



To rescue, rehabilitate and re-home needy dogs everywhere.

We are a volunteer based organization. We receive NO salaries. All monies received go towards the rescue and care of the dogs.

Your Pet's Health

Most pet owners know that owning a furry friend can be pricy at times but the price of not caring for them properly can cost your pet it's life! Dogs and cats can be exposed to many diseases, so they need to have the right protection. Heartworm, distemper, parvo, feline leukemia and rabies are ALL preventable diseases, yet each day, rescue groups across the country encounter animals with these diseases. Many times, we can only watch as the diseases take their toll. Most times, we must spend hundreds or thousands of dollars to save one or two animals (*see Murphy and Monty's story right and Taz and Barney's story below*).

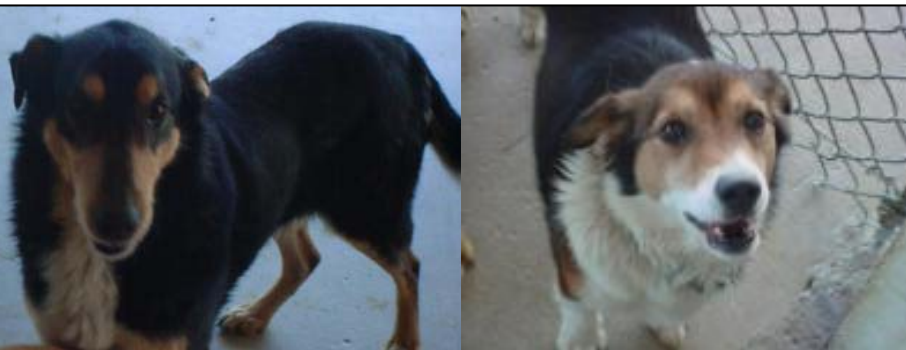
While there is much discussion amongst vets, dog owners, breeders on what vaccines dogs really need and when they need them, the bottom line is that they need basic protection. Dogs are not born with natural immunity against diseases like parvo, distemper and corona. If a mother dog has ever received a vaccine for any of these disease, her nursing puppies will receive some immunity but they will still require future booster shots in order to build up long lasting immunity.

So, please see to it that your pets are seen by a vet on a yearly basis, have at least had one round of vaccines and are checked for heartworm on a regular basis!. You could be saving them from an early death!

Taz & Barney

Heart Worm Positive!

Sadly, Taz (left), a male collie mix and Barney (right), a male Corgi/Beagle mix that we've pulled from the Gladwin Animal Shelter, have both tested positive for Heartworm and will need treatment.



Like Murphy and Monty, Taz and Barney both suffer from a terrible dog disease that is so easy to prevent! If their previous owners had just bothered to give them a monthly dose of medicine, they would have been safe from this very common dog disease.

Heart worm infections are a major risk for dogs in all areas of the United States and Michigan is no exception. Heart worm is transmitted by mosquitoes. A mosquito transfers the parasite by drinking the infected blood of a heartworm positive animal and then biting a non-infected animal. The heart worm larvae that reside in the infected blood are then injected into the new dog and unless the new animal has been on heartworm preventative, within a matter of months, the larvae will grow to mature adults, attaching themselves along the heart and lung linings and soon begin to reproduce.

Heartworm treatment is a serious medical procedure that takes a toll on the animal being treated. The drugs used to kill heartworms contain an arsenic component and during heartworm treatment the dog's liver and kidney will work hard to rid the dog's body of byproducts from the drugs and from the dead heartworms. (cont'd on page 2)



Murphy & Monty

Meet our little Parvo survivors!

Meet Murphy and Monty – 2 lab mixed puppies Waggin' Tails rescued from Jackson County Animal Control in mid-April. While they appeared to be happy, healthy puppies, we learned that they had contracted Parvo before they came to our group and even though they received a vaccine, it was already too late. They became very ill, very quickly.

Parvo is a highly contagious dog disease that has a very high mortality rate and affects puppies much more frequently than adult dogs. The virus attacks the lining of the digestive system, causing the affected animal to not be able to absorb nutrients or liquids. Puppies are especially prone to the virus because they have an immature immune system. Symptoms include severe, foul smelling - bloody diarrhea, vomiting, high fever and lethargy. If not immediately treated, the virus is fatal 80% of the time.

Once a puppy or dog begins displaying symptoms, it will require immediate professional treatment otherwise death is often the outcome. They will need to be rehydrated and receive antibiotics to ward off secondary bacteria infections. Recently, it has been discovered that human Tamiflu medication can successfully aid the pup/dog in recovery from the virus.

