



Seasons Grrrrreetings to You and All Your Critters from PARTNERS! Canines!



Moving Forward... Hello and Season's Greetings to all our 2- and 4-legged friends out there! We've had another incredible year saving shelter pets, and we couldn't have done it without your support! As we look forward to 2018, we see many changes afloat, but with you by our sides, we also see much hope for North Carolina's shelter pets.

Thanks to our volunteers, our many rescue partners, our dedicated Board, and all our wonderful supporters, we will be moving into the new year with confidence! Our new van has already moved a bunch of great shelter dogs and cats to safety so far this year, and our new board members and volunteers have started to organize in ways that will help guarantee that 2018 will be a successful year, for us and for the pups we save. In addition to almost 1000 wonderful dogs and puppies we saved over the past year, we were also able to provide a 2nd chance for cats and kittens as well. We are and always will be PARTNERS! Canines, but it warms our hearts to be able to assist our homeless feline friends whenever and wherever we are able to do so.

Please help us give a big heart-felt welcome to our new board members Janet Myers, Judy Vincent and Linda Pranger! You will find Janet and Judy involved in just about every companion animal welfare effort going on in the High Country. Judy has agreed to serve as our new Transport Coordinator for the coming year, Janet is serving as our new Vice President (and our Overall Organizational Queen!), and Linda is serving as our new Treasurer (as she also continues to contribute to our great foster home team). We would like to give a shout out of gratitude to our previous Transport Coordinator and President, Jessica Bryant, for all her service and hard work over these past several years. Jessica is moving to the beautiful Asheville area, and we know you will join us in wishing her the best as she continues her career and her shelter dog assistance efforts there.



Quik, Melissa, Annie, and Grace

We are also happy to report that our ongoing spay/neuter initiatives in some of the counties we work in are yielding positive results, and through our partnership with other area shelters and rescue organizations, we hope to continue our work to lower shelter intake and provide more and better options for the animals who find themselves homeless. We are working in conjunction with the Humane Society of the United States to convert pet stores across NC from puppy mill profiteers to adoption facilities for rescued pets. We are working on enlarging our volunteer program, our foster program AND our local adoption program. Whether you revel in volunteering from home, providing temporary sanctuary for discarded pets, or coming out personally to meet the wonderful animals we save by helping with our transports, we pretty much have a job for you! Go to our website

www.partnerscanines.org to fill out a volunteer and/or foster application if you want to help. So stay tuned, stay involved, and please consider supporting us financially now, or consistently throughout the coming year. As I've said time and time again, **it takes a village** to make our life-saving efforts possible, and we welcome you to partner with us as we face the work, and the joy, that 2018 will bring.

Blessings to one and all. Melissa Bahleda, Founder, PARTNERS! Canines

On the Road with PARTNERS! Canines... After many years of service, transporting 10,000 dogs over 100,000 miles, our old blue van was retired. We are proud to announce that because of a generous grant from the ASPCA, this year PARTNERS! Canines was able to purchase a Dodge Ram Promaster van!!!! It is customized with a "second" climate controlled HVAC unit for the cargo section to keep the dogs and cats comfortable during those year-round lifesaving trips throughout North Carolina, picking up pups from our numerous rescue partners, headed for Providence Animal Center in Pennsylvania and other adoption partner locations. With the larger cargo section in the new van we have increased our dog crate capacity by 50%, to be able to hold up to 30 crates! We have so much room that we can easily fit in our twelve new (Ruff Tough) single piece heavy duty plastic crates that were acquired from a \$2000 grant from the ASPCA. Installation of the E-Track units on the walls of the van's cargo section allows us to securely fasten crates to control shifting by excited pups! The backup camera and interior cargo camera adds to the safety of the driver and the precious cargo on their way to their next destination! **Miles and Miles of saving lives!!!**



Want to save lives in a BIG way? SPONSOR A VAN-FULL OF RESCUED PUPS and get your name on our beautiful new transport van! \$300 is all it takes! A great gift or tribute to someone special. Call Melissa for details: 828-355-9893.



PARTNERS! Canines
Saving Over 2,000 Shelter Dogs and Puppies in 2014!
For more information about us visit www.partnerscanines.org!



