



SSRR Advocate



Bear

Issue 001 October 2014

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A letter from SSRR President, Bill Lawton

I have been involved in dog rescue for a number of years now, with Humane Societies, Animal Control facilities and Rescue groups. I have also worked with some of the more difficult dogs in order to get them to the point of being adoptable and able to live in a forever home with a loving family. Dog rescue truly is my passion. Prior to being elected President, I volunteered with SSRR, processing adoption applications, performing home checks, assisting with temperament tests, and transports. I also served as Lead Intake Coordinator before being nominated as President. I truly believe it's up to each and every one of us to speak up for and help those who cannot help themselves. There is a person for every dog and it's our responsibility to find that person and pair them together.

I am proud to be the President of such a great organization, with the greatest fosters and volunteers anyone could ever hope for. Since taking over as President on November 26th last year, we have made many changes within the organization. One of the biggest changes we made is our current website. The website not only showcases all of our dogs available for adoption but also automatically posts on up to 200 animal adoption websites throughout the country. Our website gets more hits than ever, which has increased our adoptions significantly and has kept our Adoption Team extremely busy.



(Continued from page 1)

We have expanded our social media presence on Facebook and currently have over 5,400 likes. You can follow us on Twitter at @SSRRrescue or subscribe to our YouTube channel . You can also follow us on Pinterest and even download our app to your Android based device. There are so many ways to keep informed with the happenings of SSRR.



In order to ensure our Rotties get the best care possible, we have added Dr. Prudence Walker DVM, a registered Vet, to our team. Doctor Walker is our Board Advisor. We have also recently added a Director of Health and Vet Services. Tara will help us to ensure that all of our Rotties remain up to date with vaccines and that we are providing the best assistance possible to our fosters with HW+ dogs.

I would like to thank every one of our volunteers and our wonderful Foster group, along with all of our supporters and donors. It truly does take a village to save each and every Rottie that we save and I can't think of a better village than the one that SSRR has.

Olivia and her puppies

Olivia is a gentle, 3 yr old Rottie girl who ended up in the Fort Worth Animal Care & Control (FWACC) back in mid August—underweight, with bad skin issues, and pregnant. On 8/22, Olivia gave birth to 10 babies on a hard slate floor in the crowded shelter. On 8/26, Olivia's luck looked to be turning around as she was pulled from FWACC by a rescue group. Unfortunately, this did not work out well for Olivia; Labor Day Week-end she ended up back in the animal shelter-- extremely sick and without her puppies. Word reached SSRR late Saturday about poor Olivia and her terrible ordeal, and we requested permission to take custody of Olivia and her newborns.

Before SSRR was given custody, we received word that one of the puppies had died, one was near death, and the rest of them were not doing well. At that time SSRR was allowed to take over care and responsibility for these puppies, as well as Olivia. The family was rushed to the Alvarado Vet Clinic in Alvarado, TX, where they received urgent care and treatment. Unfortunately, the critically ill puppy and a few others did not make it. The 5 surviving puppies were extremely dehydrated, very weak, and struggling to live. Mom, Olivia, had a URI and demodex mange; she was severely dehydrated, extremely underweight and was covered in fleas. After the wonderful treatment received at the Alvarado clinic, Olivia was cleared to nurse her babies, and the family was reunited. The staff reported that Olivia was so happy to be back with her babies and all began to recover. Olivia and her puppies have since been transferred to one of our wonderful puppy experienced fosters in Dallas and are all doing very well. They're doing so well that the puppies will be available for adoption within the next couple of weeks.



Olivia and puppies in shelter



Charlie Brown



Hank Williams



Loretta Lynn



Minnie Pearl



Tammy Wynette

Photos courtesy of Teresa Berg of Teresa Berg Photography

Layla



A special thank you to our photographers

We would like to thank our great group of photographer who have donated their time in order to take some really awesome professional photos of our Rotties, These incredible photos capture the personality of each dog photographed and help them in finding their forever home.

christina hardcastle

Photography

KMS PETOGRAPHY



**DANA
CABBAGE
PHOTOGRAPHY**

JENNIFER STAMPS

photography

TERESA BERG

photography

Lauren Sanders
photography

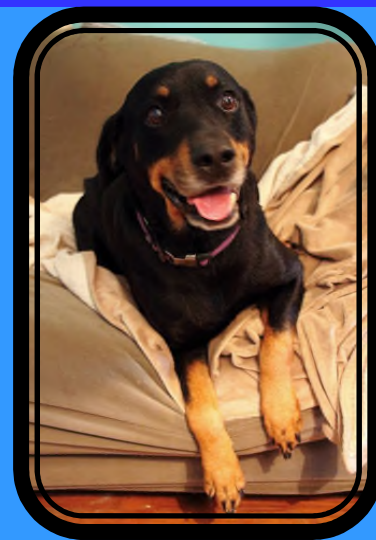
SSRR Partners with Rooster to the Rescue

