

The

Sheltie Gazette

SOUTHLAND SHELTYE RESCUE, INC.

We'll have a howling good time!!



We are having a picnic on **Saturday, October 25th** and invite everyone to attend and bring your dogs! Please bring your own lunch and snacks. Rescue will provide the paper plates, napkins, silverware and drinks. Start time is 10 a.m. and the picnic will be at Memorial Park in Sierra Madre (driving directions are on the back of this newsletter).

It wouldn't be a Fall picnic without our Halloween Costume Party so let's dress our dogs in their very best attire. We will have prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.



We will also have a **raffle** headed up by Barbara Bushka and we welcome any raffle prizes you can donate. Contact Barbara for more information or to deliver raffle items in advance at 661-296-2879 or email at sheltielvr2@yahoo.com. Your donations are precious to us and they're tax deductible! Every ticket sold means more money to help the Shelties in need.

You can arrange to drop off your donation(s) ahead of time (contact Barbara Bushka) or you can bring it to the picnic. If you plan to bring your donation(s) to the picnic, please plan to have it there by 9:15 a.m. If you aren't able to be to the park that early, please bring it anyway and we'll use it at our next picnic.



We Need Your Help!

In addition to donating on our website (we take PayPal!!), you can help the Shelties out when shopping for groceries! If you are a *Ralphs club card* member, you can choose SSRI to receive a portion of your purchases in the Ralphs Community Contribution Program (registration is annually on September 1st). Donations can also be sent directly to Secretary/ Treasurer Bonnie Diener at: 524 E. Sierra Madre Bl., Sierra Madre, CA 91024 ~ Thank you from the Shelties ♥



Furever Homes Found!

Welcome home Penny! (the goofball formerly known as Lisa)

At the Spring Sheltie Picnic of 2023, I heard Kathy Parsons talking about possible Shelties coming in from Korea in the next few months. I mentioned that I would be happy to go to LAX and pick up and foster one of these Shelties. On May 26th, me, my husband, and our friend Barbara drove down to LAX International and anxiously awaited this Sheltie's arrival. We met a lovely couple who had flown in from Korea with a Sheltie named Lisa. I was expecting a 4-year-old female, but it turned out that she was just 8 months old, only a few months younger than our Skye. Oh boy, two puppies to raise together!



We brought "Lisa" to our vet in Santa Clarita. We were told not to open the crate until we got to the vet's office. When we got there, this adorable sweet 8-month-old burst out of the crate and covered the vet with kisses! Freedom at last! Our fantastic vet, Dr. Laura, just hugged her and let her get her energy out! We then had her checked out and brought her home. We introduced "Lisa" to the "men" of the house – Skye the pup and Mercer our sweet and gentle old man. "Lisa" and Skye quickly became fast friends. After getting a bath, she got up on the couch and turned over for a snooze and it was at this point my husband told me we had to keep her. I think she chose us!

We then started discussing names as "Lisa" did not respond to her name. My husband, Don, and I used to watch Sky King on TV as kids and "Lisa" is a beautiful copper color, so we decided on Penny. In the show, Sky King's niece is named Penny; it stuck, and the rest is history!

Penny and Skye love to play together, sleep together, and learn from each other! Skye has become more confident as a Therapy Dog, going to visit schools and libraries and Penny just loves people and life! We hope Penny will be ready to be a Therapy Dog one day so she will be able to "work" at our local hospital and visit schools and libraries. Her exuberance and zest for life need to be a bit more under control. Penny just loves everybody and wants to jump up and give everyone she meets kisses! She has such a "goofy" personality, and we love her crazy antics!



