



SSRR Advocate



Issue 004 January 2016

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As I start my third calendar year as President of this incredible organization, I am very happy and proud of the accomplishments we have made. I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you for your support throughout the past years. It is your continued support that has allowed SSRR to accomplish great things. In 2011, 33 SSRR dogs were placed for adoption. In 2014, just 3 short years later, 128 SSRR Rottweilers and Rottie Mixes were adopted, with an additional 42 safely living in foster care. In 2015, 115 SSRR dogs were adopted, with an additional 45 living in foster homes as of December 31, 2015. This was all made possible by YOU, our caring and generous supporters.

Some of this year's accomplishments that you made possible are:

- 116 dogs rescued from shelters, Including 33 puppies and 3 mothers with puppies
- 12 owners assisted asking to rehome their dog in hopes of a better life
- 29 dogs treated for heartworm disease
- 40 dogs spayed or neutered
- SSRR added the state of Maryland to our area of coverage, making it the 14th state in which SSRR can now rescue, foster and adopt
- Our Facebook community has increased from 3,546 likes at the end of 2013 to 10,000 likes with over 19, 000 people reached weekly

Because of you and your support:

- *Teddy* can walk pain free for most likely the first time in his young life
- Wolf got the amputation he desperately needed to remove his painful and unusable leg, allowing him to run, play and inspire the world with the power of his perseverance, as well as his love for people, despite the pain he had suffered.
- *Ricky* can now play and be a dog without having difficulty walking and being miserable from constant vomiting.
- Rocky, a dog that had spent 3 1/2 years in a shelter (almost his entire life) now knows the security that only a warm and loving home provides.
- Trooper, Ryder and Rebel both had surgery for Entropion, and can see for the first time without the painful and constant irritation from their own eyelids.

I truly believe we have some of the best volunteers in rescue, including our wonderful Foster families. Without our Fosters, we wouldn't have a home for our dogs to go to. Without a home, we wouldn't be able to save as many Rotties as we have. Fostering is both rewarding and challenging at the same time.

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, I personally find that fostering can be the most rewarding and fulfilling thing a true dog lover can ever do to support dogs in need.

This first edition of our newsletter for 2016 is dedicated to the Foster Moms & Dads of 2015, who opened their hearts and homes to so many Rotties. Our Fosters made all the difference in the world to their foster dogs, who would not have survived without their compassion, love and dedication.



Baby Gracie

Fostering a dog
isn't a lifelong commitment.
It's a commitment to
saving a life.



SSRR knows that our foster homes are integral in saving lives. In this edition of our newsletter, we want to honor, thank and promote foster families. In honor, we have asked foster families to share their experiences about the lives they have helped save. Keep reading to see how these dogs have impacted our volunteers.

We want to thank all of our foster families of 2015 -- they saved at least one life. In 2016, we will grow our foster program so that we can work to save more lives and get our dogs into the loving, safe homes they deserve.

Want to help? **Foster, foster, foster.** And, help us recruit foster homes by sharing our information and mission with your family and friends. If you want to foster this year, please fill out the application at <http://www.southernstatesrescuedrottweilers.org/info/display?PageID=14373> so that we can add you to our list of approved homes. We will work to match a dog with your existing family environment.

Every time a foster family takes in a dog at least one life is saved, maybe more. When shelters run out of room, they must destroy the lives that we cherish. Unfortunately, due to breed prejudice, our beloved Rottweilers are often first on the kill list. Many kill shelters will allow only approved rescue organizations, such as SSRR, to pull Rottweilers; they do not adopt them to the public. Therefore, when we pull a dog from a kill shelter, we are saving its life and the life of another dog who will take its place.

According to the ASPCA, 1.25 million healthy dogs are euthanized in shelters each year. If you're like us, that statistic infuriates you. Through rescue, spay/neuter, and education, we hope to positively impact those numbers and decrease the death rate; however, we *cannot* rescue unless a foster home is available. If you are reading this newsletter, you have a strong love for dogs and the desire to protect them. If you want to be part of the solution to these horrid statistics, now is your chance! We encourage you to read the following testimonials; these will inspire you to join our team of fabulous foster families and start making a difference in the lives of these abandoned Rottweilers!

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What is a Foster Home?

A foster home is a temporary home for one of our Rotties until SSRR finds a permanent home for the dog. Fosters provide a safe and loving home for the dog while SSRR provides and pays for all medical needs. . Being a foster parent is not always easy. Bringing a Rottie into your home, caring for him and nursing him back to good health, 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 accomplishment a true dog lover can ever do to support dogs in need, as well as to honor one of your own beloved dogs who has crossed over the Rainbow Bridge.

You are automatically approved to foster if you have adopted from SSRR within the past 5 years! If you are not approved but are interested in becoming one of our fabulous foster families, please fill out our online Foster Application located [HERE](#).