We have partnered with Rooster to the Rescue (R2R) for help with the Heartworm Treatment of our Rottweilers.. Rooster to the Rescue, Inc. is a non-profit organization whose mission is the no-kill movement by raising necessary funds to treat dogs through their Save A Stray program as well as educating people on the importance of prevention. They work hand-in-hand with shelters, rescues, veterinarians and adopters to supplement limited resources to provide needed medical supplies and treatment of dogs in need.

For more information on
Heartworms, visit...



**AMERICAN
HEARTWORM
SOCIETY**
EST. 1974



Laila is receiving her HW

Treatment through R2R



Elsa

Our 2015 SSRR Calendar Contest by Terri Coleman

Our 1st ever GoGo Calendar Contest was a huge success. We want to thank all the participants who shared their Rottie photos with the world. We're taking pre-order now for the 2015 SSRR Calendar. All entry photos will be displayed, not just the top 13. Quantities are limited so act fast. Cost is \$25 each and includes postage. We anticipate they'll be ready for shipment by the end of October.

Be watching for next exciting event!! The Christmas Medical Fund Auction! We're looking for item



Britta—Cover photo & contest winner

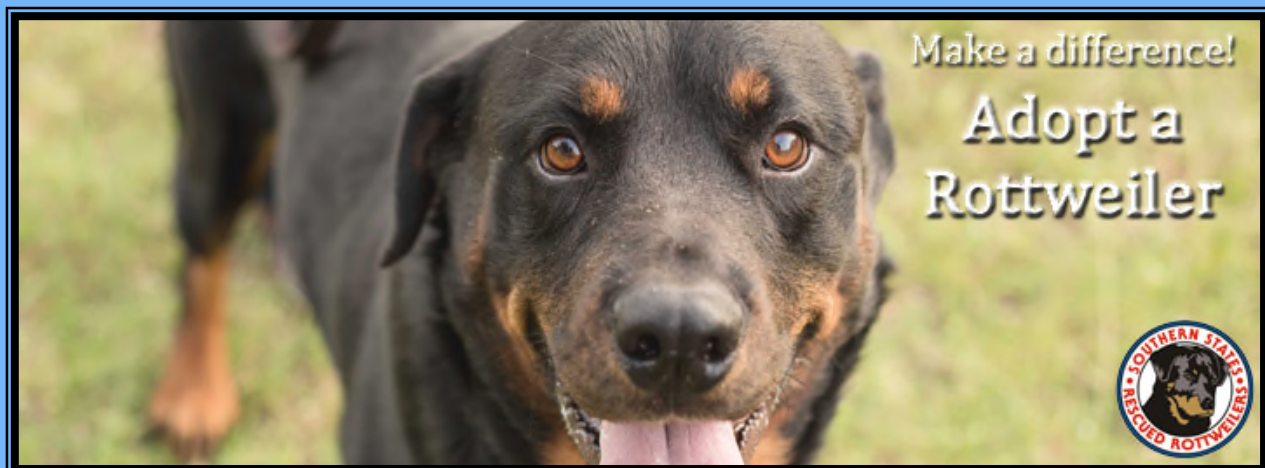
donations, anything that would make a great Christmas present. The auction will go live via Facebook on November 15th and run 2 weeks. If you'd like to contribute please email us at rottie.info.ssrr@gmail.com for the auction Grand Central Station mailing address!



Karisma by Kara™ all started about five years ago when Kira was a newlywed and wished to bring in some extra income. She began making simple beaded jewelry, and then started experimenting with shaping wire. After learning the basics of working with wire, Kira began to try more difficult wire designs. Ideas kept coming; her inventory kept growing; and demand kept increasing. That was it! She knew she had to turn this into a bonafide business.

Karisma by Kara is offering SSRR a 20% donation for all Rottie necklace purchases in the month of October. She offers different styles to choose from, nub, tail up, and tail relaxed.

Please indicate in the comments at checkout you'd like to support SSRR with your order.





Fostering is love

One of the most unconditional
and selfless kinds of love.

