

The official newsletter for
friends, volunteers, and
supporters

Board of Directors

- Lynnie Bunten, president
- Robin Pitre, vice-president
- Laura Hasenstab, treasurer
- Paula Hensel, director
- Kathy Crumpler, director
- Saundra Hensel, director
- Carla Johnson, director
- Jenny Kruger, director
- Teresa Solomon, director
- Dan Spanraft, director

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pepper says	2
Chi-Esta	3
In Honor/Memoriam	5
Margo's Diary	6
Agility Training	7
N.C. Rescue	9
Chi Roundup	10
Trainer Time	11

We have a new address!

Send all donations to:

Chihuahua Rescue & Transport
P.O. Box 53115
Cincinnati, OH 45253

Or go to: <http://www.chihuahua-rescue.org/> and click on "make a donation" in the left column.



Chihuahua

Rescue & Transport, Inc.

A NOTE FROM THE PREZ

We Need Your Help

BY LYNNIE BUNTEN

Well, the economy is taking its toll on all charities, and ours is no exception. Requests to take dogs are up, donations and adoptions are down. We're weathering things, and hopefully a turn around is on the way.

In the meantime, I need to plead for donations to help the animals we have and for foster homes so we can take in new Chihuahuas that have lost their homes through no fault of their own. Donations are our major source of income because adoption fees don't usually cover all the expenses. We are limited on a state-by-state basis on other kinds of fundraisers. Trying to keep each state straight is a major headache. So, you can help and here's how:

- Donate a bit as you can
- Use iGive.com for your online purchases and designate Chihuahua Rescue and Transport as your beneficiary.
- Encourage people who would be good Chihuahua owners to consider adopting

SEE PREZ, PAGE 2

PEPPER SAYS...

HI, it's me, Pepper.

We had a big vacation here. My mom went away for a whole week, and we got all split up and stayed with our friends. It was pretty exciting, because Mina and I got to go together and get away from that Margo dog. That in itself made it worth it!



Christmas is coming, and I have a whole list of things I want, but you know what's on top? My mom staying here with us and talking to us and cooking good things that we get to smell. Notice I said "smell," not "eat." I can't eat anything but my food because I get very sick, and Mina is on a special diet and so is Margo. Sadie and Gena will eat anything that doesn't eat them first, so we have to be kind of careful around them.

Lots of things have been happening in CRT, most of them in Texas. They're having Chi Estás and adoption events and all sorts of good things. We set up at a Barktoberfest here in Cincinnati; it was lots of fun. My mom met all kinds of nice people and we made some money for CRT. Adoptions here are very slow; there are little Chis looking for homes, but it seems no one wants a Chi who has any problems at all. Margo has lived here for four and a half years — it seems like forever! She needs a home where she's the only dog or maybe just one other Chi, because she gets awfully jealous. And NO cats! A big cat jumped on her and bit her in the ear once, and she is not at all nice to cats now. If you want my foster sister Margo, you just go right to our website and complete an application.

This is our holiday issue of our newsletter, and we're hoping you'll support us as much as you can. Like all of you, we're feeling the price increases in veterinary services, food and everything else, and the drop in adoptions as people become more careful about taking on responsibilities. We have a new address for donations: Chihuahua Rescue & Transport, P.O. Box 53115, Cincinnati, OH 45253. Or go to: <http://www.chihuahua-rescue.org/> and click on "make a donation" in the left column.

We lost my little sister, Gretta, last week. She had a grrrrreat big heart and it finally got just too big. She was always active, like a little wind-up toy, and it's pretty quiet without her. I miss her — she had a big bushy coat and was warm to sleep with.

Have a happy holiday, remember all your little furry friends, and even if you have no family, you have your four-legged one, and sometimes that's even more important!

Love, Pepper

PREZ

- Consider becoming a foster home if you think it might be a good fit. It's not for everyone, but we can talk about it.
- Become a Best Friend to help one of the dogs in foster care
- Participate in Save-A-Chi
- Have a garage sale, yard sale or tag sale and donate a bit of your proceeds
- Ask people to donate to CRT instead of giving you a present you don't really want.

The holidays are coming up, so remember your own Chihuahua and all the little ones in need. We appreciate each and every one of you as adopters, fosters, veterinarians, donors and friends.

Happy holidays!

Lynnne Bunten, President of CRT & foster mom to Travis, Gigi, Olivia, Marco the fearful and the four pups (Rascal, Rowdy, Pepper and Claudette.)



Chi-Esta!

