In order to keep our adopters informed of NBRF activities and foster more of a sense of community among NBRF adopters, we have decided to start publishing regular quarterly newsletters. Please notify NBRF if you move!

This has been a busy year for NBRF. As of August 26, we have taken in 50 Borzoi, and there could be as many as 50 more coming in the next 30 days. **If you have ever thought about fostering, now would be a good time to decide to do it!** Contact Carol Backers at borzoirescue@reagan.com, Sally Hennessey at sthennessey@windstream.net or Liz Duncan-Burge at zanozaborzoi@aol.com. If you’d like to volunteer in other ways—transporting dogs, doing home visits, if you’re a whiz at fundraising—please let us know. We’d love to put your talents to work.

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**HERE IS YOUR BOARD: OVER 65 YEARS IN RESCUE!**

**Director:** Carol Backers recently retired from many years in production sewing so she could devote ALL her time to NBRF. Her husband, Tom, is retired military and works part-time doing maintenance for an apartment complex. Carol got her first Borzoi in 1982 or 1983 and she and Tom currently have five Borzoi. Carol became involved with rescue after talking with Judy Lofgrin, and says she did rescue back when she had St. Bernards, but they weren’t calling it rescue. She has been Director of NBRF since its formation in 1994. Anyone who has talked to Carol for more than a few minutes knows she is completely devoted to Borzoi.  

**Secretary-Treasurer:** Liz Duncan-Burge is the Captain of the Patrol Division in a Sheriff’s Office in southern Illinois and has 18+ years on the force. Her husband, Scott, is also in law enforcement. Liz got her first Borzoi in 1990 and did her first rescue shortly thereafter, before NBRF was established. She does a little showing in conformation, but her heart is in performance, and she is active in lure coursing, LGRA and NOTRA. Liz started volunteering with NBRF around 1995, was Vice-Director for some years, and in April of 2013 became Secretary-Treasurer. She has Borzoi, a Border Collie inherited from a deceased friend, cats, and Scottish Highlander cattle, and they all live on a 35-acre farm. Liz got involved in rescue because she feels that if you breed, you need to protect the breed, and rescue is part of that.  

**Vice-Director:** Sally Hennessey has been a litigation paralegal for 34+ years. Her husband, Pat, is a nuclear security officer at Perry Nuclear Power Plant. Their first Borzoi, Trissa, came to them in 2000 as one of the most damaged WV rescues and they now have five Borzoi, one greyhound, two IGs and one cat who is the boss of them all. Sally has volunteered with local humane societies and been active in greyhound rescue for 20 years. She and Pat formed and ran Lake Erie Greyhound Rescue for 10+ years; it was the first Ohio greyhound group to do home visits and testing for tick-borne diseases. Sally has volunteered with NBRF and became its Vice-Director in July 2013.

**WE’RE ON FACEBOOK!**

https://www.facebook.com/nationalborzoirescuetfoundation

SEPTEMBER 2013

VOLUME I, ISSUE 1

NEWS
YOU CAN USE
Team Valery by Pam Perkins

Senior Borzoi Valery lived in squalor in an apartment on Beekman Place, one of Manhattan’s finest addresses. His owner hardly ever walked him and the stench in her apartment was so bad that it seeped through the walls. Facing eviction, this woman planned to put Valery down if she could not find someone to take him. Valery was debarked at an early age and when boarded at the vet hospital his owner used, shortly before his rescue, the record stated that he was aggressive and vicious with other dogs and with people.

