

Gredda's Bucket List

By Terra MacLean

Gredda came to SCARS the same way we get many dogs. We received a phone call about an injured dog that needed help. We soon realized that Gredda was more than injured, her emaciated state and paralyzed condition were a horror. Yet Gredda was a happy, sweet dog that readily approached people with both of her back legs dragging behind.

It has been a year since we rescued Gredda. She is one of the most amazing dogs. Her spirit and her personality are hard to describe in mere words. She has come from the most horrific situation, but she takes her disability in stride and even makes it work to her advantage. You know she wants your attention when you've been Achilles' tendon raked by her wheel chair. She slows down for no one — man, beast or obstacle. It's been a true pleasure and inspiration to get to know Gredda.

As we know, all good things come to an end. Recently Gredda was diagnosed with cancer. She has both operable lumps and inoperable. Working with the vets to decide what's best for her and fair to put her through is gut wrenching and the worst part of rescue, or life in general to be honest. But neither Gredda nor I are ones to wallow in self pity. So after a few days of crying, we decided to make her last weeks to months as amazing as possible. She gets a new toy every day. I cook her an omelette every day. We go for walks in the river valley and we are going to make her a ball pool. But I sat with my kids and we all agreed that's not enough, not for Gredda. So we made a bucket list.

- Toys. Gredda is a master de-squeaker and loves toys that can give her a challenge. We asked our supporters to donate durable squeaker toys. We were overwhelmed with donations!
- Herding. Gredda loves to chase. Herding is accomplished with Gredda under full CONTROL so no one gets hurt. But she loves to bark and have things run from her while I keep her close. As of the publication of this newsletter, we hadn't gone herding, but we are hopeful it will happen.
- Swimming. Gredda loves swimming! We are grateful to Wendy and Drew Watson for letting her swim in their pool. She has a blast.



Gredda deserves so much more than any list that we can come up with, but we are grateful to offer her any small amount of happiness that we can. We know that her days with us are now numbered. Please keep her in your thoughts.

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"Travis Cares XXOO" Fundraiser

CARS has a new ambassador, Edmonton actor/model/ entrepreneur, Travis DesLaurier. Travis is collaborating with us to raise funds and create awareness for animal rescue. With over 275,000 followers on his Facebook page, he is hoping to leverage his popularity to help homeless animals. As a start, he will be donating a portion of the sales of a new jewelry line designed by him and Chubby Chico Charms. It's called "Travis Cares XOXO". To see the rest of the styles and to purchase, go to www.travbeachboy.com.









Gredda Classic Golf Tournament

hank you to the 54 golfers who braved the cold for the inaugural SCARS Gredda Classic Golf Tournament that took place eptember 4, 2015 at the SandPiper Golf & Country Club. Together we raised over \$7,000 for SCARS.

Thank you as well to **Shawn Molloy and Paula Bissell** of Pelican Automotive & Safety Supply in Wabasca for being our event Host Sponsor. They sponsored a \$25,000 hole-in-one, the putting green for \$500 and they donated various prizes for the event. A very heartfelt thank you as well to our other sponsors:

- Municipal District of Opportunity No.17 in Wabasca donated \$5,000 in appreciation to SCARS and thanked SCARS as follows: "This letter marks the MD of Opportunity No. 17's appreciation of the service that SCARS provides to all of Alberta, MD communities included, and its assistance to the MD administration. In particular, this donation is an opportunity to thank you, personally, for your responsiveness to people and pets living in the MD." SCARS could not help communities without their acceptance and support. We are very thankful for the opportunity to work closely with the administration of the MD.
- Troy Trudgeon, A Buyer's Choice Home Inspections sponsored the meal (direct donation to SCARS) for \$1,000 and donated some prizes.
- Alberta Pacific Forest Industries (ALPAC) donated \$500 to sponsor the trophies.
- Hill and Company Chartered Accountants in Edmonton sponsored a hole-in-one worth \$15,000.

