



Mastiff Rescue of Florida, Inc.

A 501(c)(3) Not for Profit Corporation

Mastiff Rescue of Florida Winter 2018

Mastiff Rescue of Florida is a 501©3 non-profit organization founded to meet the needs of English Mastiffs throughout the State of Florida. These dogs, through no fault of their own, are not able to stay with their owners. We are an all-volunteer rescue that works to find forever homes and to educate the public about these gentle giants.

A MESSAGE FROM PAM...

Happy New Year,

We could not of made 2017 without your support, fostering, adopting, volunteering and being there! Mastiff Rescue of Florida has had one of the toughest years so far...but we have come out ahead by helping so many mastiffs, mastiff wannabes and Daniffs. We are a RESCUE FIRST and help where we can. If we had a foster, we were able to save the dog..if we had a rescue that wanted the dog, we pulled the dog and if it was an "Oldie but Goodie".....WE ALWAYS HAD ROOM!

The numbers this year are up there...89... 2 coming in the very end of the year so not sure where to put them.. We have 30 "Oldie but Goodies" in the family , 10 came in this year and we lost 6 to the Rainbow Bridge. Sammy presented us with 7 puppies in December 2016...which Mama Katy and Aunt Cheryl made certain they went to wonderful homes in Feb 2017...then in August we took in 8 fabulous Daniff puppies ..Again, Mama Katy and Aunt Cheryl made certain they were well cared for and went to wonderful homes. We rescued several mastiff wannabes.. St Bernard's, mixes, Frenchie, Daniffs and a Fila..7. We have 4 in Special Needs, with kidney and immune problems. We returned 1 mastiff(that we rescued out of Polk County during the hurricane) to a very reputable breeder.. Julie Wade. We also returned another Daniff to his owner. We brought in 31- 4 months old to 6 1/2 years old English Mastiffs ..5 of those were Shelter dogs and 26 of those owner surrender. To say it has been busy is an

understatement....Full-blooded English brought in 48 including the 7 puppies and the 10 Oldies. Amazing... the volunteers made it happen they are all in wonderful homes.

When you look at the statistics we have so much to be very Thank full for!

MRF is getting higher numbers. society has changed, different values and now very disposable. It is very sad to see the dogs and the homes they are coming from. Our volunteers are having to be more understanding, patient...which is hard and emotional for all. Rescue each year gets harder..for all of us. MRF does its very best. The MRF is a team..the unfortunate part is the rescue must be run more like a business everyday...we are a 501c3, a charity.. we depend on DONATIONS to keep us going. Grants are getting harder and harder to get..as there are so many applying..BECAUSE there are so many animals going into rescue.

MRF will continue to strive to help and re-home English Mastiffs. We are a dedicated bunch and appreciate your support.

Thank you and wishing you the very best 2018,

Pam Boswell

IN THIS ISSUE



Ear Care

Learn tips from a pro how to successfully keep your Mastiff's ears clean and healthy!

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Essential Oils

Both people and pets can benefit from the power of pure, therapeutic grade essential oils. This month's focus: Arthritis, pain and dental care!

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I Need a Home!

MURPHY

We NEED a Special HOME for MURPHY>

Murphy is a "Young at Heart Oldie but Goodie" he is 7 years old. SPECIAL HOME NEEDED

The Good, Bad and Ugly of some rescue dogs. MRF tries very hard to place each dog with the right home. We never want to set dogs up to fail! Which is the reason we count so much on our Fosters that take the dogs in and evaluate them. Murphy's "NOW" Foster is just that individual. MRF needs a Foster home for MURPHY. But it must be very special and the search is on. If you are sincerely interested after reading the following. PLEASE go to our website and fill the application out and mention MURPHY>

The GOOD:

This big sweet boy loves everyone and is loved by all. He may be a big sweetie but can still be protective of his home. For Murphy not much is better than running around with his soccer ball and

rolling in the dirt getting belly rubs. When all that is done he loves to relax and chew on his antler.