Luckily, both Murphy and Monty survived their bout with this terrible virus. So many other puppies are not as fortunate. Treating a dog or puppy for parvo is usually quite costly because they require 24/7 attention for several days and usually need to be cared for in an emergency vet's office to ensure they are receiving enough fluids to prevent dehydration (what is usually the cause of death for a dog/pup with parvo). Waggin' Tails spent over \$2000 to treat these two pups but many families out there can not afford that and are forced to watch their furry family member die – simply because they were not properly vaccinated. So be pro-active. Make sure your pets have the protection they need to ward off diseases that are so easily avoided. You could be saving their life!

Heartworm (cont'd)

Dogs need to be kept still for several weeks after heartworm medication has been given because as the worms die, they breakdown in the bloodstream. If a dog is too active during this stage, they risk having the dying/dead worms accumulate in one area of the bloodstream, possibly creating a blockage (aneurysm) which could cause the dog's death. The heartworm treatment drugs also may cause nausea, loss of appetite and vomiting.

Because of the risks and the pain and suffering involved with heartworm treatment, it is much better to prevent heartworms in the first place. Heartworm disease can be easily prevented by giving your dog a monthly dose of heartworm preventatives.

Luckily for Taz and Barney, their guardian angels were looking out for them. Even though they had tested positive for heartworm, Waggin' Tails still agreed to pull them from the Gladwin Animal Shelter and pay for their heartworm treatment. But this treatment comes at a high price and just after Waggin' Tails has spent over \$2000 to treat our Parvo puppies.

If you would like to help sponsor Taz or Barneys' heartworm treatment, please contact us today. Waggin' Tails pulls from these rural shelters so that so many great dogs won't have to be euthanized and we are sure to run into more dogs like Taz and Barney in the future. All donations are tax deductible and you would have the knowledge that you have helped to save a life!

"If you think dogs can't count, try putting three dog biscuits in your pocket and then giving your dog only two of them." - Phil Pastoretm



Dog Days of Summer

Now that spring has finally arrived, the "dog days of summer" will soon be here. Below are some helpful reminders for all dog owners:

- Overheating can kill an animal. Never leave an animal alone in a vehicle, since even with the windows open, a parked car, truck or van can quickly become a furnace.
- Don't force your animal to exercise after a meal in hot, humid weather. Always exercise him or her in the cool of the early morning or evening.
- In extremely hot weather, don't leave your dog standing on the street, and keep walks to a minimum. He is much closer to the hot asphalt and his body can heat up quickly. His paws can burn since they are not protected by shoes.
- Never take an animal to the beach unless you can provide a shaded spot and plenty of fresh water for her to drink.
- Always provide plenty of shade for an animal staying outside the house. Bring your dog or cat inside during the heat of the day and let her rest in a cool part of your house. Always provide plenty of cool, clean water for your animal.
- Please be sensitive to old and overweight animals in hot weather. Brachycephalic (snub-nosed) dogs (especially bulldogs, Pekingese, Boston terriers, Lhasa apsos and shih tzus) and those with heart or lung diseases should be kept indoors in air-conditioning as much as possible.
- A clean coat can help to prevent summer skin problems, so keep your dog well groomed. If he has a heavy coat, shaving your dog's hair to a 1-inch length will help prevent overheating. Don't shave a dog's hair down to the skin; this robs him of protection from the sun.



Special Thanks

Organizations such as ours depend 100% on the generosity of others & we would like to thank the following individuals and businesses for their very kind and generous support!

To **Arthur Eichburg** for his very generous donation in memory of his beloved wife, **Mary** who recently lost her battle with lung cancer.



To the family of **Marvin Eichburg**. Marvin recently passed but not before arranging to donate part of his estate to charitable causes. One of the lucky charities to benefit from his generosity was Waggin' Tails Dog Rescue. All the volunteers would like to send a heartfelt thank you to Marvin's brothers **Arthur and Donald Eichburg** and to Marvin's niece **Debbie Snyder**, for helping to choose Waggin' Tails Dog Rescue as one of the lucky beneficiaries. The money received from Marvin's estate is going towards establishing a special spay/neuter fund to help prevent more unwanted dogs/cats from entering this world.



To **Jane Harris** for her very kind and generous donation. Jane has been a huge rescue advocate for years and we cannot thank her enough for her support.