The following people and businesses contributed prizes: Jeff Wong of Hill and Company; TW VAP Heavy Vehicle Parts Division; Shell Lubricants in Stettler; Alberta Job Corps; Edmonton Oil Kings; Alexis Hlady with Realty Executives Challenge;



Karen Lowe with Mortgage Architects; Cindy and Leonard Jewell; Volvo; and Kristen Ferrier, Lead Mortgage Planner with Mortgage Architects

Our three tournament winners received trophies:

- First place team—Matt Morrell, Maria Morrell & Bruce Duerr
- Second place team—Wendell Pozniak,
 Wyan Shankruk, Mike Callbeck & Jamie Poirier
- Third place team—Carrie Pockrant, Vincent Arcand & Troy Trudgeon

The first place team was short one player so they decided to give the fourth trophy to Terra and Gredda! The event was named after Gredda and she was able to attend. She traveled around the course with Terra Maclean (her foster mom) and Sylvia Christiansen (SCARS President) meeting players and she made an appearance at the awards dinner. Although the weather was cold and raining, it didn't dampen the spirits of the golfers. We had a lot of fun!



Community Support for SCARS

Wabasca-Desmarais Lions Club

Thank you to the Wabasca-Desmarais Lions Club! They recently presented SCARS with a \$500 donation for our efforts to help pets and people in their community. Wabasca-area SCARS volunteer and benefactor Paula Bissell accepted the cheque via her dog "Rumalee."



Parkdale After School Care Society

During July and August, the children, families and staff at Parkdale After School Care Society held a bottle drive fundraiser for SCARS. The children set a goal of \$70, which they promptly reached, so they increased their goal to \$130. They passed that goal too and eventually raised a total of \$200, plus two boxes full of items from the SCARS wish list. We are very grateful for the support.





Magicland Daycare and Out-of-School Care

During July and August, the children and staff at Magicland Daycare and Out-of-School Care held a fundraiser for SCARS. The kids set up a juice stand and sold juices to passersby near their centre and told their customers about SCARS. They were out there working on some **very** hot days and raised \$100! Thank you so much to everyone who helped.



Natalie's Birthday Donation

Natalie Vanderwal from Andrew, Alberta celebrated her 7th birthday with donations for SCARS. Natalie and her family stopped by our November 8 adoption event at the Pet Therapy Society. They wanted to say hello and drop off the generous donation. We are so grateful for Natalie's kindness.





Rescue Stories

eet Maxine. She came to SCARS on October 14 from our friends at the Canine Action Project. Her injuries are difficult to describe. They shocked even our most senior front line volunteers. In fact, we chose not to share the photos taken at the emergency vet clinic after her wounds were initially cleaned and abraded. The skin from much of her hind end was de-

stroyed. She also had bite wounds all over her head and body. Best guess is

she was attacked by a pack of dogs or coyotes. What we know for sure is that without veterinary care, these wounds would have resulted in a slow, painful death. Thankfully we were able to get her to emergency care at the Guardian Veterinary Centre in Edmonton. Because a severe infection had not yet set in, the vet team felt she had a good chance to fully recover.

Maxine has a strong will to survive. Her life is important to her and she deserved our help. Thanks to reconstructive surgery, the gaps in her skin are able to close. A

SCARS volunteer transported her to the Westlock Veterinary Centre on October 21 where she continued to receive care until she was ready to move to a SCARS foster homer. We are very grateful to the veterinary teams and transport drivers that are helping Maxine. SCARS remains hopeful that she will make a 100% recovery.







Advertising and Sponsorship Opportunities





Rescue Stories

Sparky

parky was found in a garage, curled up in a corner as if he were looking for a peaceful place to spend his final hours. Thankfully, the home owner noticed him before it was too late. Sparky was taken to the local animal control facility and thankfully that facility has a relationship with SCARS. Instead of being euthanized like just another unwanted senior dog, he was transferred to SCARS. Little Sparky is estimated to be 10-12 years old. His coat was a mess, he was thin and weak, and his teeth were in terrible condition. His blood work told a sad tale. His kidney enzymes were high and his white blood cells were through the roof. He was dehydrated and his blood sugar was low. But he was in good spirits and eagerly ate and drank – all good signs. Sparky was groomed, vet checked and now we are determining next steps to get him well again. He deserves to





spend his retirement years loved and in comfort. We are grateful to the Municipal District of Lac La Biche for developing a partnership with SCARS. When they can't return a dog to its owner or rehome it, they reach out to us. That means dogs like Sparky can get a second chance. Teamwork saves lives. We are glad to help dogs like Sparky.







