

The Sheltie Spin

Newsletter of Northern Virginia Sheltie Rescue "Giving Shelties a New Leash on Life" Spring 2011

In this issue of The Sheltie Spin, we share with our readers some of the many activities our adopters are doing with their Shelties. From competitions to just fun, Shelties are "up" for anything. These stories may encourage you to explore some new activities with your Sheltie – from vigorous flyball to gentle therapy. We are collecting more stories about your activites with your dogs, and we'll share more in our Fall issure

Attention and Fun ... from "Start" to "Finish" By Martha Heisel...and Skye

My foster dog, Skye, loves Rally class each week where he gets individual attention doing a fun activity in which he feels confident. I learned about Rally a few years ago when I began to take my foster dogs to obedience classes. My dog training club, Blue Ridge, offers Rally as one of their dog activities. A sanctioned competition that many dog owners take



very seriously, you can also do it just for fun. There are four sanctioning bodies for competitive Rally: AKC, UKC, APDT, and C-Wags. (More info on Wikipedia). At this point, Skye does it for FUN!

Rally is a combination of obedience and agility. Signs

along a course ("Start" to "Finish") tell the handler what to ask the dog do at each station. Here are some of the instructions:

- Halt (which means "sit"), walk around dog
- Call front (bring the dog around to sit in front of you), finish right (send the dog around your right side to sit at your left in heel position)
- Serpentine (walk around cones slalom-style with dog at heel)
- Jump hurdle (dog jumps, handler goes by)
- Halt, one step, halt, two steps, halt, three steps, halt
- Fast pace (at heel)
- Slow pace (at heel)
- 270° left (rotate to left ¾ circle with dog at heel)
 - quite difficult for most dogs (not Shelties!)

The key to enjoying Rally is to have a dog that focuses on you and is quite solid in basic obedience skills. The handler should walk the course first – without the dog – to anticipate course challenges. Dog training means training **the human first!** (We always seem to forget that, don't we?)

You can see on Skye's face that he's ready for his

next "round". By the way, Skye is available for adoption – he's skilled at obedience and ... Rally! Next, he's anxious to get started on agility – even more fun!



Loves Music, Loves to Dance By Al and Janie Robertson...and Misty and Kayla

Canine Freestyle is a new sport for us. Al and Misty (NVSR 2008) and Kayla and I are working toward competing as a team in the fall. Our teacher is a former dancer, university dance professor, choreographer, and originator of Canine Freestyle, Joan Tennille. Little did she know when she took on Al and me, with our bad knees and bad backs, what a challenge she had in store. At our last class, her husband taped us, and I watched it (through my fingers) in the privacy of my own home. It was hilarious (or pathetic, depending on your point of view), but in all honesty, not as horrid as I expected.

We wanted to learn Canine Freestyle because most of our (nine!) shelties are therapy dogs and we thought it would be entertaining for the residents of assisted living and nursing homes to see us perform. Little did we know that we would really be a comedy act. <Grin>

Canine Freestyle is putting movement to music, and the goal is to showcase your dog (not you). We don't wear costumes or do tricks unless they compliment the music and the canine. Misty and Kayla are naturals. Poor babies – they try to make us look good as we are limping along trying to keep up with them as they spin and prance. All in all, it really is lots of fun. It's another wonderful way to bond with our Shelties, and it provides much joy and laughter to others. (Now, if we could only figure out a way to have our knee joints pop to the beat of the music!!)



Misty says, "Do it this way, Dad. Put your left foot in..."

"Now, put your right foot in...")



Dare and the Hairier Jump Jets! By Bev Vautrinot and ... Dare

Dare came to live with me in early 2000 at 16 months old. He came not knowing how to play with any toys let alone retrieve a ball, but as a good Sheltie he loved his



treats. He started running in flyball six months later and for many years was a "key height" dog for our flyball team, the "Hairier Jump Jets". His reward for coming back was being able to bounce off me and get a treat, which he still does at flyball practice. Now,

at 12 years old, he still practices with the team but hasn't been needed at a tournament. We still keep him in shape just in case we need a "save", which he was able to do last November on a veteran team.

If you haven't seen flyball, check it out (www.flyball.org)! Flyball is a relay sport for dogs who love to run, jump, and retrieve. There are four dogs to a team, and two teams run at the same time. Each dog runs

a short course with four hurdles (at the "key height" for the shortest dog on the team, which is why many teams have a small dog on them) to a ball box. The dog hits a treadle, and a tennis ball pops out. The dog catches the ball and runs back down the course over the hurdles. When he passes the line, the next dog on the team starts. The winning team is the first one with all four dogs completing the course with no penalties. It's noisy, exciting, and the dogs who love it, REALLY love it.