Volunteer with SSRR

Become a Foster

Southern States Rescued Rottweilers, Inc. is dedicated to saving the lives of Rottweilers throughout our eleven states, but we could not fulfill that mission without the existence of Foster Homes.

The SSRR Foster Home Program was created to provide temporary housing to our Rottweilers while providing basic needs such as food, water and shelter; in addition foster homes will work with the foster dog to get him/her ready for adoption.

A foster home is a temporary home for one of our Rotties until SSRR finds a permanent home for the dog. A foster home provides the love and shelter for the dog while SSRR provides and pays for all medical needs.

Being a foster home is not easy. Taking a Rottie into your home, caring for him, loving him, and then letting him go to a new forever home can be very difficult. But, fostering can also be the most rewarding and fulfilling thing a true dog lover can ever do to support dogs in need.

If you are interested in becoming a foster home, please go to our website and fill out a foster application.

Home Visits - A home visit is something that is required before an individual is allowed to adopt one of our Rottweilers. It consists of checking the dog's proposed living conditions, asking questions outlined on our home visit form, and basically ensuring that the home is ready and properly equipped to handle the challenges and rewards of adding a new dog to their home. The Home Checks are the eyes and ears of SSRR, allowing SSRR to place dogs in safe and secure homes.

Transport - Since we do not limit adopters by making them choose only from the dogs that are in their state of residence, we often need to arrange transport for an adopted Rottweiler to go from one state to another. Our volunteers will fill various 'legs' of the transport as they relay the dog across our coverage area from its current location to its new or adoptive home. Most legs range in size from 50 to 100 miles. Before you take a road trip with your family, check with SSRR to see if you can help transport a dog to their "Forever Home".

Administrative Areas - There are other more administrative areas such as fundraising, advertising, secretarial services, correspondence, etc. where we often find ourselves lacking volunteers. If you can be of assistance in any of these areas, we welcome you to volunteer to fill this niche.

Public Education - We often reserve booth space at local dog events to educate about this breed. We are always in need of volunteers to sit at these booths to pass out promotional material and to talk to passersby about Rottweiler rescue, the importance of spaying and neutering, and Rottweilers in general.





You can make your donation through our PayPal link on our website or mail your donation to:

SSRR Inc

c/o Linda Whigham , SSRR Treasurer

PO Box 21133S

White Hall, AR 71612

Donate to SSRR

Money is an uncomfortable subject and no one likes asking for it...but we need it in order to be able to continue to care for the Rotties in our rescue. SSRR has some of the best volunteers and we're doing everything we can think of to help raise funds. At the end of the day though, our supporters don't know we need money unless we ask. And that is what we are doing - we are asking.

Like many other non-profits, we hate asking for money, but we ask because we love our Rottweilers. We ask you to step up, to make a difference, and to be a savior for our Rotties in need. At SSRR, the one and only thing we care about is our Rotties and every penny donated goes directly to help them.

We need YOUR help when we rescue these amazing dogs. We've taken in some Rotties that require quite a bit or medical care recently, Rotties that are costing thousands of dollars to treat. We don't turn our backs on them - we do everything we can to help them all. Please consider a donation to our efforts - every dollar goes toward their care.

When we rescue a Rottie and bring them in to SSRR, we fully vet them, which includes vaccines (\$150) and Spay/Neuter (\$100). Assuming the dog has nothing else going on with it (which is rarely the case) the expenses right on day 1 are \$250. Unfortunately, many of the Rotties we rescue have heartworms and need heartworm treatment (costing between \$500 and \$1,000). Then we have those that need major surgery which has ranged from \$1,000 to \$6,000.

Donations and Sponsors

If you would like to sponsor one of our Rotties in need, there are several ways to help out!

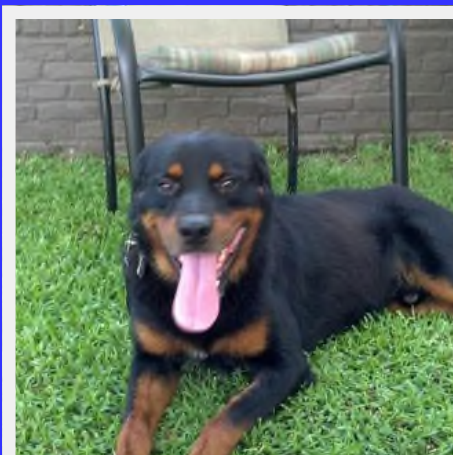
1. Make a onetime donation gift
2. Make a month reoccurring gift