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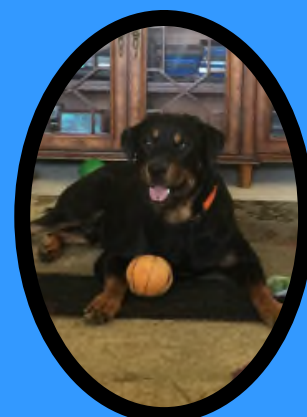
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If you have adopted from us in the past 5 years, then you are automatically **approved** to foster! If you are not approved but are interested in becoming a foster home, please fill out our online foster volunteer application located [HERE](#).

PLEASE BE SURE YOU MEET OUR REQUIREMENTS before filling out a foster application: We require a Vet reference and 3 personal references, as well as a home visit. You're dogs (and cats) must be UTD with shots and must be spayed or neutered (unless there is a valid reason they can't be). You should have a fenced in yard and be committed to making your foster a part of your family. You will be assigned a foster coordinator who will be available to help you through any issues along the way and will give you guidance on our policies and procedures. Your Foster Coordinator will send you dog-to-dog intro information, foster procedures, a foster manual and other info you need to successfully foster a Rottweiler for SSRR.



Rusha - Adopted December 2015 Tank - Adopted December 2015 Teddy - Adopted December 2015 Thor - Adopted December 2015

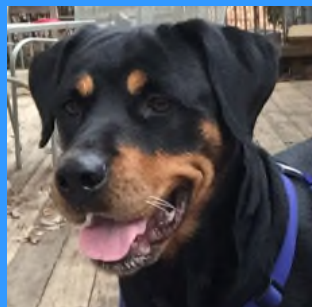
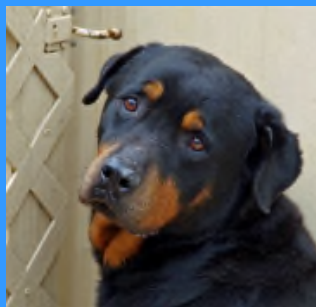
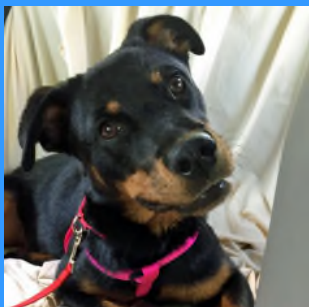
Hena is living proof
that
FOSTERING SAVES LIVES



What our fosters are saying!

"For me the BEST thing about fostering is the day they leave for their FOREVER homes. You're a little sad because you have grown to love each Foster Dog but you know where they came from and how sad or scared and hungry they were and on THAT day they are getting their new life! They will be loved and cared for and fed and warm for the rest of their lives. It's the best feeling knowing that we helped with that."

- Emily Chandley, North Carolina



"Fostering is essential. It's the only way to ensure that we can consistently and continuously provide a safe place for these deserving animals until they get their home. Becoming attached is part of it but when I give them to their new family, the door opens to saving the life of another one."

- Sam and Ashley McCall, Florida

**ask me about
my foster dog**



Annabelle—Adopted October 2015



Trudi—Adopted June 2015



"I only have room to foster puppies. My greatest feeling as a foster parent is working the young ones and helping them gain the confidence that helps shape them into becoming the wonderful dogs that I know they can be. There is no greater reward than helping a shy, frightened puppy blossom into a happy puppy that trusts and loves people. Here is "Bryce" (now named Archer) before and after. His resilience from his not so wonderful past was inspiring."

- Denise Tomlinson, Virginia



Bryce—Before



Bryce—Adopted May 2015



Brooke—Adopted May 2015

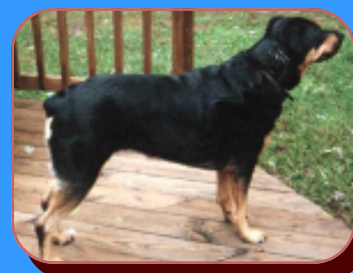


Gerald—Adopted August 2015

"I always said from the start of SSRR, my spoiled personal dogs expected everything but appreciated nothing, all my fosters have appreciated everything while expecting nothing. Nothing more rewarding than turning a life around."



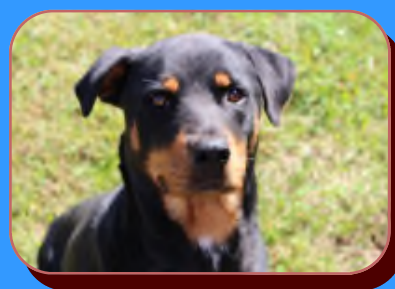
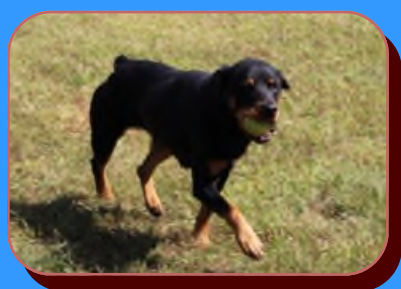
Jilli



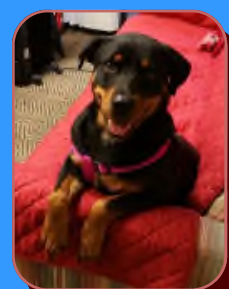
Jilli

Hi. My name is Shelly and I am a foster mom. My foster daughter is Roxie. When Roxie came to me she was a frightened little girl, she went potty in the house and would lay down and expose her tummy when the other dogs tried to play. It has been an incredible journey with Roxie, she now runs and plays with the other dogs and loves on me and my husband where initially she didn't want to have a whole lot to do with him. She gives wonderful puppy kisses and hardly ever goes potty in the house anymore (she still doesn't like to go out into the cold). Just to see how far she has come in a short amount of time and glimpses of her potential makes fostering her a emotional and rewarding experience.