Penny loves to play and when she gets the zoomies, look out! Even Skye just sits and watches. This Sheltie has speed and is very agile. Maybe agility is her future. Thanks to Kathy and Barbara Bushka for allowing us to bring Penny into our pack!

~~~Mary, sounds like Penny is right where she belongs and we at SSRI are so happy that an overheard conversation turned into something wonderful for all!

## In Loving Memory



In July of 2014, SSRI participated in caring for and re-homing 61 Shelties rescued from a former breeder's backyard and taken to the Riverside Animal Control. We let SSRI know that we would like to help in any way we could. We got a call in October of 2014 telling us Mercer was available and asking if we would be willing to foster him. Mercer was so scared on the drive home but our sweet calm, shy Fiona watched over him. This poor boy was afraid of his own shadow and most especially people. Mercer was not socialized and feared us touching him!

Mercer was terribly thin, and his teeth were in bad shape. A trip to the vet involved undergoing dental cleaning with the vet calling in middle of it to tell us he had to remove some (18!) of the rotten teeth. This did not slow Mercer down for long, he ate as if every meal was his last. He was such a shy and submissive boy he likely missed a lot of food. We still wonder how they managed to feed 61 dogs.

Mercer was not potty trained but with encouragement and good modeling from our Fiona, he learned about going potty outside on the grass. He also, with time, learned how to use the doggie door thanks to both Fiona and Tinker.

In the beginning, Mercer would not leave the house even when Fiona and Tinker would go for a ride to the park. Then, one day he walked into the garage and hopped in the car. He wouldn't get out at the park that day, but after some time, he decided to try it. Again, having Fiona and Tinker to "show him the ropes" had to have helped. There were so many things that scared Mercer. Eventually, we were able to pet Mercer, but it took many months and a lot of patience. He learned, in time, to trust us.

Mercer was always very shy, but in the last few years he as he was losing his sight and hearing, people seemed to become less scary to him, so he let friends who came to visit pet him. He loved being petted and I think he was making up for lost time! I always said after he learned to let people pet him and became a real dog, he would die. Sadly, I wasn't too far off on that prediction.

After losing Fiona to cancer, we were afraid we would lose Mercer as he was so attached to her. Instead, he found a new calling in life, helping to raise our new Sheltie puppy, Skye, continuing Fiona's teaching and showing Skye the ropes as Fiona once did with him.

We did everything we could to make sure Mercer had a comfortable life. He traveled with us although he loved staying home. He stayed in hotels in Cambria and visited the beach although he was not too fond of the sand!



He went for walks, went to Starbucks for pup cups, rode in the car, loved to be brushed, loved to eat, loved his treats, and loved to be touched! Mercer was a great Sheltie boy, and we share so many wonderful memories of him.

We think Mercer was about 5 when we adopted him. Yes, we were Foster Failures and proud of it! While my husband says Mercer was 19, I think he was closer to 16 or 17! We loved Mercer, miss him terribly, and are so glad he was part of our family/pack!

~~~Mary, the love you and your family (two-legged & four) shared is so evident in your story. We at SSRI share your grief but also take comfort knowing what a wonderful life he had with you all.



THE SHELTYE GAZETTE

Rescue's Wish List

Foster homes are always needed! As are volunteers to scout shelters, transport Shelties and do home visits. Donations wish list:

- ☞ Certificates for gas, food, grooming, training, carpet cleaning
- ☞ Frontline Plus or Advantage
- ☞ Washable beds, blankets, towels
- ☞ Training treats and toys
- ☞ Postage stamps
- ☞ Amazon Gift Cards



FALL EDITION 2025

We Our Foster Families & Volunteers!

SSRI extends a HUGE shout-out and HUGS of gratitude to our fosters!

We also want to share our love for, and appreciation of, all our volunteers; we couldn't do this without you!

~ Thank you from the SSRI Team

Southland Sheltie Rescue, Inc.
C/O Dana King
26541 Sotelo
Mission Viejo, CA 92692

Fall Picnic: Saturday, October 25th, 2024 at 10 a.m.

Sierra Madre Memorial Park, 222 West Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre CA 91024

Directions to Memorial Park, Sierra Madre, CA.

From the West:

- 210 fwy. East and exit Baldwin Avenue
- Go north to Sierra Madre Blvd., turn left
- Memorial Park is on the left side of the street at the corner of Sierra Madre Blvd. and Hermosa

From the East:

- 210 fwy. West and exit Baldwin Avenue
- Go north on Sierra Madre Blvd., turn left
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