My Life as a Therapy Dog By Benny Racheau

Hi, Everyone! I was adopted from NVSR by my mom in 2006, and we got into canine therapy work right away. My mom marvels at how composed I am under pressure. I love my work!

There are some hazards to therapy work. My mom tries to protect me, but sometimes "poop" just happens. Once I was running with a child with a disability when suddenly I was in the line of a kick ball—it struck me, but I just kept on running beside "my" child. A little later I was surrounded by small children and one of them grabbed a handful of my fur—I didn't flinch, just glanced at her and lay down. Sometimes people pet me roughly or poke me in the face with an arthritic finger—it's hard to aim for the right petting spot when your hand is unsteady or your sight is dim.

On the other paw there are many "miracle moments" in my work.

- "Roger" had been in the hospital several weeks and never spoke until my visit when he said "Dog, dog, dog, dog"—the staff was amazed.
- "Alena" interacted very little with anyone until, after several visits, I hopped up beside her and let her give me treats—my mom has to place a treat between her fingers. She "teased" me by moving her hand away and making me work for it. The staff said they had never seen her so engaged!
- I can find "Sam's" room by myself. (Dogs don't need a GPS.)
- After my friend "Saul" died, I searched his room wondering why he was not there to give me a MilkBone.
- "Missy's" expression was always blank until she petted me—my mom told her I liked her special "Missy massage", and Missy smiled and nodded her head!



Sometimes a nurse says not to bother because a patient is unresponsive. The first time this happened my mom talked to the patient as if he were alert. I had never been on a hospital bed, I decided the patient needed me, and I jumped up and snuggled against his legs. (The nurse watched – sometimes the docs and nurses like to see what I do, and I show them.) Well, the man didn't open his eyes, but from his face we knew that I had done the right thing. With another unresponsive patient again I insisted. My mom put me on the bed and the patient talked to us—he told us he had dogs and my mom asked if they slept in the bed with him. His response: "H*** no", but we enjoyed our visit with him and especially seeing the astonishment of the nurse.

Another day I entered a young woman's room and she started sobbing—she missed her own dogs and was so happy to see me. Sometimes I stop outside a room because I know that patient needs me—if my mom tries to walk on I stop until she understands that I have to visit. Some patients say they don't like dogs, but usually before I leave they say "Just let me look". Then they smile. That's how I'm paid, in smiles from patients, families, and staff (the staff get as much from my visits as the patients).

In addition to healthcare facilities, I have visited a women's shelter, homeless group, camp for children who have a parent with cancer, Stress Out Day at a university, as well as participated in parades, fashion shows, Halloween contests, and local dog events. My most fun adventure has been as "Sandy" in the play "Annie" this past Christmas at one of the facilities I visit. When I'm out and about, people often stop and say: "Oh, there's Benny. He visited me at XYZ facility."

My life is very full, and I am content doing something my mom and I love—I have fulfilled her retirement dream. My work is our spiritual calling—"dog communion".

For information on benefits, criteria and testing of therapy dogs see www.tdi-dog.org. Many dog training clubs offer training and certification.



Letters ... we get letters (actually e-mails!)

We love to hear from our adopters; here are a few we received this month, featuring activities that these adopters do with their Shelties:

Thank You for Our Molly From Tom and Elaine Rivera

We want to thank all the NVSR volunteers for their hard work and expertise in rescuing Shelties and finding forever homes for them.

This how we became introduced to Shelties. Sitting on our front porch one day, we saw a medium-sized mostly black dog that really seemed lost. We kept him in our fenced yard until we could locate his owner. We were hoping we could keep him, but his owner was found and "Pepe" went home. That very day we



applied to NVSR to adopt a rescued Sheltie. Several days later Martha came for a home visit and brought "Bonnie Blue", who soon became our "Molly".

[Martha's comment here... when Tom and Elaine applied, they wanted a tricolor just like Pepe. When I entered their home with Bonnie Blue, a merle, they said, "She's GORGEOUS!" And, the rest is history.]

