

Community Newsletter
October 2014

www.barkva.org

804-449-BARK

Bandit's Adoption and Rescue of K-9s

[A Day at BARK](#)

[Seventh Annual BARK Picnic](#)

[Mark Your Calendar](#)

[Helping the Community: Adoption News](#)

[Adoption Spotlight: Cagnie and Lacy and Rosko](#)

[Volunteer Corner: We Need You!](#)

[Notes from the Farm](#)

[Happy Tails...Waggin' Good News!](#)

[Ways to Donate to BARK](#)

A Day at BARK

Although most of us went home extremely tired, achy, dirty and smelling like dogs we had the absolute best day volunteering at BARK.

Whether via Facebook, Twitter, with our family members and friends or in the office today we couldn't stop talking about your organization, the four legged friends we made on Friday and the great and fulfilling time we all had. We can't thank Sheryl, Charlene and Amanda enough for taking the time out of their day to make our day wonderful. Each of us got so much out of spending the day with our new found four legged friends, giving them the love they gave to us so freely. We even enjoyed cleaning out the kennels (good exercise). We seriously had a wonderful day and not one person could find anything negative to say about the experience. Needless to say, we hope you'll have room for a group of us to return next year. We usually have our community service day (EY Connect Day) the third week of September. So please pencil us in as I'm sure someone will be contacting you for a spot. I've provided the team with BARK's daily schedule in the event they want to volunteer with BARK on a regular basis. And I believe one of our employees said she was going to return to BARK to adopt one of the friends she made on Friday.

Again, thank you, thank you, thank you for the opportunity to work with and learn about your wonderful organization.

Regards, Glynis

Ernst & Young LLP (EY)



[\(Return to Top\)](#)

Seventh Annual BARK Picnic

It couldn't have been a lovelier day for the 7th annual BARK picnic. The temperature was perfect and the food plentiful. Everyone brought something to share which made for a great variety of choices; seems to have been the season for Macaroni and Cheese. We all met new people and finally put faces with names of those we have been calling and e-mailing forever. It was a day full of fun, relaxation, overindulging and sharing - mostly dog stories - imagine that! The picnic, along with the soon to come Christmas Cookies, is a way of thanking all the volunteers for what they do to help the dogs as well as one another. As has been said before, without you there would be no BARK. Without you many many dogs would not be saved and given a new lease on life. It may take a while but eventually they all find their forever homes. Your love and caring for the dogs makes it easier for them to get adopted.

Thanks for everything you do,
Linda, BARK Shelter Manager



[\(Return to Top\)](#)

Mark Your Calendar

BARK will be holding the final Pups on the Patio event of the season on **Friday, October 24th**, 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!

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 **22** dogs found loving homes in September including Monday, Clifford, and Blackie from our Oldies but Goodies program. 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.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

Adoption Spotlight: Cagnie and Lacy and Rosko

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).

“These girls are so sweet and full of energy!” says their volunteer friend. “They seem to be bonded with each other so would hope someone would adopt them together. They do need some basic training but have great attitudes and just really want to be loved and play. They can be a handful on a leash at first but are so much fun once you get them out in the open yard and outside kennel. Once they are exercised they calm right down and just want to take a nap. They need someone that’s willing to work with them and show them how to play with toys and just be a dog. True sweethearts!”

Cagnie and Lacy are about 2 years old and weigh around 73 lbs. & 79 lbs. respectively. They were picked up by animal control as strays. When no one came for them, they were rescued by BARK.

Lacy is a female Rottweiler and she is 2 years old and weighs around 79 pounds. She and Cagnie were picked up by animal control as strays. When no one came for them, they were rescued by BARK. View Cagnie and Lacy’s classified ad [here](#).



Cagnie &
Lacy

“What a love of a dog he is,” says his volunteer friend. I took Rosko out the other day and he just so enjoyed being on the front seat of the car and looking out the windows. So curious about everything probably because he daily outings are usually so limited. It seemed important to him that he not let me out of his sight. The only problem I had was when he wanted to lay down under my legs while I was trying to shift gears and stay on the road. Then on occasion his head would try and pop up through my steering wheel. He is such a love to have around and doesn’t seem to be bothered about other dogs though he prefers to be an only dog so I understand. I heard a fellow volunteer say that she always wondered about Rosko and his personality. Then one day she found that he had been moved into the row she had “adopted” which meant that she was to take care of cleaning, watering and exercising him. She wasn’t sure how it was going to work out but found it was love at first touch. A total win win. Now he is one of her very favorites too. He sure has been waiting for a long time for others to see his good qualities and give him a chance at a forever home.”

