



The Puppy Adventures Continue!

Our two puppies Drake and Easton are growing up so fast and developing into two great male dogs. Although they look similar, each one has distinctive features that differentiates one from the other. Drake looks a lot like his mother Jami with his soulful eyes. Distinct markings on his face and the mixture of black and tan fur on his body are also very similar to hers. Easton has a darker face and he has more black on his body than tan. Regardless, they are both good looking boys in their own right! Their ears at times stand straight up but at other times, they flop down which makes them all the more endearing.



With the socialization Drake and Easton are receiving in their foster home, they both have grown to love all dogs though Drake does get boisterous when he sees another dog. He likes to back up and bark at them as if to say "I'm here!". They both quickly learned how fun it can be to play with other dogs and are still using their paws quite a bit when playing which is very cute. Their personalities are still developing as they learn more and more about the world that surrounds them. Easton is the more outgoing of the two, curious about people while Drake is more reserved. Like most siblings, they like picking on each other and playing rough like brothers like to do but one thing is very apparent, they love each other very much and are enjoying their time together.

Not Too Proud To Beg

2015 going into 2016 was an interesting time for GSSH. The birth of Drake and Easton was an exciting surprise for everyone, but the expense of caring for two fast growing puppies took a slight toll on GSSH's finances. At the age of 5 months, they eat like two adolescent boys! Further complicating things, Jami's prenatal exams were costly, as was her after-care. We've encountered a few unexpected health concerns with a handful of our other rescue dogs on a somewhat frequent basis that has eaten away at our donations. Although the economy is improving somewhat, charitable organizations have yet to recover from the economy-in-crisis. We have greatly appreciated the donation envelopes we have received, and are grateful for the generosity of our GSSH's families. But, GSSH has reached a critical point and is reaching out to ask for your help to rebuild our reserves. NO amount is too small (or too big). All donations go directly to the support of rescuing and caring for our beloved German Shepherds. When it comes to the health, happiness, and welfare of our dogs, we are simply not too proud to beg.

Safety and the Summer Heat

As summer approaches, it will start to heat up. Here are some tips for keeping your dogs safe and comfortable.



- 🐾 Walk your dogs early in the morning or later in the evening when it's not as hot. When walking your dogs, be aware of hot pavement, sand or other hot surfaces. A dog's paws can easily burn so check the temperature of the walking surface by touching it with the back of your hand and if you cannot leave it there longer than a few seconds then it is too hot for your pup.
- 🐾 As much as we love the company of our dogs, leave them safely at home when running errands where they will be left in the car. Keep in mind that it doesn't have to be that warm outside for the temperature inside a car to get dangerously hot. For example, when it's 70 degrees outside, the car's inside temperature can climb up to 89 degrees in just 10 minutes. When it's 80 degrees outside, the inside temperature climbs to 99 degrees in 10 minutes! So even when your dog looks at you with those big puppy dog eyes as you're walking out the door, keep them safe by keeping them at home.
- 🐾 Be cautious of heat exhaustion which can lead to heat stroke. Signs of heat stroke include excessive panting, drooling, labored breathing, lethargic behavior and trouble walking or balancing. If your dog might be suffering from heat exhaustion or heat stroke, cool your dog down gradually using cool, wet towels and call your vet!

The single most important training tip we can give is to **BE CONSISTENT!** Especially with an intelligent breed like German Shepherds. Your entire family must be consistent in the commands, corrections and positive reinforcement given to the dog. The rules should not vary from one family member to the next or your dog will learn how to circumvent the rules to get what he wants. When doing training with your dog, make it a family activity to strengthen the bond between your dog and your family.

Training Tip:

GSSH Alumni Update: Samantha

Remember our sweet Sammie? She's the one that has the health condition called Exocrine Pancreatic Insufficiency (EPI). With treatment, she was able to fight her way back to good health and continue to maintain a healthy weight. Despite her playful, adorable personality, she was often overlooked for adoption because she wasn't considered "healthy." That is until a man named Gary came across her profile and was immediately drawn to her. He saw her for the amazing dog that she is, not the health condition that she had. After going through our adoption process, Gary welcomed Sammie into his family.

Fast forward almost 10 months later, Sammie is still as lovable as ever, very happy and healthy as can be and has a dad that loves her so much. She captures the heart of everyone who meets her including Gary's extended family, both adults and the kids, friends and neighbors. Many comment to Gary that they would love to have a dog just like Sammie! With her daily walks, Sammie has become Miss Popular in her neighborhood, everyone knows who she is! Gary also works with Sammie daily on her training which has led her to mature into a well behaved dog. He says Sammie is one of the best things that has happened to him and can't imagine his life without her. His love for Sammie is very apparent every time he talks about her. He is a very proud dad! We are so happy to have brought them together to create Sammie's happy ever after!

