

THANK

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anoof Stock

WOOFSTOCK 2025: A WEEKEND TO REMEMBER

What a weekend! Woofstock—our biggest, most fabulous event of the year—was recently held at Buckstop Junction, and it was nothing short of magical. With record turnout, smiling faces, and tails wagging, we were thrilled to celebrate our community, our volunteers, and, most importantly, our incredible rescue animals while raising vital funds and sharing our mission with the community.

This year, we had the extraordinary privilege of showcasing the amazing sport of DockDogs! Our hearts were bursting with pride as *Lily the Kid,* a rescue we pulled from the Dickinson impound just before she was to be euthanized, came 'home' to compete. Her loving trainers

and family, Rebecca and Chuck, brought Lily and their pack all the way from Atlanta, Georgia. Ranked as the top American Pit Bull Terrier in the world, Lily wowed the crowd and claimed the top spot in her division!



Another of our rescues, recently pulled from the Bismarck impound, also competed with an FFRR volunteer as her handler. Jace played a crucial role in connecting the dots to help Lily find her forever family—and he introduced Cookie to the DockDog community too. Cookie, who adores Jace, the water, and jumping, had an absolute blast performing. Thanks to this introduction, Cookie has now been adopted by a loving family in Tennessee and will continue her amazing story, competing in DockDog events while doing what she loves most—jumping, diving, and swimming!

As a newcomer to DockDogs, I can honestly say—I'm hooked! The energy, the athleticism, and the sheer joy of these dogs are truly something to behold. If you missed it this year, mark your calendars—we're already working hard to bring this event back in 2026.

Woofstock would not have been possible without our tireless volunteers, who dedicated themselves to organizing, setting up, and running this tremendous family event. Attendees shared so many kind words, thanking us for creating a fun, safe, and family-friendly day. And our mission—finding forever homes for our furry friends—was in full swing: a number of puppies and kittens found their families, with several more adoptions currently in progress.

The weekend was packed with excitement, but obviously, the stars of the day were our adoptables. Many meaningful connections were made and seeing the steps made toward finding forever families was the greatest joy of all.

Our vendor and merchandise tents were bursting with amazing items, and, as always, rescue apparel helped raise awareness and support for our work.

To everyone who **organized**, **volunteered**, **donated**, **sponsored**, **and attended**—thank you from the bottom of our hearts. You made this weekend possible and absolutely unforgettable. And to the animals—thank you for reminding us why we do what we do.

Let's carry this joy forward, knowing that our efforts bring hope, love, and forever homes to the animals who need it most.







FUEL FOR THE HEART



Recently, we had the joy of seeing firsthand the incredible impact a single rescue dog can have—not just on the life of her human, but on an entire community of animals and the people who care for them. Lily, a spirited and resilient dog, has been a symbol of hope for Furry Friends Rockin' Rescue. Her journey from near-impossible odds at a local impound to thriving in her forever home reminds us why every effort matters.

Watching Lily at Woofstock and the DockDogs event with her family and trainers was absolutely inspiring. The joy of her reunions, the connection she shares with her human, and the skills they combine to support other dogs in need created a powerful, tangible energy. Together, they helped boost the event's attendance by over 500 people and facilitated 12–15 adoptions in a single day. Moments like these show just how much hope and momentum can grow from one success story.

For those of us in rescue, the work can be heartwrenching. We witness neglect, abuse, and heartbreak

daily, and there is always another animal still waiting for help. Yet, every dog and cat who thrives after being rescued carries more than their own story—they carry the hope and determination of the volunteers and fosters who believed in them.

Lily's story is a perfect example: by simply being herself, she reminds us why we started, why we persevere, and why we keep showing up. Successes—whether it's a world-champion DockDog, a master couch surfer, or a champion snuggler—give our hearts a little burst, a reminder that the work we do truly changes lives. These stories renew our energy, strengthen our resolve, and inspire us to continue finding ways to make a positive difference for every animal in need.

Every rescue animal has the potential to be someone's inspiration. Every adoption is a story of hope. And every story, like Lily's, carries the power to keep the people in

rescue going—one more day, one more animal, one more life at a time.

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"I got to see firsthand how Lily overcoming the challenges that made her difficult to adopt out gave her rescue volunteers the hope they need to keep trying. My heart isn't strong enough to be in day-to-day rescue. The things they see. The abuse, the neglect -the decisions they have to make. Knowing that no matter what they do, it is never enough. There are still more animals out there they can't save. And how that

haunts them. I love knowing
Lily has carried her rescue
through some dark times and
has given them hope when
theirs waned. Seeing their
smiles this weekend-omg! If
dogs like Lily can keep a
burned-out rescue volunteer
going one more day, the
world will be a better place."



- THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL WOOFSTOCK SPONSORS







Doug & Sharon Cerkoney













Adopted Dogs

Holly, Dozer, Ozzy, Jackson, Milo, Kevin, Mabel, Rambo, Brownie, Redgie, Frankie, Sweet Pea, Blue, Rhea Ripley, Frankie, Harvey, Nix, Lobster, Happy, Connie, Cookie

Adopted Cats

Pendleton, Hubie, Ozzie, Hoonie, Masher, Serena, Venus, Ella, Bolt, Suds, Max, Ruby, Tofu, Brown Sugar, Jackson, Bounce, Jax, John Cena, Flash, Sage, Sally, Citrus, Chopper, Blitz, Clover,



ROUGH START - BRIGHT FUTURE

Meet *Chester*,

Chester came into rescue over a year ago after being trapped at a feedlot, sick and in need of help. Instead of being returned outside, he was given the chance to heal and thrive.

Now about 1 year and 4 months old, Chester has grown into a gentle, affectionate cat who loves to "help" with chores, snuggle up for a good movie, and watch birds from his cat tree. While he may take a little time to adjust to new surroundings, his sweet personality shines once he feels safe—and having a cat buddy helps him feel even more at home.

Chester's journey reminds us what rescue is all about: turning a rough start into a bright future. Could you be the one to give him the forever home he's waited so patiently for? #RescueSavesLives

CRUZ'S JOURNEY: FROM HEARTACHE TO HOME

At just four months old, Cruz had already survived more than most dogs ever will. When he came into our rescue, he was in heartbreaking shape—covered in wounds, suffering from mange, and so frightened that he wouldn't come out of his kennel unless no one was watching. His early vet visits even raised concerns that his legs might be deformed.

The before photo of Cruz is difficult to see, but it's also the reason we do what we do.

Thanks to the quick action of volunteers who traveled to bring him to safety, the care of the emergency veterinary team, and the patience and love of his foster family, Cruz slowly began to heal. His legs weren't deformed after all—just weak from neglect. With good food, care, and kindness, he grew stronger every day.

The after photo tells the rest of the story. Cruz blossomed into a healthy, joyful, playful puppy who loves to walk, explore, and learn. And just recently, Cruz found the happy ending every rescue animal deserves—he has been adopted into a forever home where he will be cherished for the resilient, loving pup he is.





Cruz's transformation is nothing short of miraculous, but here's the truth: we could not have done this without YOU.

Every donation, every kind word, every volunteer hour, every shared post—it all matters. *YOU* are the reason Cruz's story has a happy ending. *You* are part of this rescue machine, and when every gear works together, lives are saved.

Cruz is home. He is loved. And it's all because of this incredible community that believes in giving animals a second chance.



Esther (Escher)







HAPPY TAILS



UPCOMING EVENTS

BLESSING OF THE PETS/MEET & GREET

Saturday, Sept 6 | 1pm-3pm First Presbyterian Church

TRESTLE MEET & GREET

Sunday, Sept 7 | 1pm - 3pm The Trestle, Bismarck

TEDDY ROOSEVELT FAMILY DAY

Sept 28 | 1pm - 4pm McDowell Dam / Meet & Greet

CORNHOLE FOR KITTENS & DARTS FOR DOGS

Nov 15 | Details to come SEND-IT! 24/7 Cornhole, Mandan





B-I-N-G-O

Every Thursday, 6 p.m. GIDEON's BREWING COMPANY Great Prizes | Cash Play only

BLACKJACK

Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays | 6 p.m.

DJ's Pizza & Lounge | 70 Santee Rd |

Lincoln

PETSMART MEET & GREET

Every Saturday | 11am – 2pm

DOG TRAINING CLASSES

With Trainer Nancy Gerhardt
Basic | Intermediate | Advanced
Visit Eventbrite for details

FOSTERING SAVES LIVES

Every time someone opens their home to a foster animal, they create space for another life to be saved. It's not just temporary care - it's the bridge between suffering and safety, fear and trust, abandonment and love. Fostering is how rescue happens. It's how hope begins.

These adorable faces are waiting for their forever families.



































Every adoption, every recovery, every second chance begins with you. Thank you for standing with us, for believing in rescue, and for giving these souls a chance at the futures they deserve.