

Community Newsletter
August 2014

www.barkva.org

804-449-BARK

Bandit's Adoption and Rescue of K-9s

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Thundershirt Grant

Thundershirts are designed to give pets a gentle, calm hug that helps relieve anxiety and stress.

We recently received a Thundershirt grant of 25 shirts to be used by foster families with dogs that suffer from high anxiety, fear of thunderstorms or fear of travel and separation.

If you are interested in a shirt, please email [Cyndie Brady](mailto:Cyndie.Brady).



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Mark Your Calendar

BARK will be holding the next Pups on the Patio event on Friday, August 22nd, from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. BARK volunteers, supporters, and some adoptable dogs will be on the patio of Bar Louie in Short Pump helping to raise money with some great raffle items for BARK dogs in need of extensive care. It's a great opportunity to bring your favorite 4-legged friend out for some great food, cold drinks, and good company - all for an amazing cause!

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News from the BARK Board

With many people enjoying summertime vacations and a great deal of new work underway by the Board of BARK, we will not have an August meeting and will instead host our next monthly meeting September 15th at the Jessica Beath spay/neuter clinic (12300 Farrington Road, Ashland, VA) starting at 7:00 pm. This will be a very important meeting filled with updates on the organization's direction, overview of our progress and adoptions YTD, a financial update, and a chance to hear from our board members and committee chairs.

Please mark this on your calendars and try to attend. Currently, we are seeking volunteers for a number of committees and leadership positions at BARK and we would welcome the opportunity to start off the Fall with progress on these committees. We are forming teams to focus on:

- Volunteer recruitment
- Fund Raising and Grant development
- Marketing and Public relations

Please contact any of our board members to learn more. Current board members:

- Bob Tillack Bob.Tillack@dom.com
- Dave Harless dwharless@verizon.net
- Bob Adams robertcadams@verizon.net
- Claire Tetrick claire@barkva.org
- Shawn Riester riester239@verizon.net

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Helping the Community: Adoption News

Most BARK dogs are rescued from local public shelters. These shelters are open admission facilities, meaning that they are required by law to accept all unwanted dogs, such as those picked up as strays or surrendered by owners. When public shelters run out of room to house the dogs, they sometimes euthanize as a means of population control.

BARK and other rescue groups offer lifesaving alternatives by transferring at risk dogs to their facilities, where they are housed until adoptive homes are found. In addition to finding forever homes, BARK vaccinates, spays/neuters each dog and provides appropriate veterinary care.

We are proud to report that **23** dogs found loving homes in July including Grey from our Oldies but Goodies program. Additionally, two bonded pairs (Rusty and Autumn and Lexus and Domino) were adopted! If you'd like to keep up with the dogs adopted each week, please become a fan of BARK on Facebook at www.facebook.com/barkva.

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Adoption Spotlight: Blackie

Dogs featured in the Adoption Spotlight were selected as personal favorites by BARK volunteers. We hope you enjoy reading their comments about these wonderful dogs. If you want to know more about a dog, [click here](#) for Petfinder bios.

If you are interested in meeting a dog featured in the adoption spotlight, please submit an application online at <http://www.barkva.org/AdoptionApplication.aspx>, send an email to adopt@barkva.org or call 804-449-BARK (2275).

“I wanted to give a shout out to Mr. Blackie since he’s been at BARK way too long,” says his volunteer friend. “He’s looking all handsome with his new summer cut so all ready for folks to come check him out. Blackie walks very well on a leash so would be fun to take on long walks or a hike. He appears to be picky, not aggressive/just bossy about some of his kennel mates. He’s had quite a few during his time at BARK so learning to be more flexible. He’s taken a huge step and learning to share toys. Sometimes he can’t help himself and will grab the toys and hide them under his bed until you remind him again to share. He’s a little dog in a big dogs body and ready to roll. Please take the time to come by and meet Blackie.”