Annual event brings together Chi lovers, raises money for rescues

BY ROBIN PITRE

The 9th Annual Dallas-Fort Worth Chi-Esta was a huge success. After a rainy couple of weeks, the sun came out to shine on our Chi-Esta, and CRT raised several thousand dollars. (We'll announce the total in our next newsletter.)

We had four tables of raffle items, including an iPod Shuffle, \$100 gift cards, high-end dog beds, pet strollers, unique Chihuahua items and a slew of other Chihuahua and doggy merchandise. Check our website soon for Chi-Esta items that will be sold on eBay, including a Fossil purse, Fossil sunglasses and \$100 Home Depot card. Our "Cake Walk" featured cakes, pies, cupcakes, brownies and Halloween cookie bouquets! The food court was open all day and many bought

SEE CHI-ESTA, PAGE 3



MOST ORIGINAL WINNERS IN THE COSTUME CONTEST ARE DUKE THE PINATA (FROM LEFT), GRACIE AS MICHAEL JACKSON, AND BAILEY AND MAPLE AS CHIA PETS

A THANK YOU TO OUR VENDORS

Shelly Burden - Portrait Artist
www.shellyburden.com
www.sassysmudges.com

Wendy Barkett
www.petsnugglesacks.com

KAOS
www.paws-abilities.com

Dog de' Salon
www.dogdesalon.com

Face Painting by Gennifer

National Canine Cancer Association
DFW Chapter
<http://dfw.wearthecure.org>

Norman Jewelry

Nature's Select
www.gonaturesselect.com

Paws for Peace - Holistic Pet Health
Education

Petco
www.petco.com

PetSmart
www.petsmart.com

The Great Escape
Cafe & Barkery
www.thegreatescapebarkery.com

Maddie's Barkery
www.maddiesbarkery.com

PawsitiveU
www.pawsitiveu.com

CHI-ESTA

their lunch and lounged at the picnic tables under the trees. We saw many CRT alumni and many new furry faces too. Karen Hales was our emcee again this year, and she kept everyone laughing and having a great time.

KAOS Agility offers a demonstration every year at Chi-Esta. It is amazing to watch the dogs run the courses and obey the commands. Kristin Giesecker of PawsitiveU.com, a dog trainer and a CRT volunteer, put on an obedience demonstration, offering tips on training designed for Chihuahuas. Kristin also writes training articles for our newsletter.

Kristin took charge of our photo booth this year, complete with her handmade couch and backdrop. If you missed having your picture taken this year, she'll be back next year, so be sure to come out! This was our best photo booth yet. We also added a nail trim booth this year, overseen by one of our volunteers who is a former groomer. We know those nails can be hard to clip so leave it to us next year!

Our costume contest is always a huge hit. We had three categories: Best Dressed, Most Original and Best Group. We love watching the dogs dressed up and seeing the elaborate costumes everyone works



MEMBERS OF GIRL SCOUT TROOP 317 PREPARED GOODY BAGS AND GREETED VISITORS.

COSTUME CONTEST WINNERS

Most Original

- 1st place:** Duke the Pinata
- 2nd place:** Baily and Maple the Chia Pets
- 3rd place:** Gracie as Michael Jackson

Best Dressed

- 1st place:** Santos, dressed as a prison inmate

Best Group

- 1st place:** Agnes, Effie and Junior as sock monkeys.

so hard on. Each winner received a ribbon and PetSmart or Petco gift card.

Girl Scout Troop 317 was back at Chi-Esta this year. The girls made goody bags to give to the crowd. They helped Jeri Harrison run the Cake Walk and assisted Karen Hales in announcing the winners of the costume contest. We look forward to Troop 317 working with us at Chi-Esta 2010.

AVW-Telav in Dallas generously donated sound equipment for the day. Thanks to Ed Goodman for setting it up and to Clay McDaniel for giving us exactly what we needed.

We'd also like to thank all of our Dallas-Fort Worth volunteers who pulled off this event. We are lucky to have a very dedicated, committed group of volunteers. It's impossible to name every volunteer who contributed to the Chi-Esta is some way because each and every one has contributed. We are already thinking of our 10th Celebration Chi-Esta for next year. Don't miss it because it's going to be the biggest and best yet! Check the site in the spring for the Chi-Esta 2010 date. For more information, please send e-mail to:

SouthwestCoordinator@chihuahua-rescue.com

DONATIONS

SAVE-A-CHI

Barbara Rodriguez

Chico

Suzanne

Spike

"You will always be my little man."

