

ANOTHER BUSY YEAR AT WBCR!

Yep, it's been another crazy year at WBCR. So hectic, in fact, we never got a moment to celebrate our success last year - the end of 2011 merged into 2012 with a blur of holidays and dogs, and we missed our usual chance to update everyone. So here's a 2011 recap! It was another full year for WBCR, with lots of dogs being rescued and finding wonderful forever homes. In all, during 2011 we took in 102 dogs and 107 were adopted, including several of our special needs dogs who found the homes for whom they were oh-so-patiently. Word of the rescue continued to spread, and we found ourselves not only called on to help more frequently, but also invited to even more events than in years prior. WBCR made its biggest showing at sheepdog trials in 2011, including Soldier Hollow, Meeker, Trailing of the Sheep, and the National Sheepdog Finals. We made many new Border-crazy friends, helped open some eyes to the lovely dogs we get in rescue, and got to watch some of the best Border Collies in the country in action on the trial field.



2012 rolled in and we continue to meet with success! More wonderful dogs adopted - and yes, many of those were our special needs dogs. Of course, we've been busy rescuing, too, and have taken in many Border Collies in need already this year, including a few new special cases. (more on page 3) Our event schedule remains full, where we continue to educate the public about this unique breed, and loving, qualified families continue to apply to adopt with us. We are also working hard behind the scenes improving

our organization and solidifying a new internal structure, allowing our programs to run more efficiently. Our Foster Mentor Program has also just recently been established, which will make it easier for more Border Collie lovers to segway into becoming foster families. We always welcome volunteers, and there's never been a better time for you to join us.

Last but not least - we continue to be amazed by the generosity and dedication of Border Collie lovers. Our heartiest THANK YOU to all of you who have made the work we do possible. Without the loving and selfless work of WBCR volunteers, the patience and understanding of our adopters, and the generosity of all of those folks who donate so more lives can be saved, Border Collies would not be getting the second chance they deserve. WBCR is an all volunteer non profit, and we depend entirely on the efforts of Border Collie lovers like you to make it happen. We couldn't have done it without you! Thank you, thank you, from the bottom of our hearts. And may all your days be filled with wagging tails and smiling doggy faces!

WANT TO SEE THIS KIND OF ACTION IN PERSON?

Come join us at one of the sheepdog trials! WBCR will once again be sponsoring a booth at both the Soldier Hollow Classic held in Utah September 1-3, and the Meeker Classic in Meeker, Colorado, held September 6-9.

We would also like to take this opportunity to extend an enormous thank you to all the trial organizers who continue to invite us to be a part of these events, make us feel so welcome, and help us to spread the word about our mission and these amazing dogs.



Whew! It's a Scorcher This Summer.

While we all wish we could be at the lake, we're settling for the next best thing... But we'd be SUPER EXCITED if we could find a swamp cooler to help keep the furry ones cool. We are looking for one that is minimum 5000 cfm.

Please contact us at wbcrc@hughes.net if you have one you'd like to donate. And remember, all donations are tax-deductible!



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FOSTERING FAQs

Fostering is the lifeblood of rescue. At WBCR, there is no facility; all of our dogs live in foster homes while awaiting adoption. Every foster home means not just one, but usually two lives saved: that of the dog being rescued from a shelter, and that of another dog for whom space opens up in the shelter.

There's no doubt that fostering is work of the heart, and it's not always easy! And sometimes it's impossible to let go – usually, it is. But it is SO worth it. These are the questions we most often hear about fostering: "How can you let them go?" Followed shortly thereafter by, "Isn't it hard?" and "Why do it?"

Indeed fostering is a complex and greatly varied experience, and people have a variety of motivations. But for starters, it's important to realize that not every dog is suitable to every home, and vice versa, and this becomes evident the more dogs you foster; call it chemistry. Not every dog will have the traits that make a dog a good fit for a particular person, and vice versa. Dogs are as different as people - which means you really won't fall in love with every foster!



