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February 2021 Newsletter

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5 Tips for Making Your Senior Boxer's Life More Comfortable

Boxers are like fine wine; they just keep getting better with age

A 7-year old Boxer will often be considered a senior in the eyes of a veterinarian. Like most seniors, age can catch up with them, which makes it more difficult to run, play and jump around like they could in their younger years. Whether or not you have experienced life with an older dog, it's important to know the basics of how to keep your pet comfortable in his senior years. Here are five tips to help keep your aging Boxer healthy and happy:

1. Tips for Easing Joint Pain

Recognize the signs of hip and joint problems in your dog. Symptoms include: difficulty getting up and down, slowness or stiffness when moving, limping, and favoring one leg. Below are some options to help ease the pain:

- Supplements Joint supplements are used to promote healthy cartilage and joint health. Most contain glucosamine, MSM, and green-lipped mussel.
- Low-impact exercise Exercise will help keep tendons and ligaments flexible and circulate blood to stiff joints.
- NSAIDs Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs help reduce swelling, stiffness, and joint pain. More specifically, aspirin is an over-the-counter NSAID and can be used as a short-term pain reliever. Be sure to purchase coated aspirin as it is easiest on the dog's stomach. Contact your vet for information on the appropriate dosage for your pet.

2. Recommended Amount of Exercise for a Senior Dog

Professionals recommend exercise to keep joints loose and limber. But how much exercise is too much? Here are some tips for exercising your senior Boxer:

- Regular walks, but keep it relatively short.
- Swimming is an excellent activity to maintain exercise while not hurting the joints.
- Limit non-stop games of fetch or long walks because it causes fatigue.
- Range of motion exercises will help your dog move around easier. Help your dog do stretching exercises, or check out acupuncture and massage.

3. Recommended Number of Vet Visits Per Year

Should your annual vet visits increase as your dog gets older? Absolutely. The ASPCA recommends a

wellness checkup every six months to maintain your pet's health. Unfortunately, Cancer is a serious concern for Boxers. More specifically, lymphoma so it is important to keep an eye out for suspicious tumors. They are also prone to hip dysplasia, hereditary heart disease, and hypothyroidism, all of which make routine checkups even more critical to your pet's health.

4. Feeding Older Dogs

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Obesity is a common problem with older dogs because they don't exercise as much and/or continue to intake the same amount of calories as they did in younger years. It is important to note that although the calorie intake should be less, protein levels should not decrease with age because protein maintains and promotes good muscle mass. In addition to protein, your dog should be eating food that is high in fat and fiber.

5. Behavioral and Cognitive Changes

In addition to issues with hearing or vision, you may notice changes in your dog's behavior. Perhaps you find him barking at some invisible boggle, standing in a corner, or forgetting where he normally eats. You may start to wonder if your old companion is suffering from "doggy Alzheimer's." The answer, unfortunately, could be yes. It is a condition properly referred to as canine cognitive dysfunction (CCD). There are similarities between human Alzheimer's and CCD. Unfortunately, there is no cure at this time, but a special diet and prescription medications may help. Talk to your vet.

Please note these are just simple methods.

If your pet is experiencing abnormal pain, seek immediate medical attention.



St. Patrick's Boxers

Send us photos of all your McBoxer(s) and O'Boxer(s) decked out in their **St. Patrick's Day** finest for possible inclusion in our March Newsletter! Consider it a dress rehearsal for the real deal!

Depending upon the quantity received, we will try our best to include all the leprechauns submitted. Please be sure they are of good quality, high resolution, and clear.

Send your photos to us by clicking <u>right here</u> no later than March 5.

Be sure to include the name of the dog(s) for proper credit!





Seeking Donations for Upcoming Online Auction



Bloomington, MN - Duraye dmarshelle@gmail.com

St. Anthony, MN - Lucy rcbr.LucyBlake@gmail.com

Owatonna, MN - Stacy RejectionCollectionBoxerRescue@gmail.com

- Donations wanted by <u>March 28</u>
- Feel free to send a quality photo of your item/s to dmarshelle@gmail.com and then send item to the winner

* Auction will be held mid-April



Direct Your Dollars

Do you shop at Family Fare or D&W Fresh Market? RCBR has the opportunity to earn **\$1,000** from SpartanNash through their <u>Direct Your</u> <u>Dollars</u> program. All you have to do is shop like you usually do!

