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Intermountain COMPANION

Fall 2014 Edition

Henrietta –

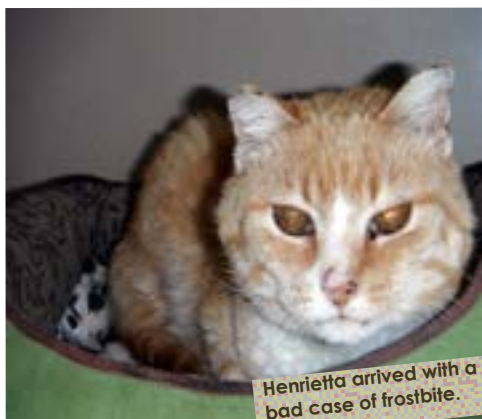
A True Case of Cold Feet!

When Henrietta was transferred to IMHS from an overcrowded shelter in January 2014, it was obvious she needed some attention – emotionally. Likely abandoned or lost, this poor senior cat came to us with a mysteriously chilling background that included a case of frostbite. Poor girl! The lining of her ears had blackened, and her mouth, nose and paw pads had suffered tissue damage as well. While this was permanent damage to her physically, it did not in any way impact her adoptability with the exception of her appearance and being a bit stand offish, a trait common to many cats. To some, she was the most pitiful orange tabby you've ever seen as a result of the frostbite, but to others, that would only make her more endearing. OK, maybe she does walk a little funny, but when it comes to loving a cat, who really cares about that?

Like many volunteer dog walkers do, especially on cold days, Brooke Stoyer would sometimes venture over to the 'cat side' of the shelter to see who needed some extra love and attention while warming up from the bitter cold. Henrietta seemed

so depressed that it was hard to watch and Brooke's heart went out to her. This cat really needed a home! Brooke became a regular visitor, and lavished Henrietta with attention once she was ready. And when Henrietta began to give Brooke a few little head butts to the chest, Brooke knew...Henrietta wanted to come home with her. And that's just when Henrietta captured, and melted, Brooke's heart.

As the saying goes, it's sometimes easier
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Henrietta arrived with a bad case of frostbite.



**IMHS plans to hold a 2nd
Silent Auction**

after the

Conifer Christmas Parade

on

December 6, 2014.

**The auction will be held
at**

Inglenook Energy Center

(on Main Street in Conifer.)

If you or someone you know,
would like to make a donation
for our 2nd auction, please email
us at auction@imhs.org.

INTERMOUNTAIN
HUMANE SOCIETY

serves animals and people by offering programs that promote animal health and responsible pet-stewardship, and foster compassion towards animals.

IMHS is nonprofit organization established in 1982.

SPOTLIGHT ON BOARD MEMBER

Cheryl Ide, President

Cheryl transplanted from Maine to Colorado in 1996. She was first introduced to IMHS when she adopted Onyx and Topaz, her shelter-born sibling felines, in 2004. Cheryl has volunteered for a number of IMHS events over the years, including the inaugural Canine Carnival as well as numerous silent auctions. Cheryl currently works as a consultant to the eLearning Industry and previously served two terms as President of Colorado Business Women, a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening the lives of women in business. Cheryl’s experience brings project management, non-profit leadership and strategic planning, as well as training and development expertise to the IMHS family. She currently shares her Bailey home with 20 paws and another pair of feet. Contact Cheryl at cheryl.ide@imhs.org.

At IMHS, our vision is to:

- Serve, educate and inspire the community to advance the welfare of animals and elevate their value in society.
- Safeguard, rescue, shelter, adopt out and advocate for animals in need.
- Act as a lifeline to underserved regional shelters.
- Maintain our 100% placement rate for adoptable animals.
- Reduce dog and cat overpopulation through spay, neuter and education.



Like us on Facebook! Visit our page at Intermountain Humane Society. Albums are updated frequently to feature animals available for adoption...you can help the animals by sharing our news and "Adoptables" albums with your FB friends!