But when you are in love with your foster, it also helps that WBCR's approved adopters tend to be fantastically well-qualified people, able to offer a dog a life that is as good as or better than your own. So, if you are only willing to let a dog go to a home just like yours (or better), then WBCR fostering is for you. And WBCR, foster families have the final say as to whom adopts their fostered dog, so when it comes time to let them go, you make that final call.

It's useful to look at fostering as the bigger picture. For many of our foster families, it is always in the back of our minds: there is another dog out there, at a shelter, whose life is in danger and who needs a foster home. This sometimes eases the decision to let a foster go to an adoptive home, allowing the new dog in need to then come to you. And remember, there's always another one at a shelter waiting for a safe way-station until they find the family they will call their own.

Here, in their own words, are some thoughts on fostering from some of our very own dedicated fosters:

"Let them go? I never had them in the first place. These dogs pass through my home on their way to their forever home. I'm happy to help them on their journey and appreciate the happiness they give me as they pass my way. I can let them go because I'm anxious to see the next traveler and see what he's like; and try to figure out what he needs from me as he passes through..."



"I am a link in the chain to complete families, I have touched so many lives and they in turn touch mine. Fostering gives you a unique spot in the hearts of the families that adopt 'one of yours'. I'm not giving them up - I'm the springboard from which they dive into life experiences!"



"I focus on the bigger picture. By letting them move on to forever homes, a new spot opens up in our homes, thus helping one more deserving dog with a second chance on happiness."

"Every dog is hard to give up because they each get a piece of my heart BUT what keeps me going is knowing that WBCR won't waste any time and will ship me another new black and white adventure in the shape of a dog ASAP!"



"I see myself as a stepping stone to their perfect life. I am not the perfect home for them but I know there is one out there so I will give them food, shelter, safety and love until their forever family comes along."

"Why foster? It warms my soul. It started as 'What's fostering all about?' and like they say... not just one, but 18 dogs later and I have best friends all over the country and I get updates from them...showing those once doomed faces with bright eyes, a grin on their face, and facing a happy future. There's nothing like it."



If you think fostering is something you might be interested in, we'd love to talk to you! You can contact us at or check out our website www.wbcrecue.org; WBCR offers support and guidance to new and veteran fosters alike, and now with our new Foster Mentor program, this support is more thorough than ever before.

WBCR'S LATEST AND GREATEST SPECIAL NEEDS DOGS

We're thrilled to report that it's been a big year for our special needs dogs! Sara, Bogie, Macy, Happy, and Bea – all of whom had one medical issue or another, from broken limbs to skin allergies – have all found their forever homes. Seniors Daisy and Ollie have also scored, and are living out their remaining years happily with wonderful families. By July 2012, all of our very undersocialized, feral dogs – Ladd, Ada, and the Texas Three pups – had found devoted, understanding homes where they are thriving and continuing to blossom. And three-legged Trey, deaf Hope, and Rosy with the broken leg have also passed through our doors and into the arms and hearts of loving families. Last but not least, longstanding WBCR foster Moxie, after a long long wait, found just the family to call her own this summer as well. We are thrilled, and her new family is as equally delighted with this girl who has come oh-so-far since arriving at WBCR.



photo courtesy: Brian Mark

As you can see, Bogie is feeling much better - and he scored a fabulous home, too! "He is doing just wonderfully -- such a joyful soul and I am so lucky to have him -- everyone loves him, me at the top of the list. So thank you again for my gift of this wonderful guy!!"

Our most recent special needs sweetheart is **Rooney**. Rescued from a rural Idaho shelter, Rooney was in rough shape physically. An old injury to her front leg that was never treated healed in a dreadfully crooked way – the photos took your breath away – but despite what was surely painful, her sweet nature remained. We took Rooney in and thanks to a wonderful donor, plus the efforts of the fabulous Felix Duerr now with CSU, this old break was repaired. Thank you Tom, Laura, and Deb for making Rooney's rescue and surgery possible, and Allie for the last minute ride! Rooney is quite a cutie and is very quick to win over the hearts of all she meets. A full recovery is expected for Rooney – she is on the mend in a Colorado foster home - and will be available for adoption soon.



