



# News from

a rotta love plus



minnesota ROTTWEILER AND PITBULL  
RESCUE, REHOMING, AND EDUCATION

I'm Henna!

Will you take me home and  
love me forever?

I'm just four months old  
and my hobbies are cuddling,  
squeaky toys and napping.

*photo by Larry Hotchkiss*



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## 2007: A Year in Review – Did We Mention BSL?

The threat of Breed-Specific Legislation in Minnesota found A Rotta Love Plus and dog owners across the state joining forces and closing ranks. Volunteers spent many hours preparing for battle. We garnered much attention from media and elected officials as we attended city council meetings, rallied at St. Paul's capitol building and conducted dog bite prevention classes. Here's **2007** by the numbers:

- **Beginning Balance** **\$740.65**
  - Adoption Fees \$7,477.45
  - Application Fee \$165.00
  - Individual Donations \$5,068.61
  - Corporate Donations \$3,136.60
  - Merchandise Sold \$475.24
  - Rescue Run \$50.00
  - Other Fund Raising \$2,205.22
  - Total Income** **\$18,578.12**
- Veterinary and animal supply costs (\$7,664.79)
- Rent (\$2,700)
- Advertising/Awareness (\$3,084.48)
- Other (\$5,480.73)
- **Total Expenses** **(\$18,930.00)**
- **Ending Balance** **\$388.77**
- **25** dogs found forever homes
- Clear Channel Communications Outdoor donated **\$2,500** in 2007 for our "Don't Blame the Wrong End of the Leash" billboard on West Lake Street in Minneapolis. With an average exposure of **17,390** viewers per day, more than half a million people saw our message during the month of August.
- **16** Dog Bite Prevention Programs scheduled
  - Doggy Fun Fair- St. Paul (1)
  - Doggie Palooza- St. Louis Park (2)
  - Chuck & Dons- Northfield, Roseville, Elk River, Forest Lake (4)
  - Elementary School- North Minneapolis (4)
  - Summer School Program- St. Paul (4)
  - Girl Scouts- Maplewood (1)
- **130** new members signed up on the A Rotta Love Plus forum
- Kelly Dorek responded to nearly **1,200** emails sent to [info@arottalove.org](mailto:info@arottalove.org)

In 2007, we also waved goodbye to founder Tiffany Huebner, who dedicated **10** years to A Rotta Love Plus and decided to focus on her new daughter and Dogue Style, her dog training business. Laura Gray joined the board as a new director, and Kellie Dillner was named the assistant director of education.

Available for adoption!

My name is Thor.

I love children and  
other puppies. Can you tell  
I love to snuggle?  
I hope you will make me  
part of your family!



## From the Forum

Stubborn stains and smells? Here are tried and true tips from all of you!

- Try "Simple Solution"
- Try an enzyme-based cleaner – "Nature's Miracle"
- Use hydrogen peroxide
- Vet told me about "Anti-Icky-Poo"
- "Arm and Hammer Oxy Strength Pet Odor and Stain Remover"
- Club soda. LOTS of it!
- Homemade odor eliminator
  - 1 quart of 3% hydrogen peroxide
  - 1/4 cup of baking soda
  - 1 teaspoon of liquid dish soap
- Soak rug with one cup vinegar in two gallons of water. Brush in baking soda liberally, let dry, vacuum.
- Mix of Vinegar and Tide. Dab Tide on a washcloth and a bit of vinegar and then blot the area until stain is gone.

Join the A Rotta Love Plus Forum to keep up with all the latest news and tips at <http://arottalove.org/forum>.

Hi, my name is Andie!  
I'm just a nine months old  
and really cute!  
I'm potty trained and love to  
hunt frogs!  
So, hop on over and  
adopt me already!



I'm Joey ... a handsome fella!

All dressed up and no place to go.  
Just months old, I love children,  
cats, dogs and rolling in the grass.

Please adopt me!



