



A Rescue For

Dogs Of

Good Temperament

Peppertree Rescue
PO Box 2396
Albany, NY 12220
e-mail: rescue@peppertree.org
www.peppertree.org

518/435-7425

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Dear Friend of Peppertree,

It is that time again for Peppertree to thank you for all your support over the years and to update you on what has happened in 2013. We hope you take satisfaction in the good your support has made possible.

Past letters have detailed work with senior dogs and dogs needing medical assistance. This letter will explore what happens when those two items come together.

In recent years, the word hospice has entered the vernacular. We have come to realize that, when the end is inevitable, the best thing we can do for a loved one is make the final days as comfortable as possible. Quality of life has become important. While it doesn't seek out such cases, Peppertree has on occasion found itself in the role of hospice provider.

Many shelters, both local and far away, reach out to Peppertree for help. They receive a dog that pulls at the heartstrings and know that Peppertree will do its best to help those dogs. While we realize we can't save them all, sometimes we just can't let a dog who has been in a loving home for years spend its last days in a shelter.

We work closely with the New York City shelters. They are overwhelmed and the dogs end up in cramped and confining conditions, and older animals often get ill with highly contagious respiratory infections. This makes the situation of older and sick dogs all the more difficult because decisions need to be made quickly and those deemed less adoptable are given little chance, and even less time.

Agnes was a Golden Retriever, about 13 years old. In addition to her age, she had mobility issues. We had to give this dog a chance. When we took her in, we realized she could not be quickly adopted out. She went into a foster home to gain some strength and find a loving home for her final years. Unfortunately, this was not to be. She soon lost all control of her hindquarters and had to be euthanized.

Was it worth Peppertree taking this risk? Just ask the foster home, who, knowing how it ended, say they would do it again:

She was a very special soul. Whatever her life had been, she did not deserve to end it in some terrifying shelter. I've never been more proud of Peppertree as I was meeting her and realizing what we'd given her, although I wish it could have been so much more.

Another dog you never saw on our website up for adoption was India. She was a senior German Shepherd mix who was found as a stray. She was too dignified to end her days in a municipal shelter, so Peppertree stepped in. India passed in her sleep, within 24 hours of arriving---having been given a bed, and a name.

Why do we do this? Why do we take a risk in a dog who might never get adopted and might never bring any money (adoption fee) into Peppertree? Because it is a core part of our mission---to rescue dogs of golden temperament, even if their time with us will be much too short.



Mocha is a toy poodle mix, about 13 years old, found as a stray and taken to an area shelter. She was bedraggled and weak and nearly blind. The shelter contacted us because without a rescue to commit to her she would have been euthanized.

Peppertree took Mocha, along with an older female Boxer who had a heart condition. The Boxer, Haley, enjoyed about a year in a loving home before passing from an unrelated illness. Mocha is living happily ever after with her foster mom---who finally came to realize that Mocha knew right where she belonged and that's why she didn't act nearly as happy or personable at adoption clinics as she did at home!

Contessa is a 9 year old German Shepherd who was surrendered in terrible condition to a local shelter due to "moving." She had open oozing sores all over her body due to a serious food allergy.

Contessa's confusion at being left at the shelter was apparent. Her occasional howls from the kennel area broke the staff's hearts and there was fear that due to her skin infection she would not be able to be put up for adoption. Again, Peppertree didn't feel her days should end at the shelter. She was a grand lady who impressed all with her temperament and dignified demeanor. She has since been adopted and is enjoying a home in the country, along with her canine "brother", another Peppertree senior.



Agnes and India thank you for allowing their last few days and hours to be spent in comfort and love. Mocha and Contessa thank you for giving them a chance. In fact, the more than 150 dogs adopted in the last year would all like to thank you for helping them find a new home.

And Peppertree thanks you for allowing us to keep doing this.

We wish you all the best in the coming year.

With continued gratitude,
Peppertree Rescue

2013 Appeal

Peppertree thanks you for your donation amount of \$25____ \$50____ \$100____ Other _____

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