- Shelly Pilson, North Carolina



Roxie—Adopted January 2016



IF YOU HAVE ROOM IN YOUR
HEART & HOME
BECOME A FOSTER



WOW, 2015 was an amazingly wonderful and busy year for me! I have fostered and helped with transports and home visits whenever possible since 2005 but in March I also became the Director of Foster Care. Now that I have had a chance to get to know all of our wonderful fosters I can honestly say I believe SSRR has the very best. You continually open up your homes and hearts to save another Rottie in need.

My personal favorite part of fostering is watching them the first time they feel safe and comfortable enough to really sleep for the first time. They arrive scared and confused after being transported from a shelter or neglectful/abusive owner, not understanding what is happening to them. Some adjust very quickly while others take a little longer to understand they are now safe.

Last year I was fortunate enough to foster Dixie Rose, a sweet young girl that managed to drag herself to a shop in Memphis, TN. She was starved, dehydrated, had a respiratory infection and was heartworm positive. Everyone that met her fell in love instantly, including the staff at the Vet clinic. Dixie really loves children and her new BFF is a 5 year old girl that dresses her in tiara's and tutu's.

Then came Scarlett and the Fun Bunch, or, as I called them, the Poop Troop. Scarlett was picked up by Animal Control and gave birth to her puppies in the shelter with nothing but a cardboard box to keep them off the cold concrete. She weighed only 57 pounds when she first arrived while nursing 8 puppies and she was high heartworm positive. She was such a happy girl that always looked like she had a grin.

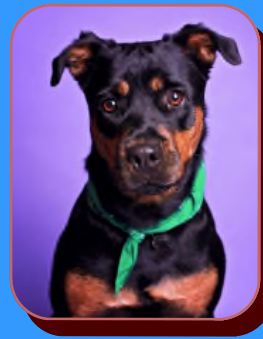
- Dee Pennington, Director of Foster Care, Louisiana



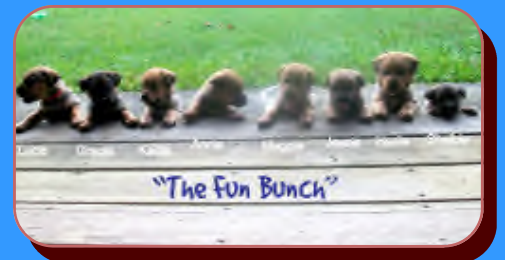
Dixie Rose—Before



Dixie Rose—Today

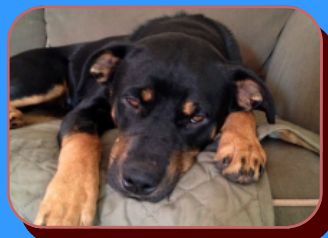


Scarlett

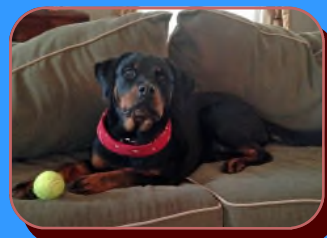


Fostering has been an amazing thing for our entire family. Beau has found his calling, he is our therapy dog for dogs, specifically girls. He teaches them that humans are good, that they can be trusted, life is good and fun and it is all about love. Our kids have learned to be gentle and kind, to understand that there are bad things in the world but that everyone can do their part to make it better. And we have all learned to love and let go. Our job is to take in the sick, scared, untrained dogs and teach them to be good companions, to trust and love, to become healthy and strong, and then to let them go to a home where they can share what they have learned.

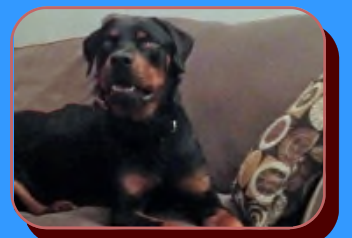
I love these dogs. I love their intelligence, their strength, their joy and goofiness. They have brought so much joy and laughter into our home and I believe they have given me so much more than I can ever give them."



Pebbles—Adopted February 2015



Duchess—Adopted May 2015



Rocky—Adopted December 2015

-Renee Pouvreau (and Amy Knost), Florida



I've fostered quite a few dogs over the years. Each experience has been both unique and enjoyable. One of the common things for each dog is that they have come to me scared, taken away from everything they know and have no idea what's going to happen to them. Fortunately, my female is my therapy and training dog for all fosters that have come in to the home. She teaches them right from the beginning that they're going to be OK and that they can trust us. It is truly heart-warming to see each dog progress from being that scare little pup to a confident dog when he/she leaves here for their forever home.