Other ways to help:

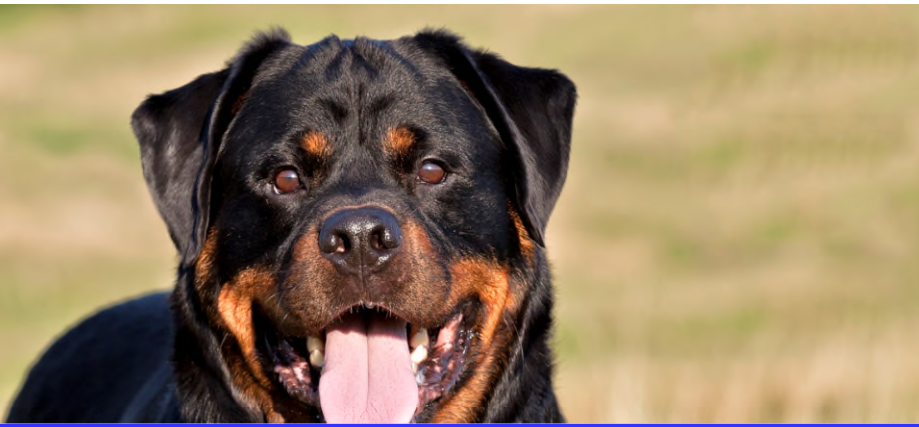
1. Is your birthday coming up? Have everyone send a donation to SSRR in your name for one of our special needs Rotties. What's a better birthday gift than to help one of these special dogs?
2. Have a fundraiser: Hold a Bake Sale or Car Wash to help with the expenses of one of our special needs dogs.

Your tax deductible donation allows SSRR to continue saving and treating Rotties in Need.

SSRR is a 501c3 charitable organization. The rescue group is operated solely by volunteers; no salaries are paid to anyone. Therefore, 100% of all donations go to the rescue and adoption of Rottweilers and Rottweiler mixes, with the majority of funds being allocated to their medical needs.



Piglet



Is your Rottie Overweight?

Many Rottie owners over estimate their dog's weight because of their build. Rarely are these estimates accurate. Veterinary scales are the only way to get a true and accurate weight of these dogs.

A majority of Rottweilers seen range from overweight to grossly obese. Why? Because the general public has a mistaken belief that Rottweilers are supposed to look like that! Even many veterinaries are unaware of what proper weight for many breeds looks like.

To check your Rottie to see if it is overweight, have your dog stand up and face forward. Look down on your dog's back. Is your dog the same width from shoulders to hips? Rottweilers should have a DISTINCT "waist" when you look down on them. This means the "waist" is decidedly narrower than either the rib cage or the hip area. Next place your hand on your dog's back with your thumb on its backbone and fingers over its ribcage. Can you easily feel both backbone and ribs, or do you need to press down? Ribs and backbone should be easily felt without any pressure but should NOT be visible when looking at your dog from the side.



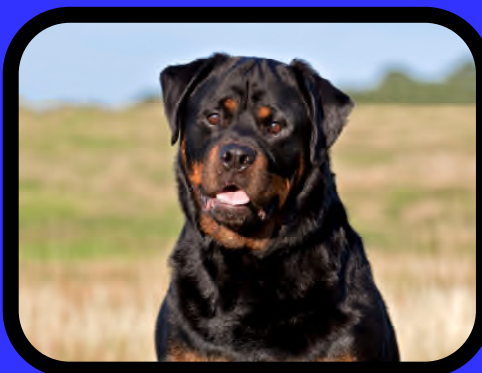
Fat does NOT equal substance in Rotties anymore than it does in humans. Good weight and muscle tone are achieved through measured portion meals and proper exercise. Measured portion meals are a must with Rottweilers as most of them will happily continue to eat and not "self-regulate" at a healthy weight.

Being overweight dramatically increases your Rottweiler's risk factor for common Rottweiler health problems like Hip Dysplasia, Elbow Dysplasia, other joint problems, torn knee ligaments (cruciates), diabetes and thyroid malfunctions. These are not only unhealthy and may very well cause pain to your Rottie but can run in the thousands of dollars in vet costs.

In addition to measuring meals, providing appropriate exercise and keeping your dog's weight within healthy limits; the quality of the dog's food is also a key factor. We cannot be at optimum health if all we eat is candy and fast food and dogs can't be at optimum health if they are fed low quality food and junk filled treats (the equivalent of doggie candy and fast food).