Blackie was turned in to a local animal shelter by his owner and fortunately rescued by BARK. He is around 6 years old and appears to be a basset hound/border collie mix. He weighs around 50 pounds. He is black and tan and has the longer hair of a border collie, but the height and build of a basset hound. He would do best in an all adult home that has dog experience as he can be protective of his home and initially nervous around strangers. He gets along fine with other dogs, but will chase cats. He misses being in a home and is a love once he is comfortable with you. Blackie walks well on a leash and absolutely loves being outside and exploring the BARK trails. He would love a forever home with a big, fenced in yard and a nice soft bed to call his own! View Blackies’ classified ad [here](#).



Blackie

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Volunteer Corner

Volunteer Wish List

This month we especially need:

- Donations of **canned dog food!** We are in really short supply!
- Evening feeders at the Ashland farm and volunteers for cleaning kennels (call Linda Lane at 804-883-7740).



Monthly Meetings

BARK holds monthly meetings at the new spay/neuter clinic (12300 Farrington Road, Ashland, VA) on the second Monday of every month. Please check the BARK home page for confirmation of the exact date! The meetings begin at 7:00 pm. Topics include such items as how to make BARK better, Fundraising, Clinic and Marketing the Clinic to bring in business, Adoption Success Stories, Issues from the Farm, as well as open discussions. Please plan to attend!

Doggie Stories

We need your DOGGIE story too! Since BARK has so many dogs, it is difficult for volunteers to get to know each of them in the limited time they share at the farm or at an adoption stand. In an effort to better showcase some of the wonderful dogs currently awaiting their forever homes, we are asking volunteers to share their stories of working with spending time with the BARK dogs. Please “vote” for your favorite dog and explain what makes “your” dog deserving of his or her very own forever home. Does he walk well on a leash? Does he know how to sit or shake? Does he love the water? How does he act with volunteers and other dogs? Can she fetch? Is he a good kisser? The “winning” dogs, along with the volunteer descriptions, will be featured in the adoption spotlight portion of upcoming BARK newsletters. These stories will help readers get to know the dogs and hopefully generate adoption interest. Plus, they’re a lot of fun to read! Remember, your personal experiences could make a difference in the life of a very deserving BARK dog. Submit your “votes” to robin@barkva.org.

FARM DOGGIES NEED MORE HOUSEKEEPERS and FRIENDS!!!

What better time than now - while we are all considering how we can improve ourselves, our lives and out little part of the world - to make a resolution to help the less fortunate! I have a terrific suggestion. Why not start volunteering at BARK! You will make a difference in the lives of many homeless dogs! BARK dogs are safe under our care, no matter how long it takes to find them a forever home, and they are always welcomed back should the need arise. Once a BARK dog always a BARK dog. Rescue dogs are grateful for everything they receive and will spend the remainder of their lives showing their appreciation.

Did you know that on any given day in the STATE OF VIRGINIA ALONE there are approximately 6,900 dogs in animal pounds? This does not include those dogs at rescue groups like ours. Here are a few more statistics about dogs that will knock your socks off:

Did you know that in Virginia during 2012 -

36,542 dogs were surrendered by their owner

56,800 strays were caught and taken to the pound

24,200 were reclaimed by their owner

44,566 were adopted

900 died in the pound, all alone

27,500 were euthanized for whatever reason?

So, the more volunteers we have, the more dogs we can rescue. But it takes a lot of work and we need help. Come alone, bring a friend or make it a family endeavor. You will have fun, learn about caring for and working with dogs and just enjoy their great personalities in a pretty rural setting. There are lots of activities that are very helpful: cleaning, walking, feeding, helping with medicines, grooming, even laundry! WE ALSO REALLY NEED DONATIONS AND FOSTER FAMILIES!!! Foster dogs get adopted much more quickly. Many dogs are calmer and better socialized when they can stay in a home instead of the shelter. There are loads of ways to help!

We appreciate all the help we can get and so do the dogs! Thanks for thinking about this and please pass it on to others. You can contact me, Linda Lane at: billindaphoto@mindspring.com or call me at 804-883-7740 to set-up a time to try volunteering, consider fostering or arrange to drop off donated supplies.

