



# HPPL Newsletter

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Homeless Pet Placement League Fall Newsletter

## TWO OPTIONS

Like all puppies, she wanted to run. Instead she was in a ditch immobile. So all she could do was whimper and ask for help. How she ended up in that ditch is unknown. Based on her injuries, the thought is that she was thrown from a car. Her eyes were bright, her nose was wet, but she couldn't move; she could only cry. Thankfully, someone stopped upon seeing this sad sight. There were two options: rescue this kid or keep going. Rescue it was. But then the question was what to do. Clearly, this puppy need immediate medical attention, so the rescuer called a friend who is a long term foster with HPPL and asked for help.



Paulina After Surgery

Soon, Paulina, the puppy, was fed and cleaned up. It was obvious that there were a lot of problems with her legs as she could not walk nor stand. But, in another day, she was on her way to a full medical evaluation. While waiting for the veterinarian's review of the many x-rays taken, Paulina bestowed her puppy kisses on all the clinic's staff members. She was so happy and full of life and everyone was petting and hugging this cutie. But the veterinarian came back with terrible news. Paulina had a femoral fracture of the right rear leg, a tibial fracture of the left rear leg and one hip fracture and one hip displacement. There were two options: figure out a way to fix all these fractures or put her to sleep. The cost would be enormous for option one. But no one could select option two. So HPPL's program manager asked for a plan.

The hard part was Paulina's age. She would need intensive surgery and since she was young, her growth and activity levels had to be considered. Now, the last two options came up: amputate or repair. HPPL has the fine veterinarians, especially for orthopedic work, so Paulina would be "repaired." A day later, she underwent the first surgery. Pins were inserted into the femoral fracture and the tibial fracture was casted. Bed rest only for four weeks. The foster parents had their hands full with a puppy not allowed to walk, but being veterans, they undertook the task of entertaining, socializing, and carrying this girl wherever she needed to go. Four weeks later, the pins were out and the cast was off. Now, the hip surgery. Once again, Paulina came through with flying colors and, thankfully, could start to walk slowly on a leash. Luckily, she also received hydrotherapy in her fosters' pool. The smiles were on her face and everyone else's who knew the correct options had been chosen.



Hydrotherapy

It's been six weeks and guess what? At the last checkup, the veterinarian stated that Paulina needs to run! She is doing well with putting weight on the right leg but due to muscle atrophy, she has more rehab to do on the left one and doctor's orders are to run. This pup can follow that prescription easily. Paulina is scheduled for her spay and about two weeks of "running" and then she will make her debut at the adoption site. She'll need joint supplements all her life, she may remain a bit "gimpy" but she has a full and loving life ahead of her. Yes, the choices were thought to be hard,



Ready for Home

but not really. All you have to do is look at her and know there was really only one option.

Exciting News: Over the summer, HPPL was awarded two grants to underwrite spay/neuter surgeries for free roaming and feral cats. This funding combined with HPPL's designated revenue will allow 150 cats to be altered. Some of the recipients include people who are unemployed, disabled, and elderly on fixed incomes. HPPL is partnering with the Spay Houston Clinic to provide these low cost surgeries. If you would like to further this endeavor, send a donation earmarked for cat surgeries.

### HPPL'S GOOD WORK

January 1 – October 25, 2010: Intake – 172; Adoptions – 179; Major Medical – 32 (orthopedic surgeries, heartworm treatments, skin conditions)

### Save the Dates:

Once again, HPPL will benefit from two holiday events. Santa Photos will be taken at both the South Shepherd PETCO and the Baybrook PETSMART. Check [www.hppl.org](http://www.hppl.org) for dates. Let us know if you want to volunteer or bring a pet to pose with Santa.

Also, Ten Thousand Villages, an exceptional source for unique handmade gifts, jewelry, home decor, and art representing the diverse cultures, will sponsor a shopping night at their Rice Village location. HPPL will receive 15% of the sales from this event on Friday December 10 from 6 – 8 PM. Just in time to shop for the holidays and help the animals at the same time.

## HPPL SPONSORSHIP

Please take a moment and either fill out the form below and send in or “go green” on the website [www.hppl.org](http://www.hppl.org) and click on the Network for Good icon. Let’s help HPPL move into another year of providing stray animals a second chance.

