

# NEWSLETTER

January 2011



[www.aasosua.com](http://www.aasosua.com)

~ Quote of the month ~ R.S. Jones,

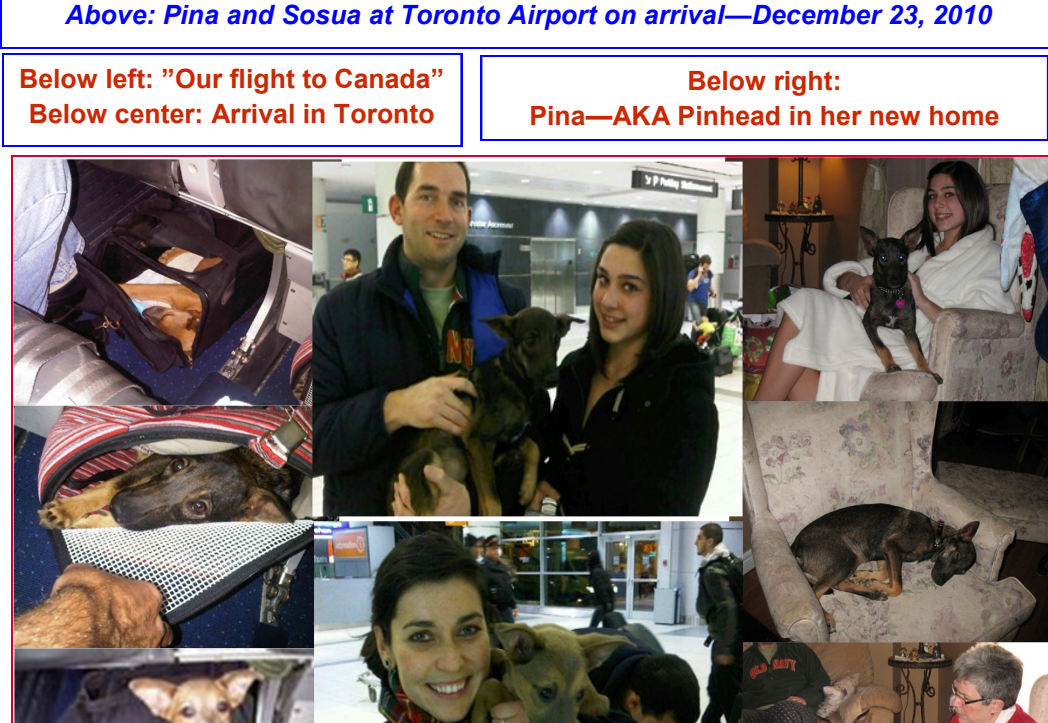
his account of his dog Scout's adoption from a shelter

**"You paused outside to look into my cage.**

**I tried to play it right, wanting to catch your eye with a shy glint in my own, a soft bark, that said, "Choose me," in a canine grammar I hoped you'd understand."**

## Happy Ending for Pina & Sosua

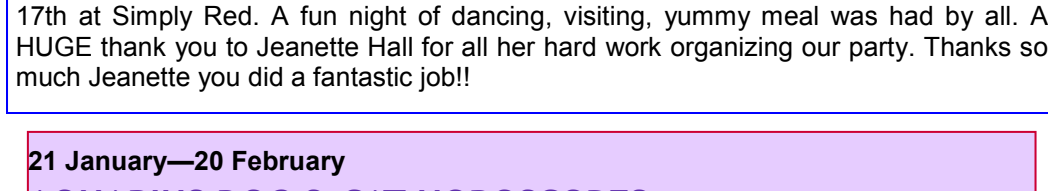
AAAS dogs Sosua & Pina arrived at their new homes in Toronto just in time for Christmas this year! Thank you to Jessica Oszvald & Efstratos Aslanidis and thank you Julianna Krusky and family for giving Sosua and Pina the life they deserve by adopting them! Good luck Sosua & Pina in Canada!