Dogs are primarily carnivores (meat eaters) so be sure to examine your dog's food bag. The #1 ingredient should be a named meat or meat meal such as chicken, turkey meal, Herring meal etc. The food should contain NO by product meal, soy products, corn or wheat. The protein content should be between 22 and 26% for adult dogs and 24-28% for puppies. The fat content should be between 12-16% for adults and 14-18% for puppies. Any fat should be named such as chicken fat, beef fat etc. and should NOT be anonymous such as animal fat. No chemical preservatives (BHA, BHT, Ethoxyquin) should be listed, nor should there be any sugars or artificial colors.

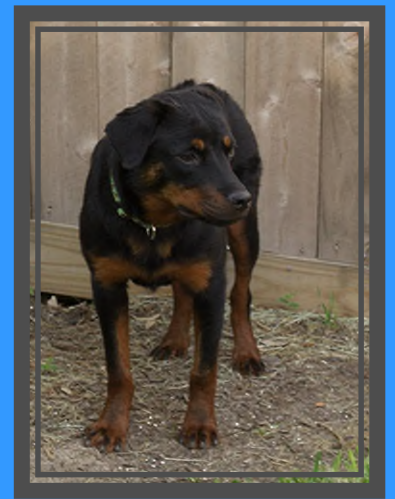
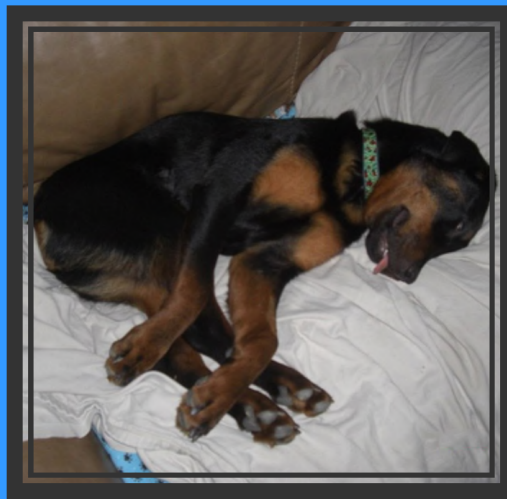
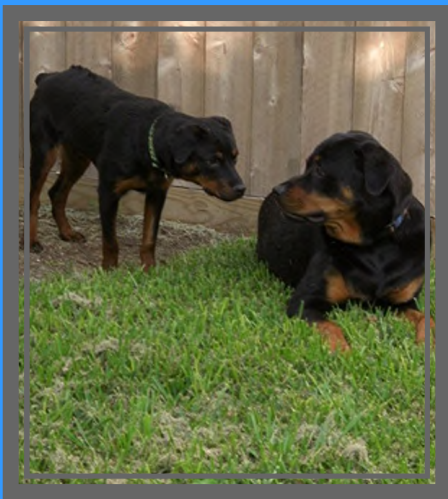
The better quality dog foods are found at pet supply stores, not at grocery stores. Don't be swayed by expensive advertisements and packaging. Use your own eyes and knowledge! If you feed a quality dog food in measured portions meals, keep your dog at its individual optimum weight and provide mental and physical exercise appropriate for your dog's age and health then your dog will be at its optimum health with healthy skin, shiny coat and abundant energy. Your dog will live longer and have less health problems as well.



Kathy Coon; Vice President, Adoptions Director

Kathy is our Vice President and is primarily in charge of our adoptions, although she does so much more. She works with an amazing team of Adoption Coordinators who process all of the applications that come in to SSRR. Kathy became a volunteer with SSRR in 2008 when she adopted her boy, Ranger. She had recently lost Scout, her very first Rottweiler, to cancer. She had adopted Scout by default when she found him as a sick pup lying beside the road....and spent over \$800 to get this "stray dog" well again. She had planned on finding him a home once he was well; but, by the time he was well, she was smitten, and just fell in love with him. That began Kathy's love and dedication to this wonderful, yet greatly misunderstood breed.

Kathy urges you to get involved in fostering if at all possible. As she said "It's the only way to save these abandoned Rotties. Often when I look into those adorable brown eyes of Ranger, as well as the fosters I've had, I think of how each of these precious dogs were only hours away from being euthanized. I never thought I could do it—just too heart wrenching to give them up. But, even with the sadness and tears, that is no comparison to the terrible sadness that I know everyone feels for the ones who never get a chance.