3rd Annual High Country K-9 Keg Pull

Please join us on **Saturday, January 6, 2018** at noon in Banner Elk for the High Country K-9 Keg Pull benefitting PARTNERS! Canines! This is the third year in a row we will be holding this fun winter event, and the first year it will be held at My Best Friend's Barkery in downtown Banner Elk. Cross those fingers and puppy toes that we'll have snow this year, because our race track will be bigger and better than ever before! Regardless of the weather, the Keg Pull promises to be fun for all ages, humans and canines alike. As always, there will be various weight and size and age categories, with the smallest dogs pulling beer cans and the largest dogs pulling full-sized kegs. **Online registration is going on now at <https://highcountryk9kegpull.weebly.com/> and will close on Friday, January 5 at 10am.** You can also register your dog for the Keg Pull on the day of the event 11am-noon. **REGISTRATION IS \$15 PER DOG, or \$30 for a Race Packet that INCLUDES A T-SHIRT.** All friendly, non-aggressive, vaccinated dogs are welcome to participate. ALL REGISTRANTS WILL RECEIVE A REGISTRATION GIFT PACKAGE AT THE EVENT AND ALL ARE ELIGIBLE FOR GREAT PRIZES! This year's holiday raffle will also conclude during the event, and the winning tickets will be drawn right after the races. Please mail in your enclosed raffle tickets ASAP for a chance at these great prizes, and plan to join us at My Best Friend's Barkery in Banner Elk on January 6 for lots of fun and a shot at more great prizes. All the COOL dogs will be there!!



We also need sponsors for the Keg Pull—email partnerscanines@gmail.com.



Thanks to everyone who donated to the Florida and Puerto Rico Supply Drive! We were able to send 40,000 pounds of needed items to hurricane victims in both locations, including almost 30,000 pounds of dog, cat and horse food! THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS & SUPPORT!

Do you know of a dog that has been left out in the cold? If you know of a dog needing a dog house, bedding or food this winter, please contact PARTNERS! Canines at 828-434-0620.

RAFFLE*RAFFLE*RAFFLE*RAFFLE*RAFFLE*RAFFLE*RAFFLE*RAFFLE*RAFFLE*

Want to contribute to our rescue efforts AND possibly win some GREAT prizes?

You probably noticed the enclosed tickets...Here's what you do with them:

Instructions: Fill out each of the tickets and tear in half. BE SURE TO HOLD ON TO YOUR STUBS!

Mail the filled out parts to us in the envelope provided with a check for the number of tickets you want to purchase, by December 31. TICKETS ARE: 1 for \$5, 3 for \$10, and 10 for \$25.

Prizes include:

- Intel Inflatable Kayak for 2 with paddles**
- 2 night stay at Rugby Creek Farm Cabins in beautiful Ashe County
- DOG TRAINING CLASS (6 weeks) FROM WOOPACK PET SERVICES**
- Weekday Lift Ticket at Beech Mountain Resort
- Loaded Dog Goodie Basket from Mast General Store**
- 2 Night Dog-Friendly Stay at Studio 903 on Beech Mountain**
- 2 Free Nights of Lodging @ Ridge Runner Pet Lodging**

Each winning ticket drawn wins one of the above prizes. Make great gifts!!!

Drawing will be held Saturday, January 6, 2018 at the 3rd Annual High Country K-9 Keg Pull at My Best Friend's Barkery in Banner Elk, NC. Winning tickets will be announced during the event. Come to the K9 Keg Pull on January 6 to pick up your prize in person OR any winners not in attendance will be contacted at the phone number listed on the ticket. So please write legibly! More tickets available at Pet Place in Boone and at My BestFriends Barkery in Banner Elk.

This is a great way to save great shelter dogs and win great prizes! Remember, \$25 sponsors a dog on one of our transports!

The Story of Ebony and Onyx

In August two cute little sisters landed in Wilkes Animal Shelter (1). We named them Ebony and Onyx and pulled them for our transport program. But they quickly showed signs of sickness, and we got the bad news that they had broken with Parvo. This highly contagious disease is often deadly, and to make matters worse, it was the weekend, so the two baby girls had to be rushed to the Emergency Clinic in Boone and put on IV fluids in order to save their lives. We racked up a \$636 vet bill that weekend, but Ebony and Onyx were recovering! And the best part is that generous donors stepped forward and donated enough money to cover their vet bill, which would have really cut into our very limited transport funds. Ebony and Onyx went to recover at one of our best foster homes, Nancy Coffey's. With the great care Nancy gave them (2), both girls were back to their sassy, sweet and noisy selves, and were ready to be spayed. Our wonderful vet and Board member Dr. Royal did the surgery (3), and Ebony and Onyx were ready for their forever homes.

Through our online adoption application process on our website www.partnerscanines.org we found 2 great homes for the girls. Here's Ebony (now Emma Lou) with her new canine sibling (4). Her family says, "She and our big dog are family! The kids love her and she loves our family! She has accepted her spoiled status with ease!" Onyx (now Lucy) is an unofficial therapy dog for her adopter's (5) elderly mother (6). She says, "Lucy goes with me to see Mom each day. Mom laughs at her puppy antics and they enjoy napping together. What great therapy!" We have some great pups up for adoption now, so you can make a happy story too!