Above: Pina and Sosua at Toronto Airport on arrival—December 23, 2010

Below left: "Our flight to Canada"  
Below center: Arrival in Toronto

Below right: Pina—AKA Pinhead in her new home



## AAAS Christmas Party 2010

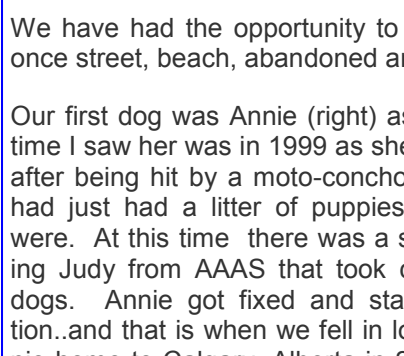
A big thank you to everyone who came out to our AAAS Christmas Party on December 17th at Simply Red. A fun night of dancing, visiting, yummy meal was had by all. A HUGE thank you to Jeanette Hall for all her hard work organizing our party. Thanks so much Jeanette you did a fantastic job!!

21 January—20 February

### AQUARIUS DOG & CAT HOROSCOPES

**"If your pet is totally bonkers, it's probably an Aquarian."**

**DOGS:** "Sausages" and other smart Alec speaking parts on 'That's Life' were pioneered by Aquarian dogs for if a dog's being daft he's likely to be an Aquarian. An Aquarian dog has traits that other dogs would find strange. They'll perform in the circus, enjoy being on the TV, and may sometimes appear more human than dog. But their heart lies with their own species and they love to run with the pack albeit somewhat erratically. A happy Aquarian dog is one that is given as much freedom as possible for he just loves to be let off the leash.



**CATS:** Your white Siamese Aquarian cat would probably be delighted if you dyed her pink, for just like their canine counterparts the Aquarian cat is an eccentric. She may prefer chocolate to fish, her best friends are birds and she'll sleep in the dog's basket. She may even enjoy having a bath. She's like no cat you've ever known. The Aquarian cat is also very independent- you're only there to supply the food- so don't expect a great deal of affection from her. Aquarians of all species are drawn to working in television, so if you're looking for a star for your show or advertisement then the Aquarian cat is purrfect.

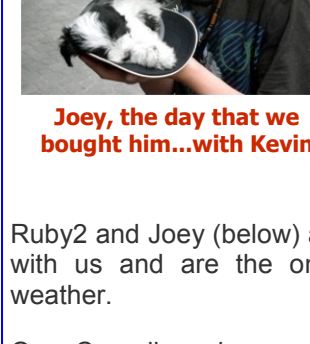
## Our life with Dominican Dogs

We have had the opportunity to share our lives with five Dominican dogs that were once street, beach, abandoned and 'for sale on the beach' dogs.

Our first dog was Annie (right) as in 'Orphan Annie'. The first time I saw her was in 1999 as she was limping along the beach after being hit by a moto-concho. It was so obvious that she had just had a litter of puppies but who knows where they were. At this time there was a small group of women, including Judy from AAAS that took care of the street and beach dogs. Annie got fixed and stayed with me during a vacation...and that is when we fell in love. We ended up taking Annie home to Calgary, Alberta in 2001 when the Politur (Tourist Police) had decided that beach dogs were bad for tourism and were going to take the dogs up to the hills. You can only imagine what they were going to do with the dogs. Annie was with us until her arthritis (from her moto-concho hip) had incapacitated her in 2006.



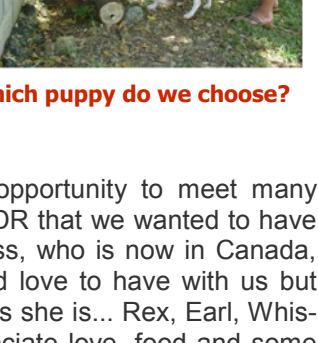
Annie after getting fixed in DR



Milagro R.I.P.

We met Millie (Milagro) in 2003 and that is when she became a Canadian girl. She was the best dog ever...part greyhound and very beautiful. We just put Millie down in March of this year as she was not well with cancer. She may have been about 13 years old at this time as we never did know how old she was when we first met her.

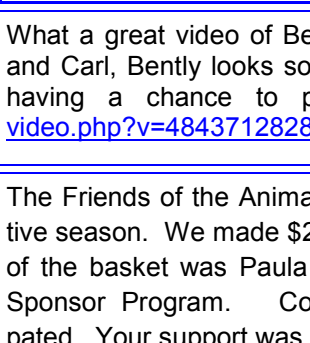
Bella (Isabella) was a very special girl. We met Bella on Cabarete beach during a torrential downpour in February 2010. Bella followed us to a restaurant for dinner and that is when we loaded her into our rental car and took her to Judy's to have her shots updated in preparation for her new home in Canada. Tanya and Tom helped us out with Bella and took her to the airport for us. Unfortunately, Bella had discospondylitis, a condition that was treated but she never bounced back. Bella is also in doggy heaven now after only six months with us. We think that she may have appreciated our house for her last months rather than trying to maintain her doggy status on the beach while she was sick.