A volunteer for NYPeticare, Pam left the owner an anonymous note with contact information for NBRF. She later learned that the woman was trying to get in touch with her, since she knew of her rescue work in the neighborhood. NYPeticare and NBRF connected on a website and Operation Valery was launched. A foster home was found in Virginia, with many others wanting to adopt Valery permanently. Before the trip, NYPeticare worked with Valery every day and found that the ‘dog aggressive’ and ‘vicious’ hound was gentle with other dogs and people, and was admired by everyone on Beekman Place, including tourists from Argentina who had to have their photographs taken with this regal Russian hound. When he was picked up for the journey, Valery did not even look back at his owner, and even flinched when she tried to pet him and say good bye. On a glorious September day, Pam and Lisa H. drove Valery down to Virginia to meet his new foster mom and her dog-loving four-year old daughter. Michael Owens, Director of The Sighthound Underground, embraced Valery and provided super foster care, and Val finally had a garden where he could run, play, and enjoy the sun and the company of other Borzoi.

After all those years of neglect, Valery was emaciated and weak, his muscles atrophied. However, Michael and Pam were confident that in Michael’s loving and professional hands, and given time, Valery would become strong and healthy, for both women had seen many dogs in far worse shape recover. When Michael took Valery to her veterinarian in Virginia, the vet read the record from the NYC animal hospital, and said that there must have been a mistake; the Borzoi she examined was gentle and loving, not aggressive or vicious.

Sadly, it was determined that Valery had cancer and that it was inoperable. It was fortunate that the owner’s vet in NYC missed the diagnosis, since Valery would have been put down then and there. This way our wonderful Brave Borzoi Boy was able, for just 18 days, to experience the love, care and life he so deserved.

Carol Backers and Maggie Mae
Maggie Mae needed a home in which to spend her last years after her owner died.
WANTED: YOUR IDEAS!

With vet bills totaling around $14,000 so far this year, we are exploring some ideas for ongoing fundraising efforts and would be interested in any ideas you might have. We have done eBay auctions in the past, but these have had limited success. If you have thoughts or suggestions in this regard, please pass them along to any Board member.

If you have items you’d like to see included in the newsletter—stories about your dog’s life after adoption, things you do with your dog, photos, dog treat recipes, information about dog care and health—please send them to Vice-Director Sally Hennessey at sthennessey@windstream.net. Please understand that we reserve the right to edit any submissions.

TO THE UNSUNG HEROES

Heartfelt thanks to those who:
- Maintain and update our website
- Maintain and update our Facebook page
- Keep us advised of Borzoi advertised on Craigslist and other internet sites
- Transport dogs (some folks log hundreds to thousands of miles)
- Foster dogs
- Adopt dogs
- Do home visits

Thank you!

COMING SOON...

NBRF is partnering with Benefit Wines! Check out Benefit Wines’ website at http://www.benefitwines.com/ to see the wines they offer, and keep an eye on NBRF’s website for an announcement when they’re available. We are very excited about this fundraising opportunity and hope that it is successful for us! So, all you winos out there (you know who you are) - buy Howling Borzoi Vineyards wines!

Watch also for NBRF logo merchandise on Café Press...
**WANTED: FOREVER HOME FOR TWO**

Ditto the Borzoi and Buddy the Boxer mix are a tightly bonded pair and were found running loose in the Snohomish area of Washington state on July 16th. Ditto’s breeder was located and, due to financial reasons, she said she could not pay to transport him back across the country. The breeder did say that she contacted the father of the person she placed the dog with and found out that the owner, a veteran, was now homeless. Apparently the owner had traveled halfway across the country with her two dogs before they got loose. As NBRF’s charter does not permit us to spend funds on non-Borzoi rescues, we did a fundraiser for Ditto and his Buddy. The funds went specifically for the veterinary and foster care of Buddy and have covered all of his veterinary expenses to date. There has been an outpouring of sympathy and caring for the dogs, their owner, and her situation. Cathy Gilles stepped to the plate and was willing to long-term foster the two dogs together if the owner could be located. To date, the breeder of Ditto has not provided NBRF with any further information so we could attempt to contact the owner, or her father, to offer assistance and let her know where and how her dogs were. Now we are looking for a VERY special home who will love and take care of BOTH Ditto and his Buddy for their lifetime. They are both neutered, UTD on vaccinations and are HW negative. They walk well on lead, get along well with other dogs and are tightly bonded to each other - where one goes, the other is right there. If you think these two wonderful deserving dogs would fit into your home, please go to [www.nbrf.org](http://www.nbrf.org) and complete an adoption application and email it to either zanozaborzoi@aol.com or borzoirescue@reagan.com

We have 12 or so other Borzoi available for adoption. Check the website or contact a Board member for details!

