

Maltese Brighten Your Life



American Maltese Association Rescue

A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization

We are affiliated with The American Maltese Association

HELP AMAR BY TAKING PART IN "GIVING AND GETTING TUESDAY"

There's *Black Friday*, *Cyber Monday* and for the past three years, *#GivingTuesday*, the day in which nonprofits and individuals from across the globe, join together and raise funds for the world-changing causes that matter to them. This year, American Maltese Association Rescue has decided to turn *#GivingTuesday* into *Giving and Getting Tuesday*, by combining a raffle with this fundraising event. For every \$10 you donate to AMAR from now until **Tuesday, December 10**, you will be awarded a raffle number giving you a chance to win some pawsome prizes, that are shown below.

In the past few weeks alone, AMAR has taken in 20 rescue dogs, nationwide. Among them are nine from a hoarder, six from an owner who died and several from kill shelters. Most of these dogs have needed extensive medical treatment, in addition to the normal spay/neuter/microchip services we provide to our rescue dogs before they're adopted. And we still have many dogs who are receiving ongoing medical treatments and surgery. Our funds are dwindling and we don't want to have to stop taking in new rescues.

By taking part in AMAR's *Giving and Getting Tuesday*, you can make a difference between life and death for these Maltese and Maltese mixes, whose lives may be in jeopardy. And what better time to help those who are less fortunate, than during the holidays. This is just in time for end-of-year, tax deductible charitable contributions. Don't forget to check with your employer to find out about corporate matching donations. And you can even use your donation to buy a 2016 AMAR calendar or t-shirt.

To take part in AMAR's *Giving and Getting Tuesday*, visit our website page: <https://www.americanmalteserescue.org/> and click on the orange donate PayPal button on the upper right hand side. When it opens, you will see a "purpose" box to the left and write in "*Giving and Getting Tuesday*." Or you can also mail your donations to AMAR, 3015 NE 86th St. Vancouver, WA 98665. We need your help to continue saving these little innocents.



AMAR RAFFLE

In conjunction with Giving Tuesday AMAR is also having a raffle. It will run from now until Dec 10th with the tickets being drawn on Dec. 11th. Tickets are \$10 each. Prizes are listed below

with pictures and more prizes may be added. You can purchase tickets though PayPal or send a check to our Treasurer at this address: AMAR % Sharon Binger 3015 NE 86th St. Vancouver, WA 98665 If sending a check please specify it is for the raffle, include your email address so we can notify you if you win, and make sure we receive it by the 10th.



<p>#1 Yvonne Bandoni Figurine</p> 	<p>#2 Handmade Afghan</p> 	<p>#3 22 " round dog bed</p> 	<p>#4 Zebra print dog bed with matching dress.</p> 
<p>#5 Belly Bands by Steph Smaltz</p> 	<p>#6 Hair bows by Steph Smaltz</p> 	<p>#7 10 Birthday Cards by Susan Leavitt</p> 	<p>#8 AMAR T-Shirt</p> 
<p>#9 Name Tags by Michelle Robison</p> 			

Dee's Journey



Some background on Dee. He was one day away from losing his life, as he sat in Animal Care & Control in New York City. He was on Death Row for pets because his owner surrendered him citing his “cost.” A surrender only gets three days to be adopted or rescued and then they are put to death by lethal injection. Dee was lucky, his third day was the annual “Just One Day,” a no-kill initiative that many shelters across the country participated in, agreeing to suspend euthanasia for one day. Even though he is only 3-years-old, Dee’s prospects were dim because he was emaciated, matted and had a history of seizures. Time was about to run out. No way was I going to let that happen after seeing a photo of him on Facebook. As a foster for AMAR, I was able to pull Dee out of the shelter the day before his reprieve ended. No one who’s met him can imagine the fate that was awaiting him.

But Dee isn’t out of the woods yet. I brought him into my home, cleaned up the filth and shampooed him trying to remove the stench from urine and feces, and found a sweet scared boy who almost immediately knew he was safe. He offered licks and followed me everywhere. He had a double ear infection, and was throwing up because he was put on a strong antibiotic at the shelter (with no reason given) and it made him sick. His bloodwork was good and once on some prescription food, he started to flourish. His tail wagged, he pranced, played fetch and threw toys in the air. He got groomed and lost all those nasty knots and did well for 5 days...and then the seizures, that they said he had in the past (with no medication and no explanation) came. And with a vengeance! He had two in a row, another in our arms as we rushed him to the vet and another one when he was in their care. Some of his seizures have lasted over 5 minutes each. We were in crisis.