John Roche

and Katlynn Blakely

Figaro

"In Memory of Birdie. We love you BD."

Krysten Kelly

Luke

Mike Maddox

Palo, a Chi in Ohio.

Antoinette Rosenkrantz

Classy

Sue Campbell

Mac and Classy

Mac and Classy are part of the "Dayton 8," whom you'll be hearing more about soon.

weheartthis.com

Roz

In honor of Alfie, Casbew and Dolce

Roz is part of the "Dayton 8."

IN HONOR OF.....

Shirley Findsen

Laura Hasenstab

Shirley Findsen

Barb Gielow

David Herrington

Mickey

Sharon Rosenfeld

Jack and Jasmine

Carolyn King

Peanut

Aaron Binkley

Jackson and Quincy

Ryan Woelfel

In honor of Elisse Woelfel's birthday

IN MEMORY OF.....

Nancyann H. Davis

LeClair Bissell, MD.

Lynn Hefele

Bill and Maureen

Hickman's

beloved Senor Acuna

Collen

and Oliver Dodd

Cricket

Lisa Duntley

Bean

Jaime Hunt

Kaya

John Roche and

Katlynn Blakely

Botsy

"In memory of Birdie

"Bird Dog" Roche, a

rescued Chihuahua and

John's best friend."



During a change in the office of treasurer, we experienced some problems. While all of the funds were accounted for, the names of some of the donors were lost. We are setting up procedures to make sure this doesn't happen again.

Please notify us if we missed your information at wildlifed2@aol.com and we will make sure to put your information in the next issue.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jan. 1, 2009-Sept. 30, 2009

Income		
sale of donated items	\$ 3,160	
misc revenue	1,733	
adoption fees	34,810	
donations	24,476	
Total Income		\$ 64,179
Expenses		
misc expenses	\$ 1,020	
vet/medical	71,203	
printing/copying	2,449	
microchip	3,214	
advert/website/office suppl	1,105	
postage	2,397	
Total Expenses		\$ 81,388
Net income/(loss)		\$ (17,209)

	2009	2008
Income	\$ 64,179	\$ 105,713
Expense	81,388	92,959
Net income/(loss)	\$ (17,209)	\$ 12,754

Dear Diary, I was Good Today Love, Margo



DAY 1: My mom went on vacation, so I get to stay with my Aunts Sandra and Paula, and my two Chi cousins, Bella and Sheritt. My Aunt Sandra picked me up from my mom. She's excited to have me stay with her. So am I. I was so excited that I peed on the rug six times.

DAY 2: Yesterday I heard my mom telling Aunt Sandra that I didn't care much for the other dogs and kept to myself except to dart out and snarl at them if they moved from their beds, so I invited Bella to play by play-bowing, running and chasing and wrestling. We had a great time and the Aunts were so impressed with my social skills.

DAY 3: Ah, another day of relaxing while they're at work. I slept all day, and then climbed into Aunt Sandra's lap after dinner. Bella and Sheritt climbed up too and we all sat there and allowed her to pet us. I overheard her ask Aunt Paula what was wrong with my mom because I was such a good dog and fit in so well. The plan is working.

DAY 4: Even though my mom had sent along my favorite snuggler, the one with the big fur on it, I chose to sleep in my Aunt Sandra's bed with her. After dinner, I had a small slip; that *\$#%*@* cat came down the hall, and I chased it. I quickly ran back to the living room though, screaming as though I'd been clawed to death. I got lots of attention for that.

DAY 5: The Aunts decided my mom is some kind of freak because she complains about me so much. I haven't peed on the carpet since I got here; I haven't growled or snapped at anyone, and I share everything. They don't understand why my mom says such mean things about me.

DAY 6: The Aunts stayed out late tonight because they had some company coming. I thought "I" was

the company! That annoyed me a bit. I decided the *\$#%*@* cat needed to be chased again.

DAY 7: Bella and Sheritt tried to get into Aunt Sandra's lap when I was there, and I told them where to go. Next thing I knew, I was in a crate! I'd like to know who told Aunt Sandra to do that!

DAY 8: I was sound asleep under a blanket, and Sheritt walked a little too close. I shot out like a rattlesnake and almost nailed her. Then Aunt Sandra picked me up, and I growled at her, (I was just trying to tell her what happened!) and I ended up in that damned crate again.

