



## WELCOME

Thank you for viewing our first edition Rescue and Adoption Newsletter. If you are interested in contributing to next quarter's edition or would like to subscribe to our newsletter, please contact [journeyanimalrescue@gmail.com](mailto:journeyanimalrescue@gmail.com) attention newsletter. If you wish to unsubscribe to our newsletter, please send an email to that same address and write "unsubscribe" in the subject line.



## MISSION STATEMENT

We are a 501c3 nonprofit rescue organization dedicated to rescuing domestic animals which have been abandoned, abused, neglected or left behind by their former owners.

We operate a state licensed, small, in-house animal shelter located in Maine.  
ME lic #F871

Our belief is that animals are sentient beings who are not merely "pets" but family members, and we strive to find them owners who share this view. We are committed to providing them with a temporary home where they receive veterinary care, socialization, exercise, love and good nutrition until their forever home can be found.

Our goal is successful placement, so we carefully match the breed, temperament and individual needs of the animals with their adopters. Animals will be kept with us for as long as it takes to find their perfect home.

**Our group does not discriminate against animals based on breed or physical disability.**

## BIRTHDAY BARK

Yukon and Warlock, when they were first adopted at 3 months old and now. They share their home with another rescued double merle adopted from us, as well as 3 other dogs, cats, horses and humans. Though deaf and visually impaired, these boys love life. Learn more about the plight of double merles on page 3.

## GIVING GRID: PAWS FOR A PURPOSE

We've signed up for a giving grid, a unique way for you to show your support by posting a picture of your special furever family member and companion who brings joy all year round. <https://www.givinggrid.com/longjourneyrescue/>

### Need a gift idea?



Make a loved one smile knowing they have helped save a life.  
Every dog deserves a second chance.

Please consider making a donation for the holidays in the name of that special person or in memory of a special pet.

You can donate virtually on the giving grid or you can go to our home page and click the donate link.



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## SUCCESS STORIES

Pit-bulls and pit mixes are the number one dog in animal shelters. Most are destroyed for space and breed specific legislation, yet they pass temperament tests at rates greater than labs. They are the most misunderstood breed.

### LUCY

Lucy (previously Lakshmi) was on a high kill list in Georgia. She had bladder stones and severe facial injuries suffered in an attack by another dog. We pulled her and treated her. Here's her story:

We welcomed Lucy into our family in August 2015. She stole our hearts immediately! Watching this beautiful girl's personality unfold before us was amazing. She is full of spunk! This sweet girl knows no stranger and is always happy to give a kiss! Lucy now enjoys spending her days playing with her brother Goose, running in the forest with her dog friends, squeaking her tennis ball (until it breaks) spending warm days lying on the deck in the sunshine and getting tons of love! Lucy is a true joy. We are so blessed to have her in our family! Thank you, Long Journey, for giving Lucy the new beginning she deserves.



Iris (formerly Achilles) is doing wonderfully and is much loved by her forever family. She makes them laugh a lot!

### IRIS



## VISHNU, YUKON and WARLOCK



Vishnu is a deaf and visually impaired Australian shepherd who had been bounced around to 4 different homes and was heading to a kill shelter when we were contacted by a rescue in Mississippi about his plight. We agreed to take him. Vishnu displayed significant fear aggression and lack of socialization. We worked with him and realized he needed a home with other dogs as well as a person who could keep him mentally and physically stimulated. Penelope Lanich, in Buffalo, NY, saw his listing and adopted him.

About 8 months later, we were contacted by a rescue in Georgia about 2 deaf and visually impaired Australian shepherd puppies who had been brought to a veterinary clinic by their breeder to be destroyed. Through the work of a veterinary student and a veterinarian, they had been saved, but now needed the help of a rescue used to dealing with double merle Aussies. We agreed to take them. Ultimately, they were also adopted by Penelope and her family and were named Yukon and Warlock.

At the age of 8 months, Yukon became paralyzed due to an underlying neck problem. He had emergency surgery and his prognosis was poor, but he beat the odds, mostly due to the dedication of his human family. These 3 boys share their home with 3 other dogs, a cat, horses and their human brother Conrad. Penelope also runs a doggie day care and grooming shop and the 3 go to work with her daily. These boys have brought love and joy to their family.