I've been asked by many people how I can have a dog for up to 6 months and just let it go to a new home. To me, it's very simple. I went in to fostering knowing exactly what I wanted to accomplish, which is to save a dog from having its life ended in a cold dreary shelter, scared to death and not really knowing anyone. I also take comfort in knowing that each time I foster a dog, another dog gets to take that open spot and gets a chance at being noticed and adopted.

When I hear "I can't foster because it would be too hard for me to let them go", I can't help but ask if it's any easier knowing that dog will die in the shelter if no one picks that dog by the time its time is up. To me, it's not an option. I will take the heartache at the end when it's time to let them go rather than let them die in a shelter. And if you truly can't let them go then you can always adopt your foster dog. It's true when they say that fostering will not change the world but it will change that one dog's world forever. If you have the time, space and ability, I encourage you to at least try by fostering one dog. Once you have experienced fostering, I'm sure you'll want to help another dog when yours gets adopted.

-Bill Lawton—SSRR President, Virginia



Pebbles—Adopted July 2015



Pacco—Adopted November 2015

Kathy Coon, Foster Mom: 2015

This is the most common response I get when someone hears that I foster: ***"How are you able to foster a dog?? I can't foster because I would get too attached and not be able to give up the dog."***

Caliber - Shot in the head and left for dead...

Animal control found this poor boy lying in a parking lot bleeding profusely. Despite being injured and very ill, he was so sweet to the shelter staff, who then contacted SSRR to see if we could help him. I (appropriately) named him Caliber. He almost didn't survive. After he was released from the hospital, I slept on the floor with him for several nights; so afraid he would stop breathing.

As Caliber recovered and regained his strength, his personality came out and what a character! He made me laugh many times every day, with one exception. While I was gone for a short time one evening, Caliber decided that he absolutely must have the sweet potato that was on top of the stove. While putting his best efforts into getting to that prized potato, he turned on the knob to the electric burner, starting a fire in the kitchen. How do you explain this to the insurance company??

Caliber was almost a foster failure; it's even more difficult to let go when you have struggled with one to survive.



Caliber BEFORE



Caliber AFTER



Skye —Abused, scared, slow to trust...

Skye has a terrible scar from her throat being cut. Who does such a thing to a dog?? It was obvious she had never been inside of a house. After giving her space and time to trust me on her own terms, she was soon a constant companion. Skye wanted so badly for people to love her, but she was also scared and first had to be sure that no one would hurt her again.

Knowing how far Skye had come and how much she now trusted me made it even harder to give her up. She went to one home as a trial, contingent upon being nice to their cat; unfortunately, she failed that test and was returned to me, but not before that family fell in love with her too. It is so easy to love Skye. She was soon adopted again. Giving her up the first time was heartbreaking, but having to do it a second time was excruciating; I knew she didn't understand why I was abandoning her. This is truly the only hard part about fostering.



Gia - A scared little puppy, found running with her mother along a major highway...

A concerned lady was able to catch Gia, but could not catch her mom. The lady was going to take her to an animal shelter; she thought "shelter" meant it was a place that takes care of homeless dogs. Someone told the lady about rescue groups and urged her to find one to take the puppy.

Gia was so scared, shaking and cowering at first...after all, she had been scooped up by a stranger while her mom ran away. So cute, so smart, and a total sweetheart, Gia could capture your heart in about 5 minutes.



Tate & Trigger - These baby boys were found living on their own in a rural pasture, with no one to protect them, and no shelter from the weather...

Tate & Trigger were two of a litter of four, living with their mom and a pack of other dogs. A neighbor found them the day they were born and contacted SSRR. These boys were the sweetest little babies, and so much fun! They were inseparable and always cuddled up to sleep.

These babies were so precious to watch—healthy, happy, well-fed, warm and safe. But, we had not been able to rescue Trooper and Trapper yet, and it was heart wrenching to think of them still living out in that pasture.



Trooper & Trapper - A couple of months after rescuing Tate and Trigger we were finally able to get their brothers...

At first Trooper & Trapper were shy and confused...at approximately four months old, they had never lived with humans, or worn a collar and leash, or been inside a vehicle or a house. Just like their brothers, these pups were so very loving and quickly settled in to domesticated living and being taken care of by humans instead of dogs. Trooper had a terrible case of entropion in both eyes, which was surgically corrected by an Ophthalmologist.

Since these pups had to survive primarily with only their pack instincts, they are "hunters" and quickly decided it was their duty to protect my yard from the terrorist squirrels and possums. Trooper was the mature one; Trapper was more on the mischievous side. Just like Tate & Trigger, they are sweet, innocent, and truly wonderful puppies.



