

# Step Up for the Pups Is Happening on June 13th!

## STEP UP FOR THE PUPS



It's been a year like no other. We've had opportunities to discover what we truly cherish, but there's also so much that we miss. At Speaking of Dogs Rescue, our "list of things we miss" includes yard sales, dog festivals, walkathons, and other special events. These initiatives are usually the driving force behind our fundraising efforts.

While we may not be able to participate in traditional walkathons, we can all still Step Up for the Pups! This fun and innovative walkathon allows participants to fully respect all COVID-19 directives and restrictions.

It's not too late to register and walk to help keep tails wagging!

It's easy to set up a fundraising page on the [Canada Helps site](#). Simply click on "Create a Fundraiser," follow the instructions, and then share far and wide to help raise funds between now and June 13th.

On June 13th, all you need to do is walk, jog, dance, sashay – whatever works for you! Count your steps, keep track of the distance you travel, or don't. It's up to you!

[Continued on page 4...](#)

## JUNE 2021

### THE OFFICIAL SPEAKING OF DOGS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

#### In this month's newsletter

Dogs looking for homes .....	2
Updates.....	4
Ask the trainer .....	5
Speaking of flashbacks.....	6
Adoption update .....	9
Recent adoptions .....	10
In memoriam .....	12
Father's day .....	13

#### About Speaking of Dogs

Speaking of Dogs is a Toronto-based organization that launched in 2001 and is dedicated to educating and enlightening people about dogs through seminars, workshop forums, outreach and rescue. Our goal is to end cruelty, abandonment, mistreatment and homelessness of man's best friend.

*Speaking of Dogs Rescue is the operating name of Speaking of Dogs Rescue Program, a Canada Revenue Agency-registered charity based in Ontario.*

#### Contact Speaking of Dogs

P.O. Box 8058, RPO Hurontario  
Collingwood, ON L9Y 0H1  
Phone: 705-444-SODR (7637)  
Email: [info@speakingofdogs.com](mailto:info@speakingofdogs.com)  
Web: [www.speakingofdogs.com](http://www.speakingofdogs.com)

#### Newsletter Team

Editor: Nancy Foran  
Design: Cathy Vandergeest at [www.gawck.ca](http://www.gawck.ca)  
Contributors: Nancy Foran, Lorraine Houston, Emily Fisher, and Kim Gladding

#### Newsletters

If you no longer want to receive our newsletter, email [newsletter@speakingofdogs.com](mailto:newsletter@speakingofdogs.com), with "unsubscribe" written in the subject line.

# Dogs Looking for Homes

## A friend in need is a friend indeed

Without a doubt, a dog is a real friend. Our dogs come in all shapes and sizes, but they have one thing in common—they all need loving forever homes. Open your heart and your home to a rescue dog. You'll be glad you did. For complete information about the adoption process, please visit [www.speakingofdogs.com/adoption-process](http://www.speakingofdogs.com/adoption-process). For more information on each dog, simply click on their name.

## Daisy

CHIHUAHUA  
SMALL, SENIOR, FEMALE

### FEATURED DOG:

Tiny treasure Daisy is a spayed female chihuahua who is about 13 years old and weighs just over 10 pounds.

When she arrived at her foster home, she was a rather frightened little girl. She shook and stayed under a chair, avoiding social interaction. Knowing the right thing to do, her foster mom was patient and let her go at her own pace.

One morning, there was a hint of a tail wag when Daisy saw her foster mom, and that was the moment everything started to turn around. Not long after, Daisy's foster mom and dad woke up to not one but two dogs on the bed!

Over the next couple of days, Daisy became a regular bedmate and earned the nickname "Velcro," as she became her foster mom's constant companion. Tail wags, kisses, belly rubs –Daisy loves them all!

She is also a big fan of nap and riding in the car. She's less fond of exercise, but a couple of short walks per day suit her just fine. She'll happily putter in the yard for a bit and then head off to her bed for a nap.



Daisy gets along with the other pets in her foster home, but she prefers to eat treats in private and will give a lip curl to say, "Back off! Find your own treats!" if another dog approaches. Daisy will also chase cats if they pester her, but she is not aggressive.

This little bundle of love will make a great companion for a retired person or couple who are home most of the time. Daisy has, however, been left at home alone (with the company of other pets) without problems. She is

quiet and has only barked once, when she wanted to go out and her foster mom was distracted.

Daisy could live in an apartment or condo, but only with someone who is committed to taking her for several outings a day (she is housetrained and will let you know).

