



AK SPCA News

Former Sled Dog "Clint" wins his biggest race ever

Clint, formerly known as Gimp, came to us from Mat-Su Animal Care and Regulation in 2004. His former owners said he had been a sled dog and they could not care for him any longer.

Rambunctious and untrained, Clint was a challenge. Finding a canine sheltermate that would tolerate his body slamming style of play would take a few weeks. Finally he settled down, with Silver, another husky mix that had arrived a short time before from Kotzebue.

Silver was definitely the boss and Clint seemed to accept this just fine. Fortunately for Clint, Linda Beller, a longtime volunteer with the Adoption Center, took him on as a project, running, walking, and jogging with him multiple times a week.

Clint seemed to enjoy being "special" to someone. When Linda would arrive for their work-out session he would be joyously jumping and barking until they got underway. If you had happened to see a black and white husky mix and a female runner on the bike path along side C Street, bodies rhythmically "in the zone" enjoying their endorphins, it was Linda and Clint. Well, seasons passed and time went by until one day in November of 2005 devoted dog lovers and multiple time Alaska SPCA adopters Greg and Jane Sandstrom dropped off their own dogs for their annual boarding stay over the Thanksgiving Holidays.



Happy ending photos: Clint (far right in photo above) enjoys a new life with his canine and human companions.



Greg and Jane had recently lost the love of their life "Zoie" one of their three Bouvier mix breeds. Still carrying the almost unbearable sadness of loving and losing that "special" canine friend, the Sandstrom's thought they might try and add another rescue dog to their pack. Clint was the farthest thing from a Bouvier mix you could find. Maybe that was prudent. Clint headed off to Fairbanks.

We started receiving emails from Greg and Jane, that things were tough. It was glaringly apparent that Clint had not spent any time living inside a house. He was scared of household items like the ceiling fan, he was urinating in the house. The list went on and on. And, probably the biggest issue, was that Greg and Jane stilled sorely missed "Zoie."

To their credit the Sandstroms handled Clint's issues day-by-day because they understood that he had never experienced life in a house, on a bed, or as anyone's special companion.

We recently recieved this email from Greg and Jane, please read and rejoice with all of us at Clint's new found love of life.

(continued on back page...)



KASH Radio

Each Wednesday for the past four years Goat and Jimmy of KASH COUNTRY radio (at left with Toni and Ginger from the SPCA) have welcomed a homeless pet from the Alaska SPCA into their studio. The duo genuinely enjoy advocating for these orphans. The KASH COUNTRY listening audience has opened their hearts and homes to many of these homeless animals. Tune in to 107.5 FM each Wednesday at 8:50 am and listen to the "KASH COUNTRY Critters" spot. It's good listening for a good cause.

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Mission Statement

The Alaska SPCA's mission is to protect animals from cruelty, be an advocate for their moral and ethical treatment, provide them with shelter and care when in need, educate the public on responsible pet ownership, and provide the community with a low-cost spay/neuter program.

History

The Alaska SPCA was founded in 1966 with the belief that animals, as living creatures, are entitled to basic rights relating to their care, treatment and protection. As a result, the organization has been involved in helping to alleviate animal suffering throughout the state of Alaska.

Executive Director

Steve L. McComb

Adoption Center Manager

Steve L. McComb

Thrift Shop Manager

Dee Hysom

Alaska SPCA Business Office & Low-Cost Spay Clinic:

549 W. Int'l Airport Rd., Suite B-2
Anchorage, AK 99518
Tel: 907.562.2999 Fax: 907.561.5549
E-mail: akspcaclinic@gci.net

Alaska SPCA Thrift Shop:

549 W. Int'l Airport Rd., Anchorage
Tel: 907.562.1092
Hours: Mon-Sat 10-6, Sun 1-5

Alaska SPCA Adoption Center:

7309 Arctic Blvd.,
Anchorage, AK 99518
Tel: 907.344.3622 (Closed Sunday)
Hours: Tue-Fri 11-6, Sat & Mon 12-5
E-mail: akspca@gci.net

Website Address:

www.alaskaspc.org

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Shannon Mortensen

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Notes

FROM THE MANAGERS

by Steve McComb

"With great sadness I must tell you that "Stormy", a very special dog from our 2001, Sterling Alaska, dog rescue (sixty-five dogs in all) has passed away.

Being the very last of the 65 dogs to get adopted allowed Stormy and I to spend a lot of time together. Singing/howling while cleaning, taking a break together on his very customized dog couch and enjoying each others company while taking a walk.

Eventually, Stormy found his forever home with Meghan and Eric, it was heaven-on-earth for the dog that had formerly lived life chained to the bumper of a car. Taking him skiing, hiking and giving a lot of love, Meghan and Eric considered him their "dog boy" not just a pet.

But, years of poor nutrition and a body that wore out faster than anyone would have guessed caught up with Stormy. We all lost him this December.

His ashes will be scattered at a place that he loved and his image and memory will stay with all of us that were honored to know him.



SPCA Thrift Store saves lives

by Dee Hysom

It began in 1978 as a fundraiser in a 10'x10' cubby at one of Anchorage's first flea markets. Our mission; to save animals from destruction through education, prevention and adoption.

Today the Alaska SPCA Thrift Shop has grown to almost 10,000 square feet of premium used clothing, books, household, pet supplies, antiques and collectibles. Almost thirty years later our goals are still the same — making better lives for the homeless cats and dogs of Anchorage. This is only possible with your help.

We would like to thank our many loyal donors and customers for their longtime support. If you haven't had the pleasure of visiting our Thrift Shop yet, please stop by in the New Year. You'll be supporting a local, hometown, SPCA!

