

WAGS TO RICHES

First Edition



ANIMAL RESCUE AND SANCTUARY, INC.

October 2008

WE ARE BACK!!

By Juanda Krebs, Editor

Overwhelming demand brings Donna Prime, Roger Vandiver, Kim Wertenberger and Juanda Krebs out of retirement!!!

Joined by a solid and growing volunteer base Wags To Riches Animal Rescue and Sanctuary, Inc. was established to help meet the needs of the animals.

On the streets of every town in every community or countryside you will see them....the lost abused and abandoned. They are sick, hungry, injured. They are searching for someone to feed them, love them and take them home. They want a place to feel secure and safe. And you hear in your brain....one by one until there are none....one by one until there are none. We can save them....one at a time....one by one until there are none.

You see them running down the freeway or lying along side the road injured, you look into their eyes and are glad that the last person that they see is someone who loved them if even for a few moments.

They are a large part of the reason that rescuers exist. They are in our hearts and our minds. There are always too many animals and not enough rescues. How do you retire from that? You don't.

So....we are back with a new rescue, a new mission, new goals and ideas and a shiny new future. Is it ever easy? Of course not. We know that. But we also know that we have to try and we have to educate others to try too.

In the months to come we will be telling you about some of our programs and events. And, we hope you will join us in this cause that will change your life and touch your heart.

We hope you enjoy our first newsletter.

WHAT OUR FUTURE LOOKS LIKE

Wags to Riches has an ambitious plan for the future.

That plan includes a Sanctuary for animals that are unadoptable, a place where they can live out their lives without fear of desertion, starvation or euthanasia, a place where they will be loved and kept warm. There will, sadly, always be some animals that we can't save but the guidelines will be very clear. Vicious/aggressive (that may hurt someone), injured (in a great deal of pain due to serious injury, as determined by the vet), or animals in very poor health (too sick, as determined by the vet, and would be inhumane to keep them alive) will be humanely put to sleep.

In addition, we have established the Merlin Scholarship Fund, in honor of Prince Merlin, to be used for students who want to go to school to study Veterinary Medicine.

Our education programs are in the beginning stages, with volunteers consisting of students and adults. We are excited about these programs that will educate children about a variety of things dealing with animals including how to be respectful to animals and educate adults about Spay and Neuter. The facts are astounding. An animal is **euthanized every 16 seconds**. We are a part of the solution.

We are in the process of designing a Newsletter for Kids. This newsletter will include topics that they will enjoy and can learn from as well as some fun stuff.

Our Adoption Coordinator is well-known and well respected and our Rescue and Adoption program is top notch. Donna is kept very busy. For now, all of our rescues are housed in foster homes.

(cont'd last page)

HAPPY ENDING

Around 6pm, on 8/20/08, Donna Prime, one of the volunteer for Wags to Riches Animal Rescue, took a call from the Washington State Troopers dispatch stating that there had been an accident on White Pass and there were animals involved.

Roger Vandiver (Wags' Board Chair) contacted the State Patrol and was told the location of the accident. He and his wife Bev left immediately for White Pass. When they arrived at the scene they could see where a big full sized 4 door truck had left the road, rolled, hit two large trees and then continued to roll and roll. It was crushed like a tin can. In addition to the woman driving, there were 7 small dogs in the back seat on a blanket. The woman was transported by ambulance to Regional Hospital in Yakima, while Roger and his wife proceeded to collect 6 of the 7 dogs. One had escaped. It was seen by an officer, running from the accident. Roger and Bev briefly looked for the missing dog, but felt that since they had injured animals they needed to get them seen by a Vet as soon as possible.



Dr. Kegley of Tieton Drive Animal Clinic agreed to meet Roger at the clinic and check the 6 animals. 2 needed further attention. Volunteer Bob Chism met Roger and Bev at the clinic and took the other 4 home with him. We got an update from Bob via email at 1:19am stating that he and the accident victim's husband went back up to the scene and searched for the seventh dog, Crumb, but had no luck.