2014 IMHS Silent Auction Results

The 2014 Annual IMHS Silent Auction was held on Sunday, August 10 at Greenfields Pool and Sports Bar in Lakewood, Colorado. The decision to move to a location ‘down the hill’ was prompted by the tremendous success we’ve had in the last few years in obtaining donations and the loud message we were receiving from patrons about having only one auction, instead of multiple auctions, during the event. Our decision was one that was carefully considered and, after weighing all of the pros- and cons- about it, we were happy it was well-received and we gained a tremendous number of new IMHS supporters. We were very lucky to have musical guests, Pine Junction Acoustic, donate their time by playing during the event for the auction-goers listening pleasure.

This year was a banner year for donations to our auction, with over \$30,000 in donated items, certificates and services from businesses all over Bailey, Conifer, Evergreen, Pine, Lakewood and beyond. We sincerely appreciate all of the support given to IMHS by our surrounding communities. A smaller than normal crowd took advantage of many of the great deals in our auction and we raised over \$8,000 for our shelter animals during the event. With plenty of items left over and more effort by our phenomenal fundraising team, IMHS plans to hold a 2nd Silent Auction this year following the Conifer Christmas Parade on December 6, 2014. The auction will be held at Inglenook Energy Center on Main Street in Conifer. If you or someone you know, would like to make a donation for our 2nd auction, please email us at auction@imhs.org.

Preparing for the annual auction takes a lot of time and effort, year-round, by our fundraising team and Silent Auction Committee, and we would love to have more volunteers be part of this great event and help us in our efforts to prepare. If you have a love for animals and want to help us by sending emails to corporations for donations, hand-delivering request letters, following up with businesses with phone calls, making baskets or preparing bid-sheets, we would love to have your help! We’ve learned a lot about how to make the auction better each time we hold it and the more people we have assisting us, the easier it is! Please email us at auction@imhs.org if you would like to join our team, we will be more than happy to put your skills into action to help us out with this great event!

IMHS Shelter Adoption Hours

Open daily 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Closed on major holidays

Can't come to the shelter? ADOPT offsite!

Lovable IMHS felines are available for adoption 7 days/week at several Denver-area PetSmart and Petco locations. Visit IMHS.org for details!

IMHS Second Chance Thrift Shop Hours

Open Tuesday–Sunday from 10:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Closed Mondays

EVERYDAY HEROES NEEDED!

IMHS MAKES VOLUNTEERING EASY!

Let's face facts. Our schedules are hectic, our jobs are stressful, our families keep us running ragged, and we never seem to have enough time to get our lives together. For many folks, making a daily or weekly commitment to volunteer at IMHS somehow makes us feel more relaxed - even though we didn't think we could fit one more thing into our schedules. When you volunteer to help the animals, you are also helping yourself. It's a proven fact that spending time with cats and dogs can help lower your blood pressure, lessen anxiety, boost your immunity, and contribute to an overall sense of well-being.

Once you fill out an application and go through our orientation, you are welcome to volunteer. The staff at IMHS will help you find your niche along with a schedule that works for everyone.

Oh, and the biggest perk of all - never ending love from all the animals!

CHEW ON THIS!

IMHS, PETSMART AND PETCO UNITE! -IMHS’ partnership with Petsmart and Petco retailers continue to grow. This relationship allows IMHS to transfer adoptable cats into their adoption room for ample exposure, resulting in quick placement into forever homes!

In addition, several weekends a month IMHS load the shelter van with adoptable cats and dogs to participate in adoption events at one of the retailer locations. With each adoption made, Petsmart gives an extra \$30 back to IMHS while also providing to the adopter a valuable packet of coupons, discount on dog training classes and a free bag of food, a win-win for all!

Our partnership has helped substantially increase the overall adoption rate for both cats and dogs of IMHS.

