

Utah Friends of Basset Hounds Newsletter



Rolling Bone

Woofles of Wisdom and Other Fun Stuff  2010 Issue Two



Letter from Lucy

Hi Everyone,

Hello to all you Basset Loving folks! Everyone's been busy, busy, busy around here...what else is new? The Waddle was a great success and you'll find a piece that Marilyn wrote about it in this newsletter, and some pictures! Wait, don't skip ahead... you'll miss something really exciting on this page!

We'll be busy with lots of meet & greets and rescue events that are always held in the summer months.

There's so much to do...something every weekend. On August 22 we'll have a booth at the Park Silly Sunday Market. It'll be our first time and we're pretty excited about it. And then we'd love for you all to spend an evening with us at Red Butte Garden on September 30, 2010. So put it on your calendars now!

It takes quite a bit of money to care for all the hounds that come our way. Over a hundred bassets needed our help in 2009 alone. Some were real sick, but we took care of all of them. Thanks to people like you, we didn't have to say no - not even once.











You may have noticed that Lou hasn't helped me with this newsletter. A few weeks ago we said our goodbyes as he went on to the Rainbow Bridge. I miss him so very much but I am happy that he's running pain free and hanging out with all the UFBH hounds that have gone on before him.

One day I'll join Lou, but for now I will continue to write this letter. He left his paw print on many, many hearts as well as here next to my name so he will always be a part of this letter.

Guess we'll let you get on with reading the rest of this newsletter. Thanks for being there for us. Sincerely yours in drool.

Lucy  Lou

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UFBH

Utah Friends of Basset Hounds

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find forever homes.”**

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"Create Golden Memories - Adopt a Senior"



Thinking of helping our furry friends? Here are some really good reasons to adopt a senior hound...or two.

Adopting a more mature dog gives you the advantage of choosing one who will fit your lifestyle and family's personalities. Perhaps you'd like a dog who likes to go for car rides, or maybe one that is happy to just stay at home and be there to welcome you when you come back; or perhaps you'd prefer a hound who'd become a good walking partner as you walk around the neighborhood.

What you see is what you get! Older hounds will be full grown, and their temperament will be fixed. You will know if they are active, playful or laid back, goofy or self assured, sassy or sweet. Maybe you're looking for someone who likes to cuddle and sleep in your bed or one who is happy sitting next to you on the sofa and sleeping on a pillow near your bed.

Rescued dogs bond quickly and deeply. They seem to know that we've saved their lives. Without prompting, they want to please us from the moment they come into our home, as if they want to be sure they'll never be homeless again.

So many of our seniors have at least a few good years ahead of them. Adopting a senior is not necessarily a short-term commitment. Many of the basset hounds I have known lived well into their teens. It's not unusual for them to live very long lives. Thirteen to sixteen years is the average age in our family.

The seniors touch a different part of our hearts. I find myself lingering a bit longer with them when I say good night; and I take a moment or two longer when leaving the house to look back and see that they hear me when I say "love you...be good." I've discovered that no matter their age, our hounds' lives are never long enough.

While young hounds are also a delight to live with as you watch their youthful exuberance, the seniors mostly just need a warm bed, a safe place to call home, and someone to rub their bellies and love them.

Since October of 2003, my husband and I have happily been "foster failures" five times. (A "foster failure" is when you adopt your foster! Thus failing at the fostering)

Abigail, Frances, Beatrice, Sadie and Alice were all older hounds when they came to stay with us. They were wonderfully-loving, perfectly-charming hounds who for no other reason than having gotten old, had found themselves alone in the world. We were blessed to have had them come into our lives and spend their golden years with us.

In our opinion, there is always room for a senior or two. You will never regret adopting a senior. Think of the life-changing golden memories you could be creating!