Volunteers from Wags to Riches made several more trips over the next few days trying to find Crumb.

UPDATE ON CRUMB AND SUSAN

It took a lot of people getting involved (rafters, people driving by and stopping and saying they saw her running beside the road, Forest Service and WAGS, but WE did it. More than a week later CRUMB IS SAFE AND BACK HOME.



Wags volunteer, Bob on left and Erik the on right.

Hello Bob, I have been wanting to thank you for everything your group has done for our family. I am her daughter Emily. I never got to meet you in my comings and goings over the pass. Our gratitude is very strong. Erik, my step dad would like you to send me the pictures that were taken so he can see them. Your group of people are very caring. Once again, Thanks you from the bottom of our hearts.

Bill & Emily _____

Hi Bob-It's Susan's daughter Jamie. We just can't thank you and your group enough for all that you have done for my Mom's 4-legged family the last 2 weeks. I wish you and all of your volunteers the best of things to come in your adventures. It takes strong people to do what we do, and people who haven't tried don't understand all the pieces there are to saving these lives. I understand about the hard work and commend you on all of yours.

Take Care-Jamie _____

Finding this dog has definitely lifted her spirits. That is one of the first steps on the road to recovery. She has been for her 2nd doctor visit and they are still concerned she does not show signs of healing yet, but with Crum by her side she has a smile on her face. I am confident that she will recover. I know she has a long road ahead of her, but now she has peace. Not knowing what had happened to her baby would have worn her down.
Emily

continued

The woman in the accident, Susan , has a fractured vertebrae in her neck, but doesn't appear to be paralyzed. Her recovery is slow.

9/9/08

Bob & all his wonderful helpers! The world is a better place because of you!

My Sister and I have both been involved with animal rescue for years. However I have never met anyone who has given up so many hours to trudge around the mountains for a little dog.

Just bringing her home has helped Mom. She looks and sounds better.

Thank you so much.

Bill & Emily

LETTER FROM SUSAN

"Words cannot express my thanks for your help in returning my precious Crumb to me. When I can tolerate being upright longer, would like to email you her whole story. You are a very special group of people. The Yakima area is blessed to have you. I may have to give up my house there as I doubt I will be able to work- Thanks so much. Susan & Erik Moe."

PS. "Sorry for the scribbles, with a neck brace, I can't look down. I loved the pictures."

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering is probably one of the noblest things one can do, particularly in helping the animals. Please consider joining us in our efforts to rescue these animals.

Fostering, in your home, is an undertaking of tremendous value and equal reward.

Of course our volunteer opportunities extend beyond fostering. Contact us for detailed information on volunteer opportunities. Bring your enthusiasm and we will help you get involved with something that will touch your heart and change your life forever.

ANOTHER HAPPY DOG !!!

Hello! I am just dropping a line to let everyone know at Wags to Riches, especially Donna and Boomer's foster family, that he is doing great. He immediately felt at home you could say :)

On the drive back to Fort. Lewis, he slept in my arms like a baby with his head on my shoulder, waking up occasionally to give me kisses.

He sleeps with my husband and I and most times has more of the bed than both of us put together. Him and the kitties are pretty much used to each other now, but the cats really just ignored him until they wanted to play with him. He keeps us very busy playing fetch and every other day we walk around the airfield. Its a 5 mile walk and the first time I was sure it would tire him out, but it didn't!

As soon as we got home he went straight to his ball to play fetch. I'm beginning to learn his potty schedule and everything is going very well.

We are working on a bit more obedience and tricks training. All and all we are very busy and Boomer fits right in with us!

Thanks for helping us find this sweet little boy!

Sincerely,
Heather



ACCORDING TO REDBOOK MAGAZINE...

It's been said that cats have nine lives, and new research shows they can help extend your life too. Owning a cat could slash your risk of heart attack by almost a third. How? Your kitty may help relieve stress and anxiety -- two heart disease risk factors. So help save a cat's life and your own: Now is the purr-fect time to adopt since shelters are overwhelmed with homeless cats.

