



# Labrador Ledger

Check out the Shopping link on our website for **FREE** ways that you can help Brookline.

## Psst.....Wanna Foster???

Brookline Labrador Retriever Rescue is looking for foster homes!!! Our organization has grown by leaps and bounds over the past year but, unfortunately, there's still a lot more we need to do. And one of those things is to save more shelter dogs, but we can't do that without more foster homes.

BLRR does everything possible to make fostering a smooth and easy transition for the dog as well as the volunteer foster. We do not want to burden our volunteer fosters, either mentally or financially, and for this reason, we offer the following:

a pilot program with a dog food manufacturer, whereby dog food is donated to our foster dogs – **Volunteer fosters don't need to buy dog food!!**

reimbursement for approved veterinary expenses while the dog is in foster care – **Volunteer fosters don't pay for vet bills!!**

a supply of crates on hand – **Volunteer fosters don't need to buy a crate!!**

and most important, a group of knowledgeable volunteers who are always standing by ready and willing to answer any question you have and offer assistance in many ways – **Volunteer fosters aren't alone!!**

Fostering can be a very rewarding as well as a very challenging experience. We recognize that a lot of people are afraid to make the commitment for fear of getting attached to the dog, only to have to give the dog up. This may or may not be a reality; you see, you can always choose to adopt your foster dog (believe me, this wouldn't be a first!). But if you do decide to stick with the original intent of just fostering, you can rest assured that the dog will be placed in a very loving home, and you can find joy in the fact that you **saved a life!!**

Here's what some of our existing volunteer fosters had to say:

*"I feel like a proud parent sending my child out into the world, prepared, when one of my fosters is placed with a family. It is hard to see them go, but knowing I helped to save a lab from an otherwise tragic fate, makes it all worth-*

*while. Whatever sadness I may feel pales in comparison to the adopter's and dog's newfound joy!" Nic*

*"People always say to me "I could never foster because I couldn't bear to give them up." The homes we have pre-approved for our labs include some of the most loving and caring families around. I don't feel like I am giving the dog up. I am just widening the circle and sharing the love". Mary*



*Meet Gus, one of our current labs in foster care. Please visit our website to see Gus' story.*

*"3 remote controls- \$40*

*Country Bunny Wall Decration-\$20*

*Ear Infection- \$120*

*Plant Bulbs- Call to the Vet*

*Parker's Paw Print Forever on my Heart- Priceless" Rachel*

*"We taught him "sit". He taught us patience. We taught him "down". He taught us to keep things in perspective. We taught him "stay". He taught us dogs can open doors. We taught him "leave it". He taught us the value of a sense of humor. We taught him "off". He taught us some dogs aren't meant to be crated. We taught him "hug". He taught us there's nothing better than sloppy kisses. We're not sure who learned more during our six months together. But, we're so proud of what we were able to teach Sparky...and we're ever grateful for everything the Great Sparkdini taught us!" Peggy and Mary*



*Meet Dante, another one of our labs in foster care. Dante should be available on the website shortly.*

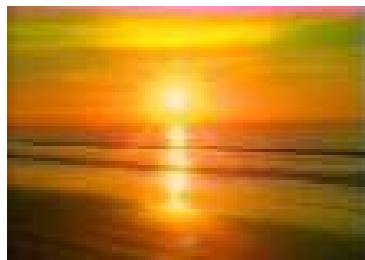
If you'd like more information on fostering or are interested in becoming a volunteer foster with Brookline, please either contact your volunteer or BLRR directly at [BLRRvolunteer@hotmail.com](mailto:BLRRvolunteer@hotmail.com).

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## *A True Buddy Tale - In Memoriam Todd Weidenhammer*



None of us at Brookline ever had the pleasure of meeting Todd Weidenhammer, but we all feel a very special connection to him. Todd shared our love of and devotion to animals – so much so that his family and friends chose to honor his memory by making contributions to Brookline Lab Rescue in Todd’s name.

Todd’s wife, Carolyn, told us that Todd considered their Labs, 4 year old Reagan and 17 week old Madison, his children and devoted all of his free time to them. They even have 8x10’s of the dogs sitting front and center on their piano. Todd’s love of Labs started as a child when his parents surprised him and his sister with a chocolate Lab puppy on Christmas morning. Now the family has 5 Labs between them and Todd enjoyed each one of them. Todd and his father loved summer weekends with “the girls”, heading out to the yard to throw ball after ball into the pool and marvel at the dogs’ ability to run full tilt towards the pool and then dive into the water and retrieve. Todd’s father and the dogs will surely miss their ball throwing friend this summer.

Todd’s love for animals often led him to go out of his way to help an animal in need. Todd and his father were featured in a local paper for trying to save a dog that was struck by a train.

On another occasion, Todd and Carolyn spent an afternoon saving a litter of newborn kittens. After capturing them, Todd took them to the vet to have them checked out and then ensured that each found a good home. Carolyn said they still get updates on those kittens. According to Carolyn, “When it came to animals, Todd definitely had a soft spot in his heart for each and every one of them.”

We at Brookline truly appreciate people like Todd, who respect and value animals and work to give them the lives they deserve. We are thankful to Todd, not only for the animals he helped, but for making his love of animals so clear that his family and friends chose to honor him by making contributions to our rescue. We are extremely grateful to all of Todd’s family and friends for their generosity and support of our work. And it makes us happy to know that, when the time comes for each of our Labs to make that journey across the Rainbow Bridge, Todd will be waiting for them on the other side – with tennis ball in hand.

\* To date, Brookline has received donations totaling \$840 in Todd’s memory. We extend a sincere **THANK YOU** to Todd’s family and friends for thinking of others during their time of sorrow.