Memoirs of a ... continued from page 1



to ask forgiveness than permission. And Brooke knew that Ken, her husband, had already mandated that no more cats were to be brought home. After losing their last cat, Bart, to cancer six months earlier, Brooke really felt Henrietta could fill the void, and they could provide her with the love she so much deserved. When Brooke finally adopted and brought Henrietta home, there was absolutely no dissent. Ken fell in love immediately, and renamed the cat to Precious – because she immediately worked her way into his heart. And the love was even more obvious to son Lars, age 13 (about the same age as his new furry friend) , who was really the one that Precious took to the quickest. He is really a cat person – and Precious seemed to pick up on that immediately – and decided to trust him, along with the rest of the family, including Bear, their 17 year old cat.

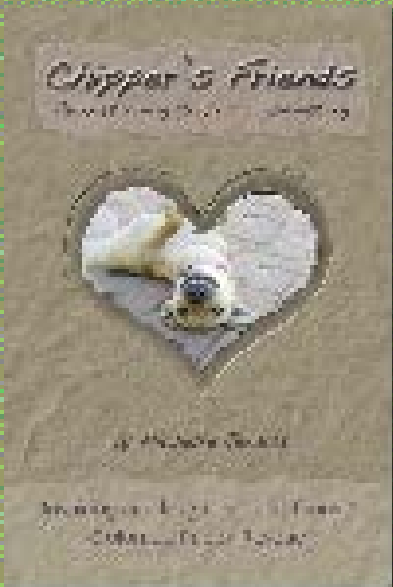
The family promised to keep her warm (and loved) forever and ever. Precious is now living large with her new family, spending her days lounging and basking in the sun, sometimes under the personal portrait of Bart (painted by Brooke), posed and ready to be painted herself. Precious enjoys “coffee talk” with daddy Ken as part of their



“morning loving” routine, and cuddling up with him on the couch for naps is tops on the to do list in this household. No more chance of frostbite for this glamour gal!

SNAPSHOTS FROM THE WAGS & PURRRS BOARD

2013 IMHS Adoption Desk Snapshots:
Going Into Their Forever Homes...



Chipper's Friends: The heartwarming story of an imperfect dog. (Who, by the way, lives in Bailey, Colorado)!

Come, Sit, and Say Hello to a therapy dog dropout named Chipper, and the people who love her. This funny, touching story—narrated by Chipper herself—proves that you don't have to be perfect to make a difference. It is sure to leave a paw print on your heart!

This book would make a great Christmas gift for \$15 and Chipper donates all of the proceeds to IMHS!





King Soopers and Safeway Reloadable Gift Cards

These cards make a great gift while helping the IMHS animals at the same time!

The cards work the same as cash and are sold in \$10 increments. After a set amount has been reached, IMHS receives a bonus check from the store.

The \$10 pre-loaded cards can be purchased at the IMHS shelter with cash, check, or credit card.

You're already going to the store, so it's an easy way to help the animals as well!



Your Gift Makes a Difference to the Animals!

TO MAKE A DONATION TO IMHS:

Visit our website at IMHS.org or mail your check to IMHS, PO Box 1250, Conifer, CO 80433. Your gift is 100% tax-deductible and your support for our work is enormously appreciated!

BECOME AN IMHS MEMBER TODAY!

Membership makes a great gift too!

Save animals, save money with new, expanded membership benefits!

- **Save 10% in the shelter (on adoptions and retail items!)**
- **Save 10% on all purchases at our highly acclaimed Second Chance Thrift Shop**
- **Receive IMHS newsletters**
- **Enjoy voting privileges at IMHS meetings**
- **Discounts offered at a growing number local area businesses**
- **Further expansion of benefits actively in progress... stay tuned for more details!**

Please check out our business partners in the “About Us” section of the IMHS website at <http://www.imhs.org> for more details!