Visit our website

www.wagstorichesanimalrescue.org or visit www.petfinder.org to see our adoptable cats.

SOMETIMES WE SMILE.....

If you haven't visited our website yet, please take a moment and look around.

Created and hosted by Jennifer Ray, who owns [Link 2 Site Web Design](#), we were thrilled at how quickly our website was up.

It didn't take her long to get a grasp of what we wanted and we got all of that and much more. We love our website and how professional it looks.

Jennifer is also a professional photographer who owns J Ray Photography. In addition, she is a member and contributing photographer of the International Organization of Fire Photographers.

We are not sure how we got so lucky to get Jennifer but we are sure glad we did.

She is adding new things to the site almost daily so keep checking back.

www.wagstorichesanimalrescue.org

AND...SOMETIMES WE CRY

Recently Wags received a call from Officer Randy Sperle of the Wapato Police Department regarding 2 dogs. One had been hit by a car and the other one was staying with his friend. The driver just kept going.

Donna, Kim and Chris went down and with difficulty were able to get both dogs. Even though the female had little evidence of injury when Chris picked her up it was apparent that she was very hurt. Both were taken to Pet Emergency Service where Dr. Coleman determined that the sweet little girl's injuries were too severe to save her.

So she was held and loved for the last moments of her life. Her buddy is doing fine and has been adopted. He is still very timid but safe and sound and loved.



NEWSLETTER- YOU CHOOSE

If you would like to receive our newsletter on a regular basis, please visit our web site www.wagstorichesanimalrescue.org and click on the newsletter button at the bottom of the page.

We will send the newsletter to you by email or by USPS printed on paper. Please specify your preference. If you know of anybody else who may like to get our newsletter please let them know that they can go to our website to sign up to receive it.

VOTING TO BEGIN OCTOBER 1ST

You get to choose who will be on the Wags To Riches 2009 Calendar. So far there are 63 entries with more coming in daily until October 1st.

Just go to our website. Voting will be \$1 per vote, and you can vote as often as you like (**all proceeds benefit the animals that are rescued by Wags to Riches Animal Rescue and Sanctuary.**)

Watch for more details, on our website, about how you can purchase one or more calendars.

These will make great Christmas presents.

THANK YOU GAP WEST BROADCASTING, 107.3 FFM AND DJ LIL MIKEY!!!

Wags To Riches has partnered 107.3 FFM to bring you information about animals available for adoption as well as what we are up to.

Don't forget to tune in on Thursdays at 7:30 pm and listen to Mikey. We think this is going to be a good partnership for both Wags and FFM.

A dog is the only thing on earth that will love you more than you love yourself." ~ Josh Billings

DOG THROWN FROM VEHICLE

By Kim Wertenberger

Bob, Jennifer, my Husband Chris and I met at Slims in Naches on Sunday 9/21/08. 5 days after a horrible accident where a 10 year old Akita mix dog was thrown from a car during the accident. Bob had been to the scene the day before and didn't hold out much hope.....BUT.....

I am HAPPY to report that we found Copper probably within 20 minutes of beginning our search. Jennifer and I heard him start to bark and we were running (if you could call it running) through the dense brush and trees toward him. We caught sight of him and he looked to be okay. Bob was coming in from the opposite side and Copper got up and headed toward Bob, but decided against it. He was scared so Jennifer and I just stayed with him while Bob went and got the owners. In the meantime, Chris worked on clearing a path for Copper to get out. Bob returned with the owners Chad and Andrea (Chad with his 3 broken ribs and Andrea with her neck brace, two broken vertabrae and black eye) stood at the top of the embankment and with lots of encouragement from all of us Copper was able to claw and paw his way up the mountain.....as were we (no easy task).

Andrea called us Angels..... We all felt BLESSED to have been a part of this amazing rescue. :o)



Kim, Jennifer and owners Andrea and Chad with Copper. It was emotional for all.