Peggy & Andy Chudd
Grace & George, Beatrice, Sadie and Alice
At the Rainbow Bridge: Abigail & Frances



2010 Wasatch Waddle Wrap Up

By Marilyn Briggs



es, the weather was pretty bad. Cold - and it looked like it might rain any minute -which it did just when it was our turn to GO! In spite of that, we had a record number of waddlers, and we collected a record amount of pledges to help pay our houndie bills. I have to say that when everyone lined up and we were about to “waddle” I had a lump in my throat and was close to tears. It was because I was so proud of everyone who gave their time, money, and suffered through the weather to help our bassets. We had people handing over envelopes of pledge money. We had foster families meeting up with the families who had adopted “their” fosters—which is always bitter sweet. We had wonderful people who volunteered to walk the adoptable fosters in the parade, coming from as far as up by Brigham City. Thank you so much to everyone who participated.



Jake, one of the puppies from last fall, played very hard before the parade with his basset buddies. During the parade, there were two little girls on the sidelines on a blanket. He plopped right down with them to take a little nap. He was encouraged to finish, but he snoozed most of the rest of the day.

Some of the older hounds rode on the Pooped Pup Pickup Truck. Patty, who was hit by a car and suffered untreated for days before she came to us was on the truck. UFBH had the surgery she desperately needed taken care of and she healed nicely. She was recently adopted by her foster family, who had not had a basset before and had quickly fallen in love with her.

It is so wonderful to see hounds that came into our care with health issues or behavior problems, or simply so much in need of love, now with families who care for them and pamper them. That is why we do this.

The Waddle is our biggest fundraiser of the year, but it is also a family reunion of basset lovers. Those of us who work so hard year round do get discouraged and wonder if it is worth it. Then we attend an event like this, or we see one of our bassets go to a wonderful new family—and yes, it is worth it—all of it.

Thank you to those who waddled, donated, fostered, or care about our wonderful basset hounds. We can not do this without you and words can't express how grateful we are to each and every one of you . See you at the next Waddle!!!



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A First Try at Fostering

By Bob Lyon

My wife Linda and I had been helping Utah Friends of Basset Hounds from the sidelines for a while, and always kept close tabs on the bassetts looking for homes on the UBFH website. We had considered fostering but hadn't really thought seriously about it until the word went out just before Christmas last year that they needed temporary foster homes for the "un-fostered" hounds over the holidays.

We decided we could help out by fostering a "bonded pair" of older hounds... Emma and Lucy were the intake coordinator Carol's choice for us over the holidays. They were desperate for temporary foster families during this time of the year. (The kennels who help us out are filled with their regular full paying customers during all the big holidays).

Emma and Lucy had been surrendered to UFBH after a relationship change in the former caretaker's life made it impossible for her to take care of them any longer. She had adopted them from a shelter with the understanding Lucy and Emma had always been together and were to stay that way.

Fast forward to just before Christmas 2009. I picked up Emma and Lucy one dark winter evening on my slightly detoured journey home from work. I'm not sure "the girls" knew what was up this time, but took up their respective spaces in the front seat of my truck for the ride to their home for the holidays.

Linda and I were a little concerned about how the new visitors would go over with our two resident hounds, Quincy and Einstein. Our daughter's two dogs were frequent guests so "the boys" were accustomed to other dogs being around from time to time. Upon arrival at home with Emma and Lucy in tow, the boys were a bit surprised that I wasn't alone. There was a flurry of the prerequisite nasal analysis of the new visitors and then things settled down.

Over the long holiday weekend, Emma and Lucy grew on us, and they seemed quite content to be in a more stable environment than before; so we decided to keep on fostering after New Year's had come and gone. Lucy is around 8 years old and Emma is around 7 years. Both have been wonderful to get to know and are mellow but active older hounds.

It has been interesting to watch "the pack" evolve as the hounds got more accustomed to one another. The pack currently has evolved where Emma is the mother hen, watching over the group, making sure everyone's OK. Lucy is the "early warning system" if anything abnormal is going on outside. When Emma barks, you know she's happy

A First Try at Fostering continues on page 5

Beauty is Dash & Daisy

Beauty is my Bassett Hounds
They are so dear to me
With droopy eyes and floppy ears
as precious as can be
Their legs so short,
their feet so big
They lay so calm and tame
They are so fun and loving
Dash and Daisy are their names
Whenever I take these beauties on a
simple little walk
They seem to tire quickly
so in the road they plop
Here comes a car, it's zooming
So I tug with all my might
It must have been their lucky day
because that speeding car turned right
When you ask me what is Beauty
It's very clear you see
I'll answer "Dash and Daisy"
because they're so Beautiful to me
By Gentry Hale



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because someone she knows is near. The occasional chorus of baying hounds is loud but difficult not to laugh at while calming things back down.