Molly has been a perfect match for us. We realized immediately what a prize she was, so sweet and well behaved. We describe her as the dog that never does anything wrong. When we adopted her, we thought she's very cute but not very intelligent because she did not respond to our attempts to teach her tricks. But we didn't care - we loved her just the way she was. We thought she must be an exception to this intelligent breed, but were we wrong!

We enrolled Molly in Basic Obedience with Blue Ridge Dog Training Club, and we were amazed at how quickly she learned. One day while training her in the backyard, we thought our little Molly would like to try agility, so we made her some little jumps. After showing it to her just a couple of times, she took right to it and did it on her own. We added a ramp,

balance beam, and tunnel, and she took right to those, also. It seemed nothing was beyond her ability, and that was just the beginning. Molly now has Canine Good Citizen and Therapy Dog Certificates and is finishing Fundamentals of Agility.



We plan to take Molly to assisted living facilities as a therapy dog because she is so calm, loves people and other dogs. Her personality continues to emerge and her potential seems to be limited only by the time that we have to devote to her. We love her dearly, and she has brought so much joy into our lives.

Thank you again for the great work that you do. By the way, to complete Pepe's story, his owner called us after we had adopted Molly and wanted to give him to us because he just did not fit into their lives. But we knew who could find him a perfect home, and once again we turned to NVSR. Pepe (now "Pepper") has also found his forever home because of NVSR.

Sheltie Makes a Difference! From Anna Victoria Reich

I love Shelties, and thanks to these special dogs I have started a new life learning to take the full responsibility for Cutie. My Sheltie, Cutie, has brought more love and more energy to my spirit and my entire life. She makes me feel like I can do a lot of things that I never



thought I could, although my husband, Marc, plays a big role in my life too. I can't leave him out!

Cutie wants to go with me everywhere, but I can't take

her into the grocery store, so when I come home she hears me and waits at the door. When she sees me, she starts jumping around in circles and wags her tail – wow, is she happy! She is a wonderful doggy, and we plan to get another, but we are not ready yet. Time will tell! I feel like a doggy mom and I love that. Cutie plays a big role in our lives, and I am glad that there are other doors in life. When one door doesn't open, there is a special door that opens the heart and gives me a chance! Life is good. I have to say thank you, Cutie, for opening my eyes to a world of greatness and fullness.

Thanks to Marc who saw NVSR.org and has ever since opened my eyes to Shelties and Cutie!

Throw It, Puleeze! From Susan Hendrix ... and Bentley

Here is our little guy Bentley (NVSR 2009) with not one ... but two ... of his Frisbees. He can catch



it in mid-air and always brings it right back to me, dropping it at my feet. When he gets bored with Frisbee it's time to fetch his tennis ball. I wish I could bottle his energy!

I LOVE My New Home! From Topper Stearns

[Remember Topper from our senior foster dog profiles in the Winter Sheltie Spin? He's in his new home now and winning everyone's hearts! Think about adopting a senior – they're wonderful.]

This is Topper asking my mommy to write for me. Sorry it took me so long to answer but my mom deleted your email by mistake. Mommy says Daddy did it.

I am very happy with my forever family. I have

settled in more and more. My siblings and I play a lot and get lots of treats. I've put on weight and my coat is silky and soft. I have not had any problems with a limp and like to go for long walks. I even do better than Luke who is only four. (Don't tell him I said so.)



I get to sleep on the bed most nights and prefer to snuggle up to Dad. Mom says I'm his little boy, and Daddy calls me his little buddy.

Got to go. I have to help Luke and Gracie bark at Daddy mowing the yard.

Your Friend, Topper

And ... from Topper's Mom, Ursula Stearns

Topper is great – so vibrant and lively. Mike was concerned about adopting an older dog, but he has really fallen for Topper. We are very excited to see



how Topper does at the beach this summer. We walk all of them three times a week or more, and Topper has a real spring in his step. He goes a bit crazy when we pass other dogs, but we

are working on that, especially since we hope to bring all three to the Barrel Oak Winery in May.

Just an update on the others. Gracie (formerly Baby – NVSR 2008) is our six year old. She and I visit Alzheimer's patients at Arden Courts. She is gentle and patient, and everyone loves her. She is the first one we adopted, and a week later we got Luke (NVSR 2008). He's one goofy Collie, and we just can't give him enough hugs and kisses. I never thought I'd enjoy having a large dog, but Luke has changed that.

We're very happy with Topper, Luke, and Gracie, and

we tell everyone they're NVSR rescue dogs. Thanks to all the volunteers for the love and support you give all the animals.