David & Kumiko Berger – Ann Arbor
Don & Lorraine Blaty – Farmington Hills



Lori Dames – Ann Arbor
Virginia Dames -



Charlie Grant - Commerce
Cynthia Gray - Livonia
Justin Jeris - Clarkston
Dale Ling - Plymouth



James & Darlene Marohnic – Palm City, FL
Maria Peters - Livonia

Debbie Romans – West Bloomfield
Cathy Schiller - Novi



Thea Sommers - Warren

Gerald & Kathy Spain - Gregory
Anita Sponarski – Huntington Woods
Christine Valmont - Livonia



C&L Design – Novi
Country Ridge Animal Clinic – Farmington Hills

Dunk-n-Dogs – Livonia

Gone to the Dogs Daycare – Novi

Griffith Veterinary Services – Whitmore Lake

Healthy Pet Veterinary Clinic – Milford

K-9 Cuts – Shelby Township

Petco – Farmington Hills

Petco - Novi



Roose Animal Hospital – Plymouth

Tall Oaks Kennel – Whitmore Lake

Village Animal Clinic – Farmington Hills

4-Legged Friends Dog Daycare – Livonia

Currey's Family Pet Care - Romulus



Happy Tails To You



Layla

See how your donations have resulted in a rescue success and a VERY HAPPY ending!

I came to Waggin' Tails through the compassionate foresight of a police officer who found me injured and wandering homeless. Rescue showed up none-too-soon and I was fortunate to be placed with foster parent, Sandy - me and all my medical issues, which included a ruptured disc and partial blindness.

My recuperation left me a special needs child - some might say, handicapped. My new mom says I have great insight, and that's better than 20/20 vision any time. My ruptured disc healed and left me with a comical gait. When I walk, it looks like the back end is on a totally different program than the front end.

After nearly a year in foster care, I was adopted by Lyn and her husband. Now I spend my time sniffing out varmints and have successfully 'treed' the family cats to the top of the piano many a time. I can BARK REAL LOUD alerting the entire family that the mailman has made a delivery to our box. I can dig a really nice hole in the back garden, love car rides, sleeping on the couch with dad on a Sunday afternoon and giving marvelous, wonderful, exceptional, everlasting, unconditional love to Lyn, my mother whom I adopted - who wouldn't trade me for a million dollars and thinks I am the best beagle the world has ever known.

There is something to be said about adoption of someone with special needs. Though Waggin' Tails labeled me with this, I found in adopting Lyn, she is really the one with special needs. She needed a furry family member to accompany her when she traveled alone researching her writing projects, making the journey shorter and filled with pleasure because I was there to share the time with her. She needed a companion laying contently by her desk while she did her writing; curled up under a comforter when she read her books and scurrying over the 18 acre farm with her when she took walks through the cornfield, alerting her with beagle yelps of glee when the scent of a rabbit came rushing by. As a human person she'd miss half of what life has to offer if I were not there - the beagle, the furry friendly fabulous presence in her life, the wet kisses that wake her in the morning, my snuggly softness that sleeps close and my unconditional love and acceptance that encompasses her life and fills it with insurmountable joy. Now, you tell me, who really made out best in this adoption?

2007 Cutest Mutt Contest

1st Place - Felix!

Felix, a 9 year old retriever mix, was the winner of the Waggin' Tails 2007 Cutest Mutt Contest and thus becomes our official 2007 Mascot. Felix came to Waggin' Tails from a rural kennel and was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. He was prescribed medication to help treat his condition, but sadly it will eventually claim his life. Surprising, even with his illness and short life span, he was recently adopted and now lives with his adoptive mom, Erin in Oak Park .



Felix is a perfect mascot for Waggin' Tails. He had a rough start to his life, but now he has a happy ending. He seemed to be an unadoptable case...a senior dog with a terminal heart condition, but Waggin' Tails couldn't turn its back.

Felix truly touches people. Everyone seems taken with him. Felix even has godparents! A couple of generous supporters from Shelby Township met him and fell for him instantly. It was their votes that tipped the scales for Felix in the Cutest Dog Contest! A big thank you to them!

The fact that there are people like Erin and like all of our adopters who take in our "special case" dogs is absolutely heartwarming. The volunteers with Waggin' Tails have huge hearts and we learn that there are people out there like our adopters and all of our supporters who have equally big hearts. Thank you to everyone to participated in the contest. It was a successful fundraiser for our small rescue group! Thank you for supporting animal rescue!

