



Border Collie Bugle Call

The Newsletter of the Blue Ridge Border Collie

Volume 8 Issue 1



Finding wonderful homes for homeless
Border Collies & Border Collie Mixes.

We are a Tax Exempt 501c3:
CFC# 60377

Phone: 571-766-0980
www.brbc.org

A Message From the BRBCR Board of Directors

This has been another great year for BRBCR! In 2018, we have placed 52 dogs and puppies! Blue Ridge could not have done this without the support of the amazing and dedicated volunteers, as well as the wonderful donors. A big round of applause to all of you!

We had another successful annual meeting Sylvania King's Quiet Acres Farm in Grottoes, VA. We had 21+ members and their Border Collies attend. One of the rescue's goals in 2019 is to increase the number of foster homes provided to these worthy dogs. If you would like to join the team of wonderful volunteers, please let us know. Volunteers are needed to provide transport, home visits, and reference checks. The experience of fostering is very rewarding! To volunteer or if you would like more information please contact us at info@brbc.org.

BRBCR is dedicated to finding good homes for deserving Border Collies, giving them another chance. Blue Ridge Border Collie Rescue promotes public awareness of the working breed, encourage owner involvement in dog sports through public demonstrations & events, provides foster care & rehabilitation to those endangered, and advocates spay/neuter of companions.

Cheers to a New Year,

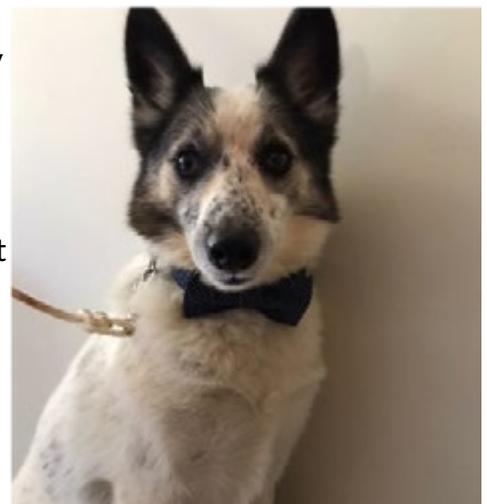
Blue Ridge Border Collie Rescue



Roy Found His Forever Home

BRBCR never gives up the quest for an adoptive home for its dogs and Roy is a great example. He came into foster care in 2012 as a very shy stray. He was extremely slow to trust people and nervous in any new situation. His progress has truly been in baby steps. With patient guidance he has become more comfortable in the world.

A wonderful new mom is continuing to help Roy enjoy life. She bought him his dress collar so he would be ready for the holidays in his forever home!



Khaleesi - Breaker of Chains

Khaleesi's story shows the wonderful communication and cooperation between rescue groups. She was picked up as a stray in West Virginia with a chain imbedded in her neck. The shelter needed help to pay her medical bills and posted her to a list that went to several rescues. A Jack Russell Terrier rescue in Massachusetts responded immediately and generously paid all her vet bills. They arranged for her to go to a boarding kennel so she did not have to return to the shelter after surgery.



The rescue, Jacks Galore, then began a search for a Border Collie rescue to take her in. They arranged to post pictures and a video of her on a Facebook page dedicated to Border Collie rescue. It was obvious from the video that though Khaleesi was shy she also really wanted human attention. At this point BRBCR stepped in and she began her journey toward her forever home. A very kind woman from the shelter started her transport to her foster home. Along the way she had two overnight stays with BRBCR volunteers who helped transport her.

When she finally arrived at her foster home it was obvious that she had very little experience with normal household things like stairs and kitchen floors. As she physically healed, she also gained confidence and became more comfortable with daily life indoors.

To learn more about Khaleesi, visit www.brbc.org!

Montpelier Fiber Festival

BRBCR had a very successful weekend in mid-October at our booth at the Montpelier Fiber Festival and Sheepdog Trial. Members brought some of our foster dogs to enjoy the day and socialize!



From Parvo Puppy to Service Dog in Training

Blue (previously Merry) was one of the puppies from the litter last year that had parvovirus, along with Max, Ivan and Lily. Ashton is her forever mom now, and she wanted to share their journey so far.



“I have an autoimmune disease. My doctors told me that I needed to find a service dog, and that Border Collies are one of the few breeds known to have the ability to smell different hormone and blood sugar changes that come along with my disease. Through lots of research and speaking with knowledgeable people from K9 Partners for Life, I decided that I should get a female Border Collie mix puppy who showed early signs of submission (or indifference), so that there wouldn't be a tendency to push the boundaries to become the alpha. After speaking with Merry's foster mom, I knew that I had found the puppy with the qualities that I was looking for. And your 'Merry' is now my 'Blue'.

“During this first year, Blue has learned so much and helps me do things that I can't do for myself every day. She picks things up for me when I drop them, because I'm not always able to do that for myself. Like my phone or the keys, my wallet, or the remote, or anything else that I drop. She will also fetch things for me. She knows the difference between 'slippers' and 'shoes'. She will open my

drawers (they have little tug ropes on the handles), and can get me my 'socks', or the 'keys', and the 'bag' (that has my medication). She knows the command 'help', in which she will find another person in the house/store/building and will lean on them and bring them back to me if I ask for help, or even if I collapse. She even knows the difference between 'ginger ale' and 'water', and will open the fridge (with the tug rope attached to the handle) to grab the ginger ale which is in a green bottle or the water which is in a clear bottle. Then she will politely shut the refrigerator door and bring my drink. During early parts of training, she accidentally brought me a bottle of mustard!