Linda Whigham; SSRR Secretary

Linda is a very proud mom of two former SSRR kids, Tanner and Trixie, adopted in 2005 and 2006. Once she adopted them, she wanted to see what she could do to help the folks who matched her up with two of the sweetest dogs. Linda started volunteering to drive transports going to or from Texas through to Arkansas. And the rest, as they say, is history. She was approached to be the grant writer and eventually the Treasurer. Linda has held these positions since 2012.

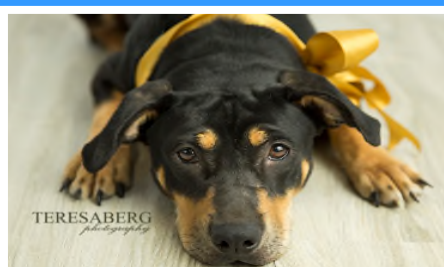
Linda's full-time (paying) job is as the Supervisor of a laboratory in the Pathology Department of a University Medical Center. They use a laser beam and antibodies to classify blood and bone marrow cancers. She's a medical technologist by profession and has spent my entire working life paying attention to details. Not a bad habit for someone responsible for the "purse strings" so Linda is somewhat suited to her SSRR position.



People say that rescued dogs are so grateful for their adopted families, and we all know they are, but Linda says she is so grateful to Tanner and Trixie for sharing their lives with her and the folks at SSRR back in 2005 who placed them with her. Linda's favorite part of volunteering with SSRR is seeing all the happy endings; being the last leg of a transport and actually witnessing the family and their new dog meet for the first time.

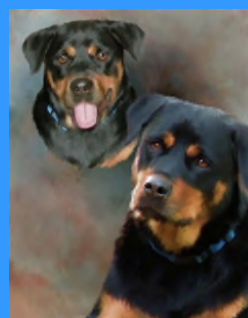
Lynne Mueller; Secretary, Foster Care Director

Lynne started out volunteering at her local shelter and quickly had adopted several dogs. She would bring home the older dogs or the ones no one wanted and then one day she met a Rottie named Blossom and that was it. Lynne loves all dogs but Blossom was special. They shelter kept her locked in her kennel and said that she was aggressive. Lynne would go in her run and get her out and they'd take walks. Finally one day her husband said they could bring her home and so they adopted her. She was the most amazing dog and that's when Lynne fell in love with Rotties. She eventually lost Blossom to bone cancer and it broke Lynne's heart and she swore she'd never get another one. About a year later, she started looking for a Rottie and she found SSRR and decided to foster because she didn't want to go through the pain again. Her first foster dog was Chance and he was amazing so she decided to adopt him. Lynne realized that she needed to have a Rottie in her life. Lynne became a Board Member in March 2014. She currently has 2 Rotties, Chance and Abby. She loves to take them hiking in the mountains.



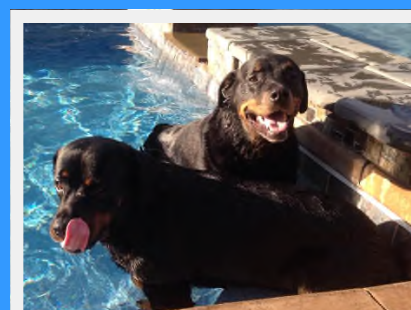
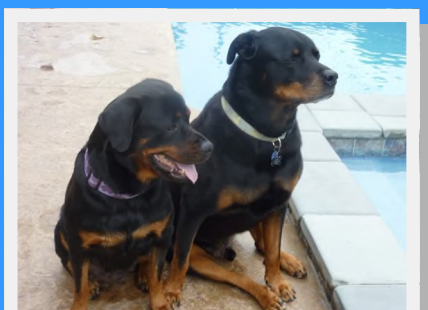
Terri Coleman; Director, Fundraising, Facebook and Events Coordinator

Fifteen years ago Terri volunteered walking dogs for her local PAWS organization. Another member had received a transport request from SSRR and knowing she had a rottie they forwarded the request to her. At that time she was really green as to how rescues and transports worked but wanted to be a part so she became a volunteer for SSRR. In 2012, She became a board member and assumed the role of Fundraising/Event Advisor. Terri and her husband live in the country and have two horses, a manx cat and of course Rottweilers. Their Rottie girls, Jazzie and Lexie, will be 7 this summer. During the week Terri is an operations manager of 3 lumber & plywood reload facilities for Lbr & Hdwe Corp. In their spare time Terri and her husband enjoy snow skiing, traveling, dining out and just staying home hanging out with their four legged family. Their lifetime dream is to travel around the country in an RV with their Rotties!