Please come out and help. For those interested in volunteering on Saturdays and/or Sundays, ORIENTATIONS: Arranged on an as needed basis but every Saturday at 11:00 a.m., orientations are conducted by Richard or Claire. Bring your application/waiver and make sure you have completed the required reading.

Volunteer Groups

The good news is that we have so many new and wonderful groups volunteering. The not so good news is that sometimes too many show up at the same time. So, all groups must be scheduled before they can visit the farm (experienced or not) to walk and/or help take care of the kennels. We are limiting the number of visiting groups on any one day for the safety of all. Please contact Carol Murray at murrsan@verizon.net to arrange a date.

Current Schedule for Kennel and Dog Care

Our flexible work schedule has proven a success by allowing volunteers, once they are trained, to clean any time during the day they chose to help. Every New Volunteer will receive an “Informational Package” by e-mail and every volunteer must have an orientation, provide their paper work to a crew lead at the farm (not only on line), and read the required material. Orientations are scheduled on a one by one basis. Children under 16 must be supervised by an adult. If 16 or older, the young person must have written permission to volunteer and be a very responsible young adult. For any questions or to schedule an Orientation contact Linda Lane at billindaphoto@mindspring.com or (804)883-7740.

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays: Volunteers are there at various times between 8:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. (Fridays from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm) We have morning, late afternoon and evening crews on these days. BUT we do not have volunteers there throughout the day.

Tuesdays and Thursdays: A couple of Volunteers start around noon. Others come after work.

Saturdays and Sundays: Volunteers start coming anywhere from 10:30 a.m. (or earlier).

Remember, the dogs depend on us. We are all they have until a forever home is found for them. Won't you consider giving them a little part of your week – just a couple of hours or so? The dogs would love you for it and so would we! Hope to hear from you.

New Kennel Guidelines

For safety reasons, we need to request the following:

1. No one under the age of 16 may walk on the LONG trail without the presence of a parent and without explicit permission from a crew lead. Any exception to this can only be made through the crew lead.
2. Children under the age of 16 may not be left along at the shelter to walk dogs at any time. A parent must be with them, helping them get in and out of kennels and making sure they know how to handle the dogs. Very experienced volunteers are the exception. Again, this is at the discretion of the crew lead. It is not wise to have youngsters running in and out of kennels or up and down the aisles for obvious reasons. It just gets too chaotic and causes the dogs to become too rambunctious and excitable not to mention noisy. Please make sure you read the attached guidelines for walking if you have not already and read them to your children.
3. Groups that come to help walk dogs need to make sure that there are enough adults to supervise the young people at all times. Please stay with them and help them get the dogs in and out of kennels, leash them properly, follow the walking precautions/ rules and stay safe – dog and child.
4. If you groom the dogs, PLEASE put all grooming tools back where they belong AFTER cleaning all the dog hair off the brushes and combs.

Volunteer News:

Kennel Volunteer Programs:

Thanks to a core of volunteers, we are constantly improving the **Quality of Life** for our dogs. Here are our volunteer needs:

- ◆ Walking and Exercising Program
- ◆ Kennel/Shelter Care and Maintenance
- ◆ Volunteer Follow Up
- ◆ Special Projects/Facilities
- ◆ Feeding
- ◆ Transport
- ◆ Groups and Community Service
- ◆ Medical Care
- ◆ Intake

If interested, please complete a volunteer inquiry form on our website: www.barkva.org. Please note that the majority of our volunteers work full-time jobs in addition to the time they dedicate to BARK. Please allow up to 2 weeks to receive a response to a volunteer application submitted online.

Welcome to newcomers *Leila Ali, Arden Anderson, Trace Baker, Alyssa Boisvert, Sydney Evans, Maddie Farmer, Makayla Filasky, Heather Hummel, Zuri Jack, Stuart Marcus, Jill Meyers, Allie Neal, Sophia Pal, Ed & Christopher Piper, Rebecca Reidy, Debra Russ, Chris Shepard, Brendan Smith, James Spollan, Bruce Toulan, Kathryn Townsend, Kensley Watkins and David Yarmark.*

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Notes From the Farm

Hi there friends!