The "Big City" Sheltie From Romeo ... and Tim Wheat

Dad and I were just thinking about you today, so I told

him to write. We have made a very good life together, and everything would be perfect if he would let me have my way and rid the world of those odious UPS Trucks! I hear them coming a mile away, and they are mean and ugly. Fedex and mailman trucks are fine, but a UPS truck is the devil incarnate. Dad took me right up to one so he could



"desensitize me" or something like that. I had no part of it and let the truck and its evil driver know exactly how I felt. I think the driver was a little afraid. Good!

I thought it would be fun to prevent Dad from putting on his socks. He thought it was cute too. Now, it's such a fun game that all his socks keep getting holes in them! He just buys more and ties the old ones in knots for me. Speaking of toys, I have a basket full, but three are my favorites: Mr. Horsie, Mr. Tiger, and Mr. Bear. When Dad comes home though, we always play with the tied up socks. He throws them down the stairs and I run to get them and bring them back. Although I think it is just plain fun, he thinks that it is a great way for a big city dog to get good exercise. Whatever...

Sometimes when Dad drives to the office, I go with him. I stay beside him all day and protect our office. No one gets in or out without my permission. Everybody thinks I am so pretty and most people call me Lassie. They think it's funny when Dad tells them "yea, and my name is Timmy"! I don't know what is so funny about that. Silly humans.

Well, I just wanted to say hi and to thank you again for bringing us together. We are quite a team!

Tribute to Bella By Lisa Schlansker

[Bella was one of the seniors featured in our Winter 2010 Sheltie Spin]

Four years ago, Bob and I met a 9 year old Sheltie named Bella – an "owner turn in". Before we met, we knew we would adopt her. Bella had been a birthday gift for a 14 year old boy. Nine years later, he was in graduate school, Bella's mom and work at home dad were divorced, and Bella was tearing up the house. I truly admire her mom for making the difficult decision

to rehome Bella.

Bella was quirky and funny, an angel - never destructive. She took thyroid medication and had a prescription diet for an autoimmune disease - but that was easy. She loved teenagers - luckily we had three! She attacked when we sneezed, barked when we unloaded the dishwasher, and loved keeping our yard squirrel free.

We moved to Colorado 18 months ago, and Bella got a bigger yard and more responsibility – keeping

the squirrels AND deer away. As she aged, she lost most of her hearing, loved to sleep in a sunny spot, and kept the other dogs in line, especially our puppy, Gibbs. She was in kidney failure for almost two years. The vet expected her to live only a



few months, but she had a very strong will for a skinny little girl.

Bella went to the Rainbow Bridge on April 25th. Our hearts ache, and we can barely remember a time without her in our life. Four short years were all we had together, but we would do it all over again. Before Bella passed away, she helped three more Shelties fit into our home - we adopted a 15 year old and two 10 year old boys that were a bonded trio. Bella taught them the ropes in a few days. Yes - MORE OLD DOGS! Please open your heart to a senior dog. It is worth the risk. Being loved by Bella, even for a short time, enriched our lives more than Bob and I can say.

Northern Virginia Sheltie Rescue would like to express their thanks to the Grant Family and GAM Printers of Sterling, Virginia for the designing, printing and mailing of our newsletter.

The Grant Family has fostered and adopted several Shelties

over the years. Pictured are their three current Shelties:

Spirit, Tigger, and Cady



FUNDRAISERS & FUN ACTIVITIES COMING UP

May 6 - Black Shutter Antiques, Leesburg VA

First Friday in Leesburg features our volunteer, Jessica Frost Ballas, harp, assisted by her NVSR alumni, Merlin and Archimedes, entertaining at Black Shutter Antiques, owned by Barb Gardner, NVSR volunteer. Loudoun and King Sts., Leesburg, 5-9 pm.

May 7 – Reston Pet Fiesta, Reston Town Center VA

NVSR will again have a booth at this fun outdoor street festival (www.petfiesta.org), which brings together local animal organizations and businesses, animal rescue groups, and pet owners for an exciting day of activities, demonstrations, and animals galore (including our beautiful adopted and adoptable Shelties). The crowds keep us busy, so if you can volunteer, e-mail events@nvsr.org (or call Kathy Kelly at 703-256-7127). If you can't commit, please drop by our booth to say hello. The Tails on Trails dog walk will begin at 10 a.m. (\$20 entrance fee for the walk).

