

# UTAH'S PERFECT POINTERS

## March 2015



Welcome to our second newsletter for 2015! We love hearing from you via email and on facebook. We especially appreciate receiving pictures of your dogs and their friends. Check out some recent pictures from adopters on page 4. If you missed our previous newsletters they're posted on [www.utahspointers.org](http://www.utahspointers.org).

### Our Featured Adoptable Girl - Sesi

Sesi is the sweetest, busiest little girl in our pack. This 2-year old is "the GSP who forgot to grow". Don't let her size fool you. She's Everything GSP. She's very smart. She's totally fearless. She's extremely loving. And she's very talented - can open doors and gates. She absolutely needs a home that's familiar with GSP's and has had/trained several successfully. She is not for the faint of heart! She's good with other dogs and all people. She is *not* a cat-kind-of-girl. She needs a job to do. Playing fetch in the back yard isn't going to cut it for her. Sesi needs to go to an active home with all family members over the age of 15 so they will have the time to put into her training to help her become a spectacular, perfect GSP. If you'd like to meet this pretty little girl please contact us at [utahspointers@yahoo.com](mailto:utahspointers@yahoo.com).



### Donations Updates

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to the care, feeding and boarding of our homeless hunters in January and February. We're always happy to accept donations mailed to *Utah's Perfect Pointers - PO Box 171, Draper, UT 84020*. We even have a donation button at [www.utahspointers.org](http://www.utahspointers.org).

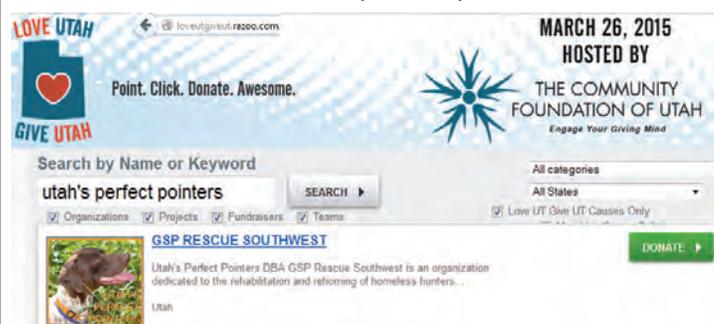
Every penny goes to the dogs. We took in a whopping 17 dogs in January and February - way over our comfort level.

Many thanks to the dog lovers who helped us start the year:

Lynne - Shadow's mom  
David M. - Ace's dad  
Stephanie - Chloe's sponsor  
David & Kimberly  
Tammy & Mike - Addie's parents  
Donna - Dodger's sponsor  
Melanie - sister-in-law  
Nancy - friend  
Ed - Mesa's dad  
Ma & Paws Bakery  
Abby - foster  
Gary & Ginger - lab lovers

### Love Utah Give Utah - March 26

We're participating in the Love Utah Give Utah donation drive this year! And of course our poster child for the event is Phoebes (see p. 2). Love UT Give UT is a one-day giving event for Utah. It's easy to give on March 26 - or sign up to give with them in advance. Just go to [www.loveutgiveut.razoo.com/](http://www.loveutgiveut.razoo.com/) (don't forget the slash at the end) and enter "utah's perfect pointers" in the search slot.



This is the first time for us and we're hoping to reach those pointer lovers out there that may not have heard about us or were wondering why we haven't participated before. Thanks Community Foundation of Utah for this opportunity.

### Spring Social & Silent Auction - May 16

Save The Date! May 16 is our first Spring Social & Silent Auction event! We're so excited! We hope to see all our two-legged friends there!!!

When: May 16, 6 pm - 9 pm  
Where: Utah Dog Park - 1977 West North Temple, SLC  
What: Social evening with wonderful food (Culinary Crafts) and amazing wine (Dee Erickson - TwoDog Wine)  
And: A Silent Auction with great items available for bidding  
And: People who love dogs to chat with  
Tickets: \$35 until May 8; \$40 after May 8  
To purchase tickets please go to: [www.utahspointers.org](http://www.utahspointers.org)



## Two Little Girls

### Cocobella

Cocobella came to us in Nov., 2014 from a shelter in rural Utah. A former owner ground down her teeth to stubs. Her right front foot was seriously mangled from being caught in a trap several years ago and never treated. Walking was painful for her but it didn't affect her sunny disposition. Rob Bagley at Cottonwood operated on her foot, removed the loose toenails that were pressing into her flesh and cleaned up the mangled, broken edges of her bones. Working on those tiny bones is tricky.