I wanted to check in from my super awesome foster home to let all my adoring fans out there know that I'm doing great! You might not believe it, but I'm living here with 4 other dogs and I get along with everyone! It just goes to show that the environment and the right home/person can make all the difference in the world. A huge thanks to my foster mom and family for giving me this opportunity and also to my pal Frankie for stepping in and helping with the updates. I guess it's time to pass the torch to another spokesdog. Wonder who it will be?????

While I've been gone my pals at the farm have been busy. Without all of the wonderful volunteers, I don't know what they would do. A big thanks from my buddy Linda to the wonderful ladies who help keep the kennel supplied with all of the cleaning stuff, those that help with laundry when it gets full, and everyone who helps maintain the grass in the outside playpens (I think we've thanked everyone previously except for John Jacoby so thank you!).

I hope you saw the big news - my buddy Grey (a major old timer at the kennels) finally found her forever home this past month! I'm so excited for her - she really landed a great one!! Also, a couple of great bonded pairs also were adopted together - Autumn and Rusty and Lexus and Domino. That just leaves Lady and Thumper so help spread the word about how wonderful these two are!

Until next time!



Rolph

Happy Tails...Waggin' Good News

Marty (formerly Magic) has been to vet twice- once for a check up and they found he has giardia and hookworm! So frantic sanitizing and extra precautions necessary as not to infect us or the cat or reinfect himself! Then he went back to vet - has allergies and is on zyrtec! But other than that he is doing great- spoiled already and loving his new home. We love him dearly (cat is not so sure about him yet!) and the neighbors all think he is superman! We have a home church so Marty comes to Bible study on Sunday am and loves the youth group that meets Sunday nights! I don't have an iPhone so my phone pics don't get on the computer but here are a few I've taken or a friend took. Woop to get a family photo soon! Will get one to you when we do

Blessings!

Lori



Marty

This one is from the day we brought him home and another of Macky doing what he does best - napping!

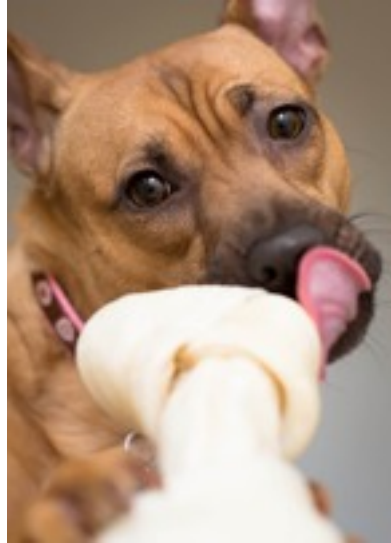
Margie



Macky

I just wanted to tell you how happy my husband and I have been about adopting Kira from BARK (I think her name was "Rosie" at the time). I couldn't imagine a better companion or a greater dog. Our experience with BARK has been a great one.

Jean and Richard



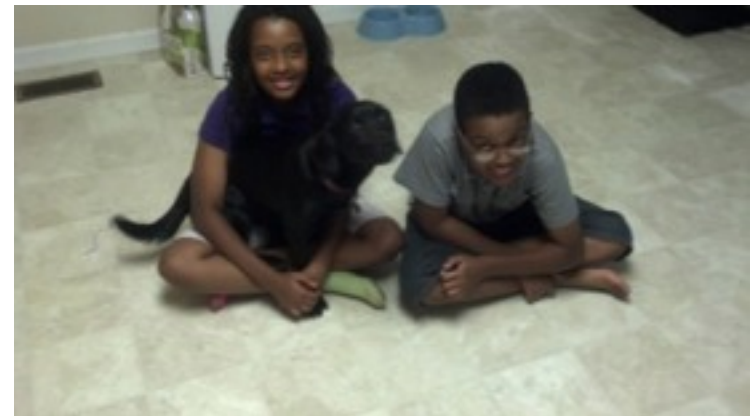
Kira

Wanted to thank you and your organization for allowing my family to adopt Carbon. He is such a joy and fits so well with us. In such a short time he has accomplished something that I have been trying to do for years now. He has brought these two children closer. They have bonded over Carbon and are so in love with him. Not to say that they don't still argue but there is just less of it because they spend all their time playing with Carbon and giving him tummy rubs. Which he loves by the way! Thanks again!!