Jennifer Keltner; Director of Public Relations and Social Media, Intake Coordinator

Jennifer found her love for rescue dogs in college when she adopted her first shelter dog, Casey. Her passion for animals led her to volunteer at her local shelter and eventually to joining Second Chance Rescue as a volunteer in their puppy division. In 2013, a Facebook post for a sweet Rottweiler girl in urgent need of a foster home caught her attention. Hena was rescued by SSRR and became Jennifer's first foster and the start of a wonderful relationship with SSRR. Jennifer continues to foster and serves as our Intake Director as well as our Public Relations & Social Media Advisor. Jennifer currently resides in Virginia Beach, VA. She is a proud Navy wife, lucky mom of 3 boys, and her home is ruled by spoiled Rottens Xander and Jennifer's foster Layla.



Karen Roselli; Director, Transport and Legal Advisor

Like my fellow Board members, I have been involved in dog rescue for many years. I am the proud owner of 6 rescue dogs: 5 German Shepherds and 1 Chiterrorist. Whaaaaaaat??? No Rottweilers???????????? Well, yes and no. I share ownership of a beautiful 1-year old male Rottie named "Tino" who I personally rescued from being put down by his owner last spring. He will be adopted once he can walk again on his hind legs after having lost complete use and function of them after an untreated urinary tract infection spread to his spine. That is a story unto itself and one for another time.

How I got involved with SSRR over a year ago is by pure chance, and probably also a combination of fate and destiny. In September 2013, several of us in the south Louisiana rescue community helped find a temporary foster home for five 8-week old Rottie puppies that had just been pulled from the Lafourche Parish Shelter. Long story short, the puppies were placed with a bad foster and unbeknownst to any of us, the puppies were being kept in a small travel crate in their own filth- feces, urine and vomit. After a few weeks, the foster complained to the Shelter that she could no longer keep them. I took in 2 of the puppies and a friend took the other 3. We were stunned to find out how they had been living and horrified at their condition. They stunk to high heaven and even after 3 baths in one night they still were very slimy and smelly. A day or two later they all became seriously ill with giardia and coccidia and the entire litter almost died. Thankfully, we had great veterinary care and all puppies recovered and soon it was time to get them on the road to their permanent foster. That is when I found out that SSRR was the rescue who pulled the pups and it was also the first time I ever heard of SSRR.



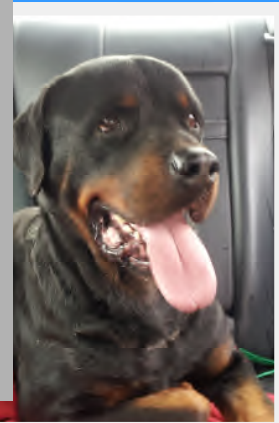
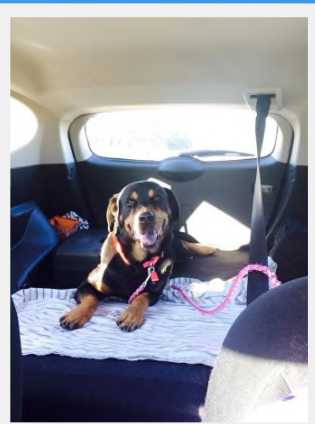
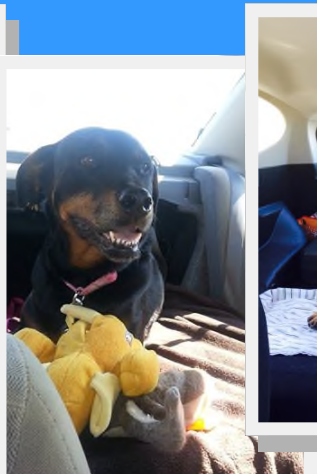
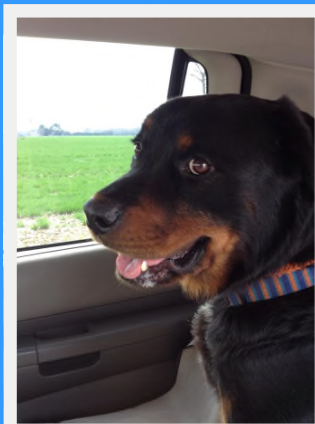
(Continued from page 10)

I assisted the former SSRR transport coordinator in getting the puppies from Louisiana to North Carolina and after they arrived safely, my brief involvement with SSRR seemed over... until a few days later. I was contacted by SSRR and told the former transport coordinator had quit and was asked if I would take over that position. I work full time as an attorney for the federal government and had never been a transport coordinator before, in fact, I had only driven transport and arranged 3-4 transports for friends. Needless to say, I was very reluctant to take on such a responsibility. I had no idea how much time it would entail and didn't feel qualified. I was on the fence for several weeks, but Bill & company eventually wore me down and I said yes. October 2014 is my one year anniversary of serving as the transport coordinator for SSRR.