Apple & Peanut Butter Treats

4 C Whole Wheat Flour
3/4 C Quick-cooking oats
1/4 C Wheat Germ
1/2 C all-natural, unsweetened applesauce
1/2 C all-natural peanut butter (no sugar or salt added)
1 1/2 C Water
2 tsp Pure Vanilla Extract
1 Egg

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. In a large bowl, combine all ingredients; mix well.
2. On a floured surface, knead the dough until it is firm.
3. Roll the dough to a 1/2” thickness. Cut with the cookie cutter of your choice (a juice glass works well). Transfer cookies to a baking sheet.
4. Bake for 45 minutes. Turn off the heat; let the cookies stand in the oven until hard, 1 - 2 hours.

Makes about 6 dozen, 2” round cookies.

Recipe from “Homemade Treats for Happy, Healthy Dogs” by Cheryl Gianfrancesco. A Storey Country Wisdom Bulletin.

Volunteer Spotlight- Keely Vaughan

I am going on my third year of volunteering with Intermountain Humane Society, but my journey with rescue dogs (and later cats) really began in 2007, when I adopted my first dog, Charlie, from The Humane Society of Boulder Valley. Charlie's background was vague, but he was missing his left ear and he was pretty shy, so my guess is that he didn't get a great start in life. While touring the facility, that would ultimately lead me to Charlie, I greeted each scared but loving dog. Call me naive, but up until that point, I was really under the impression that animals shelters were dark and scary places, where aggressive dogs barked and lunged at you as you passed their kennel. I could not have been more wrong. As I walked around the shelter, I was struck by the intense and urgent need to support homeless animals in our state and across the country, not because so many dogs and cats LACKED loving and safe homes, but because so many dogs and cats DESERVED loving and safe homes. I could have taken any one of those precious souls home, but I chose Charlie, or he chose me. Regardless, with a little love and patience, he touched the lives of every person he met, especially mine. Unfortunately, Charlie only lived with me for two short years; he passed away suddenly from a large brain tumor. Although devastated by his loss, Charlie had taught me to be patient and kind, and so I vowed that I would honor his life by helping as many homeless dogs and cats as I could. And so now, you can find me, every Sunday, surrounded by the loving and deserving 4-legged souls at IMHS.

I started volunteering with IMHS during the summer of 2012. I had found myself living in Conifer temporarily, and one of the first things I did was look for a local animal shelter where I could volunteer some of my time. My role started out as the, “Sunday afternoon dog walker,” and I can still remember my very first task at IMHS. Marta, the director at the time, handed me a spoon and a can of dog food, and asked me to try to feed one of the newest intakes, Gretchen, an elderly shepherd mix. She wasn't feeling well and needed a little encouragement to eat. I quickly found myself squeezing into a dog house with sweet Gretchen and with some gentle coaxing, she eventually began to eat from my hand; I even got a little tail wag! I knew right then and there, that I was in this for the long haul. I am still considered the, “Sunday afternoon dog walker,” but my duties have expanded the more time I have spent at the shelter. I've learned how to clean and disinfect kennels, bathe dogs transferred in with mange, assist with the medical care of sick pups, provide a foster home for elderly cats, fold countless towels, bottle feed the teeniest of kittens, and wash ceiling high stacks of dishes. My most important task however, remains the time I spend with the dogs each weekend, providing enrichment. This can include everything from playing fetch in the play yards, going for a long walk, or snuggling and giving belly rubs. You can see a change in their spirit during those moments together, and I know those moments help to sustain them until they find their perfect home. I love volunteering at IMHS because it's small and valuable. You really get the opportunity to know each animal and build relationships with the people that work there and other volunteers, and you can really see the difference that you make. Although I don't live in Conifer anymore, I still find myself making the trek up 285 each weekend because I believe in our mission and I know we are making a difference for the animals in our community and beyond.

IMHS WISH LIST



The shelter uses the following items often and has an ongoing need for the supplies listed. Your donation of the items listed below is tax-deductible. IMHS relies solely on donations and the generosity of the community in order to fulfill our mission. Heartfelt thanks for your compassion and support!