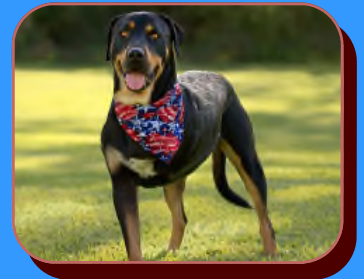


Wolf - Ran over by his owner, bones crushed in his leg and foot, never taken to a vet; left to suffer....

After several weeks of dragging around his injured and non-functioning leg, Wolf's owner then dumped him at a kill shelter. Despite his pain, lovable Wolf won over the shelter staff. They knew he needed a lot of medical care and had no chance of getting out of the shelter. The staff desperately wanted to get him into a rescue group; otherwise, there was no hope for him. SSRR saved Wolf, but his leg could not be saved and had to be amputated.

After recuperating from the amputation, then being treated for heartworms, Wolf was ready to roll; it was soon obvious that he didn't know he was handicapped...which means he's not. Wolf goes to doggie daycare where he gets to play with many other large breed dogs. He runs just as fast as they do.

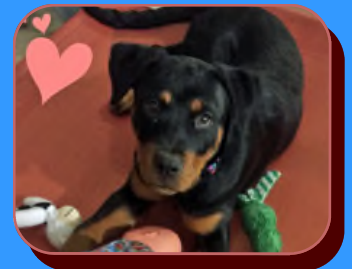
Wolf is definitely a charmer and never meets a stranger. He loves people and dogs. He has not yet been adopted. For obvious reasons, I am extremely protective of Wolf and it must be the perfect match before he is placed in a permanent home.



Calli-Ann - This beautiful baby girl was left at a kill shelter because the other dog in her home did not like her...

The shelter staff named her Princess; her new name was derived from Caliana, which is Arabic for Princess. Calli-Ann arrived here scared and shy; it must have been terrifying for this baby in a cold, scary shelter. Within a few days, she was a normal happy and playful pup.

Quite the little tomboy, Calli-Ann never met a mud puddle she did not want to explore. She loved playing with her other foster siblings and thought she was just as big as they were. She was especially bonded to Wolf. A wonderful family adopted Calli-Ann and Trooper together.



Rebel - Her name means "wild spirit with a loving heart"....

This 10-month old puppy was also dumped at a kill shelter. She arrived here scared and insecure, a "wild child" pretty much untamed. Rebel is now very much a "people" dog. She is very loving and affectionate; you will never meet a sweeter little girl. She's a Rottweiler-Boxer Mix, heavy on the Boxer.



I foster because my 10 wonderful fosters (from 2015), as well as others before them, who would not have survived if there were no foster homes. I fall in love with all of my fosters, and yes I cry and grieve when they leave. Even when receiving updates and pictures from their new families, it's a mixture of happiness and sadness.

All of us bond with our own dogs; however, the bond created with foster dogs is different and special...because you know that you are directly responsible for every one of your foster dogs being alive today. Despite their painful, abusive and neglected lives, foster dogs get a chance to find wonderful homes and live the rest of their lives being loved, spoiled, and protected. But, they only get a chance because someone loved them enough to be willing to suffer the heartache of letting them go. I have two adopted Rotties of my own, but I was able to save 10 more dogs in 2015; this is the reward of fostering.

Loving my fosters is easy and immediate; realizing that they almost didn't survive is too difficult to even think about. Even worse, it is heart wrenching to know there are so many dogs left behind, who are not fortunate enough to make it out of a shelter...because there are no fosters to take them.

So, when someone asks how can I foster...how can I not??

- Kathy Coon, Vice President, SSRR—Texas

IF YOU HAVE
ROOM IN YOUR
HEART
& HOME
BECOME A FOSTER



Ron Andreano, Foster Dad: 2015

I foster for SSRR because I can't stand seeing so many Rottweilers who will die in shelters if they are not rescued. I have fostered several and even when I decide to take a break, I see another one who I just can't turn my back on.

Rottweilers are misunderstood and they have been given a bad reputation for their behavior toward humans.... which, the majority of the time is because of human behavior towards them. I'm driven to help Rottweilers as they are one of the breeds less likely to make it out once they end up in a shelter.

Foster dogs just need love, patience, and time to trust; they want to be part of a family. I wish my fosters could talk and tell me what happened to them, what scares them, and how I can best help them. But, they can't talk, so we have to learn to communicate in a way we both understand. But it's worth the time and patience it takes. These foster dogs are loving and fiercely loyal; as if they know that someone had saved them.

Bear

Bear had lived his life outside, and had very little socialization with people. He had been abused and neglected. Bear needed patience and time to trust.

I fostered Bear for a long time, and he finally trusted me. This handsome boy had lots of admirers, and could have been adopted several times. The thought that Bear would have to start over with someone new, and feeling like he would not understand why I was leaving him, was just too much. Bear became another "foster failure," but at least I will never have to worry whether he will be mistreated again.



Reggie

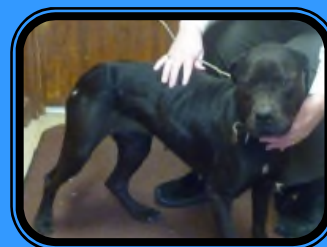
I saw Reggie on Facebook. He was at a shelter in Texas. His time was up, but it stated that another rescuer was going to get him. The next day I saw that they backed out, and now Reggie had no time left at all. I told SSRR to pull him and send him to me.