## Raise the Woof!

While Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) is legislation or laws created with the intention to reduce human injury or fatalities caused by dogs, BSL laws usually target specific breeds of dog (or dogs who have physical characteristics of certain breeds). This type of legislation may be coming to Minnesota in the 2008 legislative session.

A Rotta Love Plus has put together research-based information to help you learn more about BSL including: what is BSL, how could BSL affect me or my business, and why should I care? Ultimately we would like you to make your own informed conclusion as to why BSL may not be the answer when dealing with the problem of dangerous dogs.

To learn more about BSL, become involved in the fight against anti-canine legislation or to order our BSL info packet please goto: [www.arottalove.org](http://www.arottalove.org).

## Adoption Days – Come Meet the Dogs

### *Roseville Chuck and Don's*

11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
March 15  
April 26  
May 18  
June 22

### **Plymouth PetSmart**

11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
February 23  
March 29  
April 12  
May 31  
June 14

## Foster Tails

They probably have the most heart-wrenching job in the animal rescue business. Walking the cold cement rows of kennels at animal control or the humane society, they decide which dogs will sleep that night in a warm and loving foster home.

The intake coordinators of A Rotta Love Plus are on the frontlines of our program. Not only do they rescue and relocate dogs lucky enough to become our fosters, but they conduct temperament tests, recruit caregivers and provide on-going support for the foster families.

Sometimes intake volunteer Paula Swanson receives a call about a particular dog, but usually she just stops by the local shelters on a regular basis. The first step in becoming an A Rotta Love Plus dog is a 30-minute, three-page temperament test, conducted by the intake team of Laura Gray, Sarah Lindquist and Swanson.

"It's majority rule and it's a very tough test," Swanson said. "Most dogs I've owned would not have passed it! We really want to have high standards for the dogs we take into the program, and we can be really picky. Every place is so full of pit bulls that we can select stellar dogs with temperaments that are spotless, flawless and solid. That's what we're looking for."

The test offers a good indication of how the dog might react in several situations like a challenging stare, taking away a chew toy, introduction to other animals, tail and ear pulling, and if the dog knows basic commands.

"We handle them roughly, like a child would," Swanson said. "We simulate experiences they might have in a home. We really try to push them to see if we can

get a negative response."

With a degree in Wildlife and a minor in Biology, Swanson is well-versed on canine body language. She was part of a search-and-rescue team with her German Shepard, Logan, certified in cadaver, evidence, and wilderness (live victims) searches. She also managed a sled dog kennel for polar explorer Will Steger and helped raised a wolf pack for a National Geographic photographer at what is now known as the Wolf Center in Ely.

Once the successful dog leaves the shelter, the real work begins. Photos are taken, animal history is written, vet appointments

are made, Petfinder.com and Craigslist entries are uploaded, medication and food is purchased and a foster home is found.

Have you ever wondered how they name all those dogs? "Sometimes names given to the dogs at the shelters stick," Swanson said. "But generally, the foster family gets to name their dog as long as it's not a repeat in the A Rotta Love Plus family album."

By the way, Swanson doesn't just share her home with her husband, two children and foster dogs passing through, she's also fostered more than 100 cats and kittens.