For every \$150,000 in receipts collected, RCBR can earn a \$1,000 donation from SpartanNash. With your support – and your receipts – we'll be raising money to help more Boxers in need. **#SNDirectYourDollars**

States with participating stores include: Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Check out <u>SpartanNash Grocery</u> to find the location nearest you.

Save your receipts and mail them to: Heidi Schlotzhauer 3823 Edna Street Bellevue, NE 68147



For every \$150,000 in receipts we collect, Rejection Collection Boxer Rescue

will earn \$1,000 check from SpartanNash.

With your support – and your receipts – we'll be raising money to help more Boxers in need

SpartanNash.

Volunteer Spotlight

Barbie Wiech



I am a 41-year old mom of three with two Boxers of my own.

My love for Boxers and the Boxer breed kinda snuck up on me back in 2004, while I was at a poker party. One of my long-time friends had his Boxer girl with him, and I spent the entire party sitting with her ignoring everyone there! I asked what breed she was and immediately went home and logged on the interweb to find the nearest breeder! I drove four hours one way to pick up my soul dog and never looked back. She was 11 years old when she passed, and she was my everything. I tried to give myself some time, but the house was so empty without her goofy ways.

I started volunteering with Minnesota Boxer Rescue in 2018 and soon dove head first into the rescue life. I've made lots of new friends and love the connection I have when meeting new Boxer people (we are a special breed of our own) and they are my people.

I have always wanted to just simply help out where I can and soon was introduced to Rejection Collection Boxer Rescue. I have fostered 11 dogs now between the two rescues. I've helped transport, foster, and done many home visits. I have foster-failed (adopted a foster) twice. So far.

It is truly humbling to know that I, just one person, can help be a part of something so much bigger than myself.

We are all advocates for those who can't advocate for themselves. We are rescue, and I'm truly honored to be a part of all of it with all of you.

January 2021 Adoptions



Casey Adopted 1/3/21

On June 21, 2020 our beloved dog Josee went to heaven. We decided, both being 77, and having health issues, not to get another pet. Thanksgiving 2021, Bonnie decided



Coco Adopted 1/31/21

Over the past couple of years, my daughter would ask if we could adopt another dog to join our family and be a companion to our 10-year old Boxer, Abby. I always said no ... that Bob needed a companion. She devised a plan to surprise him at Christmas with the idea of obtaining a new furry family member. The surprise was came off without a hitch and the search began. On January 3, Casey, an 8-year-old Boxer mix, joined our clan.

She is so perfect for us. She likes to run in her new big yard, go for car rides, walks with her Dad, and nap - another activity Mom and Dad enjoy. We found our forever friend. We look forward to several fun years to come.

RCBR worked hard to find the right angel for us. We want to thank them for all of their time and effort.

Bob, Bonnie and Casey



Jules Adopted 1/16/21

On December 23, 2020, we lost our white Boxer girl, Josie, to hemangiosarcoma. Our hearts were broken. Our home was just not complete without a white Boxer. I reached out to Stacy and said, "Hey, if you come across a white Boxer in need, keep us in mind." On January 3, I got a message that a foster was needed for this poor 8 year-old girl who had been in a shelter for three weeks. Stacy asked if we would be interested in fostering her and my immediate response was YES!!!! I don't think I even made it a full day before I messaged her back and said we would like to foster to adopt! I just felt Josie and Jake (the two white Boxers I had lost over the years) were sending her to me. Jules was sprung from the shelter in Alabama on January 6, stayed with her foster until January 16, and then began her 1,100 mile trip home to us in Pennsylvania. During Jules' time with Kara, we were surprised to find out she was in fact not 8. She was only 1.5 - 2 years old! We were getting a puppy. We typically take seniors so this was quite the surprise. God bless Kara, I drove her crazy everyday checking on Jules. Those were 10 of the longest days for me.

until last month. She asked again. I said no again. And then she showed me a photo of Coco. It immediately felt right so this time I said yes. We fell in love with Coco before we even met her and we love her even more now. She's such a doll - a happy little wiggle butt who makes us laugh when she hops and does her kidney bean dance. It's even better when both she and Abby are doing their dance together! I've never adopted before but I'm so glad I did. Rejection Collection Boxer Rescue has been wonderful. I'm blown away by the love and dedication of Coco's foster parents, Nicole and Chris, and of all the wonderful volunteers who traveled 1,400 miles over a two day period to get her to us.