Reggie is a great dog, friendly and playful. He was recently adopted by a family with four children who love him so much. What a tragedy and a loss if Reggie had not been rescued; the only thing that stood between his certain death, and this great life he now has with his new family, was a foster home. It's just so easy to save a life; I wish more people would realize that.



Molly

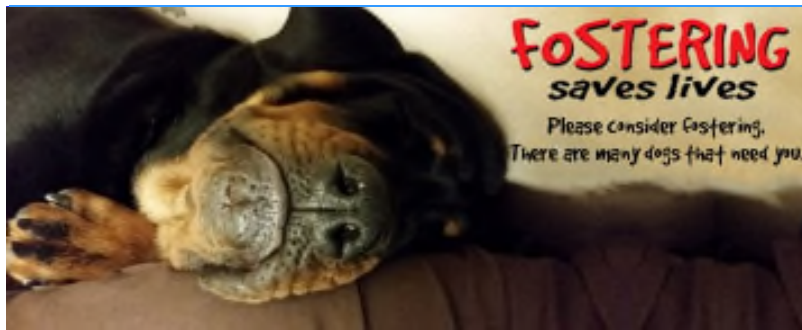
SSRR rescued Molly starving, sick, and heartworm positive. It took a long time to get her healthy and ready to adopt. She was adopted once but it didn't work out (through no fault of hers). I gladly took her back to foster again. Molly is my buddy; she loves nothing better than hanging out with me. She is very sweet and lovable, and is waiting to find her forever family who will love her as much as she will love them.



Molly BEFORE



Molly AFTER



2016 has already been a busy year for intake. So far in January we have rescued five Rottweilers from high kill shelters or undesirable homes. In addition, we have half a dozen dogs on our wait list ... Waiting, hoping, praying... That a foster home will speak up for them, before it's too late.

Every day we receive even more requests for beautiful, deserving Rottweilers in dire need of a second chance. The stories are heartbreaking; dumped by their family after eight long years, found as a stray with a broken leg, pregnant and about to give birth on the cold, hard shelter floor; the emails and requests for SSRR to save these Rotties go on and on.

SSRR not only serves 14 states, but often we are the ONLY Rottweiler rescue available, and hence the ONLY chance of survival for these beautiful souls. The most critical need when we receive a request to rescue a dog is a foster home.

Since we serve 14 states, we also accept fosters from 14 states -- that's 14 states to find one foster home for a dog in need. Please remember we provide FREE transport to our foster/adoption homes.

If you cannot foster, please consider donating or sponsoring a Rottweiler in need. In 2015, we were able to rescue several sweet fur babies with direct sponsorship; this is when a volunteer cannot foster, but offers to pay for a substantial amount, or all of the dog's medical care. This direct sponsorship helps us to immediately have the funds available to get an *urgent* Rottweiler out of a kill shelter and to vet care. Our challenge in rescuing from a shelter is *time*; from the moment we find out about a Rottie needing to be rescued, the time he has left can range from a week...to a few days....to less than an hour...

Often the donation will include funds to board the dog, allowing us to at least get the dog out of the shelter while we locate a foster and get them ready for transport. Your tax deductible donation to SSRR can be made through the following PayPal link:

https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=HJ4GMB2K8FXLS

Or, by mailing a check to:

Linda Whigham, SSRR Treasurer
P.O. Box 21133
White Hall, AR 71612

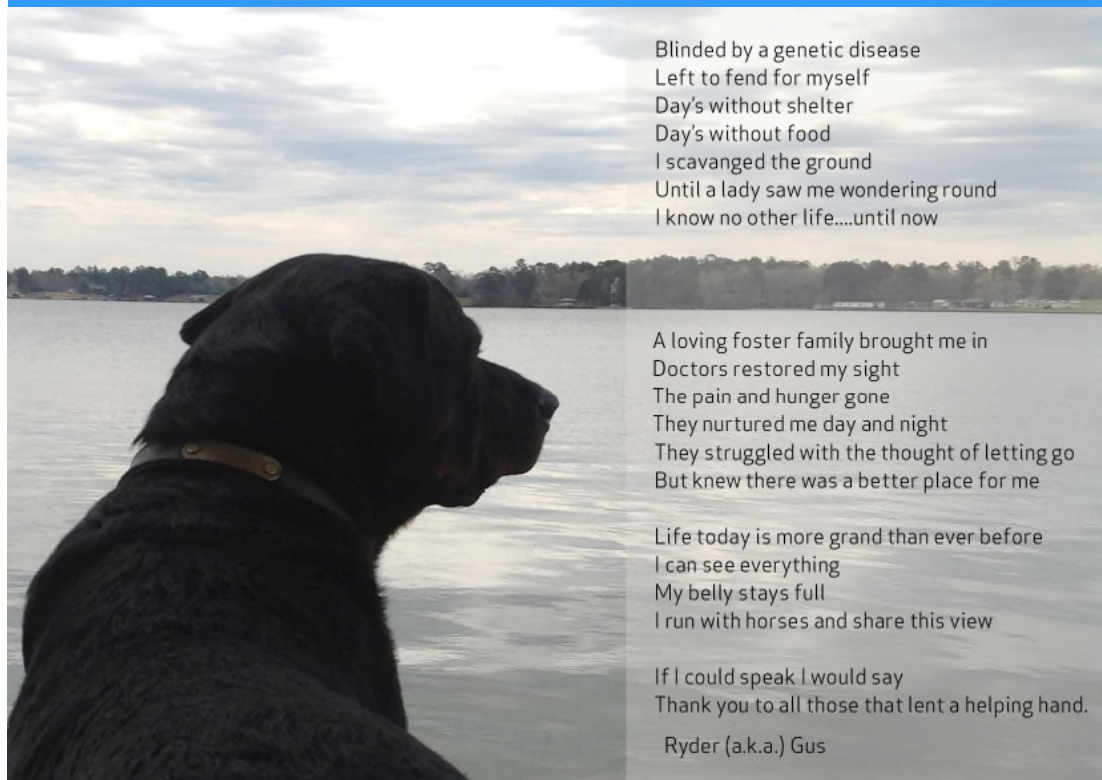
SSRR is a 501(c)3 and operates totally by volunteers; therefore 100% of monies raised by donations and/or fundraisers go to the costs associated with rescuing, vetting, and general care of our dogs. Most of our expenses are for veterinarian services; not one penny is paid to any staff or volunteer.

We are grateful to you for supporting Southern States Rescued Rottweiler; without your generosity we could not accomplish our goal—saving and placing as many homeless Rottweilers as possible.

SSRR grows each year. We gain new volunteers, new fosters and intake more dogs. In 2016, SSRR Intake is hoping to continue this growth, with a simple, yet passionate goal: to rescue more Rottweilers than the year before.

- Jennifer Keltner, Director, Intake—Virginia

"He is your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog.
You are his life, his love, his leader. He will be yours,
faithful and true, to the beat of his heart. You owe
it to him to be worthy of such devotion."
-Unknown



Blinded by a genetic disease
Left to fend for myself
Day's without shelter
Day's without food
I scavenged the ground
Until a lady saw me wondering round
I know no other life....until now

A loving foster family brought me in
Doctors restored my sight
The pain and hunger gone
They nurtured me day and night
They struggled with the thought of letting go
But knew there was a better place for me

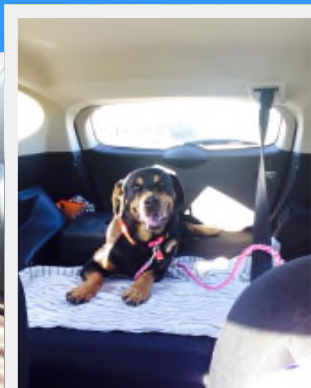
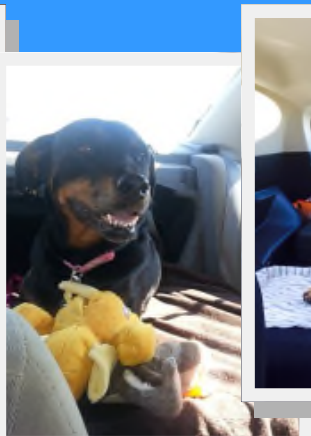
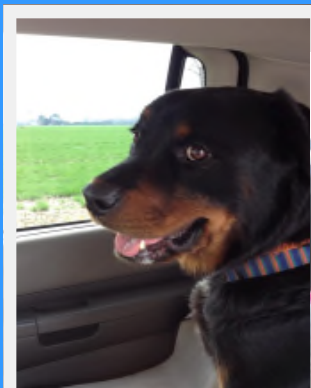
Life today is more grand than ever before
I can see everything
My belly stays full
I run with horses and share this view

If I could speak I would say
Thank you to all those that lent a helping hand.
Ryder (a.k.a.) Gus

Tribute to Ryder (aka Chop, Gus)
Author – Ty Summers (Foster Dad)

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 [**Julie Quin Andrews**](#) to join our wonderful group of transporters.





Abilene



A Healthy Diet Will Make A Healthy Rottweiler

Everyone wants their Rottie to be happy and healthy. The best way to ensuring your dog is happy and healthy is a healthy diet.

Rottweilers, and all dogs, primarily eat meat. But when you look at a bag of dog food, you may find that the ingredients are primarily grains. This is because meat is expensive, and dog food companies can easily substitute meat with grains to cut down on the cost of manufacturing. **Your dog should be consuming mainly meat in their diets to keep them healthy as well as to control their weight.** Generally, the cheaper the food, the more grains, preservatives, and chemicals are used in manufacturing but this doesn't always mean that the more expensive foods are better for your dog. Make sure to check the ingredients before making a decision on which dog food to feed your Rottweiler.