DAY 9: You know, the next time Bella tries to get up here when I'm sitting here getting petted, I'm going to rip that cute little face right off! And the next time I hear that obnoxious little 'meowww' I'm going to have a mouth full of cat fur, too. And further, when I'm jumping around on the floor and Sheritt gets in my way, well, watch out! She needs to BACK OFF!

DAY 10: I'm going home. My plan didn't work. I don't know why they don't want me to stay there, but I heard Aunt Sandra tell my mom that she understood what my mom was saying. I don't "think" so! I was as good as I could be, but those other dogs just got in my way. No one understands me. I'll just be glad to get home and give Genna a nip or two, and wash Pepper's face. Oh yeah, my mom's nose needs a good nipping, too.

Love, Margo

AGILITY + CHI = AGILICHI

BY TERESA SOLOMON

Does your Chihuahua have lots of energy? Does she need a job to keep her out of trouble? Does he love treats and toys? Do you want to spend quality time learning new tricks and skills with her? If so, you might be interested in the sport of *agility*. You've seen the television shows with those big, fast dogs running, jumping, weaving and negotiating all sorts of obstacles, right? The sport isn't just for big dogs! Any size dog can learn and compete. A little obedience to start is a good idea – a

reliable “sit, down, stay” is quite helpful and always good for safety. After that, find a class with an instructor who has experience training small dogs, and learn the sport. I guarantee you'll have a great time with your dog, and you'll make a lot of new friends. I suppose this is where I should mention the downside to the sport: it is highly addictive. Once you start, it's hard to stop!

The first Chihuahua to compete in agility was Spuds, owned by Linda Desmarais in New Hampshire. He started competing around 1994 or 1995 and was the first Chihuahua to earn the Master Agility Dog title. Not too long after that, Samson, a rescue owned by Katie Greer in Texas, started competing and became the first Chihuahua to win a USDAA Grand Prix in the 12-inch division. Spuds and Samson also had many other “firsts.” Max,



PHOTO BY GARY DEPP

MAGGIE, OWNED BY TERESA SOLOMON OF GEORGIA, GOES THROUGH HER PACES AT AN AGILITY COMPETITION.

owned by Linda Chapler in Washington, was the first Chihuahua to earn the AKC Master Agility Champion (MACH) title. My dog, Maggie, was the second Chihuahua to earn this title. There are now several Chihuahuas competing at the top levels in agility. Each year, more and more Chihuahua owners find out how much fun it can be to train and compete in agility.

The “Team Maggie” journey began in 1998, the year Maggie had surgery to correct her luxating patellas, also known as “bad knees.” After the surgery,

the doctors recommended lots of exercise to keep the muscles and tendons strong. At that time, I wasn't excited about anything that required me to break a sweat, but for Maggie I was willing to try almost anything. The dog club I joined had a “field day” in which we went to a local training facility to watch an agility demonstration. All the dogs participating were much bigger than a Chihuahua. But I was lucky that the trainer was enthusiastic about working with small dogs.

I wasn't hooked right then. But a month or so later I attended a local agility trial, where I met Katie Greer and Samson. After watching Samson and Katie run the courses, I was quite inspired and excited. What an incredible little dog Samson was! I was convinced Maggie and I could and would master this sport. We started our first agility class in March

See **AGILICHI**,

AGILICHI

1999, and we've been running together since. Maggie was 13 years old in June and is still in great shape and enjoying the sport. She has earned two MACH titles, and I am proud to be her partner. The sport has helped keep us both healthy and strong, and we have had so much quality time together. Maggie and I work hard to make this sport fun for both of us. Maggie is one special little girl. She goes out on the course and gives me everything she is capable of every time we run. I could not have a better partner. As far as Maggie is concerned, it's really the treats and cookies that keep her going! Maggie's newest sister, Killian, started competing this year. While Maggie is a hard act to follow, I'm sure Killian's sassy attitude and love of running will make her as big a star as Maggie.

In 2006, the American Kennel Club (AKC) began hosting the *AKC Agility Invitational*. The top five agility dogs of each breed are invited to compete in this event. Maggie and I have been honored each year with an invitation. In 2006, Banner, owned by Cynthia Kempf in Florida, was the "Highest Scoring Chihuahua" and brought home the "Top Chihuahua Medallion" sponsored by the Chihuahua Club of America (CCA). In 2007 and 2008, Maggie earned the honor and brought home the "Top Chihuahua Medallion." We're grateful to the CCA for sponsoring this medallion each year. It makes being "Top Chihuahua" even more special.