Rosko is a handsome 4-year-old mixed breed, likely a Basenji - hence the ears, and pit bull terrier or retriever. He is a perfect medium size at around 50 pounds. He has a wonderful personality and is quite the gentleman. He has a nice energy level, walks well on a leash, loves water and is a gentle boy. This sweet boy lost his home, but not his hope! View Rosko’s classified ad [here](#).



Rosko

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

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).
- Donations of water at the kennels!

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 alone 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 Kokou Alasse, Tyriek Bayne, Teresa Butler, Eryn, Carlisle, Michael Firstenberg, Jake Giovia, Emily Kieber, Sherry King, Caroline Matawaran, Angel & Andrea Medina, Cameron Mencia, Ashley Moy, Anne Musulin, Atal Naim, Pierce Pelletier, Morgan Pennington, Denny Rudzinski, Connie Stokes, and Debra Vali.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

Notes From the Farm

Hi there!

It's been a pretty good month at the BARK farm! As you can see, my volunteer friends really enjoyed this year's BARK picnic. A big thanks to Linda for organizing and hosting another fun event. I know everyone was happy to enjoy a nice, relaxing afternoon (not covered in poo!). They sure cleaned up nice!

We also had another group of dogs go into one of our prison programs. It's such a cool idea - the dogs live with their trainers 24/7 and come out knowing all kinds of neat tricks, are crate trained, good on a leash, and pretty much housebroken. So, if you're looking for a pretty much perfect dog to add to your family, keep an eye on everyone listed on the website (they have "Graduate" after their name) that have graduated the program.

A couple of my old-timer buddies also found their forever homes last month - Monday, Clifford, and Blackie. I figure it's bound to be my turn soon right?

Anyway, I hope you can come out and join us for the last Pups on the Patio event, which will be at Bar Louie in Short Pump on Friday, October 24th. Maybe I'll even make an appearance!

Until next time!



Kelley

Happy Tails...Waggin' Good News

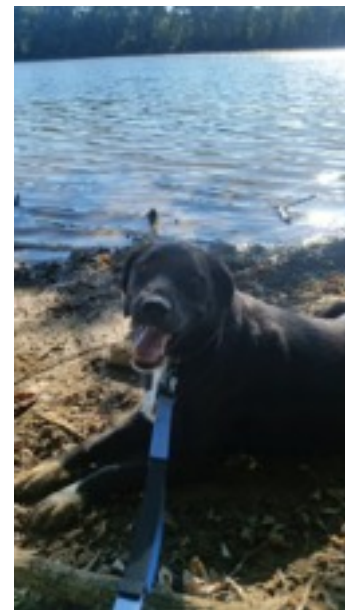
I just wanted to say thank you for approving us to adopt Nugget. He has been settling in well to our house. We are extremely pleased with him, and I hope he is just as pleased with us and his new home! We are looking forward to taking him to some obedience classes and getting him more socialized with other people as well as other dogs. I just wanted to let you all at BARK know how he is doing!

Thanks again!

Danielle



Nugget



We love Zeus after having him for just a week! He's so happy and friendly all the time. He loves going on walks, which are so fun!

The people we met when picking him up said you all like to see pictures, so here's a few we've taken of our little Zeus!

Michelle



Zeus

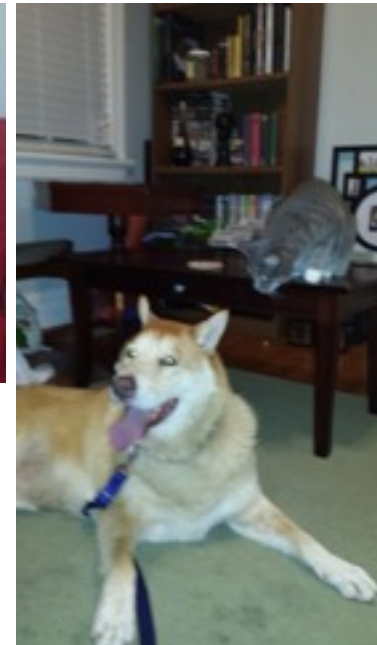
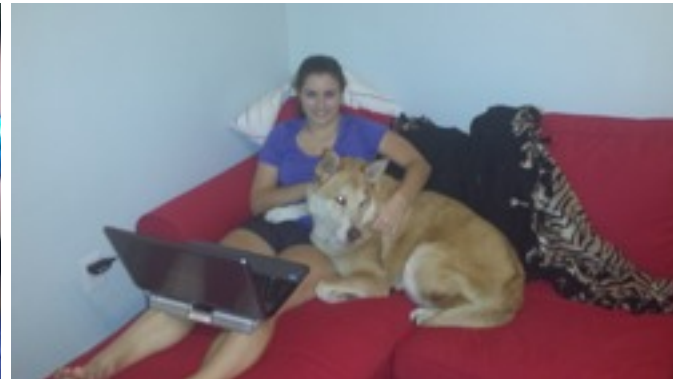
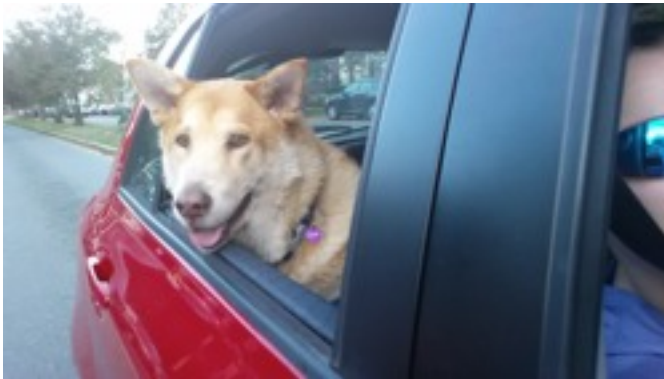
Norbert ("Tonka") is doing great!

