

## The Golden Post January 2010

### Highlights:

Fire at shelter

18 Critters in One Week

Hoodies for Sale

Paxtyn at Mizzou

TV Program

### Veterinary Expenses

Our veterinary expenses for January so far are over \$14,000. We raise \$150,000 per year to care for our critters. We rescue around 200 a year, therefore it costs about \$750 for each critter. Our adoption fees average about \$350. Therefore, we rely on donations and fund-raisers for the difference. None of our funds that we raise goes to payroll.

### Casino / Las Vegas Night

We have postponed the Casino / Las Vegas Night until 2011. This should be a ball and you know that it will be fun. We are looking for three people or firms to donate the Grand Prizes.

### Fire at Shelter

One of the blower motors at our shelter caught fire in January and we had three fire trucks, an ambulance and two police cars at our facility. Thanks to our kennel workers for noticing the smoke and getting all of our babies to safety! No one was hurt and we are installing a fire/smoke alarm system. Thanks to Barry and Don for their assistance with the blower motor and alarm system!

### 18 Critters - One Week

During one week in January, we took in 18 critters. Anyone that visits our website – [www.dirksfund.com](http://www.dirksfund.com) knows this. They are **Allie, Abel, Bailey, Charles,**

**Chibs, Clay, Doug, Duff, Glassie, Honey, Jax, Juice, Kate, Lyla, Opie, Otto, Shayna and Max.** Three of these critters are heartworm positive, one has a grade 3+ heart murmur and one has a problem with her back. Two of them came in tethered in the back of a pickup truck. They are now all safe with Dirk's Fund – thanks to you.

### Paxtyn at Mizzou

We decided to go ahead with the liver shunt surgery on Paxtyn. She would not survive without it. She was getting weaker and was around 10 lbs when we



took her to Mizzou. We took out the Visa card and went to Columbia. She is still critical but after 2 blood transfusions – she is eating.

### Channel 5 Story

A story is being filmed at the shelter. It is about Dirk's Fund's founder and our facility. It was shown on Channel 5 on Tuesday at 3 p.m. They might need to do some editing (Ya' Think). We will put a link on our website.



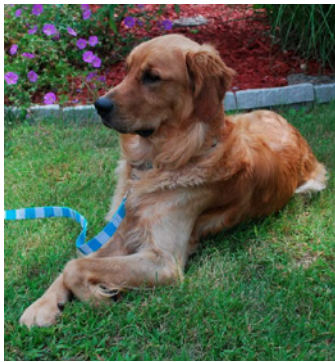
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### Volunteers

We need some volunteers to come to our shelter in the evening around 7 p.m. to let our critters out and/or on weekends to work with our critters. If you have some time in the evening during the week to do something that will definitely put a smile on your face, please contact us at [critters@dirksfund.com](mailto:critters@dirksfund.com) or call 314.249.7624.

### Van Blew Head Gasket

Our Ford Windstar Van that we used to transport our critters from our facility to our veterinarians and back has a blown head gasket. The cost to repair the vehicle exceeded its value. If any of you have a minivan, Jeep, SUV or other like vehicle that we could put two or three crates in to transport our critters back and forth, please let us know.



Higgins (Dakota)

We can provide you with a tax letter for the donation and you will know what it is being used for. It was great being able to have this vehicle ready to transport a critter or two when they needed to see our veterinarian.

### Our Adoptions

**Every Saturday & Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** we are at the shelter in Pacific playing with our critters. Please come out and get to know our Adoptable kids. They would love someone to come and play with them. We provide the toys !!

### Thank you for your assistance.

Thanks to all of you that have signed up for the eScrip cards from Schnucks. When you are grocery shopping and check out, they scan this card and donate up to 3 % of your total to Dirk's Fund. This program costs you nothing and if you live in the Illinois Metropolitan area – it works there also. Please let us know if you want a card and if you want to give some to friends. We will mail them to you.



### Dirk's Fund Hoodies For Sale

You have probably seen our volunteers wearing them. People have asked about purchasing them for themselves, family and friends. Well, Dirk's Fund Hoodies are now available on our website. They are embroidered in front and silk-screened in back. Very pretty and very warm. We are using the profits raised from the hoodies to build a pavilion at the shelter over the runs so our dogs (and volunteers!) will be protected from the rain, snow, wind, etc. Plus, they will be great advertisement for our dogs.

We have sizes from Small to 6XL and many colors to choose from. The one pictured here is the Carolina Blue. Oakley wanted to be in the picture – so...



A gift that you can use and help support the critters at the same time – what could be better. ☺

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### Foster Parents Needed

If you are interested in becoming a foster parent and making a difference in a critter's life please contact us at [critters@dirksfund.com](mailto:critters@dirksfund.com). If you have any tickets to the **St. Louis Blues** or the **St. Louis Cardinals** that you would like to donate, we would love to provide them to some of our volunteers. Dirk's Fund has NO paid employees. We rely solely on volunteers.

### Some of Our Newest Additions:

**Casey** – Hip Surgery

**Wendi** – Needs a constant companion

**Glassie** – Needs Heart Surgery

**Charles** – Heartworm Treatment

**Honey** – Heartworm Treatment

**Shayna** – Heartworm Treatment

**Bailey** – Pillow to Lay on

This is Glassie who needs the Heart Surgery. She is only 4.

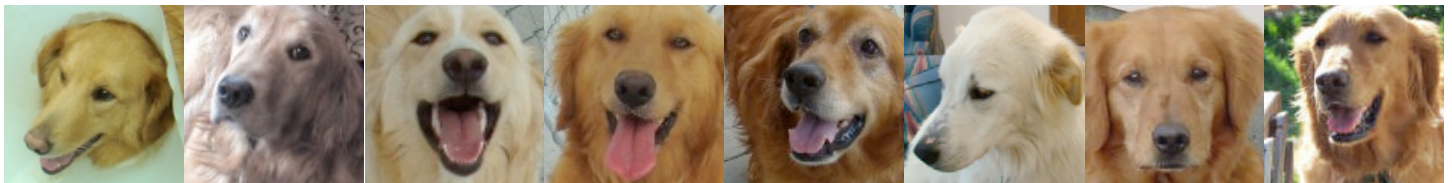


Pictures of these critters and 20 others are on our website

**Help Us Keep Our Critters Warm!**  
 During the winter months, our heating bill rises significantly. If you could include a little bit to help us offset this additional cost, we would appreciate it.

### Projects In The Works

- Covering the rocky area with clean rock
- Covering the grassy area with wood chips
- Installing a generator in case power goes out
- Installing a smoke/fire system for the critters



*“To the world you are just one person;  
 to a rescued pet you are the World.”*

**WE ARE SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU! THANK YOU!**