Murphy is amazing at training and loves to work! we are still working on leash manners but have come such a long way. He has never had an accident in the house and loves to be in his crate. The only noise you will here is maybe a woof when someone knocks on the door or a whine if he hears you in a room he can't get to.

This big boy would do best in a home where any other pets are strong and not at all submissive. We work Murphy daily with his prey drive and he does good with big dogs that can stand their ground. He needs to have an owner or Foster that is strong enough to handle all 170 pounds of him.

The BAD and UGLY

. He gets overly excited to meet other dogs and pulls/rushes to them. If the dog shies away in any way, he gets forceful. If the dog gets defensive, he can get an attitude. Same thing with cats. If my cat just sits there he will sniff her and walk away but if she gives a hiss or a upset meow he gets an

attitude. I would NEVER trust him unsupervised around other animals. He has only had interaction with altered females. He loved the high energy pittie and she was strong enough to handle him. I use a chain choke collar and he responds great to leash pops. He is sometimes reactive in a room when you walk by with another dog, especially a small dog. Not all the time, only sometimes. He responds well to verbal commands but you have to be serious about it and he has to know that you are serious.

I think an only pet home would be best but with work he would be able to be with a strong dog that can hold their ground and not get submissive.

Murphy's Foster loves him very much, but with all of her other animals and his powerful body... she feels he would do better in another home.

MRF needs a VERY specialized home for this big boy...he is neutered, up to date on vaccines and heartworm negative. If you think YOU might be able to help, please fill the application out or contact us.



MURPHY

Male, 7 years old, special home needed.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADOPT MURPHY?
Contact us!

Keeping Healthy

Does your Dog get recurring ear infections?

SIGNS

Your pet keeps shaking its head and scratching at its ears. Often you will see a foul-smelling black, yellow, or brown discharge. The ears may be very red and tender.

CAUSES

Ear infections are most typical in dogs. Most ear infections are caused by an underlying allergy. Some are caused by water in the ear after bathing or swimming. Dogs with large floppy ears, such as Basset Hounds or Mastiffs are prone to infections as their ear canals have poor air circulation, trapping moisture and allowing bacteria and yeast to grow. Dogs with ear infections caused by yeast usually have a black discharge; this is commonly second to an allergy. Dogs with bacterial ear infections often have an organism called staphylococcus; in rare cases a more serious infection is caused by bacteria called pseudomonas...you need to see a veterinarian.

The PRINCIPLE of this is that you

1. Treat the infection.
 2. Deal with underlying cause
- Most likely causes: underlying allergies, secondary recurring yeast infections

The yeast show up as black waxy debris, and many dog owners thought their dog had ear mites, where in fact this is extremely rare in dogs

How to Treat Yeast

1. Make a ear cleaning/treating cleanser at home.

- 200 ml of Green Tea (ie 3/4 cup of green tea), I prefer tea leaves, but you can use a tea bag. Allow it to cool.
- Add in 50 ml (3 tablespoons) of Apple Cider Vinegar.

You can use this twice daily for 5-7 days, as needed. Keep it covered in the fridge, and it will last at least 30 days. You will only need 1-2 tspns to clean the ear.

Here you are squirting the mixture in the ear, rubbing the base of the ear to loosen the debris/infection, and wiping excess out with a cotton ball.

IF your dog has open wounds in the ear, avoid the ACV and only use the Green Tea.

2. Topical antifungal cream.

Another option is to pick up an OTC antifungal cream of the drug Clotrimazole- this is the meds used to treat most dog ear infections in veterinary ear products. A 1% clotrimazole cream of 30g only costs approx \$10, and may last you for a year, vs the \$30 vet one which lasts a week.

This is ideal if your dog is getting recurring yeast infections, and you want a less expensive vet option.

Decrease inflammation:

Most of these ear infections are red/inflamed, so it is nice to deal with the inflammation without

using a steroid such as Prednisone.

Curcumin is safe and effective to give long term.