How can you tell which dog food is going to be the best fit for your Rottweiler? The number one ingredient on your dog's food should be meat, or meat meal. The ingredients should say something like chicken, chicken meal, herring meal, turkey meal, etc. If you want to feed your dog a proper diet, you should not feed him food that contains produced meals, soy, wheat, or corn.

Your Rottweiler needs lots of protein in his diet. An adult Rottweiler should be served dog food that contains 22% to 26% protein, and a puppy should be served puppy food that contains 24% to 28% protein. A high protein diet will keep your Rottweiler from becoming overweight since proteins are excreted through kidneys and not stored as fat. A puppy needs more protein in their diet because they are still growing and need the extra protein to develop muscles and build strength.

Your dog's food should contain only contain small amounts of fat and should **never** be listed anonymously as animal fat, but should appear as chicken fat, or beef fat. The healthy amount of fat content in your dog's food should be around 12% to 16% for an adult Rottweiler, and 14% to 18% for a puppy. Just like with protein, puppies can consume a larger amount of fat than adults because they are still growing and have high energy. Fat does not equal substance in a dog as it does in humans. If your Rottweiler eats foods high in fat, they **will** become overweight.

Your Rottweiler's food should never contain chemical preservatives, sugar, or artificial color. There is zero nutritional value for a dog in any of these ingredients. They can even potentially be harmful to consume.

The benefits of feeding your Rottweiler a healthy diet are simple. They will be happy and healthy! In many more ways than one! When you feed your dog a healthy diet, they will be more energetic, have less health problems, and are less likely to become overweight.

When we are not eating healthy, our energy levels drop. So if you are not feeding your Rottweiler healthy, they will become sluggish and unenthused. Feeding your Rottweiler proper nutrition will result in a healthy, lean, energetic dog.

If you are feeding your Rottie a healthy diet, their skin and coat will also look great. If they are not getting the proper nutrition they need, it will show through on the outside. Not only will you see that their coat lacks luster, but you may notice their skin flaking and their weight start to increase. Keeping your dog on a healthy diet can also prevent you from unnecessary and potentially high cost vet visits. If you feed your dog a proper nutritious diet, they will stay healthy, therefore costing you less on vet visits.



Kody



Giselle



Bayne

Treasurer Report

Southern States Rescued Rottweilers, Inc
PO Box 21133
White Hall, AR 71612



2015 YEAR END INCOME

Grants	\$ 2,900.00
Adoptions	\$ 24,067.00
Donations	\$ 36,738.16
Fundaisers	\$ 15,367.53
Credit Card Rewards	\$ 307.66

Total \$ 79,380.35

2015 YEAR END EXPENSES

Medical	\$ 60,797.48	
Pull Fee	\$ 100.00	
Boarding (not medical)	\$ 7,116.82	
Microchip	\$ 1,961.03	
Supplies (leash/collar/ID tags)	\$ 342.58	
Service Fees - online payment services	\$ 896.09	
Foster assistance	\$ 487.98	
Spa services (prep for transport)	\$ 316.18	
Administration/Operations	\$ 662.45	
Website Maintenance		100.00
Constant Contact Fee		240.00
Operations (stamps, checks, PO Box)		202.55
Jot Forms		45.00
Miscellaneous/Goodwill		74.90
Licenses	\$ 190.00	
TN annual report fee		190.00
GA Animal shelter license		0.00
GA corporate registration		0.00
Event Participation Fees	\$ 298.00	
Fundraising Expenses (print-postage)	\$ 1,699.82	

Total \$ 74,868.43

Net Income/Loss \$ 4,511.92 *

**The expenses reported do not include the amount spent by many of our foster parents who pay for all of the expenses of their foster dogs. This is a substantial contribution, which means that the actual cost of operating SSRR exceeds the amount shown in this report.*

SSRR wishes to express our sincere and heartfelt appreciation for your generosity; this allows us to dedicate funds to save other dogs.





President; Director, Temperament Testing; Independent Adoptions (IA) | Bill Lawton

Vice President; Director , Adoptions | Kathy Coon

Treasurer; Director, Grant Writing | Linda Whigham

Secretary | Tara Campbell

Director, Foster Care | Dee Pennington

Director, Fundraising, Facebook & Events Advisor | Terri Coleman

Director, Intake & Acceptance; Public Relations & Social Media, | Jennifer Keltner

Director, Transports; Home Visit Coordinator | Julie Quin Andrews

Board Advisor, Veterinarian Care| Dr. Prudence Walker, DVM

Founders | Renice Zimmerman and Judy Marion

SSRR Mission

Educate the public about the Rottweiler breed; promote responsible dog ownership and training rescue Rottweilers and Rottweiler Mixes that were abused, left in shelters, or given up by owners; place these dogs in qualified, loving homes within the 14 southern states where we operate.

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

Contributions to SSRR are welcome, and are tax deductible.

SSRR Advocate is published by Southern States Rescued Rottweilers, Inc. (SSRR)

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

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

Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/SSRRRescue>



Olivia

Southern States Rescued Rottweilers

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