

GOOD DEEDS

This is Rosie. Doesn't she look like just a little sweetheart of a Bulldog?



Rosie has had an eventful, but not always a pleasant life. Rosie spent much of her life in a puppy mill cranking out one litter after another. In fact, she had so many puppies that her udder was stretched out from all the nursing pups and she would step on the flapping skin when she walked.

Fortunately, Rosie now has a great home and a loving family and no longer has to worry about stepping on her saggy skin. When Rosie arrived at HUB (Helping Unwanted Bulldogs) Bulldog Rescue it had been by way of a few rescue groups. She was first taken in by Havanese Rescue in Andover, KS. From there she went to Midwest Dog Rescue in Omaha. They contacted Sandy Aspey, the rescue coordinator for HUB Rescue, because they would rather a breed rescue re-home the purebreds, especially a "special needs" case such as Rosie.

Sandy took Rosie to her rescue vet for a spay and "boob job". The vet removed much of Rosie's excess skin so that it would no longer be a hindrance to her. When she was recovered from her surgery, Rosie went to her new home. Unfortunately, Rosie wasn't in her new home long when she began to show signs that she was terribly ill. She was passing clots of blood and had a high temp. Her new owners, who had adopted her just a couple of days prior, rushed her to the vet school - Rosie needed surgery to stop the bleeding and IV support - it was touch and go for several days. It was discovered that poor Rosie had a massive infection and was allergic to the internal sutures from her spay surgery.

The new owner called Sandy the day they took her to the Emergency vet, and said it was going to be more than they could afford, so Sandy told them that rescue would take care of the bill. Sandy said that since her illness was related to the spay surgery she had while still in rescue she felt that HUB rescue should take care of the bill. The bill came to a little over \$2000, and that was far more than Sandy had anticipated it would cost. There was not enough money in the rescue account to pay for it all. Fortunately, Sandy was told that she could make monthly payments, but Sandy has limited access for fundraising in her area, so she still had a dilemma in coming up with funds to pay the bill. Sandy does not have a meetup group like Wrinkle Time where she can appeal to other Bulldog owners to support HUB's rescue efforts financially.

Many rescue groups originally started out as rescue committees of breed specialty clubs, but when concerns about liability arose, most rescue groups were split off from clubs and became self-supporting.

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Check out pictures, gathering dates, and more at www.wrinkletime.org ! Aug 08

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Many specialty clubs no longer allow rescue groups to do fundraising at their club functions, so rescue groups have to come up with alternative methods to fundraise. And in HUB Rescue's case, it is difficult to find the time to do that when you are doing the job of finding a lot of dogs new homes pretty much single-handedly. Sandy Aspey of HUB Rescue and her husband, Stan rehomed 36 Bulldogs in the previous 12 months. Sandy and Stan also foster many of the dogs that they rehome and often have three or four rescue dogs at their home at any given moment.

There are not a lot of rescue workers in this area of the Midwest, so Sandy receives a lot of requests from people that want to surrender their Bulldog to HUB Rescue when they can't find a rescue group any closer to take their dog and would rather not drop it off at a shelter. As long as the surrendering owners are willing to make the drive to her area, Sandy does not turn unwanted Bulldogs away, even though it would certainly make her life easier if she were to make the excuse that since they aren't in her state, she can't help them. There are no rescue volunteers in North Dakota, Iowa or Nebraska and just one new person in central Kansas, who only works locally. Sandy has rehomed dogs from Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska, although the majority have come from her home state of Missouri.

Sandy mentioned her concerns about coming up with the money to pay for Rosie's vet bill and I got to thinking that perhaps our Wrinkle Time attendees would be willing to help her out. I ran my idea for a Wrinkle Time silent auction just for HUB past our Rescue fundraiser chair, Marcia Tieg and Wrinkle Time organizer, Karen Zimny. Both were supportive of the idea, but it was agreed that we only use items for the fundraiser where we knew the donor would not care that their donation would be used to help a rescue group in another state. Karen also offered to donate her handmade cards as an opportunity to raise additional funds.

Thanks to the generous support of Wrinkle Time attendees, the fundraiser for HUB Rescue was a success. Love-a-Bull MN Bulldog Rescue would like to thank everyone who participated in our special silent auction to help out HUB Rescue and thanks also to everyone who purchased Karen's wonderful cards. All proceeds from the cards also went to HUB Rescue. Thanks to all who bid and also to those who donated items. You are a great bunch! Thanks to you, \$206 was sent to HUB Rescue.

- Rita Guthmiller
Love-a-Bull MN Bulldog Rescue Coordinator
BCARN Division VI Coordinator