Bella, at Judy's waiting to come home with us

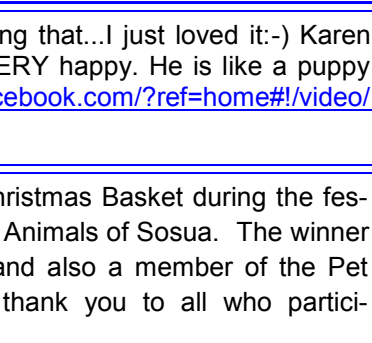
We visited our favourite island again in August 2010 and went to see the dogs at Judy's. During the warm months only small dogs can make the trip home as airlines will not take live cargo due to the extreme heat in the cargo area. We picked out Ruby2 as she was about 12 lbs at the time and could fit under a seat in the cabin. We let Judy know that this will be our new Canadian dog.

That same day, on Sosua Beach we happened to encounter the 'Puppy Mill' guy. I always look away when I see him with the cutest puppies in a box. They are always so obviously dehydrated and hungry. A friend of ours, Joey was bartering for the puppy but didn't have the cash to pay \$1000RD (approximately \$32.00 CAD)..We said that we had the cash but would take the puppy ourselves. Joey really was eight weeks old, as Puppy Mill guy said but was full of fleas, worms and so weak and hungry. We took Joey to our condo, dewormed him and fed him homemade baby formula for a few days. Tom gave Joey ivermectin for fleas and parasites and looked him over for us and did confirm that he was really eight weeks old even though he barely weighed one pound.



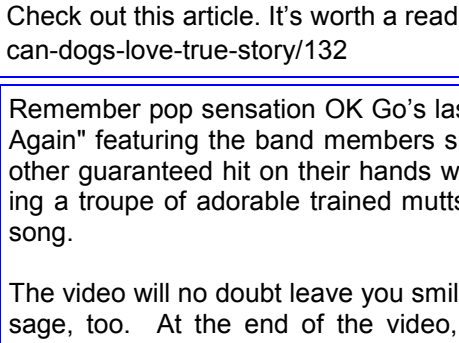
Joey, the day that we bought him...with Kevin

Ruby2 and Joey (below) are now in Rockyford, Alberta with us and are the ones that sit outside in -27c weather.



Which puppy do we choose?

Our Canadian dogs only go out for a few minutes. What were we thinking when we decided on two puppies to bring home? It has been chaos but fun. We now have five dogs and three cats so will not be bringing any dogs home in the near future??



Joey & Ruby relaxing in Rockyford.

We have had the opportunity to meet many special dogs in the DR that we wanted to have as our own...Princess, who is now in Canada, Lucy, who we would love to have with us but seems very happy as she is... Rex, Earl, Whiskey. They all appreciate love, food and some stability...and remember us from one visit to the next.

The moral of this story is that if you adopt a Dominican dog you will never regret it. They are the most loving, loyal dogs and seem to appreciate what you have done for

## Links to Useful Tips & Information

You can fight cruelty to animals on Facebook...right here, right now!

Post this Purple Ribbon to your wall and share with friends.

Together, we can make compassion for animals spread!

**37,879 Purple Ribbon Badges posted! Will you post**

**PETA's Purple Ribbon to your wall?**

[http://apps.facebook.com/purpleribbon/badge/63/?fb\\_force\\_mode=iframe](http://apps.facebook.com/purpleribbon/badge/63/?fb_force_mode=iframe)



What a great video of Bently Michael!! Thanks for doing that...I just loved it!-) Karen and Carl, Bently looks so wonderful and very, very, VERY happy. He is like a puppy having a chance to play finally. <http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/video/video.php?v=484371282871&comments>

The Friends of the Animals Thrift Shop raffled off a Christmas Basket during the festive season. We made \$2,250 rd for the raffle for the Animals of Sosua. The winner of the basket was Paula Dobson, a Sosua resident and also a member of the Pet Sponsor Program. Congratulations to Paula and thank you to all who participated. Your support was sincerely appreciated. Colleen Hammond, Thrift Shop Volunteer