Daisy's foster mom says that she is, without a doubt, one of the sweetest dogs she has ever fostered. Can you give little Daisy the love, patience, and forever home she needs?

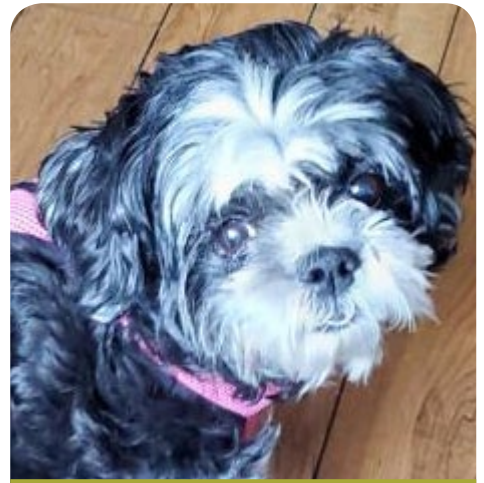




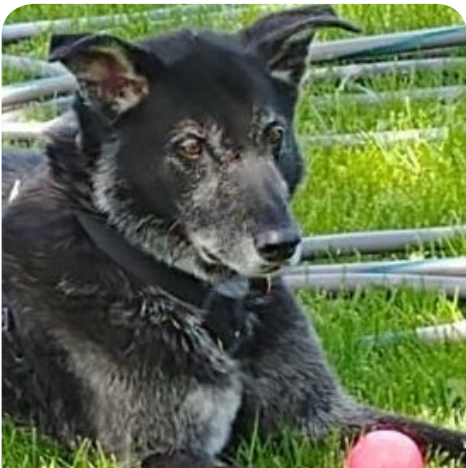
**Luna**  
GIANT SCHNAUZER  
LARGE, ADULT, FEMALE



**Marley**  
PUG MIX  
MEDIUM, SENIOR, FEMALE



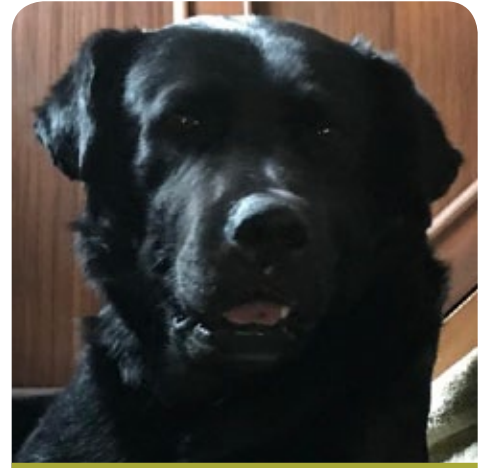
**Miss Molly**  
SHIH TZU MIX  
SMALL, SENIOR, FEMALE



**Bandit**  
LABRADOR / SHEPHERD MIX  
LARGE, SENIOR, MALE



**Simba**  
SHIH TZU  
SMALL, SENIOR, MALE



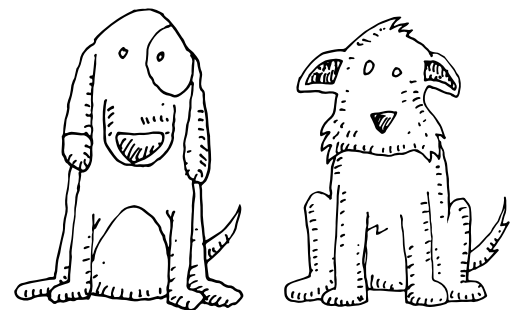
**Max Quinn**  
LABRADOR RETRIEVER  
LARGE / ADULT / MALE



**Ruckus**  
CATTLE DOG  
MEDIUM, YOUNG, MALE



**Maggie**  
WHEATEN TERRIER MIX  
MEDIUM / SENIOR / FEMALE





[Continued from page 1...](#)

There are even prizes to be won!

- **Most money raised:** A Speaking of Dogs hoodie and a \$25 restaurant gift card
- **Most steps:** A Speaking of Dogs Rescue USB stick and tote bag
- **Best social media:** A Speaking of Dogs Rescue USB stick and tote bag

You can also sponsor participants through our [Canada Helps page](#), and the site will immediately issue a tax receipt. Sharing is simple, too!

We've been able to help many dogs, but so many more still need our help, including the dogs in our Forever in Foster program and the numerous seniors we take in. We need your support to be able to support them!

Please consider stepping up for the pups by participating in the walkathon or by sponsoring one of our incredible walkers.

For more information, including full contest details and registration instructions, please visit <https://www.speakingofdogs.com/fundraising-events/step-up-for-the-pups/>.