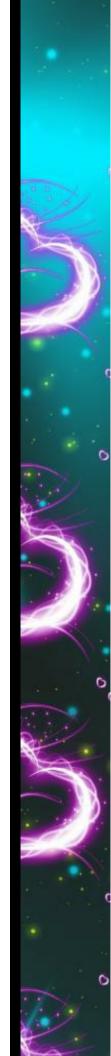
Thank you all so much for bringing us our sweet "bundle of joy"!



Ziggy Adopted 1/26/21

My name is Josh and I had the pleasure of adopting Ziggy. I actually wasn't even looking for another dog really. I adopted Lolly from another Boxer rescue earlier in 2020. I thought she might want a playmate and a companion when I'm at work, but didn't think too much on it. A friend lost his dog right before Christmas and I started looking on Boxer rescue websites in search of a good match for him. Then I saw Ziggy. I knew he would be too big for my friend, so I kinda moved on. However, I just couldn't get Ziggy out of my head. I thought "someone will adopt this guy" and kept checking the website. He was still there. I know some people don't care to adopt older dogs, but I just want all Boxers to be loved. I messaged to ask about him and the next thing I knew, I was driving to meet him and take him home.

Ziggy had a long trip from Minnesota to Indiana, and from what everybody said, he was the perfect passenger. Thank you to all the drivers and volunteers! When we got home, Ziggy was properly introduced to Lolly and they clicked right away. Lolly was so happy to have someone to play with. They run around and play in the



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My husband and I drove to Virginia to meet the transport team on January 16. Jules entered my arms around 6:30 p.m. and it was pure joy. Jules is an amazing little girl who loves car rides, snacks, her family, her fur siblings, and playing. She is a ball of energy. Jules fit right into my pack taking it from 6 to 7. It was like she was the missing piece to our puzzle. She fits into our family perfectly. Jules was not meant to replace Josie or Jake, but my lord has she helped to mend our broken hearts! We would like to thank Stacy and the entire Rejection Collection Team for choosing us to be her family. We will continue to share Jules' journey so you can all watch her grow and see all the crazy adventures we take together.

> Thank you again for choosing us! Chasity, Jason and Mayson

backyard like he's a 3 year old like Lolly. I cannot stress enough how happy we are to have Ziggy in our lives. He's just such a pleasure to be around. Couldn't have dreamt a better fit for our little boxer family.

Lolly and I thank Rejection Collection Boxer Rescue with all our hearts. Truly a blessing!

the Rainbow Brigge

January Rainbow Bridge

... until we meet again

None to report this month

Upcoming Events

Meet & Greets

PetSmart

Burnsville, Minnesota Saturday, February 20 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Chuck & Don's

Edina, Minnesota Sunday, March 14 11 a.m.- 2 p.m.

April date(s) and location(s) to be determined

Online Events

Watch our social media for the Event and shopping links!

Avon Fundraiser Friday, February 19 - Sunday, February 28

Color Street Fundraiser Friday, March 5 - Sunday, March 14

Rodan + Fields Fundraiser Friday, March 19 - Monday, March 29

Farmasi Fundraiser Friday, April 2 - Sunday, April 11

Pampered Chef Fundraiser Friday, April 16 - Sunday, April 25

Spring Online Auction

Saturday, April 17 - Saturday, April 24

Events Calendar



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Have An Idea?

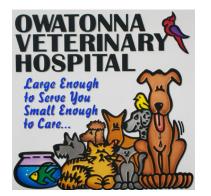
Do you have suggestions for future newsletters? Something you wish we would include? We want to hear them!

Submit Ideas Here

Thank you to our Partners



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<u>Visit Us</u>

Links to help:

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<u>Walk for a Dog / Wooftrax</u>- walk your dog and earn points that translate to donations for RCBR.

Amazon Wishlist - purchase from our wishlist and have it sent directly to us.

Amazon Smiles - select RCBR and Amazon will donate a percentage of your order total to us.

<u>PayPal Giving Fund</u>- if you prefer to just donate cash, we're set up through this fund.





iGive.com

iGive automatically helps your favorite cause, every time you shop. Please consider adding the iGive button to your browser to help us earn donations when you shop. It's easy and free to use. Also available in your app stores for shopping on the go!

More Info

Mission Statement

Rejection Collection Boxer Rescue (RCBR) is a non-profit, all-volunteer, foster-based organization dedicated to providing loving homes for Boxer dogs - especially seniors, medically challenged, and those needing to start over again in an unfamiliar world.

We offer quality care for whatever time is left; it is not about the quantity of days, but rather the quality and amount of love that can be shared during those days.

Board of Directors

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Board Member Board Member Board Member

SHOP & GIVE BACK

iGive

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