# Charlie in Training By: Terry Rawlings

Hi. My name is Charlie. I was adopted from TALGV and have been in my new home eight months now. I have been trying to train Mama and Papa to do the things I want. They were a little slow on the uptake, but have been making remarkable progress lately.

When I am ready to get out of bed and go outside it is even before the sunshine begins. At first, I had to jump off the bed to wake them up. Now that they are trained, I stand up in bed and shake my whole body to wake my peoples up. (I never liked jumping off the bed in the dark.)

Mama or Papa jumps out of bed, puts on slippers and robe and goes outside with me. They take a flashlight so we can see if there are any bobcats or coyotes out there. They don't seem to realize that I will protect them. When I smell something, I charge off into the darkness, barking to scare off whatever is out there. After all, I am a miniature poodle.

At breakfast time, Mama is always the pack leader. She keeps my meat in small jars in the meat

box, a big, shiny box in the kitchen that always seems to be cold inside. I don't know why that is. It is a mystery. When I first came to my new home, Mama would put out dry food for me, but I wouldn't eat it. I wanted meat. Finally she became trained to mix meat with my dry food.

Sometimes, at breakfast, I only eat the meat at first. Later, after my walk with Papa and Mama, I have trained Papa to put a treat in my meal dish, and I pretend that the treat makes me eat the kibble. Mama has resisted the "give me a treat" training tactic, so far.

When I want to play, I stand over one of my toys and make my "play with me" bark. They caught on to this immediately. I was proud of them—they were so easily trained.

When I need to go outside, I tried training them by staring at them. If they don't get it, I walk towards the door, stop and look back at them, as if to say, "Are you coming?" They still need a lot of work on picking up these passive clues. I sometimes have to resort to active measures. I poke the rocking chair to make it

move. This always attracts their attention. Since this signal works so well, I use it for other things now. If I want them to pet me, I will go up to a leg, and poke them with my nose. Touching Mama and Papa like that always works.

Sometimes before dinner time, Papa starts music— someone singing words I don't understand. Papa and Mama dance around the kitchen together. Feeling left out, I walk

over to them and stand in the way. Mama picks me up, holds me between them with my head snuggled against the softness of Mama's chest, and dance—all three of us together, as a family. I love snuggly dancing.

While dancing, I reach up and kiss Mama on the cheek (even on the lips if she's not fast enough). Papa says that is OK "but no tongues!" He seems to think that is funny. But it is just silly. How else could I kiss Mama?

Now if only I could train them to go to bed when the sun stops shining....



Charlie's first day in his new home



# Waggin' Tails & Purrfect Endings

## News From Our Readers



#### **JAKE**

Jake is getting along great with the other cat and two dogs in the family—chasing each other around the house and making a mess. He's super playful and very happy in his new home.

Courtney Lathom

#### DOTTIE

We are such a lucky family finding Dottie. She is our 8-year-old Shepard/Border Collie mix. All I need to say



is "Walk" or pick up her leash and she runs to the door wagging her tail. It's great for ustwo walks a day means exercise for everyone. Dottie is such a loving and affectionate girl.

When she hears the garage door open she is right at the door waiting for us with her tail going a mile a minute. Thank you TALGV for being such a wonderful organization.

Cynthia Peters

#### MOOSHIE (AKA OONA)

When I first got her home, Mooshie wasn't eating well at all; but after a couple of days, I discovered that she lost two baby teeth, so she'd just had a sore mouth. She's doing everything fine now...waking up my husband at 4 am, but he doesn't seem to mind! JaNell Ellis

#### STONEY & RAYMOND (AKA STORMY & RAINY)



Both Stoney & Raymond are settled in and doing great. They have the run of the house and love watching the birds and rabbits from their big front window.

Annette Volle

#### WALLY

Wally is flourishing. He's such a silly character and we love him sooooo much! He runs and plays every morning at the dog park and goes on



hikes with Mom—he's a great trail dog. His "crazy moments" are now rare. Thank you for taking him off the streets.

Terri & Frank Francino

#### MICHA (AKA SPARK PLUG)

Micha is such a cutie and a total joy. She is trying to play with our 8-year-old cat who is pretty much saving. "Where did you get **THAT** thing??" But,



they are making progress. Micha is a loving little thing and we adore her.

Ann Derr

#### BOOKER

~Before being adopted, Booker lived at The Animal League for 26 months, thank to TALGV's donors.

Booker has become a big part of my everyday life. He goes to work with me everyday and has won the hearts of my coworkers—they even brought in a small couch to put in the breakroom for him. I've had to do a little correcting on his house manners; he does like to destroy cardboard



boxes when he gets bored, and the blue ball he was given for his going-away present was in a hundred pieces in a couple of minutes. Booker is a down-right great dog and companion! I'm pretty sure that I have been "rescued" too.