## THE PLIGHT OF THE WHITES

Breeding two dogs that are merle colored, or dapple colored, results in 25% homozygous merle/dapple. These dogs are born blind and/or deaf or vision and hearing impaired. These puppies are born excessively white, and it is lack of the pigment cells involved in the processing of external sound that results in the deafness or impaired hearing. Visually these dogs are often born with small eyes (sometimes barely visible), elevated third eyelids and/or abnormally shaped pupils. Sometimes this happens from backyard breeders who simply don't know better, but even worse are the breeders who are aware of these results but don't care and either destroy or dump these dogs. Additionally, these puppies are often extraordinarily beautiful, and if their eyes are minimally impaired, they may be sold for a lot of money to unaware buyers.

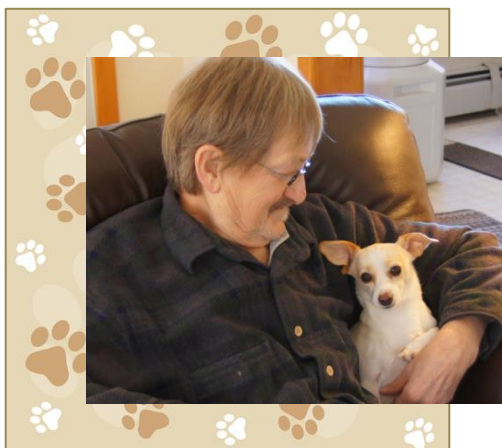
The AKC is partially responsible for this because while they say they discourage it, they will register puppies from such breeding and do not condemn breeders who do this. They even go as far as to support such breeding in certain situations and support the "culling" of puppies born with disabilities. As dapple and merle coloring shows up in more breeds, affected dogs, also known as "lethal whites", are being found in the following breeds: Australian Shepherds, Shelties, Collies, Great Danes, Catahoulas, Chihuahuas, Dachshunds and pit bulls. Another trend starting to occur is that sometimes more than 25% of the litter is affected, and more complex is the fact that sometimes other color patterns may carry a merle gene (tri-colored Australian Shepherds, for example).

In the end, it all comes down to ethics and economics. As long as irresponsible breeders create these puppies, many dogs will be born with disabilities and many will be destroyed. These dogs, however, can live happy and relatively normal lives. The founder of this rescue started saving lethal whites in 1999, after saving her first dog, Shanti, a blind and deaf Australian Shepherd. Shanti was never perceived by us as a disabled dog and brought enlightenment and understanding to our lives for 14 years. Since then, we have rescued and placed many of these victims of irresponsible humans.

### SHANTI



## PAWSITIVE THERAPY: AMIGO



Last February little Twig, now Amigo, came to us on a foster basis. Foster basis? (Famous last words.) My husband Conrad took one look at him and fell in love. Keep in mind, though, that we initially agreed that we'd care for him only until his perfect forever home could be found. Yet when I posted photos on Facebook to advertise Amigo's availability, Conrad responded with messages like "This is MY dog and he's not going anywhere!" or "I LOVE Amigo. He's staying right here!" We waged a virtual war for friends and potential homes to witness online.



I don't remember the circumstances now, it might have been when Conrad called Amigo "my son", but over the next few months, when it became obvious how much these two love each other, I agreed Amigo is here to stay. Here's a photo of the little guy in his very favorite place in the world: In Conrad's arms.



## ANIMAL SPIRITS

### ACE'S GIFT: PEARL (SARABI)

My Great Dane Ace was a very special dog, once-in-a life-time special, he was an "old soul". I asked an animal communicator on several occasions to speak with Ace, and she always described him as a "great and powerful being" and full of love. During their conversation about 6 weeks after he passed, Ace was very clear in telling Nancy that he would come back if he could, but if he could not, he would send another dog. It would be a female, a very special one, and I would know when I saw her that she was sent by him. One night, about 3 months after Ace's passing, I was feeling particularly lonely and missing him greatly. I have always had a heart for the double-merle Danes who are a result of irresponsible breeding and born with hearing and vision defects. I contacted Great Dane rescues, no double merles. I wearily typed in my zip code on adopt-a-pet.com and "Great Dane". To my amazement, I got ONE result.