CURCUMIN. 95% curcuminoids can be very helpful to decrease the level of itching and ear inflammation. The dose is 100mg/10lbs of body weight daily, but give capsules as stains everything orange!

Deal with the Underlying Allergy

Most dogs with recurring ear infections have an underlying allergy.

FATTY ACIDS. These are a must for any allergy that triggers recurring ear infections. Flax seed, oil or fish oil. I advise therapeutic doses of EFA's at 1000mg per 10lbs daily. That means giving your dog 1 tablespoon of Flax Oil/40 lbs daily.

ALLERGY DIET. For pets that get recurring ear infections it is important to try a less allergenic diet. It should include a completely different protein with minimal added ingredients. This MUST be fed for 12 weeks. At least do a 6 week Food Trial as most dogs will respond by then. We have had good results with Fish and Sweet Potato.



DILUTION RATES

Dilution Ratios Using Essential Oils on Dogs



DOG WEIGHT	DILUTION RATIO	ESSENTIAL OIL	CARRIER OIL
0-25lbs	75%	1 drop	4 drops
26-45lbs	50-75%	1-2 drops	2-4 drops
46-75lbs	50%	2 drops	2 drops
76-90lbs	25-50%	2-4 drops	1-2 drops
90-150lbs	25%	4 drops	1 drop
+150lbs	0-25%	4 drops	0-1 drops

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Helichrysum- protects the nervous system, pain & wound relief, sinus infection & asthma, uplifts mood & reduces stress.

Frankincense- helps relieve inflammation & pain, natural flu or cold medicine, relieves symptoms of indigestions.

Majoram- arthritis, rheumatism, menstrual problems, shingles, cold sores, fluid retention.

Myrrh- calms spirit and relaxes the body to speed up healing, anti-inflammatory and analgesic (pain relieving) benefits.

Lavender- anti-inflammatory, pain reliever, destressing, relaxing, calming, scarring and burns.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Facebook: Essentially Spoiled Pets

OR CONTACT

jandoscia@abaresults.com



Healthy Living with Essential Oils

By Essentially Spoiled Pets

It is important to remember that the essential oils blends and aromatherapy that human beings can handle and enjoy, might not produce the same reaction in our pets. In fact, some oils can be quite dangerous. Essential oils contain a host of biologically active and powerful compounds. Used correctly, they are an indispensable part of integrative medical care.

Many pets slow down as they age and exhibit signs of arthritis. **Arthritis** develops with age, conformational abnormalities such as hip dysplasia, patellar luxations and as a result of joint injuries or surgeries. Essential oils have been found to reduce pain, inflammation and stiffness. Topical application of either blends or lavender and Frankincense essential oils may help to relieve discomfort in your pet. Many blends of Essential Oils can not only relieve pain but also help to repair injured tissue!

For dogs, apply 1-2 drops of the following blend or equal parts of Lavender and Frankincense to the palms of your hands, and simply pet your dog. Pet the area of concern or anywhere on your pet's body 2-4 times daily as needed.

Soothing Blend: 5 drops of Copaiba, 3 drops of Frankincense or Helichrysum, 3 drops of Idaho Balsam Fir and one tablespoon of a carrier oils such as coconut oil.

Dental disease affects the entire body. Caring for your dog's teeth and gums improves the quality of their life and extends it. Bacteria that accumulates in the mouth enters the bloodstream and can adversely affect the kidneys, heart and liver. Essential oils can help maintain a strong immune system, fight bacteria and reduce pain. For dogs and cats, apply Myrrh and Helichrysum once or twice daily. Add Lemon to the

drinking water (if there are NO cats in the home).

Pain is so powerful that it can actually inhibit healing and suppresses the immune system. Signs of pain include vocalizations, restlessness or agitation, abnormal posture, difficulty moving around, trembling, reduced appetite, stupor or biting. You may also notice a faster than normal heartbeat and rapid breathing. For dogs, apply 1-2 drops of the above Soothing Blend, Majoram and any ONE of the following oils: Helichrysum, Myrrh or Lavender 2-4 times daily. Add 1 drop each of Helichrysum and Myrrh in 2 cups of drinking water (if there are NO cats in the home).