“Now that she has the basics done, Blue is learning to alert me when my blood sugars dip below 75 or go above 125. The next big part of her training will be getting her to smell, and then alert, to the hormone that my body secretes right before an adrenal crisis, and bring me help and my medication when needed.

She will have to go away for this training, and I'm not thrilled about that. Fortunately, she is mostly trained and therefore has documents that allow her access anywhere I can go, including the hospital. Since she has always gone to my classes and the store and everywhere else with me, we have not been apart for more than a few hours, not even one time since I adopted her... because she was at the vet getting fixed. Earlier this year I was in the hospital for three months, so I hadn't seen her in weeks and we both felt like we were missing a limb. She has severe separation anxiety, and apparently, so do I. She is used to pumps and medical equipment from my home infusions, so she when she was finally allowed to visit me, she was completely unbothered by all the medical equipment and nurses and doctors. I'm including some pictures of her visiting me in the hospital.

"She is still in training and will be for at least another year. She is of medium size, so I am also able to use her for light mobility. She has a harness with a handle to help me rely on her when I'm ascending stairs or doing something that strains my balance or sturdiness. She helps to stabilize and guide me without really putting any significant weight on her body (she does not have the larger body size of a German Shepherd and I don't want to hurt her back or hips). Blue's final training will take place in Philadelphia, at my hospital, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. They will work with doctors there (earliest age of 2) to train her to detect the hormone change in my body and alert to cortisol.

"Truth be told (and it may sound dumb) but when I saw 'Merry' on your website with her little freckles, I knew she was meant to be mine. And I was right. I believe with everything I have, that God took His time on her, painting each of her little freckles deliberately in a certain spot and making her kind, tolerant, brave, and loving before He sent her down to me. We are reliant on one another, and that leads to mutual respect and a far more wonderful relationship than I could have ever hoped to have with her. We are a team. We are inseparable. And we fit together in a way that

couldn't possibly be a coincidence. She is easily the best thing that has ever happened to me, and I am SO proud of all that she has accomplished in both her social skills and her training. Thank you, Blue Ridge Border Collie Rescue. This extremely successful adoption would never have been possible without the hard work and dedication that every member of the rescue and the volunteer foster families put in every day. I have this organization to thank for not giving up on this sick little puppy that cost thousands of dollars in vet bills to save. It would have been easier and cheaper to let them go, but BRBCR doesn't give up on sick puppies. And thank God for that, because she means everything to me now. She is my caretaker, adventure buddy, kayak partner, hiking buddy, camping companion, and most importantly, my best friend and doggie soul mate. She still finds a way to make me this happy, even in the hospital. Thank you so much for saving my baby girl. Because she saves me on a regular basis. Literally.



Successful 2018 Fundraisers

While adoption fees help support basic veterinary care when dogs come into rescue, we always have unexpected expenses such as the need for heartworm treatment or a litter of puppies testing positive for parvo once we have them in foster care. Because of those inevitable vet visits, fundraising must be an ongoing process to keep our rescue up and running. Several generous local businesses held fundraising events during 2018.



Strangeways Brewing in Fredericksburg hosted a Yappy Hour for Blue Ridge Border Collie Rescue in May. It was a gorgeous evening to have a bite to eat and sample local brews on their large, dog-friendly patio area. Strangeways donated 10% of their sales that evening to BRBCR. Dogs and beer- what a fun event!

Harry's Alehouse in Spotsylvania hosted a charity dinner for BRBCR in late June. This was a fitting venue for our fundraiser since they have the interior of the restaurant decorated with photos of customers' dogs. Harry's even created a flyer for us and generously donated 10% of sales that evening.

The key to making these fundraisers successful is getting the word out and having your friends and colleagues attend. Watch the BRBCR Facebook pages (insert page names for rescue and alumni) for future events. If you know of a local business that would like to host an event

for us or made a tax-deductible donation, please click the button for 'send us a message' on our website (brbcr.org). There is also a link at the top of the page for direct donations.

Continued financial support is the key to our ability to pull dogs from shelters and rehabilitate them for adoption. In addition to fundraisers and direct donations, please consider signing up for Amazon Smile to have a portion of your purchases donated to BRBCR. Every little bit counts!



Check Out Our Adopted Dogs in 2018!



Cyder



Cooper



Baz



Reno



Pax



Callie

Dogs for Adoption in 2019



Griff



Poppy



Sage

To Learn More About These Dogs Visit Our Website: brbcr.org

Blue Ridge Border Collie Rescue

1950 Kirby Road
Mclean, VA 22101

571.766.0980
brbcrdogs@gmail.com

WWW.BRBCR.ORG



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2018-2019 Blue Ridge Border Collie Rescue Fund Drive

Yes! I want to donation to BRBCR and help homeless Border Collies and Border Collie Mixes!

To donate please go to BRBCR.org (or our Facebook page),

click on the Donate Button

Or tear off and complete this form and mail your donation.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone email _____



Send Checks to:

Blue Ridge BC Rescue
1950 Kirby Road
Mclean, VA 22101

We are a Tax Exempt
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THANK YOU!!