Pilot Point, TX Animal Shelter is a small shelter with no air conditioning or heat, and they desperately need people to become aware of their existence near the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. Please go to their page and "Like" the page and then share it with your FB friends - thank you! <http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/pages/Pilot-Point-Animal-Shelter/130975143633533>

Help please...We need the following to help maintain our operation:

- Donations of wood or money to buy wood to cover the washing machines and create a secure space for dog food.
- Tiles for the bathroom
- A list of names of people that regularly travel to Canada, Europe and US for dog companions
- Someone to sponsor a monthly cleaning budget of 100 us\$
- Someone to sponsor a monthly dog food budget of 500US\$
- Someone to pay a monthly contribution to pay the water and garbage collection of \$1,000.00 RD (pesos)

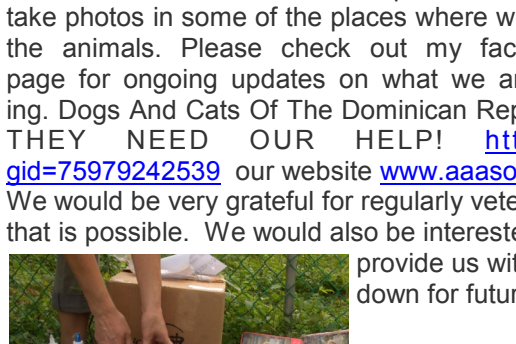
Oh the list is endless!!!!!!!!!!!!

Check out this article. It's worth a read! <http://www.moderndogmagazine.com/articles/can-dogs-love-true-story/132>

Remember pop sensation OK Go's last viral hit, the video for their song "Here It Goes Again" featuring the band members sliding around on treadmills? Well, they have another guaranteed hit on their hands with their latest offering, "White Knuckles," featuring a troupe of adorable trained mutts performing choreographed tricks to their latest song.

The video will no doubt leave you smiling, but the band hopes to impart a serious message, too. At the end of the video, they have the following message for viewers: "These dogs were lucky to find loving homes, but many others are still waiting. Help us support animal rescue efforts at the ASPCA.

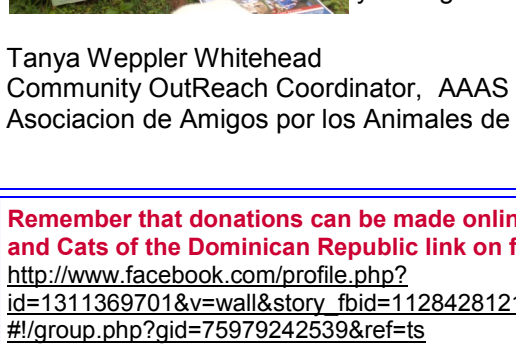
On their site, the band shares that most of the dogs in the video are rescues and that a portion of all proceeds from the sale of the video will go towards animal rescue. <http://www.moderndogmagazine.com/articles/ok-go-s-new-viral-video-goes-dogs-literally/13944>



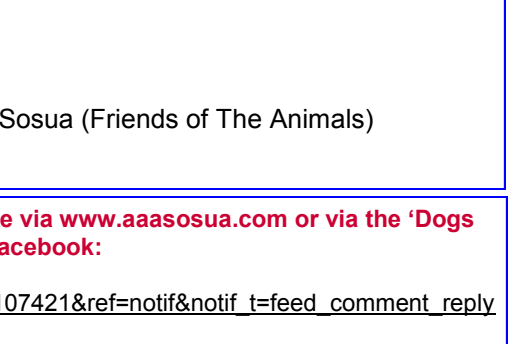
Dear God: Is it on purpose our names are the same, only reversed?



Dear God: When we get to heaven, can we sit on your couch? Or is it still the same old story?



Dear God: If a Dog barks his head off in the forest and no human hears him, is he still a bad Dog?



Dear God: Are there mailmen in Heaven? If there are, will I have to apologize?

## Sponsors and Donations this Month

Thank you Jolly Rogers for your donation!!!! "Bingo"jackpot has grown and on Tuesday we hope to give some lucky winner \$12600rd--providing they fill their card in 58 calls. We donated \$4250rd to Judy's Pet lodge in December."