## OUR FACEBOOK AUCTIONS WILL BE SIZZLING THIS SUMMER!

Speaking of Dogs Rescue's Facebook page not only includes lots of info about all of the amazing dogs we're helping, every week we auction off different items – all for the dogs! Visit our **Facebook page** regularly to see what's on the block and to place your bids.

Good luck to all of the bidders, and most enthusiastic wags and wiggles to all of our supporters who have donated auction items.

## WAG FOR THE CAMERA!

Have a great photo of your furry best bud you'd like to share? We'd love to include it in the 2022 Speaking of Dogs Rescue calendar!

It could be a photo of your pup making the most of spring showers, fun in the sun, quiet time during the quarantine, or any other shot that makes you smile. Ideal photos don't include people but can include any four-legged friend.

Photos should be 300 dots per inch (DPI) and at least 5 inches by 7 inches in size, either colour or black and white. Please email your favourite snapshots to [lorraine@speakingofdogs.com](mailto:lorraine@speakingofdogs.com).

## WAGS AND WIGGLES FOR ROYALE – AND OUR DONORS!

Speaking of Dogs Rescue is proud to have been chosen as a 2021 pet partner for Royale's "Home for Every Pet Project," which is a huge honour! Last month we took part in their first fundraising donor match in celebration of National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day. We were able to raise \$500 through social media, and Royale will be generously matching those donations!

***Big thanks to Royale and to everyone who donated!***

# Ask the Trainer

## **“YOU KNOW BETTER!”**

Have you ever had someone assume the worst about you? You do your best, and they berate you for not doing better?

That was my experience last week with my family. I know they care about me, but it's just so upsetting when they are so kind one moment and then make me feel so defensive the next.

My family likes to sit around on the couch in the living room in the evening and watch TV. That's how it's always been. Everyone has a good time, sharing snacks and laughing at the TV shows.

This morning I went into the living room and sat on the couch. There was a gentle sun beam hitting just the right spot, and it was so warm and lovely and comfortable.

Suddenly, my dad stormed into the room.

“You know better! Get off!”

He freaked me out, so I hunkered down, looked away, and stayed quiet. I was afraid to get off the couch because he was coming right for me.

He pointed right at me and hissed “DOWN!”

That was pretty scary, so I tried to make myself even smaller. I even rolled over onto my back. I figured everyone knows that means I'm not a threat, that I mean no harm. How much clearer could I be that I didn't want to fight with him?

But then he grabbed at my neck, and that was just too much for my frayed nerves. I snapped my teeth toward his arm and made the scariest noise I could muster!

He pulled his hand back and raised his voice even more.

“BAD DOG!”

I really didn't want to fight with him, so I flattened my ears, darted my eyes around, licked my lips, and slithered off the couch, leaving the room.

I'm thankful that he left me alone after that, but I don't understand why he would do that to me. All I was doing was enjoying a comfortable sunny morning in the living room.

I heard him say to my sister that I tried to fool him by rolling on my back. He said I wanted a belly rub, and how dare I trick him into almost being bitten. He said “I knew better.”

That scenario happens in homes across Canada every day. But what can it teach us?

## **Dogs Aren't People**

As humans, we choose to bring dogs into our home, but we don't always treat them like the different species they are. We may think of our pets as family, but they're not people. Attributing spiteful motivations to our dogs is an all too common fallacy, and it can harm our relationships with and understanding of them.

## **We Have Different Languages**

The dog in our scenario was simply doing what dogs do – sleeping in a comfortable location that smells like her family. Her perspective was likely something along the lines of “How on earth could I know better? Doesn't everyone sit in the softest, most comfortable place in the living room?”

The owner accused his dog of tricking him, but she was using the only language she knows and, from her point of view, was communicating very clearly that she didn't want any conflict. (What dog

would want a belly rub from someone who was acting irrational and scary?)

There was no conflict until her owner became aggressive, which provoked a defensive response.

In the end, the dog didn't learn to stay off the furniture, but she did learn that humans can be unpredictable and scary and that they don't respect gestures of appeasement, like rolling on her back.

## **It's Important to Understand Everyone's Motivation**

Assuming the worst of our dogs sets us up to respond at best unhelpfully and at worst aggressively. Assuming a dog is acting out of spite or anger never provides a clear training roadmap that can resolve the problem at hand.

If the owner in our scenario had understood that his dog was simply seeking comfort (and not being rebellious or stubborn), he would have been able to teach his dog to stay off the furniture and would not have provoked any aggression.