May 8 – "Fun-Raiser" at Barrel Oak Winery, Delaplane VA

Come out to the country on May 8th, taste some great Virginia wine, visit with our volunteers and Shelties, and help NVSR at the same time. A winning combination! Barrel Oak Winery in Delaplane VA will host NVSR that day and give us a generous donation from their tasting fees. When you arrive, pick up a ticket from our NVSR table and turn it in at the tasting bar in order to help us. Stop by for a "Sheltie-fix". We'd love to see you.

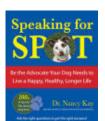
May 14 - Canine Carnival!, Stephens City VA

This is a big day in Stephens City, Virginia – the annual Frederick County Canine Carnival at Sherando Park. C'mon out, if you can. Agility demos by Blue Ridge Dog Training Club, police dog demos, and lots of other canine fun activities. Look for NVSR's booth.

September 24 – NVSR Annual Picnic Curtis Memorial Park, Hartwood, VA More info coming soon.

A Gift Idea for Mother's Day

With Mother's Day just around the corner (May 8th), it's time to begin brainstorming great gift ideas. If your mom happens to be a dog lover, make her a happy woman by giving her a copy of



Speaking for Spot: Be the Advocate Your Dog Needs to Live a Happy, Healthy, Longer Life. This book has been an Amazon best seller, and the author, Dr. Nancy Kay, was featured on the NPR show, Fresh Air with Terry Gross. Not only will Speaking for Spot be an invaluable resource for your mom, your purchase will automatically raise money for NVSR via the

Speaking for Spot Gives Back Program. Here's how it works. Visit www.speakingforspot.com/purchase.html. When you make your purchase, select Northern Virginia Sheltie Rescue from the pull-down menu of animal-centered nonprofit organizations. By doing so, NVSR will automatically receive \$6.00 for every book purchased between April 15th and May 31st (this allows for belated Mother's Day gift giving!). Now here's the icing on the cake – Dr. Kay provides complimentary gift wrap in an adorable doggie motif. So head to your computer to order Speaking for Spot. You will make your mama happy and earn some much-needed money for NVSR. Happy Mother's Day!

Do you have the next Mr. February or Miss July?

We're collecting photos for the 2012 calendar NOW!

Attention all shutterbugs.

Does your Rescued Sheltie have Star Potential?

Does your Foster Sheltie exude charm?

(Don't they all?)



As you know, NVSR puts out a beautiful calendar each year, and it's a big fundraiser for us, along with introducing folks to rescued Shelties. It's time to start getting the 2012 calendar ready for publication, and we need your help making it another success. All volunteers and adopters are invited to submit their precious Sheltie photos for consideration for inclusion in our 2012 Calendar.

Deadline for submittal is June 30, 2011

Rules for submitting photos are on our NVSR Web site (see News and Events). We're looking for themed photos (holidays, sports, activities), as well as the usual gorgeous posed shots. (No people in them, though.)

Help us make our 2012 calendar the best ever.



Are You a Potential Foster Mom or Dad?



Lisa Fox, foster provider, with (center) Brodie (NVSR Rudy 2010) and Luca (NVSR Rico 2010), foster dogs, and her own Galen (NVSR 2005) and Toby.

Have you thought about adopting another dog but it's not the right time? Would your dog enjoy a playmate for a while? Would you like your teenager to learn about dog care before you commit to one? Or maybe you would enjoy the fun and companionship of a dog in the house but can't make a long-term commitment? Perhaps your NVSR adoptee has contributed so much to your life that you'd like to help others adopt? If you see yourself here, please consider fostering a Sheltie.

NVSR always needs Sheltie-lovers who can serve as foster parents. Our foster homes are nearly full, and we need several new foster providers so we can continue accepting more Shelties into rescue. Here are some frequently asked questions about fostering:

Can I choose my foster dog?

Yes. In your application, you specify the kinds of dogs you could foster (young, middle-aged, senior; large, small; energetic, quiet; special needs, etc.). When a Sheltie comes in, its photo and profile are posted on our volunteer site. If the dog sounds right for you, you indicate your interest. On occasion, if the foster assignment coordinator knows a dog is coming in that might be a good match for you, she'll call to see if you're interested.

Who pays for vet care? Food? Grooming?

NVSR pays for all vet care, including heartworm preventative. Some vet care is pre-approved, and some requires director approval. Foster providers pay for food and toys. NVSR provides martingale collar, leash, and ID tag, but does not pay for professional grooming or flea/tick preventative. NVSR crates are available to borrow, if needed.