The resident hounds have been well cued into when weekends roll around and that it usually involves a walk, ride, or both. It didn't take Emma and Lucy long to pick up on the signs, and both enjoy rides out to various locations or trails we hike the hounds on where there is lots of interesting material to evaluate along the way. Lucy, being of the smaller basset breed, has decided she's not quite into the pace of the three larger hounds, so I usually hike with the larger three, and Linda lets Lucy go at her own pace. Emma always makes sure that the trio up front doesn't get too far ahead. (That mothering instinct again.)

In our case, things have worked out well enough that even though, technically, they are still foster hounds Lucy and Emma are a part of our family. The hounds don't care how difficult your day at work may have been, they're always happy to see you. I would encourage everyone that if you may be considering fostering or adopting a hound, not to discount the love, fun, and companionship an older basset can bring into your life.

All the hounds, whatever their age, are waiting for a caring, loving environment to call home. "Forever Homes," is what Utah Friends of Basset hounds is all about. But being in a Foster Home is a great intermediate step for our rescued hounds. It provides reassurance to a homeless basset that there is a caring home, where they can love and be loved while they awaits his Forever Family to find them. (And sometimes it turns out that they're fostered forever by a loving family.)

The Lyons have been great supporters of UFBH in so many ways. A very big arroooooo, from the bottom of our hearts, goes out to Bob, Linda, Einstein and Quincy for sharing their home with this charming older pair of bassets. They've also taken on their medical expenses...once again going above and beyond. You guys are the best!

Lyon Pack: Emma, Einstein, Lucy & Quincy



You're Walking How Many Dogs?

The first time I had three dogs (I had two bassets and my sister's yellow lab-- she was building a house out of state and in a rental that wouldn't allow dogs), I used to beg one of my teenage sons to come with me and help with the third. One night no one was available, and my annoying dogs expected to GO, MOM! no matter what. So I gave it a try. We usually walked about a mile and a half around the subdivision's blocks.

I was so proud of myself for keeping the leashes in constant motion and changing them from hand to hand-- no tangles, doing great, just need to keep the concentration. We were about four houses from being back home when a cat ran across right in front of the three dogs-- chaos ensued. I ended up standing on the sidewalk with flexi leads wrapped around my body at all points. We still had major cat excitement, so I did not DARE undo the leashes to untangle them.

The 16 foot leads were reduced to about 1 1/2 feet each. I could only walk in baby steps. The dogs were tethered right up against me and each other, all three of them. They were quite contrite when they realized our predicament.

We baby stepped past the four houses, all the while I was so hoping none of my neighbors were looking out their windows. How embarrassing! We finally got to our house, and my legs were wrapped so tightly, I could not figure out how to get up the three porch steps! I still didn't dare to let them off leash-- so I did three little jumps to get up on the porch. I was never so glad to be home from a walk!

It has gotten easier with time. Although there have been occasions when I've had very active foster dogs that were not as "slow motion" as mine and I have to do two separate walks to keep the peace. Extra exercise for me.

By the way, I walked four hounds on Flexis yesterday at the "gully"; our favorite area for walks. It was cold and not much fun for me, but the dogs loved it. Walking multiple dogs is definitely a learned art...and can be fun for all!

Marilyn Briggs;
UFBH Board of Trustees, Longtime "Foster" and Repeat "Foster-Failure" Mom

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An Adoption Story

From Spencer & Kayley

The following is from a family who came to UFBH less than a year ago to find a friend for their Hank. This story goes from happy to sad and then full circle. Spencer and Kayley have been great hound parents and a wonderful addition to our UFBH family. We share their sadness and their excitement.