Two of our special needs dogs still are patiently awaiting their families to come along.

Cash is a 8 year old male who came to WBCR from a Kansas shelter, where he ended up after he was found in the middle of a four-lane highway and his owner refused to pay the shelter \$25 to reclaim him. He came to WBCR significantly overweight with no hair on his lower legs and some significant eye ulcerations and minimal vision...it has finally been determined he has some sort of autoimmune condition exacerbated by sunlight.

Currently he is on steroids but does also need to be kept out of the sun as much as possible, easiest done by keeping him inside.



Which he certainly doesn't mind one bit! Cash is an outgoing fella whose primary pleasure is the company of his human friends – and the more attention they give him, the better! This classic black and white rough coat is really a complete mush. When being petted, Cash has been known to close his eyes and point his head heavenward – clearly, nothing could be better!

He's a mellow, happy, easygoing guy with just the right amount of spunk, who just loves to hang out and be a part of things. He can't wait to have a family of his own to devote himself wholeheartedly. If you are looking for a fellow who just wants to be by your side, Cash would be a great choice.

Last but not least is little **Raine** – although she's hardly very special needs anymore!! One of the litter of R pups we rescued with their mother back in the summer of 2010, Raine was the most troubled of these Border Collie/Bearded Collie puppy survivors. These pups were dumped at the shelter with their severely malnourished mother.

Half the size they should have been, within a week from arriving in a WBCR foster home, the pups battled life-threatening respiratory infections then were diagnosed with Parvo. Despite round-the-clock vet care and the extraordinary efforts of their unbelievable foster parents, three of the puppies did not survive. The remaining 9 continued to battle for their lives for weeks and weeks. After three months (yes, THREE months) of severe illness in foster care, most of the R pups were finally healthy and ready for adoption!!! Slowly but surely, they all found their forever homes – except for Raine.

Unfortunately, Raine continued to battle constant infections in one eye, until it was finally removed. Then, she was diagnosed with hip dysplasia – in BOTH hips! Over the next few months, she underwent surgery on the first, and then the second hip. (Thank you Deb!!!) She has fully recuperated and is now OFFICIALLY ready for adoption!

Raine is feeling oh so much better, and although she has always been a sweet, social, and happy little fuzzi-bucket, she is finally pain-free. She's ready to put her past behind her and find a family who wants to share a life of love and good times.





The Dash Fund

WBCR is committed to helping all kinds of BCs in need. Our growth has brought an increase in the number of rescues, and that increase in rescues means an increase in dogs with a variety of special needs. To address this, the Dash Fund was established in 2010, named in honor of a very special BC boy who arrived at WBCR in early 2009 and shortly after, contracted distemper.

Despite his best efforts, the finest in veterinary care, and the incredible love and care of his foster and adoptive families, Dash did not survive. However, his memorable delight for life remains with us, and the Dash Fund was created so that WBCR can offer the same level of care to other incoming rescues needing extra special attention and/or extraordinary vet care to ensure the best chance at a new life. If you have a soft spot in your heart for those who need a little extra help, consider donating to the Dash Fund. We'll be setting up a special Dash Fund page on our website in the near future; in the meantime, we'd welcome you to donate via PayPal or check and mark your donation "Dash Fund". Remember, all donations are 100% tax-deductible.



THE STORY OF LADDY

Picked up as a stray, then taken to a crowded shelter, Laddy's past is a total mystery. When we first saw this handsome split face, it was a photo on petfinder.com, a nationwide database for adoptable animals. Listed as a senior in a Utah city shelter, his face smiled up at the camera, full of hope. Likely a well-loved pet at one time, but his microchip only turned up nothing but dead ends. So, WBCR stepped in to help. (By the way - we are total suckers for seniors!) Rescue is full of surprises and Laddy is a great example. Imagine our shock when this supposed quiet old senior arrived a far younger fellow, ready to play ball! Laddy turned out to be one surprise after another and is truly one of those "if only they could tell us" cases. He's a sweet boy who was doing his best to roll with the punches, come what may, and he continued to blossom in his foster home. But he was an older dog. And he had difficulty interacting with new dogs. So, although we were committed to him, we knew it might be tricky to find him the perfect home. Thanks to our matching process, many hopeful homes ended up passing Laddy by because of his age or his issues.