Non-toxic and pet friendly ice melt

Twin/full size comforters

Used medical “Scrubs” or other protective clothing

Towels and wash cloths of all sizes, Paper towels

Laundry detergent, Liquid dish soap, Bleach

Hand sanitizer, Rubber gloves

Mops, mop head replacements, brooms and dustpans

Ziploc baggies of all sizes, 30-45 gallon trash bags

Distilled water by the gallon

Dry cat and dog food, Puppy/kitten and adult formulas

Canned cat and dog food, - Puppy/kitten and adult formulas

Baby food, chicken or turkey only, Pedialyte and canned pumpkin

Peanut butter

Clay non-clumping cat litter

Wood stove pellets (used as cat litter)

Copy paper, business envelopes,

1st class postage stamps and office supplies



Mr. Fix-it - Thrift Shop Star

Why do some volunteer based businesses, with nearly identical purposes and objectives, thrive and others fail? A good place to begin is to understand how the surrounding supported community values the type of goods and services the business offers. If certain needs exist and a certain business addresses those needs, one would expect the business to achieve a reasonable degree of success. But, just how successful the business becomes rests squarely with those volunteers who are the backbone of its operations. An enthusiastic and unselfish staff makes all the difference. This is what we find at the IMHS Second Hand Thrift Store. Our treasured volunteers sort the donations, stock the shelves, man the cash register and do it all in support of not only the community, but, more importantly, our "furry friends" who receive 100% of the funds the store's operations generate. Without their commitment and passion, the doors would have closed long ago.

To single out any one volunteer for specific recognition and praise would, in most instances, be an impossible task. Yet, perhaps the words enthusiastically expressed by other store volunteers when asked to select the one co-worker they hold in the highest regard help us to do just that: awesome, kind, sweet, forgiving, humble, devoted, dedicated, patient, easy-going, knowledgeable, multi-talented and meticulous. He is a "Mr. Fix-it" among "Mr. Fix-its" – if something is fixable, it will get fixed! Such is Darrel Bennett. His calming demeanor, pleasing sense of humor and gracious presence are instrumental to keeping the staff focused and the store running smoothly. Our weekend customers regularly ask for assistance from the "friendly" gentleman who is always there.

Darrel is without a doubt the key behind the thrift stores' continuing success. We cannot praise him enough for his invaluable service to our cause and words seem far too inadequate to express just how much he means to all of us.

VOLUNTEER VETERINARIANS

IMHS has a new team of dedicated volunteer Veterinarians, Dr. Leticia German, and CVT Michelle Cotton. In the first 3 weeks of the reopening of our surgical clinic on September 17, 2014, 21 spay and/or neuter surgeries, 4 dental surgeries and one eye enucleation of an injured cat were successfully completed. All of these animals



were transferred in by IMHS from other over crowded, high kill shelters.

All of this would not be made possible without the continued support of gracious donors. With funding we can continue to purchase medications, supplies and surgical equipment needed to help reduce dog and cat overpopulation through spay, neuter and education and maintain our 100% placement rate for adoptable animals.

Paisley, a young 1-2 year old female cat was transferred to IMHS being labeled as unadoptable from another shelter in Denver. She came to us underweight, terrified and in pain. She was in desperate need for the removal of her injured eyeball. After examination it was discovered that before a surgery could take place to relieve her of her discomfort she also had a bacterial infection surrounding the injury sight that called for a one week treatment of oral antibiotics. The eye enucleation took place in the IMHS clinic and the surgery went smoothly and successful. Paisley has since made a full recovery from surgery and has found her forever home!