It was a female Great Dane, double merle, with hearing and vision impairments. She was being fostered by Long Journey to a New Beginning in Maine. Monique, who is an alternative veterinarian, runs the rescue from her home and had recently received a phone call asking her if she would consider taking in a Great Dane from Georgia with vision and hearing impairments. The moment I saw her, I was in love! She looked into my eyes, even though she can't see well, then lovingly rested her head against my cheek for a few seconds. Then she bounded off to play with Diamond, one of my dogs.

I felt compelled to ask Monique how she felt about animal communicators. I told her what Ace had said. She asked me who the communicator was, and she knew her! She then told me that Sarabi's original name was Suzanna Pearl. My two are named Diamond and Opal. She is Pearl. Wow! I got Goosebumps. We both agreed that we were a part of something planned from above and this was meant to be. Another coincidence: Pearl was born on March 23. I rescued Ace on March 23, 2006. - My gift from Ace!



### NAYARA

This summer, Monique, the president of this rescue, and her boyfriend Stan took a trip out west, driving across the country with 3 pit-bulls, a shepherd mix, a blind and hearing impaired Australian shepherd and a Chihuahua. On the spur of a moment, they decided to leave late the night before their intended departure. They drove straight through the night and arrived in Missouri 36 hours later. As they drove into a gas station, Monique spotted a puppy with a young man who was standing in the parking lot. She approached the puppy, who was filthy, skinny and extremely thirsty, and began talking to the young man. He was hitchhiking across the country and hoped to stay with friends in Colorado. He had acquired the puppy from a woman whose daughter had left the puppy in her care when she (the daughter) was arrested. The puppy was not doing well, and the young man agreed to sell her to Monique and Stan for \$20. They named her Nayara.

Nayara spent 6 weeks traveling across the country with them. Monique told Stan Nayara reminded her of a dog she had saved 17 years earlier who had been adopted by one of her best friends, Ruth, another alternative medicine veterinarian. That dog's name was Asha, and she had died 3 years prior. When they returned to Maine, they had just about decided to permanently keep Nayara, but Monique had a strong feeling that she needed to contact Ruth about her.

## NAYARA

Ruth responded immediately, saying she had been having dreams that Asha was sending her another female dog and she had been looking at some, but they didn't feel right. Monique sent her a photo of Nayara and Ruth responded that this was the dog she was waiting for. Prior to meeting Nayara, Ruth contacted an animal communicator about Nayara and another dog, and she was told Nayara was sent for her. Ruth and her other 2 dogs met Nayara. Her new name is Sashi. She is an intrinsic part of her new family, just as it was meant to be.



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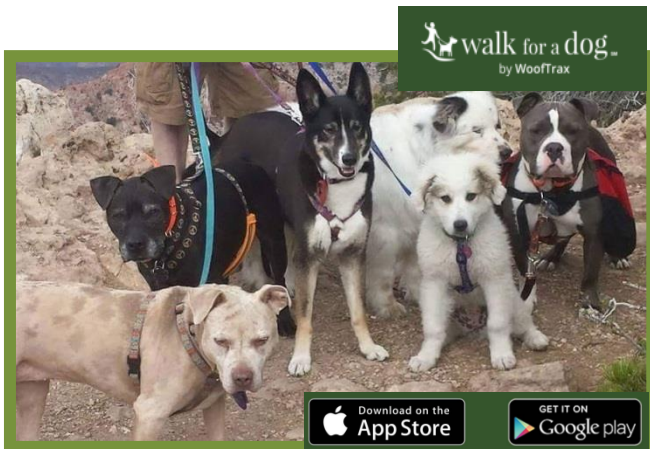
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## HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE START WALKING

We've registered for Walk for a dog by WoofTrax



Support our rescue by simply walking your dog! Use the app each time you grab for the leash. It's healthy for you, your dog, and your favorite shelter or rescue. Our rescue should be up and running by January.

