogs. Before going for a sleepover with the children Carla gave Max a bath with a hypoallergenic shampoo. When he was returned to Carla the next day Marci was all smiles and thumbs up – no allergic reaction. It had been one of the other dogs!



The girls were with her when she returned Max and were so excited that they taught Max to rollover while he was at home with them. They were sad to see him leave. Carla and Marci concocted a story that they were taking care of Max the night before to help Carla.

The Christmas surprise is intact. The children will stay with their Dad on December 20-24. Carla will take Max to his new home after the children leave, giving Max four days to get settled into his new home, and on Christmas morning when the children come back home the Christmas surprise will be waiting for them. Max will finally have his forever family with children to play with. That's all he wants for Christmas!