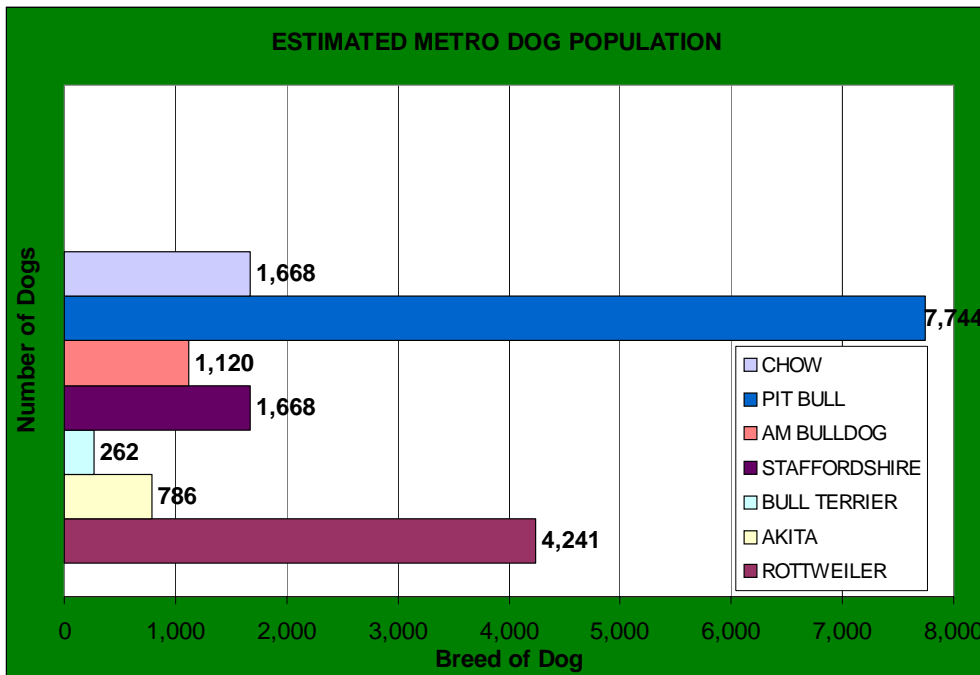
\*\*\*Available for adoption March 1 \*\*\*\*

These little cuties were born on New Years Eve.

Fill out an application now at

[www.arottalove.org/rehoming/placement.htm](http://www.arottalove.org/rehoming/placement.htm)

Photo by Larry Hotchkiss



Adopt Me!

Hi, my name is Reese!  
I'm a one-year-old female.  
I am a very calm young lady.  
I love all cats and dogs  
and older children.

*A Rotta Love Plus*  
*Phone: 651.649.4451*  
*E-Mail:*  
*info@arottalove.org*  
*Web Site:*  
*www.arottalove.org*

*"We're not  
searching for a  
dog's **NEXT** home...  
We're searching for  
their **LAST** home."*



Recognized at the third annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, Nov. 30, are (Bottom Row L – R) Alex Haug, Brit Horob, Larry Hotchkiss, (Top Row L – R ) Kellie Dillner, Lara Peterson, Lynne Willeke, Sarah Linquist, Amy Hotchkiss and LaDonna Seely. Not pictured: Blackberry Veterinary Center, Deb Schneider, and Amy and Nick Cutrone.

## About Us

### Our Mission

A Rotta Love Plus is a dedicated to the Rottweiler, American Pit Bull Terrier and other non-traditional breeds.

### Rescue

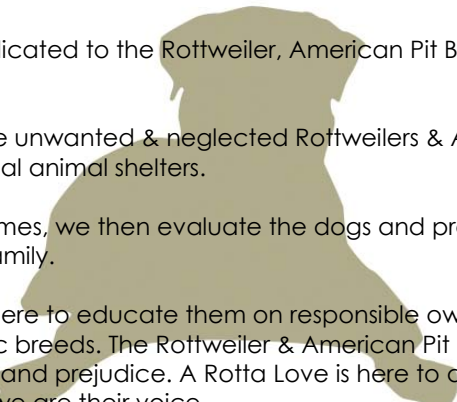
We are here to rescue the unwanted & neglected Rottweilers & American Pit Bull Terriers surrendered to local animal shelters.

### Re-Home

With the help of foster homes, we then evaluate the dogs and prepare them to be re-homed with a loving family.

### Educate

For those willing, we are here to educate them on responsible ownership and the truth about these majestic breeds. The Rottweiler & American Pit Bull Terrier have fallen victim to bad press and prejudice. A Rotta Love is here to defend and protect these wonderful breeds; we are their voice.



A Rotta Love Plus  
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