Thank you very very much Nick for donating your hot chocolate sales to AAAS. That was very kind of you to take time out of your schedule to do this. I think it was an amazing thing you did to help out the animals here!! We hope you come back soon...we all miss you and the puppies do as well :- ) Thanks so much and Merry Christmas to you and your family.

These are some of the collars that Melanie Parlee donated to AAAS. Here are a few dogs that look so pretty with their new gear on:-)  
Thanks Melanie!! [www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=308189&id=511986802&l=d4a39332aa](http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=308189&id=511986802&l=d4a39332aa)

Thank you so much Jillian Douglas for your generous donation to AAAS. We have so many street animals in need of medical attention. Your money will be used in so many ways to help improve the lives of dominican dogs.Thank you so much!!

Thank you Patricia Villamil again for your support to AAAS with your generous donation. It has been very busy in at the clinic with many new puppies. Your donation will be used for food and medical care for these sweet little babies. Thanks so much Patricia and all the best in 2011.

## Special Thanks

Dear Jeanette: I would like you to know what a lovely time we had at the Christmas party. I would also like to say thank you so much for organizing it all. I think the raffle went well and everyone was pleased with the prizes. You are a gem an actual diamond I feel and I love you loads. Alice xxxx (And from everyone at AAAS too!)

Katie Horn & Everyone At World Vets International Aid For Animals

We received your generous box of vets supplies at AAASosua in The Dominican Republic. Wow!!! What a surprise:-) It was like Christmas for all of us going through the box. Thank you so much for sending this as these are all supplies we use on a daily basis looking after the animals in our local community



As you are well aware finding and purchasing these type of supplies can be very demanding and expensive. As Community Outreach Coordinator for AAAS my husband and I look after approximately 500 dogs and cats in the local area on a monthly basis. We ensure these animals receive their needed tick, flea, and parasite treatments, as well as looking after emergency cases of dog poisoning, broken limbs etc. We run regular spay and neuter clinics (when we have volunteering vets in the area) in order to control the animal population in a humane way. Over the past 3 years we have been able to spay and neuter approximately 1000 animals per year and have made a big difference in the lives of the animals on the North Coast of The Dominican Republic.

Please find attached photos of your amazing donations as well as some of the puppies that will benefit from it. As we use the products we will take photos in some of the places where we help the animals. Please check out my facebook page for ongoing updates on what we are doing. Dogs And Cats Of The Dominican Republic- THEY NEED OUR HELP! <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=75979242539> our website [www.aasosua.com](http://www.aasosua.com)

We would be very grateful for regularly veterinary supplies from your organization if that is possible. We would also be interested in any further information you could provide us with in respect to sending volunteer vets down for future spay and neuter clinics.



Again thank you so much for your generous donation in helping us positively affect the lives of animals as well as the people in our local community. I look forward to future correspondence and the chance to work with your organization in the future.

Tanya Weppler Whitehead  
Community OutReach Coordinator, AAAS  
Asociacion de Amigos por los Animales de Sosua (Friends of The Animals)

**Remember that donations can be made online via [www.aasosua.com](http://www.aasosua.com) or via the 'Dogs and Cats of the Dominican Republic' link on facebook:**  
[http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1311369701&v=wall&story\\_fbid=112842812107421&ref=notif&notif\\_t=feed\\_comment\\_reply#!/group.php?gid=75979242539&ref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1311369701&v=wall&story_fbid=112842812107421&ref=notif&notif_t=feed_comment_reply#!/group.php?gid=75979242539&ref=ts)

**Newsletter input** - If you would like to have anything published in next month's newsletter, please send an email to Jeanette at: [info@aaasosua.com](mailto:info@aaasosua.com) or to Joanne at [joanneroy2@gmail.com](mailto:joanneroy2@gmail.com) at any time placing "Newsletter" as the subject title. **Thanks to everyone for your contributions this month!**

## Questions or comments?

Email us at [info@aaasosua.com](mailto:info@aaasosua.com) or call 809-571-1167

**Remember** to join 'Dogs and Cats of the Dominican Republic' on Facebook and invite all your friends to join too. You'll get up-to-date information about what's going on!

**Please be environmentally friendly and read this newsletter electronically.**

**Don't print it! Thank you!!**