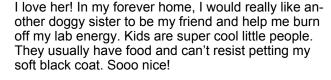


Hogan

y name is Hogan. For golfers, the end of the season is bittersweet – a time to move on to winter pursuits. For me, the end of the golf season spelled potential disaster. I'm just a young guy, under a year, and look very much like a black lab. All of the summer of 2015 I lived by begging for food and seeking shelter at a rural golf course. Quite a few people were worried that I would die once the course was closed. Lucky for me some of my friends were determined to save me even though I was being elusive. SCARS volunteers befriended me and then showed up with a humane trap on Thanksgiving Monday. Since I already trusted them enough to follow the trail of salmon that they dropped, I quite easily walked into the trap and the deed was done.

Little did I know that was the smartest step I had ever taken. My foster home had the patience to take it slow

and gave me the space to decide that living in a house with people was a really good thing. My resident doggy sister has shown me how to behave, taught me how to trust, and played and played with me.



Now SCARS will find me a forever home! I am a black diamond in the rough that is ready to shine. I will be the most dedicated and loyal fan a dog owner could ever have.





Look At Me Now

The SCARS website has a section called "Look At Me Now" which features happy ending stories. These stories are provided by the families who adopt from SCARS. Stories can be emailed to scars@scarscare.ca Here are two examples:

Kevin (formerly Max)

Hi SCARS! My parents recently visited and we had a two-week trip in the Rockies and around Edmonton. I thought you might like to see some pics of Kevin. He has put on a few pounds but I think he's looking great. Her is a picture Kevin at Lake Louise and one of all of us at Medicine Lake. Thanks again for bringing him to us. We are all super happy. He is amazing.

Phillipa O'Donnovan





Lilly (formerly Princess)

Hi SCARS, I have had Lilly for a while now and thought I would write and give a quick update.

She was very apprehensive and nervous when I first picked her up; but since then she is doing great, and has made herself right at home.

She is such a beautiful girl and her fur has come back really nicely. I still cannot believe that someone gave her up and she was so close to being put down because she was so shy.

We are the perfect match and am so happy to have her come to live with me

– Ken.





Adorable and Adoptable

ere are a few examples of adoptable pets. To see more, visit www.scarscare.ca. There are approximately 175 companion animals of all ages, types and sizes currently in our care. The adoption fee is only \$300 for dogs and \$150 for cats and it includes health check, spay or neuter, first vaccinations and a microchip.



Aria is a blind, female mixed breed



Paz is a young male pit bull mix



Cyan is a female husky mix puppy



Buddy is a 2-yr-old, male, heeler mix



Theodore is a 2-year-old male mixed breed



Melly is a 10-yrold female mixed breed cat



Linus is a male mixed breed kitten



Kal is a 3-yr-old female mixed breed



Peeker is a male mixed breed kitten



Marcy is a female mixed breed kitten





Canines & Cocktails: Midnight in Pawris

ur 10th annual Canines & Cocktails dinner gala with live and silent auction was held on November 6 at the Palace in Edmonton. This year's theme was Midnight in Pawris. We are grateful to the over 400 supporters who joined us to enjoy the fine food, amazing donated auction items and entertainment. Together, we raised over \$90,000 for SCARS operations.

Our Emcee for the evening was Rob Christie from "Rob & Audie in the Morning" at 96.3 Capital-FM. Highlights included live artwork performed by the amazing Lewis Lavoie. As the live auction concluded, Lewis agreed to do additional paintings for our guests in support of SCARS. One look at the masterpiece he created during our event and it's no surprise that one was not enough. The finishing touch is that Lewis will add a likeness of the winner's own dog in place of the one he put in the painting. We are also very grateful to the "White Wolf" (Rob Gray) for performing on his classical guitar throughout the evening; Gary Hanna & Ted Power for the exciting live auction, and volunteer Virginia Marando for producing another beautiful video about SCARS operations. Last but not least, our dog parade featured some adorable adoptable puppies lovingly supervised by our foster home volunteers. These puppies were unwanted.