Volunteer Spotlight

Jennifer Andoscia

Our Volunteer Spotlight this month is on our very own Editor and her wonderful family, Jennifer Andoscia!

Hello everyone! My name is Jennifer and I'm a proud mom to two kids, wife to Michael, mom to three four-legged, furry kids and a business woman. My family and I love to travel, go camping, sit by our fire in our Secret Garden, and hike in the woods. We are rarely quiet at home!

I first contacted MRF in 2013 with the hopes of volunteering my time to transport and help Mastiffs in our local area. After our home evaluation, I was soon contacted to evaluate a local Mastiff who was being surrendered on Craigslist. We had recently moved my 95-year-old father-in-law into our home, so although I agreed to evaluate and potentially hold the dog in our home, I had absolutely no plans to foster. Well, that lasted a short time! Enter Newton, formally known as Newt. He was an emaciated, emotionally depressed dog who was so very pathetic. He cowered at men and didn't understand why we handed him toys or ropes to play with. He also fell completely in love with our little girl. He was originally scheduled to be transported to a family in Miami, but tested positive for heartworms, resulting in a longer stay with us through the holidays. Christmas morning Santa left him toys in his stocking, he actually played with one! I cried. It was then I knew he was an Andoscia and there was absolutely no way he was

leaving; we were foster failures! Newt became Newton and gained weight, confidence and security. Our family loves to camp and soon Newton became the king of the campsite, wearing a GoPro and documenting his life on Facebook; Life as Newton Knows It.

My father-in-law is now 100 and still living with us, along with our two busy children and three dogs. We recently lived through a house fire that displaced our family and animals for 6 months and I've also recently opened ABA Results Therapy Center, a center dedicated to providing behavioral and skill therapy to individuals diagnosed with Autism. Due to our crazy house, caring for a 100-year-old, the fire, my business and being PTO President at my daughter's school, I have limited time to breathe, let alone transport or foster furry friends. I was feeling very guilty at my lack of participation in MRF and thankfully they contacted me and asked if I could take-over the Newsletter! Yes! Perfect timing and job for a person like me!

I absolutely love volunteering my time to MRF and if you've been wondering what you can do, I encourage you to contact them and ask! As I've recently learned, there's more to volunteering than just transporting and fostering! Trust me, if I can find time, you can too!



Interested in volunteering?
Please contact us!
Mastiffrescue1@gmail.com





Life as Newton Knows It

by Newton Andoscia

Hello, my name is Newton and this article is about how I see life... as an 8-year-old English Mastiff. So, I'm all about the Family & Mommy time, but recently my bonding time has included training for a 5K. Did you know when your human is running they frown upon stopping to sniff every few feet? How am I supposed to keep up on the neighborhood info? Sigh. Due to some of my recent life changes, I felt it would be important to provide information in the event you too decide to change your exercise routines!

Exercise. Most dogs benefit from daily exercise that makes us pant such as fetching, tugging, running, swimming and brisk walks (with sniffing EVERY mailbox). We were born to work for a living! Unfortunately, many of us have become Couch Potatoes as we no longer have to earn our keep and have adjusted to our more sedentary lifestyles. This lack of purpose and exercise can contribute to the development of Bad Dog moments. The good news is, the more we exercise, the healthier and happier we are and the less trouble we find ourselves in. Benefits of exercise include:

- Reduction or elimination of common behavior problems such a digging, excessive barking, chewing and hyperactivity.
- We're healthier, agile and limber.
- Reduces digestive problems and constipation.
- Helps timid or fearful dogs build confidence and trust.
- We feel sleepier, rather than restless.
- Keeps our weight under control.

Wait... don't start the 5K training just yet! You need to check with the Vet before starting an exercise program! They'll let you know if we have any issues to consider.