Help IMHS by donating towards specially designed funds such as the, 'Fix 'Em Up' Spay and Neuter Program. These essential funds guarantee that all animals coming into the IMHS system are sterilized prior to adoption. This policy is strictly enforced by IMHS and is central to our efforts to combat pet over population. Or, donate to our 'SNAP' Special-Needs-Assistance-Program. Funds from this program help specific animals, such as Paisley, requiring non-routine veterinary care (e.g., extraordinary treatments or surgeries extending beyond spay/neuter or routine vaccinations).

There is no dollar amount too small when helping to save the life of an animal in need!

Tale of Two Chases



Our first Chase came to IMHS in August, 2013, a 5 year old un-neutered male picked up by Park County Animal Control. This extra-large, handsome Chesapeake Bay Retriever/Shepard mix obviously loved people, maybe even a little too much! He jumped on everyone he met, attempting to show his affection. His leash manners were non-existent, and he seemed to have one goal in life – to chase! As we worked with him, his leash manners got better and he learned basic obedience. While underweight when he arrived, the constant training which included plenty of treats, quickly helped get him healthy. He knew that almost every car pulling into the parking lot might have someone who either wanted to play with him or walk him, and he would bark wildly to gain attention. Once he got that attention, he became devoted to the IMHS staff, volunteers, and dog walkers. In turn, they became devoted to Chase. My husband and I, who walk dogs at the shelter weekly, quickly fell in love with Chase and felt confident he would find a forever home quickly now that his manners had improved. We couldn't be more wrong! Week after week our emotions were conflicted – happy to spend time with Chase, but sad that he had not yet been adopted. Chase was not only a favorite of the IMHS regulars, but proved to be quite the playmate to the other shelter dogs. So if there wasn't a person to take him out, the lively games in the play yards seemed nonstop. By all accounts, he had really turned into a great dog, and when the weeks turned into months, we couldn't figure out why the perfect family hadn't found him yet. His playmates kept getting adopted, but poor Chase remained at the shelter.

At that point, both my husband and I had become very attached to Chase, but with 4 dogs already living with us, adopting a fifth was really out of the question. However, we worked to rearrange our schedules so that after our Saturday dog walking shift was over, he could come and stay at our house for the night. It's always good to observe a dog in a home environment, allowing us to shed more light on his behaviors to potential adopters. At times when the shelter became slightly overcrowded, we once again rearranged our lives and often kept him for 3 or 4 days at a time. He had good house manners, got along with all of our dogs, and enjoyed romping in our ¼ acre fenced yard. His desire to escape began to wane as he became more and more attached to us and began to feel a part of the family. Returning him to the shelter was always a sad time for us, but he needed to be exposed to as many potential adopters who often just dropped by the shelter to 'look around'. We knew sooner or later someone would figure out how great he was. We sure hoped it was sooner rather than later as he had captured our hearts. At this point, Chase had been at the shelter for over nine months, way too long for a super adoptable dog.

I was there that day in mid-February of 2014 when Floyd and two of his sons came to the shelter looking for a playmate for their current pup. They visited with a couple of dogs, but did seem to be drawn to Chase, and I hoped and hoped that this family would be the one. While originally looking for a younger dog, Chase's story and long stay at the shelter touched their hearts and they immediately recognized all his good qualities. Later that day, they brought their dog, Dash, to visit Chase to see if it would be a good match. The names alone gave us hope, was this a sign? Chase and Dash – it just sounded so perfect! Sure enough, the two dogs got along and played like old pals, and the decision was made – Chase would go to live with his new pal Dash and his forever family. According to the DuBart family, Chase has attached himself to all of the two legged family members as well, serving as both pal and protector. He spends his night sleeping next to his new parents, and his days playing and cuddling up with Dash. With two acres to roam, Chases gets plenty of exercise, but his favorite things to do is to velcro himself to the family members and accompany them wherever they go. He also serves as a mentor to young pup Dash – teaching him good behavior and providing him with lots of play time.

For those of us who know Chase, we know he could find a way to escape his new home.