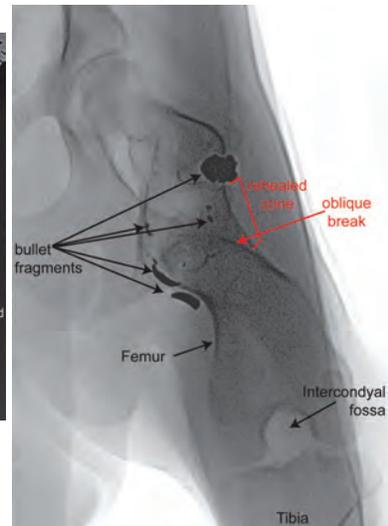
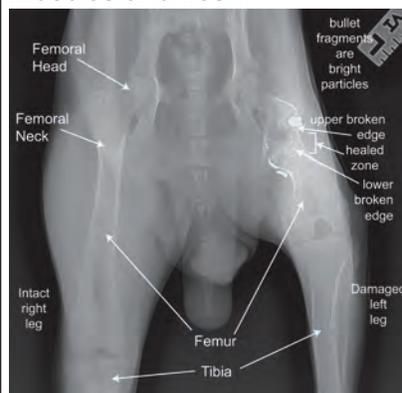


After several weeks' recovery at Lynne's she's going on walks and putting weight on her foot. She's also a pretty fast runner as her new foster family discovered. :)



### Phoebe ("Phoeb's")

Phoeb's is a new arrival. A couple of years ago she'd been shot in the hip which broke the large femur bone in her left leg and compromised the sciatic nerve, both of which were very painful and left her without the use of her leg. Because it was never treated calcification occurred over time with partial regrowth of bone tissue securing the bones at awkward angles. Of course the broken edges of the femur still pressed into her muscles and flesh.



X-radiograph positive view. Denser areas (i.e., bones) are darker than less dense areas (i.e., muscles, flesh).



The day after her arrival, Erin McGillic at Healing Hearts amputated Phoeb's leg and she's a much happier girl! Her balance is good, the pain is diminishing as healing occurs, and she's loving being an inside girl with her foster siblings. We're just appalled that this amazingly loving dog was allowed to suffer for so long.

We rarely ask for donations in the newsletter - after all, we just want to keep in touch with you and let you know what we're up to. However, these were unexpected and pretty spendy operations for us. We'll never turn down a dog for medical reasons but sometimes the costs leave us a little short on cash for things like food. If anyone would like to sponsor one of the girls their two old rescue girls would be very grateful.

### First Yard Sale of the Year!

It's that time of year! Our yard sale guru is gearing up and *we need stuff!*

If you're doing your spring cleaning and have furniture, appliances, odds-&-ends that have been gathering dust all winter, we'd love to have them. Please text Lynne at 385-234-0074 or email [lwill98186@aol.com](mailto:lwill98186@aol.com) (no books, clothes or heavy TV's, please)

Days: Friday, May 15 & Saturday, May 16  
Time: 8 am - 2 pm  
Address: 1113 East Castledale Circle, Sandy (Castledale Circle is 11660 South)

And of course we always appreciate help for pick-ups, set-up, tear-down, and clean up. Please contact Lynne if you can help.

### Utah's Perfect Pointers on KSL

Technically we weren't really on KSL - we just happened to be at Utah Dog Park during the KSL filming of their morning segment. And you know how pointers are about hogging attention. 🍷

#### Julie

Dr. Pam



## Our Featured Daycare/Boarding Facility Diggity Dog Pet Resort

We are so fortunate to have the support of daycare/boarding facilities that help us when we don't have enough foster homes for our dogs (always) and allow our dogs who are being fostered to attend daycare at no cost so their parents can go to work. From north to south these wonderful businesses are: Utah Dog Park, Diggity Dog Pet Resort, Camp Bow Wow, Old Farm Pet Resort, Dog Lodge, and Dog Town. Animal Park (S. Ogden) and Laundermutts (W. Jordan) also provide daycare and occasional boarding when we're stuck - often at the last minute. This newsletter pays tribute to Diggity Dog Pet Resort. Watch for information about Old Farm Pet Resort in our May newsletter. If you're looking for daycare/boarding for your best friend, please support these good samaritans who support our rescue.



**DIGGITY DOG HAS NEW DIGS!** And a new owner! Michelle Goldberg took over the business from long-time owner, Matt Smith, in Nov. 2014. She comes from a corporate background and was looking for a calling that would let her manage a socially-responsible business in a field she cares about.

