

Suffield Veterinary Hospital November 2014 Patient of the Month

Meet Sally, a very sweet, mixed-breed rescue dog from Tennessee, owned by the Reed family. This adorable photo of Sally was taken by Lorilee Photography of Enfield.

The Reeds tell Sally's story: *We adopted Sally on New Year's Day of 2011 from a high-kill shelter in Tennessee. We felt bad for older dogs who might not get a chance to have a good home since most people who adopt want puppies, so once we learned that Sally was three years old already, we brought her home with us.*

For the first several days, she was terrified and shivered all day long, and would only sit by Matt. She'd get so tired from the shivering that she'd conk out around 7:00 p.m. But as she got used to us, she became a real member of the family.

Now she loves to play with us. When we play our indoor version of "fetch," and she's chasing down one of her toys, she springs in the air and does a doggy version of "jazz hands" before catching it. Sally also loves to go for walks! Somehow she knows — even before we do — that a walk is coming and watches our every move very closely. She enjoys her "scritchins" and makes her trademark happy noises when they are given correctly.

Kyle, 13, and Jessie, 10, love Sally very much and take good care of her.

We were devastated when she bolted on Friday, August 22. Matt was dropping her off at a kennel in Southwick before a weekend trip. Between the car and the kennel, Sally broke loose and ran into the woods. She had never done anything like that before. Matt immediately went looking for her, but to no avail. We put up flyers on telephone poles and bulletin boards, and Carolyn started a "Find Sally" Facebook page. We were amazed at the kind volunteers who stepped forward to help. With people calling in sightings, we were able to figure out the pattern she followed in her travels. Southwick Animal Control lent us a humane trap, and some wonderful volunteers kept an eye on it. Finally, on Monday, September 8, Sally followed the scent of rotisserie chicken and bacon into the trap. When she saw Carolyn, she immediately started yipping and crying. Suffield Veterinary Hospital was her first stop.

Now Sally is home, and we couldn't be happier. Seventeen days in the wild, dodging cars and fisher cats, could easily have ended badly. But Sally is back with her family, and she's her old self again. Thank you to everyone who helped!

Suffield Veterinary Hospital is happy to name Sally our Patient of the Month both in tribute to the kindness of all the strangers volunteering to help find her, as well as the compassion of the Reeds for adopting an adult dog in peril.



Suffield Veterinary Hospital

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