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Lori Lombardi
Shelter Director

Sandy Dugle
Lead Shelter Associate

Gemma Greer
Shelter Associate

Helen Rosario-Bird
Shelter Associate

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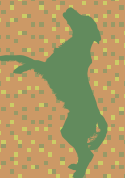
Lauren Drabble

Rebecca Gschwend

Dorothy Matthews

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Board Meetings are held the third TUESDAY of every month at Designing Spirits - 25797 Conifer Rd Unit B208b, Conifer, CO. Still a 5:30pm start time.



But according to his new dad Floyd, Chase chooses to hang close to them. He seems to know that he has finally found “the perfect home” and no longer has the need to go running. Wife Marti, and sons Jackson (15), Sonny (11) and Holden (10) are all equally devoted to their new family addition, and consider him a “the best dog, a true dream come true” for everyone. And how long did it take for everyone to fall in love? It was instantaneous! One final note for the Chase fan club – he can often be found at Crossroads Bar and Grill on Wednesdays, meeting and greeting folks, and doling out love to all.

Our next Chase was an owner surrender and arrived at IMHS in May of 2014 – and we weren’t sure he had such a great life. He was the complete opposite of our first Chase. As I took him for his first walk to try to evaluate him, it seemed that everything was new to him, and he was scared of just about everything. It was very possible he had never been out of his original home or off his property as simple things like kicking a rock or the wind blowing thru the leaves make him tuck his tail between his legs and let out a bit of a whimper. We trudged on, and he seemed to realize that the outside world might not actually be a horrible place. Chase #2 took a bit of time to adjust to shelter life but as time passed, that tucked tail began to perk up and wag as he began to enjoy walks and playtime with the other shelter dogs. It did take him a bit of time to learn to play, and I suspect he didn’t have many positive interactions with people or other dogs. Once he began to blossom at the shelter, we knew, once again, it was time to see how he behaved in a home, and once again, my husband and I were somehow elected to be his try-out home.

His initial reactions to so many things in our home was fear. The first thing he did was to inspect all the kennels in the house to find himself a ‘safe place’. That in itself told us that his prior home probably kept him kenneled a majority of the time, and he knew nothing bad could happen if he was in a kennel. We let him hang out in the kennel until his fear subsided and he began to explore the house. That in itself was another obstacle, as everything new petrified him. We were careful not to force him into anything, but instead gave him the space he needed to find comfort. When bedtime came, my husband, myself, and our 4 dogs ventured upstairs, Chase planted himself at the foot of the steps and refused to move. Instead of forcing him, we coaxed, cajoled, and sent our own dogs up and down the steps to prove to him there was nothing to be scared of. Finally, he gained the confidence to give those big old scary steps a try and by the end of the weekend he actually thought ‘stairs’ was a game – up and down, up and down, up and down! One fear conquered but we were sure there would be many more. However, since he had come such a long way in a short time, we knew with the right owner, someone with the brains to realize his potential, and the patience to allow him to learn things at his own pace and not be forced into things, he was definitely adoptable.



When Jim Crisafi arrived at the shelter on a beautiful Saturday morning in July, thinking of adopting a dog, we had a few good candidates for him. However, when he mentioned that he specifically needed a dog that would not bother or go after the neighbor dogs, we thought of Chase. Although Chase was at an adoption event that day, Jim decided he would come back to the shelter to meet him.

Chase is now living the life he deserves. Jim also suspects that Chase’s early years were not happy ones. He is still scared of many things, but with patience and a few small changes, Chase has become a happy, loving, and trusting dog with his new dad. They walk together 3 to 5 times a day, which helped build the trust the two now share. The tail tuck is more of a rarity these days, and with Jim’s patience, Chase has learned to have lots of fun. And