2nd Place



The Beagles!

The proud owners of the beagles are Kumi and Dave Berger of Ann Arbor, MI. The beagles, Molly, Lady, Lucy and Snoopy were all adopted from a local shelter where the two were volunteering at the time. Now they have a great family and get to share their "parents" with many feline siblings.

Sadie!

3rd Place

Sadie, a chocolate lab, is owned by Marie Tomarchio of Pawling, NY. She was found on Petfinder.com. Says Marie, "She had such a sad face and was in a high kill shelter (in MI). Orange County Canine All Retriever Rescue (OCC) was able to pull and transport her from Michigan to NY. I picked her up on 11/17. She was 10 months old and only weighed 62 lbs. Her ribs and backbone were sticking out, but her personality was that of a lab pup; happy and wanting to please.

Sadie had her first birthday on January 9th. She is now at a healthy 90 lbs, and just a love. She was pulled from the shelter at 'the eleventh hour' and she has a great home with a family who loves her!



Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars today so you don't miss out on these great events.

May 12, 2007
SATURDAY
8:30 p.m.

Cosmic Bowling
Cost: \$20.00
Super Bowl
Canton, MI

Join us for a night of Cosmic bowling. Entry fee includes 3 games of bowling, shoe rental and pizza. Prizes for highest male & female games + 50/50 raffles. Don't delay, sign up today!! Walk-in's welcome but best to sign up ahead of time.

Call 248.788.7050 to sign up or visit our web-site at www.waggintailsdogrescue.org for more information.

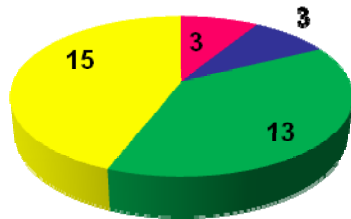
June 2, 2007
SATURDAY
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Pet-A-Palooza
Cost: Free
Heritage Park
Taylor, MI

Waggin' Tails, along with about 30 other rescue groups, will be at Heritage Park in Taylor with our adoptable animals. Come see all the wonderful animals needing forever homes. You can even bring your own fur-child to this event. There will be contests, shows and pet related vendors selling their wares. Don't miss out – this is a great family event!

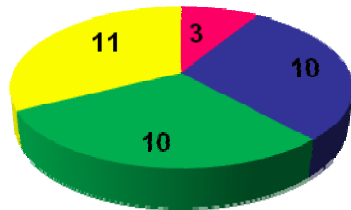
Waggin' Tails Stats

Where Do We Get Our Dogs From?



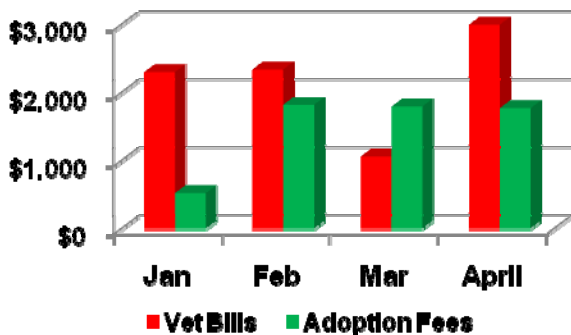
■ Owner Give Ups ■ Strays ■ Kill Shelters ■ Holders

Adoptions by Month



■ January ■ February ■ March ■ April

Vet Bills vs. Adoption Fees



■ Vet Bills ■ Adoption Fees

And They Lived Happily Ever After

See some of the dogs that have recently found their forever homes through Waggin' Tails Dog Rescue!

Bella



Female Chocolate Lab
Owner Give Up
Adopted April 2007

Watson



Male Brittany Spaniel Mix
Owner Give Up
Adopted April 2007

Jill



Female Rottweiler
Stray
Adopted April 2007

Star



Female Boxer/Terrier Mix
Pulled from Georgia Kill Shelter
Adopted April 2007

Satch



Male Shepherd Mix
Removed from a Hoarder
Adopted April 2007

Chang



Male Chow/Retriever Mix
Removed from a Hoarder
Adopted April 2007



As you can see from the chart on the left, Waggin' Tails has spent nearly \$10,000 in less than 4 months to vet our animals but have only taken in \$5675 in adoption fees. We desperately need more donations to help offset our vet costs along with kennel costs, insurance payments, micro-chips, dog food, collars, bedding, crates, etc. to buy. Please consider making a donation today. Your donation, no matter how small, will help us save lives like the ones shown above!