Our adoption story has taken some twists and turns over this past year. It started with a mission to find a brother for Hank, our crazy half-breed hound. After months of searching through classified ads, humane societies, and adoption sites, we stumbled on UFBH completely by accident. After falling in love with at least a dozen pictures online, a few excited phone calls and emails, and enjoying some basset hospitality (i.e. slobbering and howling) at a UFBH barbeque, we headed back to Logan with Hank's brother Ozzie: The energizer bunny of bassets.

We enjoyed just over six months with Ozzie before lymphoma hit our family like a tornado. We all struggled with watching Ozzie feel and act less and less like himself until we lost him two months later this past April. Devastated, we again turned to UFBH for support. We recently decided that it was time, not to replace Ozzie, but to add on to our forever family. With both sorrow and anticipation we again packed the car with Hank, ourselves, and an extra leash just in case. After both Carol and Peggy arranged the lineup of hounds in which we'd expressed interest, we once again left a UFBH gathering with gratitude, excitement, and a loving hound named Molly to welcome into our home.

The people at UFBH have been so kind, caring, and selfless in working with our family. We are truly humbled by the gifts this wonderful organization has bestowed on our lives, as well as the lives that our loving hounds touch. We look forward to continued relationships with such amazing and giving people who provide so much and ask for so little. Thank you, UFBH, for all that you do and the smiles you all wear while doing it.

*Big sloppy kisses from Hank & Molly,
and hugs from the whole family.*

Thank you again-UFBH!

Basset Tails?

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boast? Share it with other
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Leash Walking 2 Dogs

When training two dogs, it is best to train them separately. Because dogs learn at different speeds, it is very important to be focused exclusively on one dog at a time. This makes it easier for the trainer/owner to reward the dog promptly...giving the dog immediate feedback. Leash-Walking is no different. Commit to walking each dog separately for a while. Before you walk two dogs together, make certain they are responding well on the leash individually.

Here is the way I train leash-walking. While holding the leash in my right hand I leave about 3 - 4 feet of the leash hanging down so that it is forming a "J." I have the dog on my left side. I also have the treat bag on my left side. If I am using a clicker, I C/T (click and treat) when my dog is walking nicely on the leash (not pulling). Smelling during walks is allowed. The placement of my hand when giving the treat is aligned with the seam of my pants. Therefore, I am not "treating" my dog for being in front of me. I practice this over and over again until my dog gets it! A front hook harness (the Easy Walk) or a head collar (the Gentle Leader) can be useful as well to speed up the learning process.

Not until they are good on the leash alone, is it time to walk your dogs together. When they're ready, you can do so with the head collars, flat collars, or front hook harnesses. I like to walk the dogs so that I have the dogs on opposite sides. Some people, however, find it nice to have both dogs on the same side. There is no right or wrong. It is what works best for you. If you want both dogs on the same side you can use a double-ended dog leash. It is best to get one with a swivel so that the dogs are less likely to get tangled.

Most of all have fun! Happy Training!

Johanna Teresi

Four Legged Scholars

Upcoming Events

Mark it on your Calendar

August 22, 2010 The Park Silly Sunday Market
We'll have a booth- 10:00am-5:00pm.

An eco friendly, open-air market and street festival. Unique and eclectic-local and regional arts and crafts, music and performance art, antiques, imports and one-of-a-kind finds, delicious gourmet foods, and farmers market fruits and vegetables. And our bassets will be there!!

September 30, 2010 Save The Date

A very special event will be held at Red Butte Gardens. Food, music and silent auction.

Meet & Greets

We're going to be trying some new locations for our Meet & Greets. Watch our site and your emails for more information. We hope to continue our M&G at the Sugarhouse Petco on the third Saturday of each month.

TBA Yard Sale

Drop off items any time....next sale date to be announced.

Thanks to all our friends at local businesses for giving us these opportunities to raise the much needed funds to continue our rescue efforts: Petco(Midvale, Sugarhouse, Draper, Park City), Dog's Meow (SLC & Draper)

Please Volunteer your time to help at one of our Meet and Greets.

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Gordon

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