So much has happened in 3 months with Michelle at the helm. There was the purchase of the new facility which needed



complete renovation from the ground up, installation of K9Grass (the only facility in downtown Salt Lake with this feature), 8-foot fencing around an area 3.5 times larger than the original location, plumbing and installation of grooming tubs at three levels with automatic diffusers for shampoos and conditioners, and ensuring the entire building is ADA compliant. Groomer Joy Burgos is trained in



AKC standards for various breeds. The handlers and staff are versed in the care of special-needs dog clients and able to cater to raw diets. An apartment allows for staff to be on the premises 24/7. Stop by 245 Paramount Ave. and welcome this great new business to Salt Lake (and take the time to pat a pointer while you're there).

## Valentine's Day "Canines & Cupids" Party

Thank you so much to Camp Bow Wow for inviting us to their Canines & Cupids Party. A great time was had by all - especially the pointers. Pointers love to Party!



ELWIN



JESSIE

## In Memory

We received such a nice response from you about this section in our January newsletter that we're going to continue it. It's always hard to lose a loved family member. Their memories comfort us. Most came from desperate backgrounds and found love. We can't think of a better reason for celebration.

Chloe came to UPP in March 2014 from NM on a Rescue Rovers transport. She was



10 years young, her owner died, she was dumped at a shelter by the horrible widow, rejected by a local humane group, and scheduled to be euthanized by a former pet sitter. She was blessed to land with an ACO who works hard to get the best outcome for her charges and to have a protector in TX work to get her placed with us. After 11 months at Marylin's our Chloe developed an aggressive osteosarcoma of her rib cage. She was happily digging in our yard until the day before she died.



Darryl fka Forrest came to us from West Valley Shelter in March 2012 and was adopted in Vancouver BC through our sister GSP rescue

group, Dogwood Sporting Dog Rescue. With their long-time founder, Lichen Tilley, they do a wonderful job of rehoming dogs in need. Darryl was a 14-month old galloping dingbat when he learned to bark in Canadian and became a much loved family member. Sadly he contracted a rare disease, mycobacterium avium, and died in January. Thank you and condolences to all who loved and cared for him.

Daisy was a dear companion to David, Charles, Marley, and finally Ace. She was a sweet young thing with a beautiful smile and love for all who came in contact with her. Daisy was with her family for four short years. They were wonderful years for all. Rest well, Daisy. Thank you for your time with us. We'll miss you.



## Statistics - January/February 2015

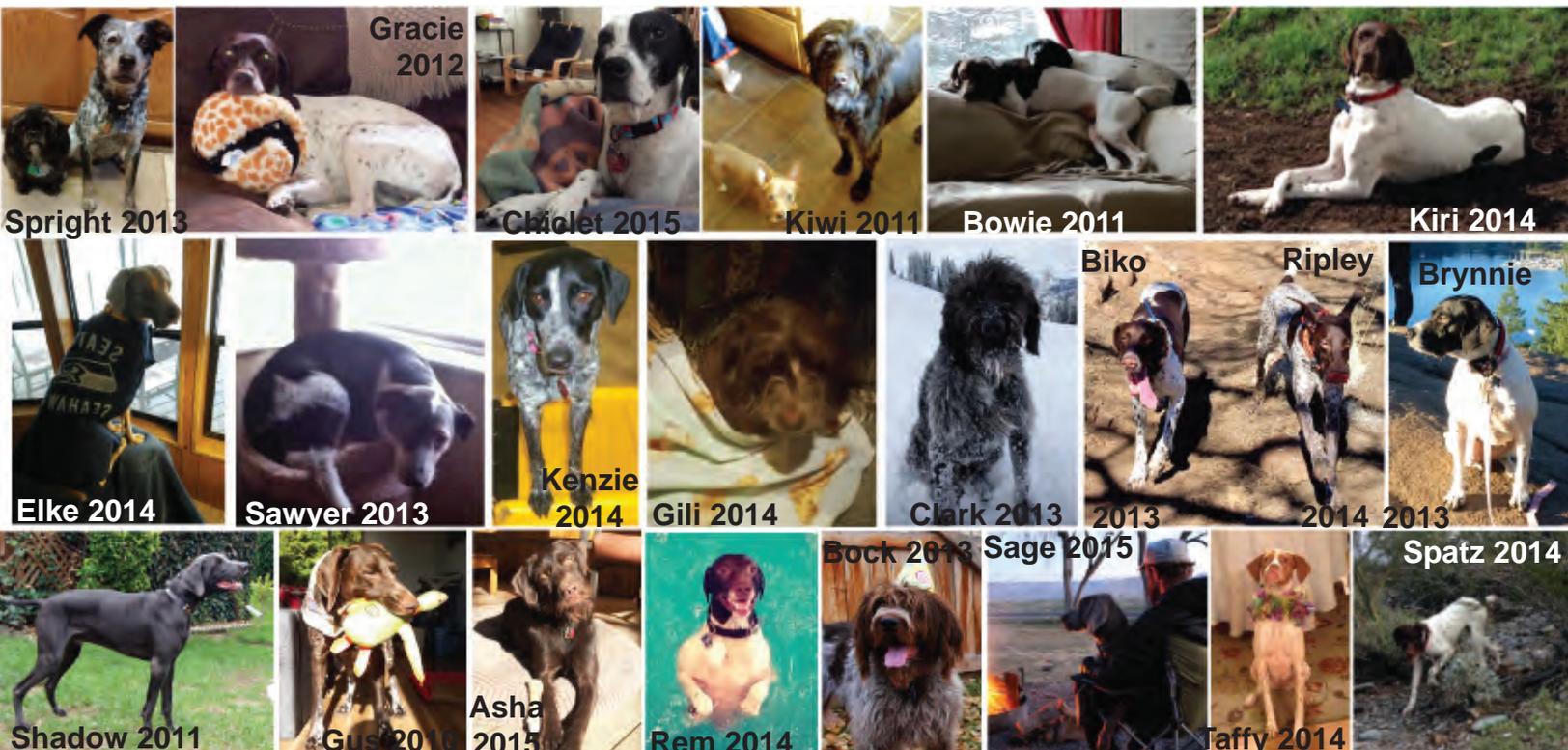
Intakes - Jan/Feb 2015			
On-hand Jan.1	Shelters	Surrenders	Total
23	16	1	40
Outcomes - Jan/Feb 2015			
Adopted	Euthanized	Transferred	Ret Owner
6	1	5	1