It hasn't been easy and I wouldn't call it "fun" by any stretch. It is time consuming, stressful, and sometimes frustrating and annoying, but I can honestly say that coordinating the transport of SSRR dogs is well worth the sacrifices. I have made the most amazing friends who share the same passion for rescue, including hundreds of loyal SSRR transporters who are always ready to give of their time and gas to drive our dogs up to a 100 miles or more and often lodge them overnight in their own homes. Without these selfless and dedicated men and women, SSRR could never have saved as many dogs as we have. Although I don't keep a running list and my brain gets scrambled with all of the dogs on the move every weekend through our 11 state jurisdiction, I am happy to share the names of some of the beautiful Rottweilers I coordinated the transport for in the past year: Hogan, Heather, Hartley, Hawthorne, Hicks, Tiger (1, 2, 3 & 4), Calhoun, Cash, Samson, Delilah, Dahlia, Magnolia (Maggie), Sid, Jomar, Thor (1 & 2), Max#1, Max#2, Diablo (Alisz), Olivia & pups, Alex, Toni, Ellie, Jade, Nitro, Scruffy Gilmore, Jarl, Bruce, Romeo, Baby, Sadie, Lyric (1 & 2), Scout, Yasmine, Ramona, Breezy, Wall-E, Shelby, Hershey, Breezy, Rocco, Bear#1, Bear#2, Josephine (Jo-Jo), Sioux, Chance, Priscilla, Torstein, Ragnar, Molly, Gracie, Bossy, CiCi, Taffy, Hope, Mica, Harvey (Roman), Kane, Hogan (2 & 3), Bruce-y, Harley#1, Harley #2, Reese, Zeus, Lagertha, Bella, Luca, Sophie-Ann, Arya, Siggy, Hope (Bella), Abbey.

Join our Transport Team

Transport help is of great demand in SSRR. Since we do not limit adopters by making them choose only from the dogs that are in their state of residence, we often need to arrange transport for an adopted Rottweiler to go from one state to another. Our volunteers will fill various 'legs' of the transport as they relay the dog across our coverage area from its current location to its new or adoptive home. Most legs range in size from 50 to 100 miles. Before you take a road trip with your family Check with SSRR to see if you can help transport a dog to their "Forever Home" If you are in one of our coverage areas, please contact [Karen Roselli](#) to join our wonderful group of transporters.





Kane



President, Temperament Test and Independent Adoptions (IA) Advisor | Bill Lawton

Vice President , Adoptions Advisor | Kathy Coon

Treasurer, Grant Writing Advisor | Linda Whigham

Secretary, Director of Foster Care | Lynne Mueller

Director of Health and Vet Services | Tara Campbell

Director, Fundraising, Facebook and Events Advisor | Terri Coleman

Director, Public Relations and Social Media, Intake Coordinator | Jennifer Keltner

Director, Transport, Legal Counsel | Karen Roselli

Founders | Renice Zimmerman and Judy Marion

SSRR Advocate is published by Southern States Rescued Rottweilers (SSRR)

SSRR is a non-profit corporation registered with the IRS as a 501c3 charitable organization.

Our mission: Educate the public about the Rottweiler breed of dog, plus rescue and place in loving homes Rottweiler's that were abused, left in shelters, or given up by owners, within the 11 southern states where we operate.

Contributions to SSRR are welcome, and are tax deductible.

All submissions for this newsletter should be sent via e-mails at: rottie.info.ssrr@gmail.com and assume granting publication rights within and on SSRR's website and use in any future article's compendium. No payments will be made, no submissions will be returned. SSRR Advocate reserves the right to refuse, edit, or modify any submissions.

Southern States Rescued Rottweilers or SSRR Advocate are not affiliated with the organization using the web site www.ssrr.org, Rottweiler Dogs



Magnolia (Maggie)

Rottie.info.ssrr@gmail.com

Find us on the web at: <http://www.southernstatesrescuedrottweilers.org>

Follow us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/southernstatesrescuedrottweilers>

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