But the bigger surprise was still awaiting all of us! And that is what ended up being the next chapter in Laddy's life. A wonderful couple who had gone through the application process were not daunted by any of his flaws, and came down to meet him. They quickly fell in love. While Laddy is far from perfect they could easily see what a sweet, loving, and well-meaning dog he is, and were willing to work with him on his imperfections. If Laddy ever dreamed of the kind of people he would want, these are the kinds of folks he would dream of: kind, gentle, understanding, affectionate and fun fun

fun! Plus, they have an ideal situation for him. And so, Laddy went to live with his new family, half the year in the mountains of Wyoming, and half the year on a small farm. They are devoted dog lovers and Laddy gets to spend all day every day with them, doing all kinds of his favorite things. Recent photos show his eyes shining with happiness! We are overjoyed to have been able to help this happen. Here is what his adopters have to say:



"Having a border collie in your life is a joy that we understand. When our Millie passed in Feb 2011, after 14 years it left a deep chasm in our lives. Our vet told us about the Western Border Collie Rescue folks, and we applied. Thank you are such measly words for the gratitude we feel for you for bringing Laddy to us. He is as close to perfect a match

for us as we could have hoped. He lays at our feet and loves fetching sticks and walking around the farm and sleeping in front of a fan in our upstairs bedroom with us at night. Laddy seems to love his new life and we sure love having him"

Congratulations, Laddy! We wish you many years of happiness with your new family. It was a long time coming...but well worth the wait!

WBCR ALUMNI HEADS TO TRIAL

What is she? A greyhound? An Ibizan? A Mexican Street dog? She's lean, leggy, and mostly white, with gigantic red ears and yellow eyes. She's Fidget, and although she sure doesn't look it, she's a Border Collie. When WBCR volunteers first spotted her back in June of 2010 as a pup, they suspected she was not really the Jack Russell folks thought she was! We also knew that for years Border Collies have been bred for working ability, not for appearance, and although she sure didn't "look" the part, her behavior was pretty Border-y. And she desperately needed help - so she was welcomed into WBCR. Months later, our suspicions were confirmed - indeed, she's Border after all - but by then she had been adopted by one of our regular foster parents who had taken a shine to the little redhead and was in the market for a dog who liked working sheep. Since then the gangly little pup has grown up and her sheepdog studies are well underway! Thanks to help from the good folks at the Eastern Idaho Stock Dog Association, and lots of training and practice, Fidget is now an essential sheep hand at home in Idaho with

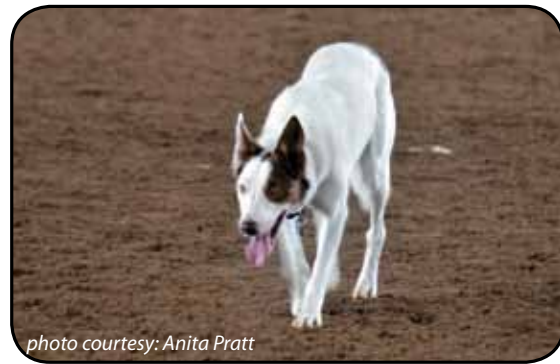


photo courtesy: Anita Pratt

5 naughty Shetlands, and she loves it! She is ready to tackle harder work and is heading to her first sheepdog trial in early September. Not only does Fidget love to show people white dogs can work, she also loves to show folks that rescues can get the job done, too.



If you are interested in trying herding with your Border Collie, we hope to offer an Herding Instinct day soon. In the meantime, feel free to contact us, and we'll get you in touch with someone who can help you begin in your area. Not all Border Collies are interested in working sheep, but if yours is, they will thank you for it! (And watch out, you may become hooked yourself!)