In the event you don't want to be athletic yourself, but want to make sure we get enough exercise, you can:

- Focus on exercising our brain with toys, obedience or trick training or even a fun chew toy.
- Focus on games that make us run while you relax! We can catch balls, Frisbees or sticks. We can find you or a toy or even run at a dog park.

My last thoughts this quarter are to remind you of the weather. It's gotten COLD outside! At times, I do love to sit outside on a brisk sunny morning, channeling my inner lion, and monitor my domain, but at night, I need my special princess blanky and your furry family does too!

**MAY YOUR BARKS BE LESS,
AND YOUR SLOBBERS BE MORE.
AND NOTHING BUT MASTIFFS,
COME THROUGH YOUR DOOR.**

Until next time, Newton



Happy Camper

One way I keep active (not including my jogging or new job with mom at her Clinic) is camping! I so love to explore the forest with my baby! Here we are in a cold creek finding smelly fish!



GoPro

GoPro time! I have my personal GoPro on me in this picture! I love to video my experiences and post them. Need ideas of how to get active? Check out my Facebook page: Life as Newton Knows It.



Baby, it's cold outside!

No judging! This is my baby's princess blanket she passed down to me. I love to snuggle under it. Make sure you keep all your pets warm this winter!

An Adoption Success Story

By Sandy & Ken

Josephina Jalapeno

In August 2015, MRF heard about a sweet mastiff surrendered to a shelter in the panhandle so we asked Becky to go meet her and get her...she did. This poor soul was very thin and had a toe nail infection..which we got antibiotics to start. Sandy and Ken Durham, Gainesville, were contacted.. YES, they wanted her and the transport was started. Well, you guessed it they were foster failures and Jossie had a wonderful home.



This is the latest from Sandy and Ken

We wanted to give you an update on how Jossie (aka Josephina Jalapeno) is doing. She has finally leveled off at 143 pounds. She is doing well. She loves all of the cold weather that we have been having. Sometimes, she will just sit in the middle of the backyard on the coldest wettest days and just ponder life. She will never do anything that you want her to do in a hurry. Life is always on her terms. We call it Life According to Jossie.

She has a wonderful thick undercoat that is a light blond shade. Once spring comes unfortunately that under coat will be all over the house. LOL, we can sweep daily and have enough dog fur for another dog.

I have continued doing the nose work training with her and have been working with her for a year now. Her sight is not very good, but she has a fantastic sense of smell because of all of the folds of skin on her face. She can identify 3 scents (birch, anise, and cloves) and will now mostly work without a treat. This is important if Jossie and I start to compete in nose work trials as I can give her a treat and reward/praise her when she finds the scent, but the course marshal will not pair a treat with the scent like we do in the training classes. The scents are hidden and the dog must tell the handler where the scent is.

Somehow, Jossie seems to know that we are heading to the training class. She gets really excited and bounces up and down when I get

my bag and start to load up all of the treats and paraphernalia. As we are driving to

the training center, she loves to watch out the car window and she loves to put her massive head through the sun roof and sniff intently. As we approach the building, she starts to whine and bounce in the back of the SUV and so the backend of the car is wagging as we pull in. Even with all of that though, sometimes she still gets a bit worried and unsure of herself and will refuse to get out of the car. This is something that we need to work on further.



I will say though, of all of the dogs that I have watched doing nose work, she is absolutely the slowest but she is the thorough and deliberate. Only bad thing is that the nose work trials are timed. LOL, she will not expend one more calorie than what is necessary to get the job done. Things have to be on her terms, maybe that is a mastiff trait. Even the trainer says she has us all trained well. If she does not want to do something she just lays down. Only recently in the past few months did the first OEM get a title in nose work.

