

The High Sierra Barker

2021 Fall Newsletter

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This summer we witnessed the incredible power of kindness within our community. Local individuals, businesses, and organizations came together in a way that they never have before as the Dixie Fire pushed through Plumas and Lassen Counties. We couldn't have imagined that a month and a half after its inception that we would be worried for our facility in Portola and the surrounding towns that we call home. With our supporters' help, we were able to give evacuated pets a safe place to stay during one of the most stressful times in our county's history. The relief we saw in people's faces as they dropped off their pets and thanked us with tears in their eyes is something that we will never forget. It was an enormous gift to provide displaced and worried families with a sense of security and comfort so that they could then figure out their next step. When our friends in Quincy were threatened by this horrific fire, PAWS asked if we would take in their rescue cats. The very next day, fifteen to twenty cats were cozying up and playing in our Kennel Manager's office. These sweet cats and kittens stayed with us for a week until it was safe to return home. As the fire moved closer into the Lake Davis area, we called upon the SPCA of Northern Nevada where our dogs were able to stay until our evacuation warning was lifted. They placed five of our puppies into loving, forever homes and cared for our best friends while they waited to come back to HSAR. We are so thankful for the SPCA and their willingness to share their facility. Our hearts are with those who have lost their homes, their habitats, and their sense of community. Our most sincere thanks go out to all of our first responders and our supporters. We hope to always be here for families and pets in times of need.



Your support and the gift of second chances

While our main focus at HSAR is to help dogs find forever homes as soon as possible, we understand that not every dog will find their perfect match right away. McCloud was adopted by a wonderful family a few months after his arrival in March of 2020 but quickly began to display concerning behaviors that they couldn't have predicted and were unable to work around. It appeared that McCloud had a fear response to new people entering his home and he started to nip at their visitors. Fear is often the source of reactivity in a dog and McCloud had clearly been through something in his past that made him weary of strangers. When a dog is returned, our

team uses that as an opportunity to learn more about them and what their needs are. This discovery immediately made him harder to adopt out and we knew that it would take time for the right person to come along. While he waited, our rescue staff and volunteer trainer, Hannah Tomatis, worked with McCloud day in and day out. He began muzzle training and he eventually took to wearing it on his walks around our facility. This gave us a sense of comfort and control while allowing him to interact with new people. Each day we'd look into his intelligent, brown eyes and think, "You will find your person. They've got to be out there".

In February of 2021, we received an adoption application for McCloud and he immediately went into a foster to

adopt home. After speaking in depth with his foster dad, we knew that this would be the right place for him. They made it official one month later and have been best friends ever since. His incredible adopter sent us an update and said, "He was quick to add me to his "Best Friends" list and is persistent in his quest for attention and affection. Quick to respond to my requests to come, sit and can now take a treat from my hand. Glad I have a large back yard as chasing a ball is his favorite thing and he will bring me the ball several times a day wanting to play."

We see potential in all of the dogs we rescue and we know that in time they will find the homes they deserve. Our ability to give McCloud the training he needed in order to live a normal life is all thanks to supporters like you.



The future of our facility depends on our Guardians

A call to our supporters—We feel incredibly fortunate to serve animals who have been forgotten and left behind. It's the kind of opportunity that we cherish and honor everyday but it comes at a high cost. Without the dedication of our monthly donors, second chances for dogs like McCloud would vanish. We are 75% of the way to our monthly giving goal and you can help us reach it! Please sign up online at highsierraanimalrescue.org and click "donate" to be a Guardian of HSAR today. Your donation will be automatically processed each month. Our sweet "puppy hero" Waylan is pictured on the right. He helped foster two litters of puppies this summer with his parents, Catherine and Seth. All of these pups have found homes with help from our Guardians.



<u>Business Guardians</u>— Will your business support HSAR with a monthly or quarterly contribution? Every donation is tax deductible and each business that signs up will be listed on our website and mentioned in social media posts, newspaper articles, newsletters, and emails. You are welcome to read more about Business Guardianship on our website. We are extremely thankful for the following businesses that have already signed up: Sardine Lake Resort, Gumba's Family Pizza, Quincy Pharmacy, Clio's River Edge RV Park, Millie's IceCream & Coffee Co., Briar Patch, Jayce Coziar Realestate, Feather Financial, Cal-Sierra Title Company, and Graeagle Store.

Events- Our first in-person event since 2019 took place this July at The Brewing Lair. Susan and Rich were once again so kind to host our event as well as contribute to our fundraising efforts. It was an absolute treat to see our supporters and celebrate our mutual love for rescue dogs. We would like to thank everyone who participated in our virtual events this year. Please keep an eye out for information regarding future events. We're all in need of something to look forward to these days and we are hoping to include more in-person events in 2022.



<u>Pets Against Violence with Plumas Rural Services</u>— October 30th, 10am at Gansner Park on the west end of Quincy. PRS has invited HSAR to participate in a Halloween walk for families in order to raise awareness for domestic violence and pets. There will be a costume contest, adoptable dogs, gift bags for kids/dogs, and a raffle! We hope you will join us for a great event!

Giving Tuesday – November 30th. Giving Tuesday is a global generosity movement created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good and give. Each year we increase our goal in hopes of raising more life saving funds for the dogs in Plumas County. Please join us on this incredible day as we raise \$10,000.00 for HSAR. We will have an online campaign where you will be able to donate but you are also welcome to send in or drop off checks at our rescue.

Amazon Smile— Support our rescue dogs while you shop from home! When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to High Sierra Animal Rescue at *no cost to you*! Simply log in to your Amazon account or make an account at smile.amazon.com.

Yes, I want to help High Sierra Animal Rescue save lives!						
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