**“We at Brookline truly appreciate people like Todd, who respect and value animals and work to give them the lives they deserve.”**



*Join us at our annual fundraising event—  
**PAWS ACROSS PA***



Wanna Go for a Walk?

Huh, c’mon, wanna?

Come join us for Brookline’s 3rd Annual

**PAWS ACROSS PA**

A pledge sponsored walk with your pet  
and pet fair!

**Saturday, June 4, 2005**

10am– 1pm (Rain or Shine)

Central Perkiomen Valley Park

For more information and a pledge sheet, visit  
our website at

[www.dogsaver.org/Brookline](http://www.dogsaver.org/Brookline)

Call: 610-222-8097

Email: [rotnlab@comcast.net](mailto:rotnlab@comcast.net)

There will be lots of prizes and vendors!

Hope to see you there!!!

# Trainer's Corner

Jumping can be an issue with almost any dog, no matter what their size! It is usually an attempt to get close to you, get eye contact or just get to your level; after all, most packs are around the same size and innately eye level to each other. They don't realize that this is an undesirable behavior and could potentially hurt someone. Here are some tips that can help if your dog has a jumping problem!

1. Be consistent! Don't allow your dog to jump up sometimes but not others. This will confuse the dog as to why it is okay then not okay.
2. Find the method of training that works for you and your dog. There is never a need

to become physical, but a bump in the chest when the dog jumps, a squirt of a spray bottle or operant conditioning training can do wonders.

3. Teach your dog a "hug" command. Let's face it, even the best trained dogs don't randomly walk around performing their commands without it being given. Teaching your dog to hug makes the act of jumping up a command to follow, not random behavior when they feel like it.

If you have a training issue that you need help with, please feel free to email us at [bookline-misc@hotmail.com](mailto:bookline-misc@hotmail.com) and we'll try to incorporate it into our next newsletter

*Be on the look-out!! - Brookline will be putting together a **cook-book**. Details will be released shortly but feel free to contact your volunteer if you're interested in contributing a recipe.*

# Upcoming Events

Volunteers of Brookline will be available at the following locations:

### SOUTHEASTERN PA

- May 14th- Norristown Farm Park
- May 15th- Montgomeryville Petco
- June 4th- Paws Across PA Walk
- June 11th- Quakertown Pet Fair

### WESTERN PA

- May 14th- Enola Centennial Festival, Enola Pa
- June 25th - Putts for Pets, Armitage Golf Course Mechanicsburg Pa
- June 4th- Paws Across PA Walk
- July 9th - Petsmart Adoptathon, Lancaster Pa

We love to meet people interested in helping labs so come on out!

**These events are current as of the publishing of this newsletter. Please keep an eye on our website for the most up-to-date information.**

# Donation Form - Help us help the Labs!

I want to help the Labs! I am able to give  
 \$10  \$20  \$30  \$50 Other \$

*Contributions are tax deductible!*

I would prefer my donation count toward  
 Bright Horizons Fund  General Fund

I would like to help! Please contact me about the following opportunities:

- Items (leashes, crates, etc) I have to donate
- Fostering a Lab
- Sponsoring a Lab with a monthly donation
- Volunteering with B.L.R.R.

Contact me at:

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone

Email

Checks made payable to **Brookline Labrador Retriever Rescue** should be sent to P.O. Box 638, Warrington, PA 18976

## Brookline Labrador Retriever Rescue

P.O. Box 638  
Warrington, PA 18976-0638

Phone: 215-343-6087  
E-mail: [brooklinemisc@hotmail.com](mailto:brooklinemisc@hotmail.com)

We're on the Web!

[www.dogsaver.org/brookline](http://www.dogsaver.org/brookline)

### **WANTED—SUCCESS STORIES!!**

Just a reminder that we love to read the success stories on our labs. If you haven't already submitted your story, please consider doing so... it really helps to keep our volunteers motivated!!

If you're interested in receiving our newsletter by email, please email us at [brookline-misc@hotmail.com](mailto:brookline-misc@hotmail.com) to be added to our distribution

We are always in need of leashes, collars, crates, etc. If you have these items and no longer have a need for them, please consider donating them to Brookline.

## *Meet Nikita....Special Girl Needs a Home!*

Hi! My name is Nikita and I'm a seven year old black lab mix looking for a *very special* family to call my own. I need a new family because my owner is moving and can't take me with her. She's moving really soon so I'm in a BIG hurry to find my new family! The hard part is I need a special family. Why do I need a *special* family? Well, because I'm a very special girl. You see, I have some medical issues. Don't be scared. They are not a big deal and I promise I won't be a lot of trouble! I have something called diabetes. But I get shots two times a day and those really help me. See, no big deal, right? I'm also blind from cataracts. But I get around really good and even chase my golf ball by listening to where it lands on the wood floor. Pretty smart, huh? We dogs are really good at adapting. I guess what I'm looking for is a forever family who is also good at adapting! All I want is a family who will be comfortable giving me my medicine and patient when helping me learn my way around. That's not too much to ask, is it? Oh yeah, the doctor said I might be able to have surgery for my cataracts, so maybe we could give that a try! Then I could chase my tennis ball the way I used to. I sure loved that. But even if I can't chase my tennis ball, I'll be happy playing tug games, wrestling, getting pets, going for car rides, and doing all those fun things dogs love to do. Do you love those things, too? Can you adjust your life to handle a few medical issues? Maybe you are the very special family I'm looking for! I sure hope so! My friends at Brookline are helping me find my new family, so check out their web site to read all about me! I can't wait to meet you!!! Love, Nikita