For example, he could have called the dog off the couch with a previously trained cue, like “come” or a hand touch. With the dog off the furniture, he could then have prevented access to this preferred sleeping spot while training an alternative behaviour, such as resting on a dog bed that is beside the couch.

## **We All Have Wants and Needs – Even Dogs!**

Our dogs are far more flexible than many of us realize. If we teach them appropriate behaviour in a way they can understand, everyone will be happy and fulfilled.

[\*Continued on page 11...\*](#)



# Speaking of Flashbacks



We were very busy during 2009 and 2010, hardly coming up for air because we had to keep fundraising – hustling and bustling for the dogs! There were seminars, fundraisers, and so many dogs.

We took in a number of wheaten terriers in 2009 as well as shelter dogs and owner-surrenders, helping a total of 120 dogs. In 2010 we helped close to 150 dogs!



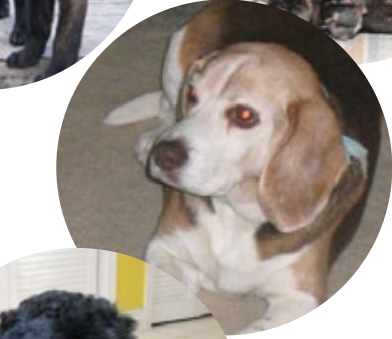
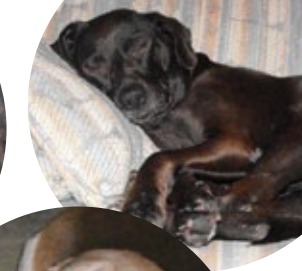
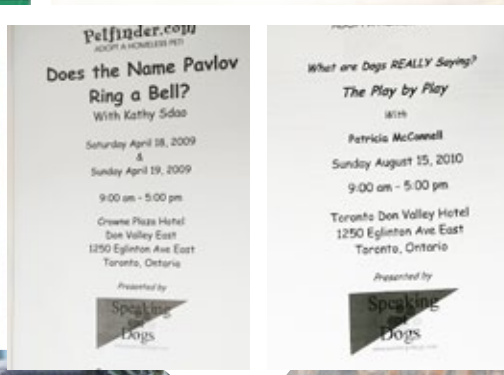
## Happy Howlidays From Our 2009 Dogs

Abby	Deuce	Lucille	Princess Leia
Abigail	Dolly	Lucky Rusty	Pugsley
Andy	Douglas	Lucy	Rachael
Angel	Ernie	Malty	Remy
Angela	Farley	Marcus	Robbie
Angus	Felix	Marshall	Rosie
Annie	Flash	Marshmallow	Roy
Artie	Flo	Martin	Sadie
Bella	Freda	Maurice	Shirley
Belly	Frizzy	McGee	Shirley
Bentley	Gazoo	McGill	Simba
Blackie	Gigi	Mia	Sir William
Blossom	Gretchen	Milton	Sophie
Bobby B	Harlow	Mimi	Sax
Bobby Poodle	Holly	Mitzi	Spike
Bonnie	Jake Frost	Mitsu	Spirit
Boo	Jasmine	Mocha	Strawberry
Bugsy	Jayden	Molly	Sweet Pea Pippy
Calvin	Jessie	Morgan	Sydney
Capri	Jimmy Duke	Nike	Tucker
Carmen	Johnny	Oliver	Tula
Cassius	Keegan	Olivia	Twiggy
Chanel	Kia	Parker	Whisper
Chloe	King	Pascal	Willie
Chu Chu	Lady	Patrick	Windsor
Clara	Lance	Pete	Zeus
Coco	Laurie	Pluto	Zoe Pomeranian
Connor	Leroy	Polly	Zoe Shih tzu
Crocky	Lexus	Pope	Zoe Beagle
Daisy	Libby	Posie	Zucchero
Dash	Lisa		

**Speaking of Dogs Rescue**  
71 Underhill Drive, Box 160  
Toronto, ON M3A 2J8



# Speaking of Flashbacks



We were featured in *Pets Magazine* in 2010 to celebrate a decade of caring for dogs. Like now, it was a time to reflect on the past and hope for the future, but there was also a lot to accomplish in the present!

Thanks to all our volunteers, we were able to organize a euchre tournament, a yard sale, photos with Santa, and Pawsitively Christmas, and we attended Slobberfest and other dog festivals. It seemed like we had something every weekend because we were also still hosting educational seminars!

What a great team we had and still have! Many of the volunteers you see in these photos still donate their time and energy to Speaking of Dogs Rescue, helping us help the many dogs who come to us in need.