I have checked my gift below:

\$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  \$250  \$500  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I am already a member and would like to make an additional donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

I want to mail monthly gifts. Send me designated envelopes

I want to make automatic monthly gifts with my credit card (MC or VISA)

Mastercard  Visa Account # \_\_\_\_\_ CVV# \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

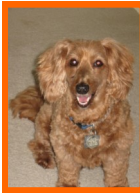
Apt/Suite # \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

HPPL is a non-profit, charitable organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

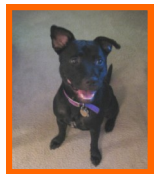


## HAPPY ENDINGS

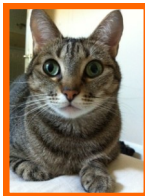
Biscuit— I am living the high life with Ms. Billye. These days, I am handsome (good grooming), have a soft bed (hers), and good eats. I get plenty of hugs and kisses. Check out my picture. I have had great reports from the vet and Ms. Billye and I are about to go on a road trip...what fun. I just wanted to check in to say hello, and have a nice day...I always do! Love, Biscuit



the happy puppy she should be. She plays with my daughter and our two cats like she grew up with them. She is the sweetest animal I have ever met. She loves learning tricks, and her favorite is high-five! She listens so well and is an amazingly fast-learner, and does it all happily. We feel so lucky and blessed that she decided to become a part of our family and our lives. Thanks, Quindy, Mike and Autumn



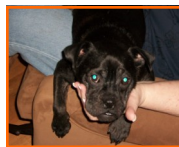
Whitney— I adopted a cat named Whitney over a year ago through HPPL. I just wanted to let you know that things are going wonderfully, and Whitney has brought so much joy into our lives. Her recent visit to the vet showed that she is healthy and sweet. She is still so playful and hilarious; our friends have all fallen in love with her as well (of course!). Whitney's a treasured member of the family and every day we marvel at how lucky we were to be matched up with such a sweet, affectionate, well-behaved, and hilarious kitty. Sincerely, Hanie



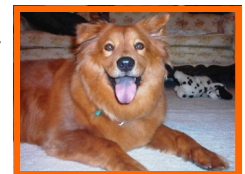
Blaki (formerly Jacob)- We've all settled into life as a family. I never realized how lazy we all are until we got Balki – he keeps us on our toes! He and Jersey (our Great Dane) do everything together. Having been in a foster home, he was already acclimated to other animals, so they instantly bonded. He talks a LOT to us and even gave me a bit of teenage attitude the other day when I told him to do something! We are really happy with our new family member. Sincerely, Sarah



Herman— We have been fortunate enough to have adopted 3 dogs from HPPL. Our first was Picasso who was a beautiful black dog, with a definite personality. When Picasso was growing older, we adopted Scruffy AKA Scotty; he is a lively, loving dog. After Peeky passed away, Scruffy was lost, wandering around looking for his buddy, not the same spring in his step. We decided to go and just look at the dogs up for adoption. We saw Herman and fell in love with him. He is a sweet pug mix and his favorite place to be is in someone's lap. He and Scruffy are best buddies. They play constantly and always need to know where the other one is. They have brought a lot of humor and joy to our family. Thank you, Barb & Jim



Farewell to a Friend...Ruby Lee Utay  
We all mourn the passing of Ruby, HPPL's former mascot. Ruby's "mom" Lisa sent this lovely tribute: "I am so grateful to have had Ruby in my life and I am thankful for whatever forces brought me into PETSMART so many years ago. She was with us through all of our family expansions and welcomed each new member, both canine and human, with a wagging tail and a kiss (or two or three or 500). Ruby was a wonderful representative for both rescue animals and the organization that we adopted her from, HPPL. She served as their mascot for many years and attended benefit dinners, dog shows and various community functions and showed that one does not need an impeccable pedigree to have impeccable manners. Even as her physical body declined, her sweet and gentle nature never changed, not once. She taught us lessons until the very end. I know that fifteen years is extraordinarily old for a dog her size but there is never enough time, not in this life anyway."



Electra—Just wanted to let you guys know how great Electra has been doing. We adopted Electra in June. At first, she was scared and shy. Not anymore :) Now she is