He's lost weight and is looking quite trim - he definitely loves his daily walks and won't let us ignore his dog park trips on the weekend! His energy levels are up and the arthritis is doing much better.

He's taken a big liking to our couch and the cats have (mostly, as cats do) accepted their big brother.

He's happy to see us when we come home and knows where home is, enjoy the pictures!

***Thanks,
Katie and Jake***



Norbert

I wanted to thank you for recommending Rex. He is a wonderful dog and a great match. I adopted him today and am very happy. We spent a lot of cuddle time with him last night and he did great. He seems very aware of actions around us as if to make sure he is not hurting us (while we are playing). I think he is going to do just fine. He calmed down yesterday after we got on the road and he had time to relax.

He is settling in very well. And he is learning fast. He is very well mannered and has already started to show protectiveness of his new home. We just need to work on going up my steps. For some reason he won't climb the steps to go upstairs to my bedroom. I had to carry him up there last night and back down this morning. But I think given some time and encouragement he will get used to them. He picks things up very quickly... right now he just waits at the bottom for me to come back down.. it is very cute.

I just wanted to let you know that when my son got home, Rex was excited in his crate; my son told him to sit and he did, then he opened the crate and Rex slowly crawled out and then gave him a hug. So I think they are going to be just fine with each other.



Rex

Years ago, I believe it was 2008, we adopted Jack X who is now known as Henry. He was 2/3 at the time of the adoption.

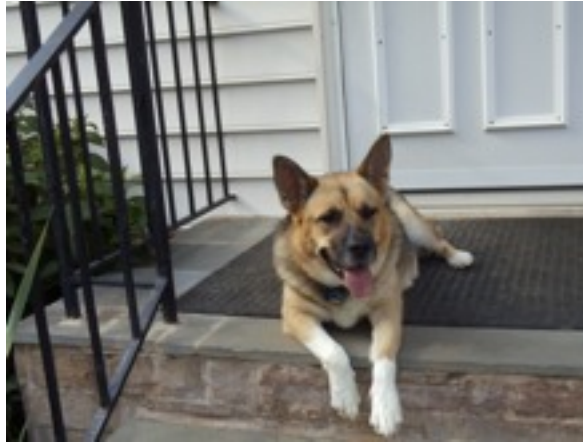
Yesterday my son took a shot to the head during a soccer game and suffered a broken nose and a concussion. I took this picture showing how Henry behaves with us when we are injured/sick. He's awesome.

Natalie



Henry

Hi, this is Trixie. Today I celebrated one year at my forever home. It's been a fun year and I just love everything about my home. I'm a very happy girl. I love my mom and we have lots of fun together. Thank you for finding me the perfect home.



Trixie

It's Lori-Geneva and Kinish's Mom :) I wanted to say hi and let u know the girls are doing well. I can't believe we are coming up on 8 months since I have brought them home. There is still never a dull moment with them (Kinish has caught and killed two bunnies in the backyard!) but they make me laugh every day. I love how Kinish's favorite sleeping position on the couch is on her back - too funny. And Geneva loves to come up and bury her head into your body for a big bear hug and lots of loving :). They both love their daily walk and Geneva actually begins to dance when I go to the closet to get their leashes. We celebrated Kinish's 6th bday in Jul complete with cake and hats. They both got a steak dinner as well :)