WAGS IS VERY PROUD OF THESE VOLUNTEERS AND VERY HAPPY THAT COPPER WAS STILL ALIVE AND NOT BADLY INJURED.



COPPER WHEN FOUND

CHRIS CLEARING BRUSH TO MAKE A ROUTE FOR COPPER TO GET UP THE RAVINE.



“HAIR CLUB OF YAKIMA”

Coordinated by Volunteer TJ Martin

Wags to Riches has embarked on a new project. We are currently working with Dr. Ron Worle from the Puget Sound area to collect Dog, Cat and Horse hair that is then used to produce **anti-allergy products** by FDA approved companies.

A lot goes into this very regulated and extremely important prolonged process. It is a great way to recycle and more importantly to help people who are allergic to pets. The end product is shipped to doctors around the world. There are several requirements that we are mandated to meet.

1. Hair must be dirty, meaning collected prior to bathing.
2. No purebred Poodle hair. Poodle cross is okay.
3. Cat and dog hair must be kept separate.
4. All dog hair can be placed in one garbage bag.
5. All cat hair can be placed in one garbage bag.
6. All horse hair can be placed in one garbage bag.

If you are a groomer or have several animals please contact us for more information. We will come visit you. We hope to collect several hundred pounds each collection period.

All of the money raised goes towards the programs and services of Wags to Riches. We have no paid staff, we are all volunteers.

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WHAT OUR FUTURE LOOKS LIKE

We will be moving forward, very quickly, to start securing funding for the Sanctuary property and buildings.

Within the next few months we will be establishing a resource center of information, resources and contacts for other Rescues organizations, information for the media and information for the general public.

We plan to continue working with Dr. Worle to help him in his efforts to assist with the development of Anti-Allergy products.

We plan to partner with the American Red Cross on a Pet First Aid class. Instructors from the Yakima Chapter of the American Red Cross teach Pet First Aid/CPR, which is the immediate and temporary care given to an injured animal until it can be taken to a professional veterinarian for more definite medical care and attention.

We have over 30 active volunteers who are excited to be a part of this new Rescue, who are dedicated to the cause and who will work hard and smart to meet and exceed the goals we all put together and to help us create new goals.

DONATIONS

You can help us make a difference by going to our website and clicking on the Donate button. There you will find more information about ways you can donate to help the animals.

Donations can be made to our Merlin Scholarship Fund, The Memorial Fund, The Sanctuary Vision Fund, The Emergency Medical Fund, or you can let us use it where it is most needed. All donations will receive a receipt for your records and for tax purposes.

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FOUNDING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

Roger Vandiver - Board Chair
Elizabeth Carroll - Vice Chair
Anne Eichler- Secretary
Kim Wertenberger - Treasurer

Watch our newsletter for Bio.'s on our Board.

Our Board is responsible for dealing with legal issues, policy making, financial management, evaluation and stewardship.

We are starting to fill in Board positions but plan to recruit smart. Being a Board Member is a big responsibility and one that is never taken lightly. It includes being available to attend regular meetings, being available to attend committee meetings, being available to work on fund raising programs/ projects. It includes being an enthusiastic communicator of our mission, vision, policies and goals, our programs and our needs.

We are proud to have them setting policies and procedures and guiding our organization into the future while preserving it for future rescuers.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WOULD LIKE TO SAY THANKS.....

THANK YOU to our community for answering the call of dog food, blankets, towels, money and so much more right after the raid of the Puppy Mill in Lind, WA. in which 111 dogs were rescued. Thanks to your generosity, volunteers from Wags to Riches was able to make two trips to Othello with much needed supplies. On August 13th we were notified that the owner had 5 days to come up with \$67,500.00 cash bond just for the appeal.

Since that date, all of the survivors have been either spayed or neutered, except for the pregnant females and the new Mama's. They will be spayed before they are adopted out.

In addition, many of them have been adopted and are finally in loving, care homes. One of our volunteers that lives in that area was able to adopt one of the older dogs.

This was a victory for us all.