As with everything else that Jossie does things must be on her terms. A good example is that as a rule at the nose work training center, all dogs must be safely kenneled while another dog is completing their round. This one evening as Jossie was the last dog to complete her turn, the other owner took her 10 pound dog named Milo and placed the dog on her lap. Jossie started her round and looked over briefly and noticed that Milo was not kenneled but rather sitting on the owners lap. Jossie immediately dead stopped in her tracks and wrinkled up her face and stared intently at this situation. Jossie would not budge until the owner placed Milo safely into the kennel. Once Milo was safely tucked away, only then could Jossie continue her turn. Jossie

certainly notices anything that is out of the ordinary or out of place.

Jossie is really a funny dog. She has a lot of funny quirks. One of them is what we call her drive by's. For example, in the middle of the night as you are asleep, she patrols the house every few hours. Then comes to tell you that all is well by giving you a quick sloppy kiss as she walks by you. She also likes to blow bubbles in the water bowl and she has her midnight snacks. She also loves when the sun comes up at dawn. When she hears the birds start to chirp, she wakes up and get us up to tell us it is dawn. As you sit up in bed half asleep, she runs and slides on the tile to back door and enthusiastically barks to be let out. She loves to greet the day. Otherwise we are all fine.

Ken and Sandy Durham Sallot



The best things in life are
RESCUED



Mastiffs Around Town

Baby, it's cold outside! Thank you to everyone who shared their cold weather and Oldie Mastiff pictures! Interested in seeing your furry friend pictured here? Keep an eye out on the Facebook page for next quarter's post!



Arthritis Blend

- 2 Tbsp Coconut Oil
- 10 Drops PanAway
- Massage mixture over affected area. Layer peppermint for intense pain.



Doggy Shampoo



What you need

- 1 tbsp Castile Soap
- 2 drops Rosemary EO
- 2 drops Peppermint EO
- 2 drops Lavender EO
- 1 drop Eucalyptus EO
- 1 drop Cedarwood EO
- 10 oz (300 ml) water
- Glass or plastic bottle



TITO'S HAIR OF THE DOG PARTY

SUNDAY
JANUARY
28TH
11AM-4PM

Aaaargh you feeling groggy after Gasparilla?
Feeling guilty for partying without your pup?

**\$7.50 TITO'S HANDMADE VODKA
BLOODY MARYS AND AMERICAN MULES**

COME SEE THE TITO'S RV WOODY
TITO'S GIVEAWAYS AND AMAZING RAFFLE ITEMS
ALL FOR A GREAT CAUSE!

**RAFFLES, GIVEAWAYS, COCKTAIL SAMPLES
ALL GOING TO A GREAT CAUSE!**



Mastiff Rescue of Florida



★ **TitosVodka.com** ★
Handcrafted to be savored responsibly
DISTILLED & BOTTLED BY FIFTH GENERATION INC. 40% ALC./VOL. © 2017 TITO'S HANDMADE VODKA.



Easy ways to help.....

- Set up Mastiff Rescue of Florida on your Amazon Smile account. On your first visit to Amazon Smile www.smile.amazon.com, you will need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchased before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and every eligible purchase you make at www.smile.amazon.com will result in a donation. The website is exactly the same but has the added bonus of helping Mastiff Rescue of Florida with your purchases.
- Purchase one of our great Mastiff Rescue of Florida car decals from our website!
- Visit www.liluspetsupply.com a percentage of every purchase comes to MRF!
- Mastiff Rescue of Florida has a Wish List on Amazon. Any item would be greatly appreciated!
- Through your place of employment: www.yourcause.com, 501c3 matching programs, etc.
- Forward our newsletter to your friends that have Mastiffs!
- Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



An Event We Can ALL Get Into!

Saturday
February 24th 2018
10 am - 6 pm

50 Animal Rescue Groups

Pet Supplies Drive • Pet Friendly Vendors
Bark-B-Que Fun-raiser • Weiner Dog Derby
Pet/Owner Look-a-Like Contest

3101 Beach Boulevard
Gulfport, Florida 33707
in the Historic Gulfport Waterfront District

For up to date information visit us on



Gulfport's Get Rescued



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