# Speaking of Flashbacks





# Adoption Update

**To: Speaking of Dogs Rescue**  
**From: Kelly and Ryley**  
**Subject: Pappy**

Dear Speaking of Dogs Rescue,

I just wanted to send you a quick note to give you an update on Pappy. We've had him for just over 6 months now, and it's just flown by! He is simply the best dog! He immediately fit in with us, and we can't imagine life without him.

He loves to go on walks and take many sniff breaks. He especially loved the snow, but not so much the heat. He also loves hanging out on the couch, and both Ryley and I love snuggling with him. He's become great friends with my parents' two dogs, so he is able to stay with my parents

when Ryley and I are both working, which I think he enjoys. My parents simply adore him as well.

Hope you are doing well, and thank you again so much for allowing us to adopt Pappy. We are so incredibly lucky to have him as a part of our family!





# Happy Tails

## RECENT ADOPTIONS:

A big thank you to our foster parents and our new adoptive guardians for helping give these loving dogs a second chance.



Tank



Luna



Yeti



Simon



Bella



Bentley



Clementine



Magoo



Starla



# More Happy Tails



Abe



Bailey

To a dog, our rules are arbitrary and nonsensical. It's up to us to set them up for success and teach them with kindness and understanding.

Saying "No!" or "Bad dog," poking your dog, throwing things at them, or making loud noises is not training. The only thing your dog will learn is that you can sometimes be really scary and confusing.

When your dog does something you don't like, pause for a moment. Did you teach them to do a different behaviour? Have you motivated them sufficiently to maintain these lessons? Do they have unmet needs that they are seeking to fulfill on their own? This will put you on the path to encouraging the behaviour you want and developing the best possible relationship with your dog.

If you're not sure how to train your dog, consult a trainer certified in positive training methods, such as the ones who contribute to this newsletter.

Remember: your dog is a dog and you control their destiny. What else can they do but dog things? How else can they communicate but in dog language?

**RECALL**

Click the link for details on this month's recalls:

[Natural Balance LID green pea and chicken dry cat food](#)



Lucy Lou  
FOREVER IN FOSTER

[Continued from page 5...](#)

That said, regardless of how much training they receive, dogs will always need to do dog things, like sleeping in comfy spots, digging holes, chewing things, running, and seeking and finding treasures.

If you don't want your dog to dig in the garden, provide them with a digging pit. If you don't want your dog to sleep on the furniture, given them comfortable beds in prime locations. If you don't

want your dog to chew shoes, give them plenty of toys – you can even hide some around the house so they can go on treasure hunts!

## Dogs Only Know What They're Taught

Our dogs don't "know better" until we teach them. Expecting them to figure out – or innately know – all our rules without providing specific guidance is not fair to them, and it never results in getting the preferred behaviour.



**Emily Fisher**, CPDT-KA, CDBC, Scratch and Sniff Canine Services, Guelph, ON

# In Memoriam



*Mollie*

LOVED BY DARA, GREG AND  
ALL HER DOGGY PALS  
FOREVER IN FOSTER



*OB*

LOVED BY LUAN, CEDARBRAE VETERINARY CLINIC  
STAFF AND SHELTER STAFF  
SORRY WE COULDN'T HELP YOU OB  
REST PEACEFULLY AND RUN WITH PUPPY LEGS AGAIN



*There I sat, alone and afraid,  
You got a call and came right to my aid.  
You bundled me up with blankets and love.  
And, when I needed it most, you gave me a hug.  
I learned that the world was not all that scary and cold.  
That sometimes there is someone to have and to hold.  
You taught me what love is, you helped me to mend.  
You loved me and healed me and became my first friend.  
And just when I thought you'd done all you do,  
There came along not one new lesson, but two.*

*First you said, "Sweetheart, you're ready to go.  
I've done all I can, and you've learned all I know."  
Then you bundled me up with a blanket and kiss.  
Along came a new family, they even have kids!  
They took me to their home, forever to stay.*

*At first I thought you sent me away.  
Then that second lesson became perfectly clear.  
No matter how far, you will always be near.  
And so, Foster Mom, you know I've moved on.  
I have a new home, with toys and a lawn.  
But I'll never forget what I learned that first day.  
You never really give your fosters away.  
You gave me these thoughts to remember you by.  
We may never meet again, and now I know why.  
You'll remember I lived with you for a time.  
I may not be yours, but you'll always be mine.*

— author unknown

**Happy Father's Day to all our foster dads!**

**We would also like to wish a belated happy  
Mother's Day to all our amazing foster moms!**