Pamela

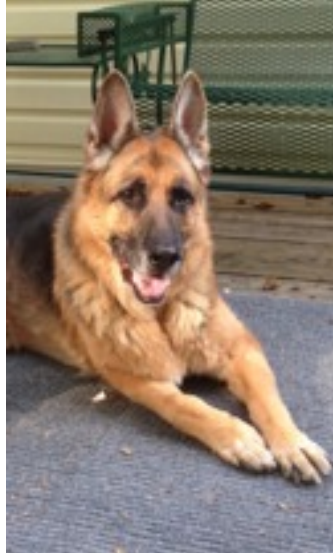


Carbon



Cheyenne is doing a little better each day. She's still a work in progress, but we love her! *She's pictured here along with her brother Brando (on the right, also adopted from BARK).*

Jeri and Chris



Cheyenne
& Brando

Taffy, now Libby, has been bedazzled and is fitting in perfectly. Libby is home!

Much thanks,

Kate



Libby



Neko is doing great! She's very smart. She knows how to sit, lay down, shake, and she loves to play fetch. She's only barked one time, when some of my friends just walked in and she thought they were intruders. I've taken her to the park several times and she loves it! People come up and pet her and she's not shy at all.

Chris (no photo included)

Here's a great picture of our girl Heather on her big adoption day! She's doing great in her new home!



Heather



If you have adopted a dog from BARK and have a Happy Tail or other contribution for the monthly newsletter, please forward it to robin@barkva.org.

Anytime is a
good time to
donate to
BARK!

Bandit's Adoption and Rescue of K-9s

Bandit's Adoption and Rescue of K-9s is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and all donations are tax-deductable. BARK is operated entirely by volunteers, so 100% of your donation will go to the dogs. Your donation will help fund spay/neuter operations, medical treatments, and daily care and feeding costs for the dogs at the Ashland farm and in BARK foster homes. You can mail your donation directly to the address below or make a secure donation online at www.barkva.org. Remember, every penny makes a difference in the life of a BARK dog!

Please accept my donation in the amount of:

- \$25
- \$50
- \$75

- \$100
- \$125
- Other _____

Gift given in honor of _____

Gift given in memory of _____

Name _____


Address _____



**P.O. Box 1682
Glen Allen, VA 23060
info@barkva.org
804-449-BARK (2275)**

Other Ways to Support

In addition to direct donations, there are numerous options that allow you to help support BARK and its mission. You can donate needed pet care items, purchase BARK merchandise or use a search engine that donates to BARK. Using these websites is super easy and a portion of your purchase will go directly to BARK. Please consider using these sites when shopping for your friends and loved ones this holiday season...

- ❖ In addition to monetary donations, is always in need of various pet care and administrative items. To view a complete inventory of “wish list” items, please visit <http://www.barkva.org/Volunteer.aspx>.
- ❖  merchandise, such as apparel for you and your pet, housewares, and bumper stickers are now available online at www.cafepress.com. Check it out!
- ❖ If you shop at Food Lion, BARK is now a charity with their MVP rewards. To register your MVP card, visit <http://www.foodlionmvpwards.com/>.
- ❖ **How can you make searching and shopping for that perfect gift even more perfect? Use iGive, where with ever transaction a portion goes to benefit BARK. Raise a penny (or more) per search and generate donations from any of the 730+ stores listed with iGive, ranging up to 26%. Also, check out the new searchable coupons and deals, where you will find all available, up to the minute offers and specials. Just visit www.igive.com.**
- ❖ GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up! You can even set GoodSearch as your default search engine.

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 37 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, eBay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting your favorite cause. So, by making your regular purchases through this site, you're helping take care of the dogs while they're waiting for their forever home!

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter  as the charity you want to support. And, be sure to spread the word! It's a super easy way to help support the organization.

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