ATRA 2006 Year End Report

The Kentucky 7 + 13

ATRA met a record 301 Airedales in 2006 who found themselves homeless. The year started with shutting down a puppy mill in Kentucky and taking in 7 breeding Airedales – one of which was pregnant and gave birth to 13 puppies a few weeks after the rescue. The conditions they were living in were deplorable, but thanks to a lot of hard work by our volunteers, all of these dogs found their way to new loving homes.

Tootsie

Thanks to a concerned animal lover, ATRA was alerted to a young Airedale living her life on a chain. She had numerous ailments, but the worst was that the man of the house had passed away and no one else wanted her. With a bath, a haircut, vet visits and a lot of TLC, Tootsie found her way to the home of her dreams where she will always feel wanted.

Nick

Nick was a victim of abuse. His owner lived in an apartment that only allowed pets up to 15 pounds. She purchased Nick as a puppy knowing she was moving soon but was starving Nick in order to keep him small. In addition, she did not like Nick's little puppy needle teeth so she jammed his head between a couch and love seat to hold him still while she filed his teeth down. In the tussle that ensued, his front leg was broken. Luckily this owner was found out and Nick found his way to ATRA. Nick is a testament to how resilient these dogs are. He bounced back with gusto after being placed in the loving hands of his new family.

Bea

Bea was adiagnosed with a torn ACL and needed surgery. ATRA was able to give her that surgery and get her on the road to recovery. Bea is looking forward to many years chasing squirrels now. A tough job, but somebody's got to do it. Thanks to ATRA, she's just the gal.

Joplin Ty

Joplin Ty was in an auto accident and was thrown from the car. People on the scene thought he was dead, but he was just in shock and in a lot of pain. He needed extensive surgery to save his life. ATRA was there to help him. We repaired his pelvis fractures and today he is a healthy, happy young Airedale.

Charlie

Charlie was diagnosed with a form of cancer called papillary squamous cell carcinoma. This is a rare type of cancer that affects primarily young male dogs. Charlie had to have most of his upper left jaw removed but the prognosis was good that he would be able to go on and live a normal happy life. His new family is happy that ATRA was there for him.

Princess

Princess came into rescue with an old injury that was never attended to. She was hit by a car and limped on her front leg. The first vet she was taken to said that the leg might have to be amputated. However, another vet suggested therapy. Princess worked out on an exercise ball and did water therapy a couple of times a week. Princess is now able to use her front leg and has not needed surgery.

Goldie

A kind soul had seen Goldie dragging herself across a country road, but by the time they went back, they could not find her. Two weeks later they saw her again under some bushes covered with ice and mats. She was brought into a vet who then notified us. X-rays and tests revealed no physical reason why Goldie could not walk. She also had very bad teeth and was missing her canines in addition to some other problems from being on her own in the mountains of Colorado. We knew we would be facing some high bills for this girl so we started a special fundraising campaign. The outpour of love and donations for her from all over the world was very special. Goldie is a very happy girl and loves to be around people. We will be doing all we can to give her a quality life now that she is in rescue.

These stories are only a small glimpse into all ATRA has done this year to help Airedales in need. In addition, we also accomplished the following:

- We assisted a family who had two members with cancer in transporting their Airedale to Florida and be with his family.
- We completed the new, comprehensive Volunteer Guide
- We launched our new Web site in November.
- We participated in the fundraising opportunity called "Art For Critters." Barbara Keigher has been supporting us with a percentage of sales of her paintings.
- We have continued raising money with e-bay auctions throughout the year.
- Ohio sponsored a Seminaire in Dayton, Ohio
- One of our supporters, Andy DeAngelis , is now printing our newsletter for free.
- We had 3 pups from a litter of 10 test positive for Parvo. All 3 were treated and survived.
- Five puppies from another litter of 10 that ATRA placed in 2005 had genetic hip problems. ATRA assisted with some of the costs for surgery.
- We had a volunteer, Beth Hauck, featured on television in the St. Louis area. She talked about ATRA and Airedale rescue.
- We made a donation to National Airedale Rescue at year end.
- Colorado started a state newsletter to help keep their local volunteers connected.

Expenses were at an all-time high this year – mostly vet expenses. We saw a lot of Airedales come through our hands that needed extra veterinary care. By year end, we were back on track thanks to all of our supporters and volunteers. We look forward to 2007 and anticipate a bright future for ATRA and homeless Airedales.

Sincerely,

Lynn O'Shaughnessy, ATRA President
1721 Peavy Road
Howell, MI 48843
517-546-8303
atra.president@aire-rescue.com