



Desmond Saves the Day

Desmond's new Mom in NY writes "Hard to believe he is 1 year old already. He is loving life, and just relishes all the visitors to the house over this holiday season.



He weighs about 62 pounds right now and is completely healthy. We just absolutely adore him. About a month ago he became a hero. Someone tried to break into our house and Desmond heard the intruder and barked fiercely, alerting us and scaring off the would-be burglar. After my husband searched the house with Desmond at his side (Chatham, our other dog, decided to stay sleeping upstairs!), we discovered that the intruder had made it most of the way through a kitchen window, but made a hasty retreat upon hearing Desmond's warning. Most likely, if confronted, Desmond would have licked the intruder to death, but his fierce barks and growls were enough to keep us all safe.

Desmond was pulled from the Etowah, County GA kill shelter. We saw him through bouts of giardia and coccidiosis before his adoption last spring.

Pyr At Westminster

The Westminster Kennel Club show is Feb. 15-16 this year. Pyrs will be judged on Tuesday, 2/16. The winning Pyr will then compete for best dog in the working group, televised Tuesday 8 p.m. on the USA network. For more info visit www.westminsterkennelclub.org.



www.nationalpyr.org

Help Us Help Our Pyrs!
Read more at
nationalpyr.org/neediest

Send Rocky a Kiss



Rocky was an owner surrender. Well sort of. The animal control officer in Alabama told the owner he wouldn't prosecute him for animal cruelty if this senior Pyr was turned into the local shelter. Maybe bringing him to the shelter, a gassing shelter, might have been better than seeing him slowly starve to death...



Rocky Needs a Foster



Aiken Needs a Foster

Give Aiken a Hug

Aiken came up to New York in January from the Bowling Greene, KY kill shelter. He was found wandering on a highway. Several Pyr rescue groups were contacted about him and Jean of Big Fluffy Dogs said that she recognized him because of his truncated tail and the limp in his left hind leg. She saw him several months ago...

Make Kentaro Smile



He was picked up wandering in rural Georgia as a stray, traveling with a boxer. When finally located, his owner said he didn't want him back. The local shelter arranged to have Kentaro neutered prior to pickup but when we got him, we realized something was not quite right with this big love bug...



Kentaro Has a FL Foster

LGDs Guard Endangered Penguins

Great Pyrenees (and several other protective large breeds) are known as Live Stock Guardian Dogs (LGDs). Our Pyrs' big, white Italian cousins, the Maremma, are now being used in conservation management. Maremmas have been called to duty on a small island off Australia to guard little fairy penguins. The small birds often succumb to the claws of foxes, wild dogs, and other predators. The penguin group was reduced from 5,000 to 100 in just a few years, so to protect them, scientists brought in the Maremmas to scare off predators. Since the project started in 2006, penguin numbers have been on the rise. Scientists have noted that the dogs have become very fond of the tiny birds and go out of their way to protect them. They are now thinking that LGDs can help protect other small, endangered species as well.