if something scares him, Jim is there for him – whether it’s to comfort him, to teach him that the world is not scary, or just let him come around to things in his own time. Chase is now becoming the dog he was meant to be. The things that scare a dog are often mysterious. First, Chase refused to eat in the kitchen, and who knew why? Jim suspected there must be something in the kitchen making him uncomfortable, and worked to find it. It was the trash can! Our best bet – Chase must have gotten into trouble for getting into trash and became petrified of the can after punishments. Simple enough to solve – Jim moved the trash can, and voila, Chase will now eat in the kitchen. The tail tuck even returned when Jim grabbed a fly swatter to get rid of a pesky insect. Could it be that Chase was hit with a fly swatter? Who knows, but lucky for Chase that Jim is there to observe and help him navigate what everyone else considers basic in their surroundings. Their bond is amazing, and Jim is always working to help him grow. He even enjoyed attending a birthday party for Jim’s four year old granddaughter. Whenever Jim goes somewhere, if Chase wants to come, he can. And if for some reason Chase doesn’t want to, he gets to enjoy the luxury of his outdoor 6 x 16 fenced pen with a roof, or if he prefers, he can crawl into his dog bed under the desk that he loves so much.

IMHS couldn’t be more grateful that we have such kind hearted people in our community to see past issues that often prevent dogs from being adopted, and give them the love and patience which allows them to blossom. And since this A Tale of Two Chases, I can’t help but close with a line from Mark Twain’s A Tale of Two Cities that just seems to fit...."The time will come, the time will not be long in coming, when new ties will be formed about you--ties that will bind you yet more tenderly and strongly to the home you so adorn--the dearest ties that will ever grace and gladden you".



Help Us Save More Animals Than Ever This Year!

Support our ambitious plans to expand our programs and services this year by making your tax-deductible gift to IMHS online at www.imhs.org or select from any of the funds below and mail in the reply form to IMHS, PO Box 1250, Conifer, CO 80433. Thank you for your generosity and support!

Yes! I Want to Support the Life-Saving Efforts of IMHS! Here’s my contribution of \$_____

Enclose Check or Visa/Mastercard (circle one) Card Number_____ Exp. Date_____

Your Name:_____ Address:_____

City, State, Zip:_____ Telephone:_____

E-Mail:_____ Contact me about volunteer opportunities: Yes No

Specially Designated Funds

☐ **Rescue the Rescuers** — Your support of this fund helps with the most urgent operating needs of the IMHS shelter.

☐ **‘Fix ’Em Up’ Spay and Neuter Program** — These essential funds guarantee that all animals coming in to the IMHS system are sterilized prior to adoption. This policy is strictly enforced by IMHS and is central to our efforts to combat pet overpopulation.

☐ **‘Home Away From Home’ Foster Program** — IMHS relies upon the assistance of approved foster families to house and care for many of the pets in our system. While foster families freely give love, shelter and basic training to these pets, IMHS is responsible for their food, bedding and veterinary care. Your contribution to this program will help cover these costs.

☐ **‘STOP’ Shelter-Transfer-Outreach-Program** — IMHS is actively committed to the rescue and care of animals from underserved shelters in our region. As a prime destination shelter, IMHS acts as a lifeline for animals who may otherwise be destined for euthanasia. Your contribution to the STOP program supports our rescue efforts and ensures that all these pets are afforded the full IMHS standard of care.

☐ **‘Go Dog Go’ Project** — Contribute “gas money” for the IMHS van to transport pets in the STOP program as well as on routine trips to/from the vet or to offsite adoption locations, etc. This fund also covers maintenance costs for the van.

☐ **‘SNAP’ Special-Needs-Assistance-Program** — Funds from this program help specific animals requiring non-routine veterinary care (e.g., extraordinary treatments or surgeries extending beyond spay/neuter or routine vaccinations).

☐ **‘Raising the Walls’ Fund** — Contribute to the future of IMHS through this restricted fund created to finance the establishment of a new animal care facility.

☐ **Sponsor a Cage** – Help shelter residents during their time at IMHS by covering the cost of care for a specified period of time. A special message, dedication, and/or recognition certificate is posted on a shelter animal’s cage for the length of your sponsorship period.