### How does the app work?

Download and set up the app on your smartphone, select Long Journey to a New Beginning as your beneficiary then take your phone with you when you walk your dog(s). Simply press the Start Walking button and the app will keep track of your walk. When you are done with your walk, press Stop Walking. After the green heart appears next to your walk on the History screen, it is successfully logged for your selected organization.

Every **Walk for a Dog** counts, the donations are funded by sponsorships and advertising, so the more people actively walking, the more money we can raise (from interested sponsors and advertisers), and the more WoofTrax is able to donate!

All you have to do is Walk your dog and let your smart phone log your distance.

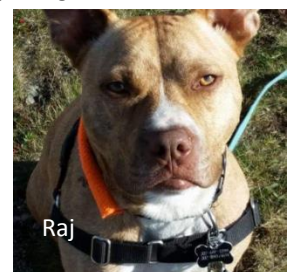
## NEW SANCTUARY ADDITION: WELCOME RAJ

Every now and then that special dog joins our long-term care due to age, temperament or medical condition. It's official: Raj will be a permanent resident. Raj came into our life a few months after we lost one of our permanent dogs, another pit bull mix named Austin. Austin was rescued from Hurricane Katrina in 2005 along with 125 other dogs I brought back. He and 4 other pit bulls became permanent residents due to medical issues which made them unadoptable at that time. Austin loved us, loved his pit bull companion Jelly (another Katrina dog) and adored the people he learned to trust. At the young age of 10 and 1/2 years we lost our beloved boy to pancreatic cancer, devastating us and Jelly, his soulmate. We did our best to console Jelly, rotating her with our other female but it was rough on everyone. Then Raj joined us as a foster dog. Initially we were told he was great with dogs, cats, kids and all people, so we agreed to take him. We noticed some concerning behavior when we first picked him up, but shrugged it off to stress and having been shuffled through 2 shelters and another foster home prior to arriving here. We then noticed that reaching above his head or picking up anything like a stick, broom or tennis ball would result in a terrified dog. When we went to public events, it became obvious that his past mistreatment at the hands of men would not allow him to be placed without a lot of work. We are lucky to have a wonderful trainer, Marianne Finney, who loves and believes in him and to have had the gift of Austin in learning how to deal with a dog with such issues. Raj is great with our animals and he and Jelly adore each other. Raj is here to stay. We got the Message, Austin: you sent him to us.

Jelly says thank you, Austin, we all miss you but feel you are here once again.



Jelly & Austin



Raj



## FUN IN THE PARK

Long Journey to a New Beginning had a great time supporting a Bark in the Park in September--a tradition in North Conway not to be missed! Our new friends had a great time strutting their stuff and Ananda was our local celebrity in the kissing booth.



## OUR HOLIDAY WISH – FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

**Long Journey to a New Beginning**  
Please consider making a donation for the holidays to support our rescue program

These beautiful pups are still waiting for their new homes, can you help give them special family? Check our site for more info.

Your generous contribution of any size will help us continue our efforts and go directly to these deserving animals.  
<http://www.journeyanimalrescue.org>  
Because every dog deserves a second chance

**You shop, Amazon gives.**  
Donating is easier than ever as part of every day. Love Amazon Smile or rather choose your shop or walk for a dog with Wooftrak.

**Adopted Home for the Holidays**  
We helped rescue and place more than 20 homeless dogs this year so they can be loved for the holidays with their forever families.

Wishing you a Happy & Peaceful Holiday

Watch for our newsletter and an fine auction coming up! You'll hear more on Sarah's Special Homecoming.



## STILL WAITING OR ON THEIR WAY

Tatum the Chihuahua, Devon the terrier, Toto the Pomeranian and Bud the Manchester terrier are still patiently waiting for their forever families. The 3 grouped together are on their way. If interested, please visit

[www.journeyanimalrescue.org](http://www.journeyanimalrescue.org)

Remember to check our site on a regular basis, as we try help dogs in urgent need weekly.



**PILOTS N PAWS**  
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**WE JUST GOT OUR WINGS**  
We've officially signed up for Pilots N Paws transport support.

Now some of our southern rescue pups can earn their wings while safely being transported to Maine by a fantastic group of volunteer pilots!