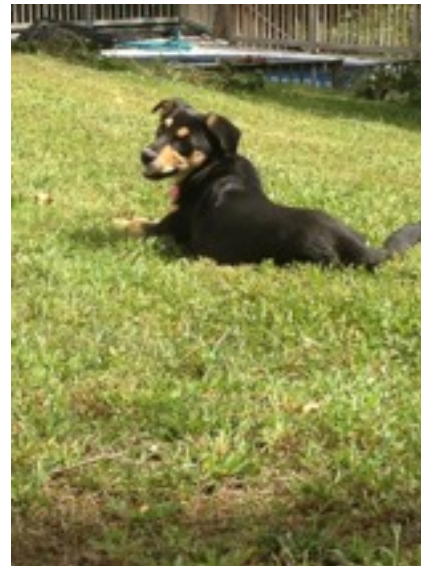
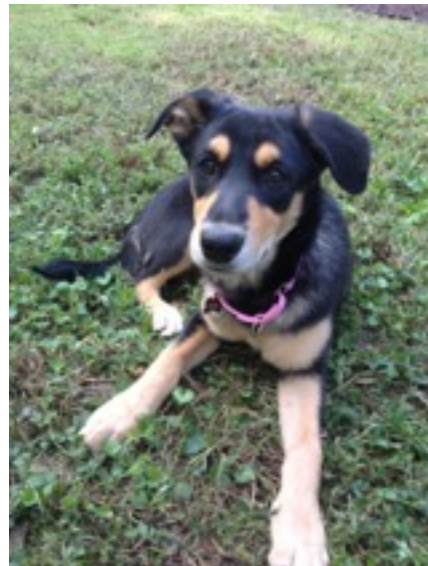


Geneva &
Kinish

Here are some pictures of Rio! Actually, I hope you don't mind but we changed her name to Koda. She is responding well to it and is sooooo smart.

She is growing into an awesome girl. Thanks again for such a wonderful new family member!

Joe



Koda

Annie is doing fine, she is sooooo shy but the BEST thing in all of this is she really loves Sassy. She follows Sassy around most of the time and we are working with her making sure she feels comfortable with us and I think she trust John and I. Yesterday she even got up and followed me down the drive way which was really a BIG step for her.

We have changed her name to Autumn and she seems to be responding to her new name better than I thought she would. I will send you some pictures as soon as she feels more comfortable with all of her surroundings, hopefully that will be real soon.

Thanks for all your help and I will keep you updated...

Patrice (no photo included)

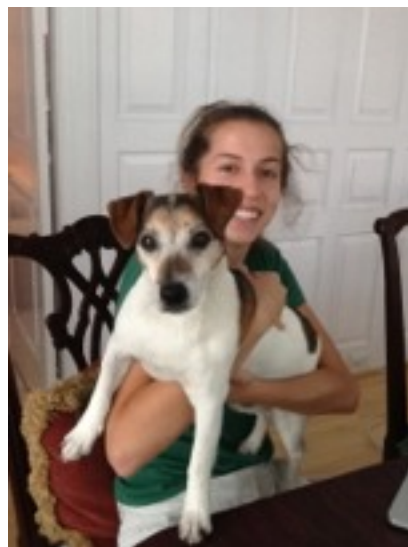
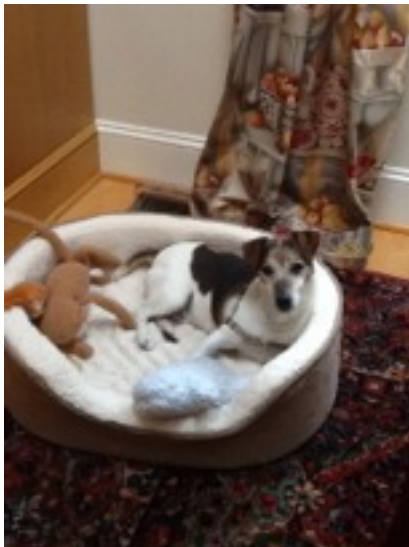
Our family adores Tom (formerly Micky Mouse). He was fostered by Dana and her girls. We have loved his winsome personality...he walks softly and only speaks when I come home and then gives a wonderful howl. He has gained a pound and has a beautiful winter coat now. We walk 2 or 3 miles a day and take rides when we can to walk in new places, which he handles well, whether it's at the lake around UR or Stony Point Shopping Center.

He's got the basic commands down and will even jump through a hoop for treats. Tom enjoys most fruits and vegetables and never misses a meal! He's also a shadow, tirelessly following me around the house as I work, and happy to settle in for a good sit in the evening.

Tom's a great companion and I am so glad he came to live with us! Also, he was heart worm negative on his follow-up vet visit.

Thanks Bark and Dana!

Carolyn



Tom

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.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)