The website <http://www.agilityability.com> has all manner of information about agility and about many of the agility Chihuahuas. Be sure to visit this site. You'll enjoy reading about Chihuahuas past and present that participate in agility.



PHOTO BY DEE ANNA GAMEL

KILLIAN BEGAN COMPETING THIS YEAR.

Being partners with a Chihuahua in the sport of agility can be challenging. Since even our highly intelligent Chihuahuas cannot yet read course maps or understand the judges' instructions, the human part of the team is required to learn the course and be the "team leader." As all lovers of the breed know, Chihuahuas tend to have a mind of their own and for the most part

expect to lead rather than follow, it takes work to convince the Chihuahua to allow the human to lead. Sometimes those temperament qualities defined in the breed standard — "alert, projecting the 'terrier-like' attitudes of self importance, confidence, and self-reliance" — can lead to a less than perfect performance. However, even if the performance is less than perfect, it is *always* quite entertaining. Maggie has proven many times that even though I think I'm the "team leader" I'm mistaken. More often than I care to admit, she will go off and complete the course of her choosing, then come back to me, and with a tilt of her little head say; "OK, I'm happy – let's finish this thing!" The agility journey with a Chihuahua can be a most rewarding experience. It is definitely worth the time and effort required to ready one of these little ones for the trial experience.

Interested in finding out more about the sport? There are several different agility venues – AKC (<http://www.akc.org/events/agility/>), USDAA (<http://www.usdaa.com>), NADAC (<http://www.nadac.com>), TDA (<http://www.k9tdaa.com/>), and more. Each venue offers something a little different. Need some light reading? Want to learn the rules or find a local trial to watch? Check out the web sites for each of the venues – you'll be glad you did.

Rescuing the ‘Rescued’

BY CARLA JOHNSON

CRT rescued five dogs in Beaufort, N.C., recently and has started the process of rehabilitating them and placing them in permanent, loving homes.

“The Beaufort 35,” which includes 30 dogs that went to other organizations, were “rescued” over a period of time by a well-meaning woman. They were kept in chain-link kennels in a garage with tropical birds that were also being “rescued.” Although the dogs were given water, food and shelter, they were never handled or petted except when a caretaker needed to clean their kennels. Some of the dogs, including one that had been bred nearly to death, needed medical care. Several of the dogs needed major dental work. Another needed daily doses of Phenobarbital to control seizures.

The “rescuer” was finally persuaded she wasn’t doing the animals any favors and agreed to hand them over to a local rescue group.

As always, money is needed to rescue these animals and to provide medical care. Donations can be mailed to: Chihuahua Rescue & Transport, P.O. Box 53115, Cincinnati, OH 45253. Or go to: <http://www.chihuahua-rescue.org/> and click on “make a donation” in the left column.



SQUIRT WAS MISSING A LARGE RECTANGLE OF HAIR ON HIS BACK. HIS HAIR IS GROWING BACK, AND HE HAS BEEN ADOPTED.



DUDLEY IS VERY SCARED AND IS BEING SOCIALIZED IN CHARLOTTE WHERE HE HAS LEARNED TO PLAY WITH HIS FOSTER BROTHER.

Thank You!

Fireplug Inn supports CRT by collecting donations and providing free boarding for our foster dogs. If you live in the Dallas/Fort Worth area and are looking for doggy daycare or bed-and-breakfast for your small dog, be sure to check them out!

<http://www.firepluginn.com>



Chi Rescue News From Around the Nation

Barktoberfest a Success in Cincinnati

We attended Barktoberfest in Cincinnati, Ohio, on the 10th and 11th of October. It was a well-run event. We met a lot of people, handed out newsletters and sold little coats. Several people were interested in learning more about CRT.

Adoptions are extremely slow here in the Midwest. We have dogs available, but most of them have a little baggage, and it seems no one is willing to adopt those who need that extra boost. If you have space in your home and heart, please go to our adoptions page for the Midwest and look at the dogs available. Some have been with us for a very long time, through no fault of their own. Especially check out Palo, a 6-month old pup. He needs another young Chi for company, a fenced yard and lots of love.

We especially need volunteers in the following areas: Detroit, Mich., and points north; Madison, Wis.; Chicago, Ill.; Cincinnati, Ohio; Indianapolis, Ind.; Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.; and Lexington/Louisville, Ky. We're looking for foster volunteers who are also willing to transport a (not regularly, but to pick up their own fosters and meet someone when their fosters are adopted). If you want to help and are committed to working with foster dogs, please contact MidwestCoordinator@chihuahua-rescue.com for an application and more information.