\*Transferred dogs are those we take in for other groups (we don't have nearly enough of our own dogs!) and keep for 2-6 weeks while they're being vetted and awaiting transport).

## Pictures From Adopters! (January-February 2015)

Thank you so much to everyone who sent us photos for this issue! We love seeing the dogs we loved while they were with us and how much they're loved with you. Pictures are always welcome at [utahspointers@yahoo.com](mailto:utahspointers@yahoo.com)

Names are from their new homes. Dates reflect the adoption year.



### The "Free Dog" Myth

Every once in awhile we're surprised when someone asks us if there are adoption fees for our dogs since we get them "for free" from shelters and owners who don't want them anymore. Of course, the answer is, "Yes". There are several reasons for this:

1. Dogs are expensive! The ASPCA estimates a medium-size dog will cost its owner a minimum of \$700/year (without major medical occurrences). The one-time adoption fee is the least of the expenses owners will face over the lifetime of their dog.
2. Dogs are expensive! Most come to us unaltered and with health or socialization conditions that we have to address before they can be adopted.
3. Dogs are expensive! We take our time with our placements to ensure that their next home will be forever. During that time we spend an average of \$750/month on food and \$730/month on boarding, even with the help of our wonderful local good samaritans - the daycare/boarding facilities and a few foster homes. That's almost \$1500/month we have to plan for just for food/boarding.
4. Dogs are expensive! Someone's always sick (meds) or comes in with additional medical needs (amputations, chronic conditions, age-related issues). In 2014 we spent \$8,300 on medical needs.
5. Dogs are expensive (and time consuming)! In 2014 Lynne and I drove a combined 32,930 dog-related miles and spent \$4,678 on gas.

On the philosophical side of our adoptions rationale:

1. In our society we place a value on everything. How many times have you heard someone throw something away and say, "Oh well, it didn't cost me anything, anyway." Sadly, this also can apply to dogs. Every year we get calls from people who say, "*We adopted this dog on a whim yesterday from a local event because she's cute and the price was right and.... um..... she's a pointer. Can you take her?*" I know some studies show that "free adoptions" don't reflect the propensity of people to release their dogs. I've read the studies. I'm sceptical.
2. We realize that you don't have to be rich to have a great home for our dogs. Occasionally we've waived adoption fees or allowed people to adopt on the "installment plan" of paying over 3 months. The latter only worked in one instance. The rest of the time we've had to track down adopters for the fees. We don't do this anymore.
3. Mom and dad were right. "Anything worth having is worth working for." This old saying applies to an education, that new pair of boots, and family planning (kids and companion animals).

### The Fine Print

Utah's Perfect Pointers DBA GSP Rescue Southwest is a 501c3 federal charity. Your donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Both entities are registered in Utah. All donations to Utah's Perfect Pointers or GSP Rescue SW are gratefully acknowledged by a letter from either Marylin or Lynne with many, many thanks.