Together we can make a better, brighter future for all of Alaska's homeless pets!

A big "hats off" to the great employees and volunteers at our Thrift Shop, whose long hours and dedication make our store a pleasant shopping experience for all!

The Thrift Shop Team consists of seven humans: "Ruby" Linda, Janyce, Sally, Linda, Dee, Grace and Charles, and two resident felines: Miss April and Smudge (*next issue see how April and Smudge came to live at the Thrift Shop*).

The next time you stop in please say hello and don't forget to check out Miss April's "sale of the day." Oh, and don't forget, dogs are encouraged to visit.

Hours for donation drop-off are : Monday-Saturday 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday 1 pm to 4 pm. For a limited time, we have large furniture pick-up available. Call 562-1092 to schedule a time and our driver, Rick, will pick-up your donation and leave a tax deductible receipt at your door.

Tails FROM THE FROSTFLIES

Annual "Angel Tree for Animals"

The third annual "Angel Tree for Animals" provides an excellent opportunity to help the homeless dogs and cats at our Adoption Center.

To donate, simply purchase a gift card or in-store item and place at the tree.

The donations we receive through this program significantly decrease the day to day cost of caring for our animals.

The Angel Tree is located at the animal friendly store, Alaska Mill and Feed, 1501 E 1st Avenue, Anchorage.



Pictured are Alaska Mill and Feed employees; April with Tootsie, Kelly with Chewy and Scott with Princess. All three dogs are in need of a forever home.



New Feature: The Lonely Paws Club

In an effort to raise awareness of the homeless dogs and cats at our Adoption Center, we've partnered with Anchorage's "other newspaper," the *Anchorage Press*, launching a monthly feature aptly named The Lonely Paws Club. Twenty adoptable pets will be featured underwritten by six advertising spots. If you or someone you know would like to help a homeless animal by purchasing one of our six sponsorship spots, please contact Toni Diedrich at 344-3622.

Alyeska Canine Trainers

Celebrating 20 years as Alaska's Dog Training Specialists

presents

The Annual Fur Rondy MUTT SHOW

Sunday, February 25, 2006
Noon - 4 pm

549 W. International Airport Rd.

**HEY! All you MUTTS out there!
STOP sleeping on the couch, get
your leash and drag your owner
down to the MUTT SHOW.**

It's fun, it's FREE, and you might
win a prize you can take home
and chew up!

- MICROCHIPPING available from the Alaska SPCA
- Adoptable DOGS Parade
- CONTESTS for dogs & people

Registration for contests begins at
NOON. Bring Fido and the kids!

(907) 563-4335
www.alyeskak9trainers.com

Cookbook Earns Second Printing

The first run of cookbooks sold-out so quickly we ordered another batch. They are available for sale at Alaska Mill and Feed, Alaska SPCA-Thrift Shop, Title Wave Books, New Sagaya-City Market, The Pet Stop, and Dog Tired Doggie Day Care. At just \$10 they make an excellent gift for the animal lover in your life.

The Great Alaskan Doggie Biscuit "Bark-off" Inaugural Cookbook

A fundraiser for the Alaska SPCA



A heartfelt thank you goes out to all of the animal lovers that participated in "The Great Alaska SPCA Bake Sale."

In excess of \$1,500 was raised to help the homeless animals at our Adoption Center. The sale was like an all-day party. New and old friends alike stopped by to shop or to drop off their homemade goodies.

The flow of people was constant, and as you can see by Bruce (below), a canine ambassador from our Adoption Center, the social expectations were exhausting.





Alaska Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
549 W. Int'l Airport Road, Suite B2
Anchorage, AK 99518

Address Service Requested

Useful Numbers

Adoption Center
344-3622

Spay/Neuter Clinic
562-2999

Thrift Shop
562-1092

Upcoming Events

JANUARY 6, 2007 4th Annual Pet New Year

Anchorage Animal Care and Control and the Alaska SPCA are teaming up for the 4th annual Pet New Year.

Show your love for your furry friends and join us Saturday, January 6th, from 11 am to 3 pm at the Northway Mall.

Animal Care and Control will provide rabies shots for the low cost of \$5.

The Alaska SPCA will also offer a FREE microchip to the first 25 pets through the door and microchips for just \$30 after that!

Bring your pets down to the celebration for demonstrations, training questions and answers, pet-care tips, door prizes, and much more!

"CLINT" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1...

Hi Kathy, Tony, Toni, and Steve,

Just thought we'd drop you guys an update of Clint. You saw him last in July, and he's been a part of our family for a year now. Sasha has been with us almost 5 years, and Katie for 1.5 years). Clint is a new boy compared to what we brought home last year — a very lovable boy with charm and devotion that is deep.

Kathy, you were so right; you had told me I would get a lot of love out of Clint. Somewhere over the summer, Clint blossomed into a confident boy. Katie and Sasha now totally adore him, which may be a big reason for his confidence. The dogs smile all the time and seem extremely happy/content.

Clint absolutely loves to get up on the bed with Greg and snuggle. He usually sleeps most of the night on the bed, too. We found a gravel pit 1 mile from our house and take them there nearly every day to play and run. They are in total heaven! They sound ferocious when playing, but all tails are wagging and no body language is threatening.

So in this season on Thanksgiving, we just wanted to send our thanks to you for the love and work you give to the animals. We have had 4 amazing SPCA dogs join us and become our family. (Zoie will always be in our hearts. We miss her daily and still tear up with her memories.)

*Love, Jane and Greg
Fairbanks*

