



Houston Beagle Rescue 2024 First Quarter Newsletter

HBHR Adoption Update

We had a total of 30 Beagle adoptions in 1Q2024. If you are just starting to get this newsletter, it means you recently adopted a Beagle, so congratulations! We hope you enjoy our newsletter, and if you have any comments or questions – we would love to hear from you at info@houstonbeaglerescue.org.

Spotlight on Our Volunteers!

We want to recognize a very special HBHR volunteer, Gary Frederick. Gary has done every volunteer task he has been asked to do since he started volunteering in 2019. He willingly stepped in to take care of a beagle when the foster parents went on vacation that year. Then he took on his first foster beagle girl, Cassie. From that point on, he has always had at least one foster beagle in his home. Gary especially favors the smaller senior beagle girls. He worked at the Dog Show. He has wrangled many beagles at Meet & Greets. Before we had The Beagle Bungalow, we sometimes had an overflow of beagles at a boarding kennel until we could get them into foster homes. Gary volunteered to go spend time with those beagles almost every day, caring for them and helping with their socialization because they were so stressed and scared. After The Beagle Bungalow was founded, he graciously accepted the role of Site Manager. In this role, he helped with the maintenance of the facility and the yard duties. He always took time to give hugs and pets to all the beagles there. They knew they could join him in his apartment for snuggles in the evening.

Gary has recently retired to his new country place south of Houston that has room for his three dogs, Sophie, Lola, and Sugar to roam and chase varmints. Gary decided he was so attached to HBHR permanent fosters, Hattie and Forbes, who had been with him at The Beagle Bungalow, he wanted to take them with him to his new place. Gary, we wish you and your pack all the best in this new chapter of your life. We especially want to thank you for all you have done for HBHR, The Beagle Bungalow and the Beagles over the last five years! Happy Retirement!



Gary with his foster, Cassie.

Gary with beagles at Canine Campers.

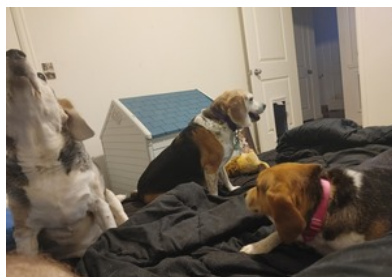


Gary at The Beagle Bungalow

Spotlight on a Beagle

Instead of spotlighting just one of our foster beagles, we want to spotlight our "long haulers". When beagles like Parker come to us, it takes a lot of time, care, and money to get them ready for their forever homes. Parker was found abandoned in a Pasadena park in ill health. She had a herniated mass that needed to be removed. While being examined, another cancerous mammary gland tumor required surgical removal. This required a long recovery period in a foster home. Even when there aren't significant health issues, some of the rescued beagles have been so traumatized by their circumstances, it takes a long rehabilitation period for them to overcome their fear of humans. Jordy is one of those dogs. She came to us in March 2023 after being rescued from the back roads in rural Louisiana. She obviously had been on her own for a while. She recovered within a month from her physical injuries, but was fearful and extremely skittish. It has now been a year and, with lots of patience and love from her foster mom, Linda, she is becoming a trusting and social beagle girl again. Another long hauler named Poco has also been with us for a year. She had been a "yard dog" with very little human interaction over the 10 years of her life. So, it has taken a long time to adapt to people and living inside with good house manners.

This is where we need your help! We **NEVER** want to turn away a beagle in need. We are very fortunate that we have some very dedicated foster homes who are willing and able to take on the "long hauler" cases like Parker, Jordy, and Poco, but it means that a foster home slot is not available for an extended period. We understand not everyone can take on these difficult cases, but if you can foster a beagle for just two weeks, it would help us rescue more beagles into our foster program! Think of it as a short-term dog sitting gig. Many of the beagles without health problems and were previously living in a home are already house-trained and ready for adoption. They just need a couple of weeks for the foster parent to evaluate the beagle's behavioral patterns and personality to help us identify the best fit in a forever home. Or you can volunteer to be a Relief Foster Parent to take in the beagle for a short period when the foster parent needs to travel, or has an emergency situation. If you can foster a beagle for short periods at your convenience, please submit a foster application which you can find on our website, <https://www.houstonbeaglerescue.org/about-fostering/>.





Parker, aka Sandy Lou, with her sibling pack.



Jordy listening for her food dish to be filled. Poco enjoying her yard.

Beagle 101: How to care for a Beagle with PTSD*

Dogs like Parker, Jordy and Poco can suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) like their human counterparts. It is estimated that 5% to 17% of dogs are affected by canine PTSD, a condition which has only been recognized in the last 10 years, so there is still much to learn about how it affects dogs.

It is not always known what may cause PTSD in dogs, but some potential causes are military or police work, being a bait or fighting dog, being raised in a puppy mill, severe abuse, living as a stray after being abandoned, trauma from a disaster (flood, fire, earthquake, tornado, explosion), or being attacked by other dogs or animals. Symptoms of PTSD in dogs are similar to those in humans, which include chronic anxiety; hypervigilance; avoidance of certain people, places, or situations; sleep disturbances; fear of being alone; decreased interest in a favorite activity; or aggression.

If you suspect your beagle may be suffering from this condition, seek help from a veterinary behavioralist who can develop an appropriate treatment plan. You can find a list of specialists here: [American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior's directory](#). If access to a veterinary behavioralist is not possible, your veterinarian will still be able to help your dog get the care they need.

Ways to Manage PTSD in dogs

- Behavior management includes desensitization therapy where a dog is exposed to low levels of stress; then this level is gradually increased to build tolerance for that stimulus.
- Playtime with a well-socialized dog.
- Increased exercise, and mental stimulation.
- Medications include anxiolytics, anti-depressants, or beta-blockers.

Time and patience are vital to the management of canine PTSD. The human will need to actively work with their dog on a daily basis and be in regular communication with their veterinary team. Although adopting a beagle with a history of trauma requires a caring and dedicated person, the bond that is formed between the rescued beagle and the pet parent is an unbreakable gift that is well worth the time and effort.

**Dr. Lori Teller, Associate Professor at Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences.*

<https://vetmed.tamu.edu/news/pet-talk/caring-for-a-dog-with-ptsd/>

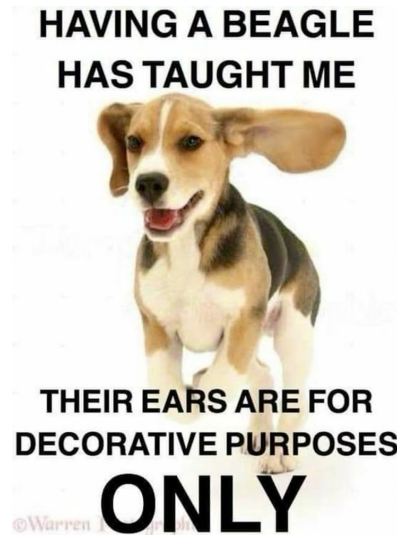
Upcoming Events

HBHR Meet & Greet - Meet & Greet events are on the second Sunday of each month from noon to 3 pm. Please check the HBHR website for location details. Stop by to say hello if you are in the area. We always love catching up with the Beagle!

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HBHR Memorial Bricks - You can acknowledge your Beagle with a Memorial Brick that will be placed in the Memorial Beagle Walkway at The Beagle Bungalow - Dedicated to Charlie Roberts and All First Beagles! Your donation of \$100 will purchase a brick with an inscription of your choice and will help future HBHR beagles find their forever homes. If you are interested, request an order form here: info@houstonbeaglerescue.org

Before we go, a Beagle smile!



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