Our vet at City Veterinary Care has been wonderful. They ran several tests that could lead us to find the cause of the seizures and decided to go on the least invasive route and try him on an anti-seizure medication. He was put on a loading dose of Potassium Bromide for 5 days and then a daily maintenance dose afterwards. Dee’s bile acid test numbers were a little high so it was decided not to give Phenobarbital, which is hard on the liver. Day 4 he had a seizure with me again. He had it for 5 minutes and then didn’t have another, but the five minutes is torture to watch as he contorted painfully and nearly hurt himself doing so, as I tried to calm him and protect him. Then three days later, he had another set of three seizures as powerful as any he had before. Another trip to, and overnight at, the vet. On Sunday, I thought his condition was getting better; by Tuesday I could see that wasn’t the case. He was then put on another medication, Keppra which takes about 48 hours to kick in. At this point we felt it best to go to a specialist. On Wednesday I took him to a neurologist who thinks it’s very likely that it’s idiopathic epilepsy and the key is finding the right drug combo



that will help manage the seizures. He doubled the dose of new drug which our vet prescribed.

The next day Dee once again had cluster seizures over the course of half an hour. The first lasting 5 minutes, the next 3 minutes and the next one around the same as the second. Another trip back to the vet, since if your dog has seizures 5 minutes or longer or cluster seizures, you have to take them in to check him out. since the length and number can cause brain damage.

Dee did go 48 hours without a seizure but on Saturday night (6/27) that came to an abrupt halt as he had a very bad, long cluster of seizures. Since it was after hours at our vet we had to take him to Blue Pearl. To keep him overnight the bill would be over \$800!! I knew I was rolling the dice but took him home as that is a huge amount of money for Rescue to spend on an overnight for one dog. Luckily he got through the night with no other seizures or I would have had to take him back.

During the rest of June and all of July we continued with vet visits, medicine adjustments, got him on phenobarbitol. Nothing seemed to control his seizures. Then a wonderful vet that we work with stepped up and offered to foster Dee for us and work on getting his seizures under control.

[Dr. Heather Westfall](#) has had a lot of experience with seizure dogs and in with her Dee would have 24/7 medical care. Dee was with her for about a month until he could transition to another foster home. He was not completely seizure free but they were controlled to the point that they were very infrequent.



Shortly after going into foster care with Steph we got an application for Dee from a couple that had a seizure dog previously and were anxious to adopt another. We consulted with Dr. Heather and she said that Dee could go to a forever home anytime. It would actually be best for him to get into a permanent stable home that he would soon learn was his. So in early September Dee was adopted to a wonderful family who is committed to loving and caring for Dee.

This is a picture of Dee in his forever home. He is being spoiled and has settled in nicely. And the best news is that he has only had 1 seizure since being adopted and it was a very short mild one. Yeah!!!! to Dee! We so love happy new beginnings of a wonderful new life for our foster dogs.



North California Hoarder Situation & Rescue

by Gayle Lash AMAR President

On October 31st one of our area foster-mom volunteers, and her family, pulled off the most amazing dog rescue I've ever been involved with. [Kim Lagomarsino](#), you are my HERO!!!

I asked Kim to go into this situation, as she was the closest. I asked her to go into Hell. She did it, without question, and did it with aplomb, not for me, but for the dogs. Rescue is all about the dogs, but along the way you get to work with awesome people, like Kim. I am so grateful.

There were 14 Maltese dogs living in a small house and never put outside to potty. The floor of the house, some carpeted, was covered in 3 inches of urine and feces. The Maltese were shy and afraid, hiding behind and under furniture. There were 5 larger dogs living in kennels in a barn with the same floor condition. There was no food or water visible, and we learned the dogs had not eaten for 4 days.

Kim, AMAR's local foster mom, initially went to the house on Oct 31st to assess the situation, with the plan to pick up the dogs on Nov 1st. Once there she discovered the severity of the conditions, fed and watered the dogs, called in help from her family, and organized additional crates with transport to immediately move all the dogs to safety. She interfaced with the Sheriff's office, and Animal Control, plus a disreputable rescue that wanted to use the situation for news coverage to get donations. Kim arrived at the hoarder's home at noon and did not get home from her day of horror until 2:30 AM.

Kim is lead a team of AMAR volunteers while they bathed, shaved-down, cleaned all the urine and feces from the dogs, and documented the condition of each dog. They all had vet visits, spayed or neutered, dentals, updated on vaccines. Needless to say this has been a very expensive experience, but so worth it.

Now, 3 weeks later the dogs are coming out of their shells, learning what it is like to have someone hold them, care for them, and love them. They are enjoying eating good quality food daily, sleeping in warm beds and having clean floors to walk on. Here are pictures of a few of the dogs we got as they are today.



2016 AMAR Calendar



Don't miss out!!! The 2016 American Maltese Association Calendars are now for sale!!!

The coming year's calendar features some of our most complex 2015 rescue dogs. This is not unusual, because we do not compete with the public for adoptable dogs. We save the ones that need us, because of medical, behavioral help, and patient love needs.

This year's stories and photos, will break your heart, and make it soar with joy, as you see these wonderful white fluffs bloom with the love of their foster and Forever Homes.

Cost is \$20.00 each which includes shipping. These calendars make wonderful Christmas gifts or stocking stuffers. For every 5 calendars you purchase you will receive one free. All proceeds go to help rescued Maltese. Don't miss getting yours this year!!!



You could win a \$2500 shopping spree from eBay and AMAR could win \$2500 also if you add us as your favorite charity!



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American Maltese Association Rescue

3015 NE 86th St

Vancouver, WA 98665

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