Without SCARS their fate would have been terribledeath by starvation, predation, disease, parasites or cold temperatures. Domestic animals count on people to keep them safe and healthy. Every single day in Alberta, hundreds of little ones like these pups die because people are not held accountable or are simply unable to meet the costs and responsibilities of pet guardianship. We are working to change that through our programs and services that are run almost entirely by volunteers. With



winter coming, puppies like these would quickly freeze to death. These little ones will not experience that terrible fate. SCARS will help hundreds more dogs, puppies, cats and kittens before spring 2016 finally arrives. Pups like these are why we exist and why our volunteers work so hard 365 days of the year.

Since 2002, SCARS has grown from a small group into a collaboration of hundreds of individuals and supporters. We have saved thousands of cats and

Thank you to Sponsors and Table Hosts

Title sponsor: Lac La Biche County

Event sponsors:

- Brookfield Residential
- Napa Auto Parts, Wabasca
- Westlock Veterinary Centre
- Techni-craft Equipment Services Limited
- The Lime & Lemon Liquor Store, Athabasca
- MoJo Photography
- Priority Printing
- Instabox
- Chancelot Concrete Restorations
- Chris Whitelaw
- Fastsigns



Table Hosts:

- Paula Bissell & Shawn Molloy
- Instabox
- PAWS for SynerChi
- New Paradigm Engineering
- Steve & Larry Bata
- Shane McCooeye, CIM, Wealth Advisor, RBC Dominion Services
- Troy Trudgeon—A Buyer's Choice Home Inspections
- Tanis Liebreich & Corey Johnson
- Leo & Elaine Elwell
- Mobile Augers and Research
- Tech 55
- Cassandra Blair
- Amie Schedlosky
- TRAC Engine Service
- Timber North
- Priority Printing
- Lime & Lemon
- TNT Event Planning
- Cheryl & Bill Skorobohach
- Brant Family Racing
- Wizard Comics and Collectibles



dogs from suffering. Our ambitious goal is an Alberta where all dogs and cats have safe, loving homes. Many of the communities we serve lack basic animal services. The result is pet overpopulation that leads to animal abandonment, disease, injury and suffering. SCARS is a network of caring individuals who believe no animal should suffer or go homeless. It's not just the animals that benefit. SCARS helps communities become safer and healthier, especially for children. We develop partnerships with rural communities and provide adoption services through our foster system. A fine example of our involvement is the relationship we enjoy with our event sponsor, the County of Lac La Biche. SCARS has accepted many dogs from the county pound over the years, found them homes and provided medical care. We are most grateful for the County's generous contribution to the cost of this event. They, along with other sponsors. made this event and our rescue efforts, possible.

In the last twelve months alone SCARS

has found homes for just over 900 animals. We have provided pet care and education, and we have completed families through pet adoptions. We believe in getting to the root of the pet overpopulation problem through promoting spay and neuter. All SCARS adoption fees include spaying or neutering, initial vaccinations and microchips, as well as any required medical treatments. Our costs well exceed our modest adoption fees. It is for that reason that events like C&C are critical to our ability to carry on our work. We are truly grateful to our volunteers, corporate and individual donors, rescue group partners, and the participating veterinary clinics who work closely with us. We know there is much left to do. At this moment, there are still thousands of homeless dogs and cats waiting for our help. They are scared and confused. They are hungry, sick and injured. They are sitting in











northern pounds and they are wandering lonely roads in search of shelter and food. They long for human companionship and protection, and many need medical attention. They are counting on us to end their suffering. Our guests took home auction items they will treasure, but we believe the real treasure is the impact of their generosity. Every dollar raised literally saves lives and prevents suffering. Our volunteers and the staff and management of the Palace did an amazing job bringing the flavour of France to this year's gala. We are grateful for their support and to everyone who attended and placed bids on the auction items.