What other responsibilities would I have?

Foster parents evaluate their dog's temperament and behavior and update periodic evaluation forms. Foster parents also do some basic training, if needed. But giving the dog plenty of love, a good diet, and adequate exercise are the most critical requirements. When the dog is ready for placement, they review applications from potential adopters, invite the best one(s) to meet the dog, then oversee the adoption. The foster coordinators are always available to help with these responsibilities.

May I adopt my foster dog?

The foster parent has "first dibs" on the dog if s/he wishes to adopt it. The foster parent must complete the adoption contract and pay the adoption fee like any other adopter.

What if I need help with behavior issues? Health or grooming problems?

The NVSR support network for foster parents is very strong. Every foster parent is assigned a "foster coordinator" who answers questions, seeks specialized advice on behavior or grooming, and helps with evaluations. The "adoption coordinator" provides lists of potential adopters and helps find a good match for each dog. The "vet committee" helps with health issues.

What if the foster dog doesn't fit with my other pets or my family?

If the NVSR support network can't help you solve the problems, we will find another foster care provider for your foster dog.

How long would my foster commitment last?

We require each Sheltie to be in foster care for at least two weeks so that needed vet care and temperament evaluation can take place. Dogs with medical or behavior issues may be in foster care for weeks, months, or even longer. We try to assign an "easy" dog to new foster parents, i.e., one that will be readily adoptable.

Interested? More questions? Want to communicate with one of our foster families to get some inside information? Please let us know ... foster@nvsr.org.

Why is your donation important? Average basic medical expenses for ONE SHELTIE RESCUED

Physical Examination \$35–\$50 Spay or Neuter \$225–\$325 Heartworm, Lyme, etc., blood Tests \$50–

Fecal Test \$17–\$30

Vaccinations \$17-\$75 or more

TOTAL COST \$344-\$580

The above total does not include treatment for heartworm-positive dogs (average cost is \$800) or kennel cough treatment (average cost is \$100). Unless a dog comes in with vet records showing current vaccinations and has no apparent problems, he or she gets a complete physical exam with appropriate vaccines and tests. Those diagnosed with illnesses are treated as soon as possible. Poor dental health also is common and often must be treated with a minimum dental cleaning and scaling plus extractions, if needed (average cost is \$300). Some of our senior and/or ill dogs never leave us, but are kept

Some of our senior and/or ill dogs never leave us, but are kept in our hospice program where they receive all appropriate treatment and loving care until they pass away.

Average vet cost per Sheltie rescued in 2010 was \$685. The average adoption fee collected in 2010 was \$279. We have to make up the difference with your generosity.

Northern Virginia Sheltie Rescue Directors and Coordinators

Martha Heisel, Nancy Tisdale Treasurers Dick Duncan, Kathy Duncan Adoption Cindy Foreso Foster Assignments Jessica Frost Ballas Foster Care Lisa Fox, Nancy Tisdale Intakes......Martha Heisel Sheltie Shop Brian Marks Vet CommitteeLouise Cortright, Sharon Daussin, Mary Ellen Jones, Nancy Tisdale VolunteersKay Graves Thanks also to the many volunteers who help transport, foster, and take time to help the Shelties who are brought to or found by NVSR.

Newsletter submissions to sheltiespin@nvsr.org
Web site www.nvsr.org • shelties@nvsr.org
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Graphic from www.kennelcity.com



Northern Virginia Sheltie Rescue P. O. Box 10802 Burke, Virginia 22009

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Make checks payable to Northern Virginia Sheltie Rescue. Mail to Treasurer, Northern Virginia Sheltie Rescue, P. O. Box 10802, Burke, VA 22009. Northern Virginia Sheltie Rescue, Inc., is a nonprofit, 501(c)3, tax-exempt corporation. A financial statement is available upon request from the Commonwealth of Virginia Division of Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218-1163.					

NVSR MISSION STATEMENT

NVSR will take in any Sheltie in need regardless of age, except those with histories of repeated, unprovoked biting. Dogs accepted into rescue will be evaluated in foster homes, receive veterinary care and necessary resocialization, and ultimately be placed in homes where they will be loved, protected, and well cared for. Also, we support efforts to reduce pet overpopulation; all of our Shelties will be spayed or neutered prior to adoption or, if not yet at a safe age to be neutered, placed on a spay/neuter contract at the time of adoption. NVSR is a 501(c)3 organization.