



The High Sierra Barker

2025 Fall Newsletter

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A Journey of Connection Through Training

At High Sierra Animal Rescue, transformation begins with connection. It starts in the quiet moments; when a hand reaches out, a dog pauses long enough to trust, and when patience replaces fear. Training here is more than teaching commands. It is the slow, beautiful art of showing a dog that the world can be safe and full of love.

McRib's journey captures that magic perfectly. That guidance came through the steady hands of our staff, especially Joie, and the wisdom of our Volunteer Trainer, Hannah, who partners with the team to bring out the best in dogs like McRib. Joie has worked side by side with him—rewarding small wins, introducing gentle touch, and teaching Rib that sharing space can feel secure. Each lesson built on the last, turning challenges into chances to grow. Their connection was on full display at Pints for Pups, where McRib calmly explored an exciting outdoor space full of people, music, and other dogs. His ability to relax and enjoy the day was a powerful milestone and we are so proud of him and Joie.



Today, McRib walks on leash with calm confidence and responds beautifully to commands. He meets new people with curiosity and a wagging nub of a tail, showing trust to those who respect his space and boundaries. Recently, he welcomed a visiting family who spent time getting to know him, and they will be returning for another visit soon. This has been an encouraging step in McRib's journey of connection and growth, highlighting the improvement he continues to make with patience and care.

His progress is more than a success story. It is proof of what happens when skilled staff, caring volunteers, and a community of supporters come together. The new Hale Adoption and Training Center now gives us even more room to nurture this kind of growth. We are so grateful to have a space where trust is built and futures are rewritten. Thank you to every donor, volunteer, and friend of HSAR. Your generosity gives our team the time, tools, and heart to help dogs like McRib discover the best version of themselves.

From LA to the Lost Sierra

Two weeks after giving birth, Eva and her eleven tiny puppies arrived at HSAR, fragile and in need of love. Our Board President, Carole Scott, and Volunteer Trainer, Hannah Tomatis, made the long journey to Los Angeles and brought them safely back when the fires displaced tens of thousands of people and animals. Once home at the rescue, our dedicated staff provided calm, restorative spaces where Eva could relax and recharge, and where her puppies could socialize, play, and grow. Today, all eleven puppies have settled beautifully into their forever homes, thriving with love, curiosity, and playful energy. Eva now enjoys life with her family as well, always close to her person and her canine sibling. We send our deepest appreciation to their loving adopters and everyone who played a part in their success.



Celebrating our community and supporters

This summer was one for the books at High Sierra Animal Rescue, and we are overflowing with gratitude. Once again, our incredible community showed up by rallying around the dogs and celebrating the power of second chances. Pints for Pups brought a lively crowd to The Brewing Lair, where friends gathered over cold drinks, great food, wine from Lost Sierra Wine Co. and bluegrass music. And our Retriever's Ball blew past expectations with an incredible 1,302 balls launched into the water! Local businesses and organizations stepped up in a big way and the dogs send endless tail wags and kisses in return. Your compassion and dedication are what keep our mission thriving.

Giving Tuesday

Looking ahead, Giving Tuesday on December 2nd is another chance to come together for the dogs. Last year, your generosity helped us raise nearly \$10,000 in just one day through online donations and personal fundraising campaigns on social media for the Hale Adoption and Training Center. We look forward to this global day of generosity each year and you can make a huge difference for nonprofits like ours by joining in the celebration!

A heartfelt thank you to Chuck Franck

We are incredibly grateful to former Board Vice President Chuck Franck. For more than two decades, Chuck has devoted his time, energy, and expertise to our mission, and his dedication shines brightly in the vision for the Hale Adoption and Training Center. He spent countless hours guiding this project from idea to reality, leaving an enduring mark on our organization and the animals we serve. Though he recently closed out his time on the board, Chuck continues to volunteer with HSAR, and we are honored to celebrate this new space as a lasting testament to his hard work and love for these precious souls.

Every contribution, big or small, helped bring this space to life, and we are so thankful. We can't wait to invite you in! A special welcoming day will be held in the Spring for the public, giving our community the chance to see the center up close and commemorate what we've accomplished together. Stay tuned for the official date!

Want to stay in the loop? Sign up for email updates at the bottom of our website homepage, and follow us on Facebook and Instagram (@HighSierraAnimalRescue) to see our latest adoptable dogs, volunteer opportunities, and ways to make a difference.



Yes, I want to help High Sierra Animal Rescue save lives!

Please consider becoming a Guardian of HSAR through our online giving page!
Information can be found at highsierraanimalrescue.org

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