**RECENT DOG FOOD RECALLS:** Iams and Eukanuba dry dog and cat foods. For more information on this and other recalls, check here: [http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm365154.htm](http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm365154.htm).

**GLUTEN-FREE PUMPKIN TREATS**

Here is a healthy pumpkin treat recipe for your dogs:

2 eggs  
1/2 cup canned pumpkin (or try mashed sweet potatoes)  
2 tablespoons dry milk  
1/4 teaspoon sea salt  
2 1/2 cups brown rice flour * (I just grind up brown rice in my grain mill)  
1 teaspoon dried parsley (optional)

Preheat oven to 350.

In large bowl, whisk together eggs and pumpkin to smooth. Stir in dry milk, sea salt, and dried parsley (if using, optional). Add brown rice flour gradually, combining with spatula or hands to form a stiff, dry dough. Turn out onto lightly floured surface (can use the brown rice flour) and if dough is still rough, briefly knead and press to combine.

Roll dough between 1/4 – 1/2” – depending on your dog’s chew preferences, – and use biscuit or other shape cutter to punch shapes, gathering and re-rolling scraps as you go. Place shapes on cookie sheet, no greasing or paper necessary. If desired, press fork pattern on biscuits before baking, a quick up-and-down movement with fork, lightly pressing down halfway through dough. Bake 20 minutes. Remove from oven and carefully turn biscuits over, then bake additional 20 minutes. Allow to cool completely on rack before feeding to dog.

* Brown rice flour gives the biscuits crunch and promotes better digestion. Many dogs have touchy stomachs or allergies, and do not, like many people, tolerate wheat.

Makes up to 75 small (1”) biscuits or 50 medium biscuits
SPEAKING OF FUNDRAISERS....

NBRF has 25 of these numbered (1-500), limited edition prints for sale. The print, entitled “At the Forest’s Edge”, by Nerraw, measures 35” x 25 1/4”. Price is $50.00, plus $8.00 for shipping in a Priority Mail mailing tube. Because the prints were donated to us, ALL proceeds benefit NBRF.

To order, send a check for $58.00 to Liz Duncan-Burge, Secretary/Treasurer, at 23132 North Lopez Lane, Dix, IL 62830. If you’d like to use Paypal, email Liz at zanozaborzoi@aol.com to advise of payment by Paypal and the address to which the print should be mailed.
IT ALWAYS COMES DOWN TO MONEY...

From January 1 through August 26, 2013, NBRF’ s veterinary expenses totaled over $14,250, and several dogs have yet to be vetted. With many more Borzoi on the way to NBRF, we know that this year our veterinary expenses alone will far exceed income from the Beverly Taylor Trust Fund, adoption fees and donations put together. We are working on fundraising ideas, but donations are needed more than ever, and are always much appreciated.

National Borzoi Rescue Foundation is a 501c3 organization and your donations are tax deductible. Donations can be made through our website at nbrf.org using credit cards. You can also donate by check, and if you ’d like to make a donation in memory of or in honor of a loved human or animal, or if you’ d like to make a donation as a gift to someone, we will send an acknowledgement letter to the honoree. If this is something you ’d be interested in, you can use the form below and send to Liz Duncan-Burge at the address on page 5 of this newsletter.

Donor name: ____________________________

Donor address: ____________________________

Donor address continued: ____________________________

Donation in honor of: ____________________________

Donation in memory of: ____________________________

Donation as gift to: ____________________________

Gift occasion ( if desired) : ____________________________

Letter sent to honoree? __ __ __ __

Address of honoree: ____________________________