FEATURED RESCUE: *Marvelous Middle Agers*

While the majority of our rescues are typically energetic young Border Collies who end up homeless simply due to owners unprepared for a BC or the responsibility of having one, WBCR takes in BCs of all kinds, of all ages and backgrounds. At any given time, we usually have a couple Border Collies beyond their teenage years - ranging from 4 to 10 - all the way to seniors that are 12-14 years old. These dogs retain the traits we love about the breed - the sensitivity, the curiosity, the desire to engage - yet their unending energy has been curbed by time, and so they can be much "easier" dogs at home.

For the majority of people, a middle aged Border Collie is just perfect. While they can keep up with you should you want to go tackle a high peak, or take a long bike ride, they don't need to run miles and miles a day to be an enjoyable dog to live with.



They make loving, mellower versions of their younger counterparts. If you don't have the time and willingness to raise a puppy, or the capability to keep a teenaged Border Collie physically and mentally exercised - but would love an attentive, responsive, loving and active canine companion - a middle aged BC may be just the ticket. These middle agers come to us with much longer stories - and sometimes more heartbreaking - than the young ones.

And unfortunately, these gems are often overlooked simply because of their age. They have so much to offer yet are much less demanding. And contrary to popular belief, dogs of all ages (even 14) can adapt to a new home quickly, and will happily love you forever. Alas, they all will likely spend far more time in rescue than our

younger dogs. Middle agers awaiting adoption at WBCR are Bandit, Cash, Chancey, Rosie, and Jak.

Your chance to be a fashion designer is here!!!!!!!

Are your creative juices flowing this time of year? If so, we'd love to hear what kinds of ideas you might have for next year's WBCR T-shirts!! To encourage your originality, we are setting no standards or rules- the sky's the limit! Scribble 'em down and send 'em off to Tonya at wbcr@hughes.net



OUR MISSION

Western Border Collie Rescue is dedicated to rescuing, rehabilitating, and rehoming Border Collies and Border Collie mixes, as well as educating the public on the characteristics and needs of this breed.



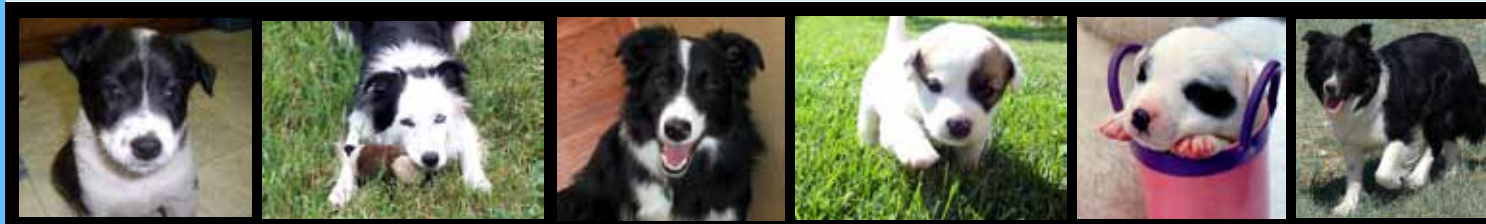
HOT OFF THE PRESSES:

The 2013 WBCR Calendars Are Here!!

A hearty thanks to all of you who entered photos in the 2013 WBCR Calendar Contest...we received lots of beautiful images of WBCR dogs, and tried to include as many as we could in the new calendar.

It is more jam packed with photos than ever before, and sure to light up any Border Collie lovers eyes. Plus, all the sales proceeds go to helping more Border Collies in need!

To order, head to our website www.wbcrescue.org



ABOUT WBCR

Western Border Collie Rescue (formerly known as Wyoming Border Collie Rescue) was founded in 2003. WBCR is a 501(c)3 non-profit all volunteer organization. We have no staff – all the work is done by volunteers – people who love Border Collies and give of their time and talents to help dogs in need. We rescue and rehome Border Collies throughout Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Montana, New Mexico, Idaho, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, and beyond.



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