We hope to see everyone again next year!



An Informed Dog Owner is a Dog's Best Friend

By Nomi Berger

Being an informed dog owner means being a dog's best friend. Being uninformed can mean a life of misery, even death for MAN'S best friend.

For years, there has been an alarming number of abandoned, surrendered, and euthanized pets in this country. The reasons for this tragic phenomenon are many, and none of them are a mystery. But the greatest contributing factor is the failure of too many potential dog owners to educate themselves fully BEFORE they become pet parents.

The educated ones would know to thoroughly familiarize themselves with the breed they're considering, including the breed's physical description and personality; trainability and exercise requirements; health issues, and general care and grooming. They would know there's no such thing as TOO much information. The more informed they are, the more informed their decision will be.

They would know to choose a breed that fits in with their particular lifestyle, needs and expectations. Examples? No high-shedding dogs in a home of allergy sufferers. No hyperactive, high-energy dogs in a small apartment. No dogs that can't get along with cats or other family pets. No dogs in need of constant companionship if no one is home during the day.

They would know that, whatever the breed, raising a dog from puppyhood is, like raising a child, a fulltime responsibility.

They would know that puppies must be housetrained promptly and socialized early in order for them to develop into well-behaved and friendly dogs with good bite inhibition.

They would know to always be consistent, that discipline does NOT mean punishment, and that love, in and of itself, does NOT conquer all.

They would also know that certified trainers and supervised puppy classes can be of crucial assistance to them in raising calm and balanced dogs if they can't manage on their own.

The flipside of this are the UNinformed and the UNeducated. The ones who, ruled by their hearts and not their heads, choose poorly from the start. The ones who, sadly and all too frequently, raise dogs that are untrained, ill-mannered and often dangerous.

These are the dogs who, over time, will prove too much for their ill-equipped and increasingly frustrated owners to handle. These are the dogs who will ultimately be abandoned in empty lots or left by the side of the road. These are the dogs who will be desposited in secret outside a local pound or shelter or, if they're lucky, surrendered in person to a rescue organization.

These are the dogs who will be adopted – and probably returned – by unsuspecting people intent on doing the right thing by not buying one from a pet store or an unscrupulous breeder. These are the dogs who, more than likely, will be euthanized due to overcrowding or because of their own people-biting or dog-aggressive behaviors.

These are the unfortunate innocents who will pay with their lives for their owners' unfortunate ignorance. Thereby perpetuating an all-too-familiar and vicious cycle. And the only way to break this cycle is to turn every potential pet parent into an educated pet parent. Ignorance never was, nor ever will be, an acceptable excuse.

This article was posted with permission from Nomi Berger. Nomi is the bestselling author of seven novels and one work of non-fiction. She lives in Toronto, Ontario with her adopted morkie, Shadow. Nomi now devotes all of her time volunteering her writing skills to animal rescue organizations both in Canada and the USA.

2016 SCARS Calendars

The 2016 SCARS calendars are now available. They make great gifts and are a fantastic way to support the rescues at SCARS.

Due to the generosity of our calendar sponsors, all proceeds from calendar sales go directly to support our rescue efforts. Calendars are \$10 + \$2 shipping/handling if purchased online. However, if you purchase a pack of 10 online, the cost is \$110.

Calendars can also be purchased for \$10 at any of the locations selling them for SCARS. See the list of locations at http://scarscare.ca/2016-scars-calendars/





Walls for Winter Update

he warm fall weather has been perfect for the SCARS' Walls for Winter Shelter Program.

Through donations and grants, SCARS provides the materials to our construction partner to build doghouse modules. Each house is totally insulated and consists of four wall pieces, a raised floor, a rubber coated roof, corner trim and an interior wind wall divider. The units are made by the wonderful people at Alberta Job Corps and then assembled on-site in rural communities.

Recently a crew of four, handy SCARS volunteers put in a very long day of driving, delivering and assembling. They provided 15 houses to lucky dogs and their families. They left three other houses to be available in the community.

