

Animal Rescue, Inc.

August 2011



Dear Friend,

It happened in an instant! One moment Candy was there, the next she was gone. Candy, a psychologically damaged ex-puppy mill dog, had been allowed out onto the deck at her home as she had numerous times in the past. This time though, no one realized the gate was unlatched. We believe she walked to the end of her family's driveway, made a left and was swallowed up into a maze of cornfields that stretched for miles, even crossing the state line into Pennsylvania. At that point, her confusion was escalated because the summer's crop of sweet corn had blocked her view of everything that was familiar to her.

For hours, Candy's mom and several friends had canvassed the surrounding area close to her home, calling her name with the hope she'd find her way to us. We continued the search long after nightfall, shining flashlights into heavily wooded areas hoping to catch the reflection of her eyes. Realizing the rehabilitation process to rid her of her traumatic memories of the puppy mill was still a work in progress, we knew she would not voluntarily approach strangers. We ended Day 1 of the search around midnight, mentally planning a In This Issue Fluffy's Freedom Upcoming Events <u>Meet Nigel!</u> <u>DDIP Prizes</u> <u>Special Thanks</u> file:///D|/DogsFindingDogs/temp/Candy.htm

strategy for the next morning. We couldn't help but wonder how frightened she must be in the darkness.

Day 2 began with hope. Animal Rescue, Inc. made colored flyers with Candy's picture and helped us attach them to every telephone pole in the area. Jane, Candy's Mom, contacted Find Toto, an organization that calls every home in the surrounding neighborhood to alert neighbors of the missing pet. Sightings of Candy were reported immediately. But those neighbors who were kind enough to call reported seeing her the first day she went missing. Unfortunately when we reached those areas, she was nowhere to be found. Day 2 came to an end with no encouraging results. By late evening, no new sightings of Candy were being reported.



Candy during her time at the rescue.

Day 3 began with more searching but hope of finding her alive was beginning to weigh heavily on our hearts. We searched an area where a young man had reported a possible sighting. After spending several hours in the area to no avail, we doubted the dog he'd seen was Candy. How could she have gotten to an area that was almost six miles from her home? That evening at 9:30 p.m., we called Dogs Finding Dogs. This organization is a

group of canine search teams with experience in tracking lost animals (and people, too). Within 15 minutes, it was arranged that Lynn and her tracking dog Mabel would be at Candy's home the next afternoon to begin the tracking process.



Some search and rescue teams from Dogs Finding Dogs

Day 4 brought a renewed hope. We felt confident Mabel was our only hope in finding Candy. The hunt began at Candy's home and ended in the area where the young man reported the sighting the previous day. Mabel was hard at work tracking Candy's scent when, to our utter amazement, Candy emerged from a wooded area behind the small housing development! She was alive! She was terribly frightened and ran when we tried to approach her. With Lynn's extensive experience in searching for lost dogs, she knew Candy was already in a survival mode and it would take time and patience to get her to surrender. Jane and Mike, a chocolate Labrador who is also Candy's housemate, were instructed to sit on the ground and let Candy come to them. After

Upcoming Events:

Yorkfest Arts Festival Aug 27,28 York, PA

New Freedom Days Sept 17 New Freedom, PA

> Woofstock Sept 18 Harrisburg, PA

Dogs' Day in the Park Oct 1 John Rudy Park York, PA

Dogfest Oct 15 Reisterstown, MD

Shrewsbury Fall Days Oct 15 Shrewsbury, PA

Halloween in the Park Oct 28, 29 Codorus Park Hanover, PA almost an hour, Candy began to recognize Jane and Mike. Still reluctant to get too close, she slowly began sniffing Mike and eventually got close enough for Jane to secure a tight hold on her. At 9:45 p.m., the hunt for Candy had come to an end.

Thank you to all who participated in the search efforts. A special thanks goes out to Alex, Ben and Sam.

And, without a doubt, this joyous reunion would not have become a reality without the guidance and experience of Lynn and Mabel from Dogs Finding Dogs.

If you lose your pet:

1. **PUT UP FLYERS.** Use zip-loc baggies or plastic paper protector sleeves (turn the sleeves upside down and secure the bottom with tape) to protect the flyers from rain or snow and use heavy, clear packing tape to secure the flyers to telephone poles. Nails and staples do not work well. Put a flyer in your mailbox for your mailperson, who can keep an eye out for your pet on his/her travels.

2. **Contact FIND TOTO** on the Internet at <u>www.findtoto.com</u>. For a reasonable fee, they'll begin calling your neighbors between 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., giving them a description of your missing pet and contact information.

3. **Contact DOGS FINDING DOGS, INC.** on the Internet at <u>www.</u> <u>DogsFindingDogs.com</u> or call them at (410) 908-6374. They're a Maryland-based organization but also have search teams available in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Delaware and the District of Columbia.

4. Have pictures of your pet on hand and also an item that contains your dog's scent.

5. **Call or have a family member call local shelters.** You can get a full listing of shelters at <u>www.petfinder.com</u>. Be sure to include the animal's name, breed, color, gender, spay/neuter status, location and date lost when leaving messages. Call your veterinarian and your local police station, too.

And above all, ACT QUICKLY. The sooner you begin the search, the better your chances will be of finding your pet.

Sincerely,

Your Friends at Animal Rescue, Inc.

Meet Nigel



Nigel really wants a home! This young Chihuahua mix would be perfect for a family with mature children or a young, active person. Nigel is always on the go and is just waiting for the perfect, energetic family to match his enthusiasm! This boy is sweet but he doesn't prefer to vie for attention against the other pups. He would probably be fine with another dog, but would most likely prefer to be the one and only. Nigel is good with cats as well. If you're interested in meeting Nigel, stop by during adoption hours or call us at

> Announcing the Fabulous DDIP Prizes!

1st place:

2 Night Stay at The Mansion House Bed & Breakfast Snow Hill, MD See its website <u>here.</u> & A \$50 gift certificate to The Hobbit Restaurant Ocean City MD See its website here