— *Laura Hasenstab*
Midwest coordinator

Sheets Raise Money for Rescue in N.C.

This quarter we were asked by Innerbanks Canine Rescue on the North Carolina coast to assist with the placement of 35 Chi's/Chi/mixes after the group convinced a hoarder to give them up. After the other rescues chose the dogs they wanted, we took five of the difficult cases (see page 9).

We also have held several adoption fairs and manned a booth at the county fair, where we sold sheet sets with thread counts of 600 and 1,200, earning \$5 to \$7 per set sold. Our CRT group of volunteers sold more sheet sets than any other rescue group that participated, collecting more than \$500 for one day. The owner of a local furniture store donated the booth and allowed



HANNAH WAS TAKEN FROM A HOARDER ALONG WITH 130 OTHER ANIMALS. SHE GAVE BIRTH IN A SHELTER IN FLORIDA.

rescue groups to sign up for a whole day or part of a day at the fair with proceeds of the day's sales going to the individual rescue(s) that manned the booth.

— *Carla Johnson*
N.C./S.C./Va. coordinator

Hannah, pups find homes in Florida

The Sunshine state has been busy this fall after a slow summer.

We recently rescued Hannah, a pregnant Chihuahua, taken with 130 other animals from a person who hoards pets. Hannah gave birth in an area shelter and CRT rescued her and her five pups. After the pups were weaned, and mom and pups were examined by a vet, all six went to great homes!

Most of the activities in Florida take place in the Tampa Bay area, a very dog-friendly place. Megan Barrett, a CRT volunteer, coordinates and participates in most of these events, including the Art Walk in downtown Gulfport; Adopt-A-Thons and other events. CRT also participated in the SPCA Walk-A-Thon on Oct. 24 and the Humane Society Florida Pet Expo on Nov. 14.

— *Kathy Crumpler*
CRT Florida State Coordinator

TRAINER TIME

Taking the Pain Out of Training

Part 2

KRISTIN GIESEKER, *Animal Behavior and Training Specialist*.



WHEN TRAINING A NEW BEHAVIOR, PUT OTHER PETS AWAY TO MINIMIZE DISTRACTIONS.

Have a plan! Know what you want to teach and the steps you will take to teach it.

✓ Start simply, and keep it simple — make the steps small and easily achievable. Think about each action in the process individually.

✓ Train only when you are feeling calm and positive. If you are feeling rushed or stressed, you are more likely to lose your patience and cause your dog to be uncomfortable. Remember: Training should be fun for you both!

✓ Train in an environment that is comfortable for you and your dog. Once you have mastered a new behavior in a comfortable environment, you can begin trying it in more challenging locations.

✓ Train without distractions by turning off the phone and TV, segregating other animals, etc. You want to make it as easy as possible to focus on your dog and for your dog

to focus on you. If the telephone rings and you answer it in the middle of a session, you are basically punishing your dog by removing its chance to earn reinforcement during its training time.

✓ Train at a time that is good for the animal. If the dog is very hungry or tired, it's not a good time to train.

✓ Know your animal's limitations and be patient. It is impractical to ask a Basset hound to go over a 3-foot jump or to ask a hyperactive dog to work on a behavior like 'stay' without draining some energy first. Don't underestimate your dog, but be realistic when setting your training goals for the session.

✓ Don't push too hard too fast. Many people will get their dog to sit repeatedly for a food reward in one session, then expect the dog to sit on cue every time afterward in different situations, feeling the dog 'knows what it should do' and is refusing willfully if it does not perform the behavior. Nobody expects you to master a foreign language in a day — it takes a lot of time and practice — and to your animals, any language you speak is a foreign language!

✓ Last, but not least, NEVER GIVE UP! You may need to modify your approach if something isn't working over time, but you can do it. The number of behaviors your dog can learn is only limited by your imagination. They say there are as many ways to teach a behavior as there are trainers to think them up. Now go forth and train!

Chi-Esta!

Chi lovers gathered in the Dallas-Fort Worth area Oct. 18 for the annual Chi-Esta to raise money for Chihuahua Rescue & Transport. The event featured costume contests, vending booths and adoptions. It also brought together dozens of volunteers, including Girl Scout Troop 317. Story, Page 3.



OLIVER,
ADOPTED FROM
CRT IN 2002,
GEARS UP FOR
CHI-ESTA.

Forwarding Address Requested

Durham, NC 27705
P.O. Box 2844



NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
DURHAM NC
PERMIT NO. 4