Thank you to volunteers Alyson Prince, Jen Tcachuk, Marcus Leebody and Scott Heatcoat. A special thank you to volunteer and community liaison Bev Young.

Walls for Winter is a program where SCARS provides insulated dog houses and straw to families in rural communities that otherwise would not be able to provide warm shelter for their pets. As part of this program, we also provide spay-neuter-return of pets.

To make this program successful, we need builders, supplies and drivers:

How to help:

- Donate shelter building supplies or gift cards to stores that sell building supplies
- Become a corporate sponsor
- Become a delivery driver. We need volunteers to help us deliver the shelters. We also need drivers to assist with our spay-neuter-return (SNR) program. This is a commitment of six plus hours and we especially need people who are available during working hours Monday to Friday.

SNR is where we drive owned pets to one of our veterinary partners to be spayed or neutered. The pets spend one or more days recovering at the clinic and then we return them to their homes.

Our goal is to prevent unwanted litters and enhance the well-being of owned pets. Because we help reduce the overall population of unwanted pets, we also enhance the safety and wellness of people in the community.

For more information, contact us at 780-466-SCAR (7227), scars@scarscare.ca. or visit http://scarscare.ca/walls-for-winter/









What We Do and How to Help

econd Chance Animal Rescue Society (SCARS) is a non-profit, registered charitable organization dedicated to reducing the number of homeless animals in northern Alberta, Canada. Since 2002, SCARS has rescued, rehabilitated and rehomed thousands of companion animals.

Our mission is to promote the humane care and protection of all animals and to prevent cruelty and suffering. We provide veterinary care and foster homes until permanent homes are found. Our foster homes provide animals with warm shelter, food, exercise and tender loving care—something that so many of these animals have never experienced. We also promote responsible pet ownership, the importance of spaying and neutering, and community awareness. We rely solely on money raised through memberships, donations, grants, sponsorships and other fundraising efforts. Here are some ways you can help:

Donate or sponsor—Please consider donating to our rescue efforts. We issue tax receipts for all donations of \$20 or more.

Foster—we rely on our volunteer foster homes to provide temporary care until we can find suitable permanent homes. There is no cost to becoming a foster home. We will provide everything you need.

Volunteer—help with fundraising, adoption events, animal care and transportation, and our daily operations. As a volunteer, you will become an integral part of a team that saves animals' lives.

Adopt an animal—provide a needy animal with a loving, permanent home. And adopt with piece of mind because we accept returns. Once a SCARS pet, always a SCARS pet. To see pictures of adoptable animals, visit www.scarscare.ca.

Buy merchandise—purchase SCARS 2016 calendars, clothing, totes, leashes, lunch bags, or one of our "Gifts from the Heart" certificates. Visit

our website for more information.

Share the message—ask your family and friends to spay/neuter, microchip and vaccinate their pets. And remind them that all pets need food, water, shelter, healthcare, exercise, love and attention.

Watch us on Global TV Edmonton every Saturday morning at 9:50 a.m., subscribe to our e-Newsletter at www.scarscare.ca, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter. We welcome feedback or suggestions for this newsletter, please contact:

Second Chance Animal Rescue Society Box 3045 Athabasca, AB T9S 2B9 www.scarscare.ca 780.466.SCAR (7227) scars@scarscare.ca

Please support

Please support our participating vet clinics. Look for them on our website under Animals / Adoption Information / Participating Vets. SCARS is very grateful for EVEC's support with emergency care and Guardian's support with specialty surgeries. For pet emergencies in the Edmonton area, trust:



11104 - 102 Avenue, Edmonton | 780.433.9505



5620 - 99th Street, Edmonton | 780.436.5880

Please support Champion Petfoods. They provide SCARS with generous and ongoing donations of quality pet foods.



At Champion Petfoods, our mission is clear and strong: We make Biologically Appropriate Dog and Cat foods from Fresh Regional ingredients in our own local kitchens. With shared passion to support those cats and dogs who need us most, we thank SCARS for their work in communities, and we are pleased for the opportunity to support them with ongoing ACANA and ORIJEN food donations.



