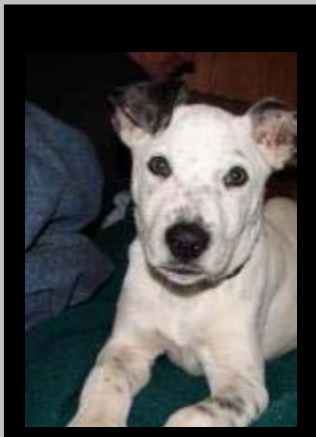




Spotted News

NOVEMBER 2007

- *Daily Update*
- *Shopping*
- *Help Needed*
- *Spot SOS*



DAILY UPDATE

NEEDING A HOME

FELIX: Hi, my name is Felix and I'm about 14 weeks old. I'm not a cat, but sometimes I pounce when I'm playing with toys. I have already learned to sit and I'm pretty smart. I also love to get picked up and snuggle with the kids in my foster home.

NEEDED: Long-term foster homes for seniors. We get calls for help from families that have older Dals (10-13 years old), but we need foster homes where they can live out the rest of their time. If you are interested in getting more information on how you can help, please send us an email.

When is shopping and spending money a really good thing?

When you help SOS and our spotted dogs.

<http://www.igive.com> is a website where you can shop on-line and earn money for SOS. They are a link to so many different stores, and I think the hardest part is just remembering to go to this website first, before you place your order. The Holidays are approaching, so if you do your shopping on the Web, don't forget to go to Igive first. If you are not already signed up under SOS, please let us know and we can give you the instructions on getting registered.

<http://www.usbones.com> is another website. They sell bones, treats, etc for dogs and cats. We are A REWARDS Fundraising Partner and if you select Save Our Spots before you enter the on-line store, you will earn money for us with your purchase(s). Laura Donahue loves this site and would be more than happy to give suggestions on which bones her dogs love the most.

“SPOT SOS”

SOS Holiday Shopping/Open House November 30th (Fri) 7 to 9pm and Dec 1st (Sat) 10 to noon. We have many ornaments, dog toys, T-shirts, holiday pillows, place mats, magnets and more. Stop by the Holz house and say Hi.

Great Lakes Pet Expo: Feb. 2nd (10am to 7pm) at the Wisconsin Exposition Center, State Fair Park. This event was previously held at The Franklin Sports Complex but has been so successful, outgrew the Complex and will now be at State Fair.

IKC Dog Show in Chicago on Feb 23rd and 24th We are very excited that it will be held in the brand new building at the McCormick complex.

HELP NEEDED

1. We need help copying and mailing out the monthly newsletters to those who do not have email access. It would require copying the newsletter that is emailed to you, and mailing it to a list of about 20 people. We will reimburse you for the stamps and print of address and return labels to make it easier. If anyone has access to a printer, hopefully a color printer, and is willing to take the time to do this, it is very much needed.
2. We also need assistance when a home visit is needed. This would only occur if a potential home is in your area. This would involve contacting the family after we email you their information. We have a list of questions to ask and a form to email back to us. As you know from your own adoption, this is important in the placement of our dals. If you are willing to be called, please let us know so we know it is okay to contact you when we have a home in your area.

Are You Able to Take Your Dog For a Walk? By Lori Holz

Maybe the question should be, Are you Unable to Take Your Dog For a Walk?

I found from personal experience that because my Ladybug pulled a lot, I didn't walk her around the neighborhood or take her out in the public. We had spent time in training and working with her around the block, but she would get so excited that all the training went out the window. If I had some free time to walk for exercise, I didn't want to have to stop all the time and give her corrections. So, over the years I decided why bother anymore when we had a fenced yard that she could run around in and get her exercise? Ok, so I would forget about her pulling until I took her into the vet and would almost get my arm pulled off getting out of the car. I would also forget about her pulling until the kids decided to take all the Spots for a walk around the block w/ their friends and Ladybug would get brought back to the house before they even got to the mailbox.

Fast Forward to this September when I bought a few different No-Pull harnesses to try out on foster dogs. I loved to train the foster dogs and get them ready to go to their Forever homes. I thought that by having a few different sizes and brands here, I could better recommend what would work best for each one. Well, I put one on Ladybug to see how it worked. It was easy to put on, so it passed the first test. Then I gave the leash to Mary and said that we would take Ladybug in a parade with Sterling. She wasn't too sure, but agreed to at least take her out to the car. Ladybug pulled Mary through the doorway and then just Stopped! She looked back at me and didn't pull Mary one more inch. After that, each step was a nice comfortable walk. The best part was that Ladybug had a lot of fun. She smiled the whole time.

Since then, the kids take her for walks around the block on a regular basis. Yes, she still runs around the yard and gets plenty of exercise, but she loves going for walks while getting to see and smell different things. She taught me a very valuable lesson. I had given up on her and she missed out on something she loved. I'm not saying that a harness replaces training, because training is still very important for all around good behavior. But, a harness is a very easy tool to have and use to keep your dog happy and healthy.

Below, I have listed two types of harnesses that we have tried out and really like. SOS would be happy to help you pick one out and maybe place a big order that would give everyone a discount.

The **Sporn Training Halter** is made of the highest quality braided cord and nylon webbing with thermoplastic and nickel-plated steel fasteners. The Restraints are threaded through the fabric Sherpa Sleeves for your dog's maximum comfort. The sherpa goes through their armpits and protects from rubbing. It sells from under \$25.

The Gentle Leader Easy Walk Harness from Premier

Overview:

Unlike traditional dog harnesses, the Easy Walk is a front leash attachment harness. This provides a more accurate cue for your dog in terms of direction. Unlike a collar, the Premier Easy Walk Harness never causes coughing, gagging, or choking because the chest strap rests low across the breastbone, not on the delicate tracheal area.

Why it works:

Traditional harnesses can actually encourage dogs to pull harder because of the opposition reflex. That's the reflex that makes sled dogs do what they do. The Easy Walk Harness redirects the pressure through the front leash attachment. And, the patent pending martingale closure tightens slightly across the chest and shoulder blades when your dog attempts to pull forward. It sells for approx \$22.



Gabe enjoying the Fall



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