Scott Kirkland

Hurry in to TALGV on April 30 National Adopt-A-Shelter-Pet Day plenty to choose from

# Chewy's Odyssey

By: Linda Moser

If ever a cat were aptly named, it was Chewy (who could easily have been the poster boy for reasons *NOT* to allow your cat outdoors!). When he arrived in July 2018, his head and physical injuries were so severe he



was hardly recognizable as a cat, and was immediately rushed to a local vet.

Sahuarita residents had seen him roaming their neighborhood and begging food for several months, but one morning after he

showed up badly beaten and barely alive (he might have said, "you should have seen the other guy," but he couldn't *possibly* have looked worse than Chewy!), they finally brought him to TALGV.

It took two months, numerous surgeries, the administration of subcutaneous fluids, syringe feeding, (and, for Chewy, way too many weeks of wearing the dreaded e-collar!), and tons of TLC from the volunteers before he finally recovered enough to be considered for adoption. And through it all, Chewy was the personification of patience with the daily care, with never a whimper, meow, squeak, or extended claw. He knew that somewhere down the road, he was going to be rewarded for his (and our) perseverance.

And then the day came when he was—in a big way. Dr. Horton, from San Cayetano Veterinary Hospital in Rio Rico, wanted to "repay" TALGV for all that our Outreach Program has done for local pets at his clinic, and asked for our recommendation of a cat to be a "meeter and greeter" in their office (we think *ALL* vet clinics should have them!).

After having "auditioned" one other long-time TALGV resident who just wasn't "into" the job, the volunteers introduced Dr. Horton to Chewy, shared the

story of his long road to recovery, and it was love at first sight. At the end of September, Chewy had a new home!

In February, five of the cat care volunteers went to visit Chewy. When he'd left us, his fur was coming along nicely, although still a bit choppy and rough, so we weren't quite sure what the finished product was going to look like. Dr. Horton had been giving us periodic updates on Chewy's improvement and told us

how well he'd adjusted and how much they all loved him, but we'd never seen pictures. You can imagine then the surprise when they arrived and saw an absolutely gorgeous *longhaired* tuxedo gentleman strutting around like he



owned the place (which he pretty much did)! The metamorphosis was astounding.

Chewy shares his days with another office cat—they're still working out who's top cat, but Chewy thinks he has a much more persuasive claim to that honor, so he figures he's got the title in the bag! He also says that whenever you're in the area, please stop by to visit—he always has time to sit on a lap and tell everyone how grateful he is for all the love and care he received in making the journey to the home for which he was always destined!



Chewy had two months of life-saving medical care, thanks to TALGV's donors.



In 2018, your generosity provided a safe shelter, nutritious food, life-saving medical care and necessary training for needy dogs and cats in our community. TALGV received gifts

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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list, but if we have omitted your name in error, please accept our apology.

### THE BOX AT THE ATTIC



For the two Attic Thrift Store volunteers, it started as a typical day—drive to the home on the pick-up schedule, load up the truck with the donated items, return to the warehouse, and unload the truck. But as they were doing so,

something about the box caught their attention.

It was just an old metal file box, the size that would be used for storing one's documents and other 8½" X 11" paperwork. The box had a lock, but the key was long gone, so it wasn't a good place for valuables. The volunteers wondered what the owner had kept inside. They opened the lid and saw that the box was empty.

But somehow, the men were still curious. Looking back on it, they think it may have been because the box felt heavier than they expected and it seemed taller on the outside than the inside. As they turned the box this way and that, they noticed the two narrow sides were not identical. In fact, one side was movable and slid up to reveal a drawer under the floor of the box.

When the two volunteers opened the drawer, they were flabbergasted to find that the deceased owner had indeed used it to store something—\$100 bills—totaling an unbelievable \$9000!

Here is the happy ending. The money was returned to the

owner's astounded daughter, who had been convinced that her mother's savings, one way or another, were

gone. And yes, she generously donated some of the money to TALGV.

Our Attic Thrift Store staff reminds you to always double-check your donated items—including pockets, purses, and pages of books for valuables. We won't survive the shock of another

surprise like this one!





### **Spotlight On Our Donors**



Green Valley Golden Girls-Andrea Lawlor, Judy Marinaro, Jeanne Bischoff, Nancy Bewsey, Mary Hubbard & Chris Jackson-donated \$1,703 from the sale of their 2019 calendars and additional contributions from friends.

Two friends, Zacery (8) and Cici (7) ran a lemonade stand in their neighborhood, raised \$75.75 and donated the money they made.



## 2018 in Review

Thanks to YOU—our many Donors, Supporters, Friends & Volunteers—during 2018, The Animal League of Green Valley:

Took in 368 cats and 426 dogs.

Found homes for 358 cats and 467 dogs.

Reunited 3 cats and 36 dogs with their owners.

Raised almost \$500,000 for animal care from The Attic Thrift Store.

Spay/neutered 1700 pets through our Community Outreach Program.

Spent \$42,386 on food for our animals.

Had 500 volunteers... and NO paid staff... who worked a total of 131,106 hours, the equivalent of 68 full-time employees.

Will you say "YES" to these trusting animals?



Is there really a DOG under all that hair?



Please give generously for the dogs & cats.





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