Cairns & Cousins Terrier Rescue Monthly Newsletter

DEDICATED TO RESCUING CAIRN TERRIERS AND OTHER SMALL STATURE TERRIER COUSINS

Terrier Talk

Economic challenges affect us all, but especially pet rescue and other animal rescues as rising costs have led to an increase in people no longer being able to care for their animals. In addition, financial strains have reduced the number of volunteers as many have to prioritize paid work over volunteer work and limited charitable donations. The increased costs also can limit the ability of rescues to take in more dogs in need.

While CCTR has not shied away from assisting terriers in dire need, we also have witnessed the reduced interest in our mixed breeds as opposed to our cairns. Older dogs also have had fewer interests as the thought of losing a pet in a short amount of time is now complicated by the exorbitant cost of caring for an aging pet. This issue of our newsletter will address some ways to problem-solve rising costs, especially with healthcare, and highlight the benefits and joys of bringing a mixed breed terrier and older dog into your home.

As always, we so appreciate your continued support of our rescue and hope you will consider volunteering in one of the many capacities that are available.



Liz Romick

President, Cairns & Cousins Terrier Rescue

Ways to lower the cost of veterinary care for your pet



By Ellen Moran

With veterinary costs rising, many dog owners are finding it difficult to afford healthcare for their companions. The mounting bills sometimes lead these owners to make the heartbreaking decision to surrender their beloved dogs to a rescue or shelter. But there are some ways to reduce veterinary costs. Veterinary organizations recommend the following strategies for lowering vet expenses.

Preventive care: Keeping your pet healthy and active can help prevent serious and expensive health issues and may extend their longevity.

Get your pet regular check-ups with your veterinarian at least once a year and schedule vaccinations when needed. Aging pets and those with chronic issues may need more frequent check-ups. It's also important to provide your pets with preventive medication for heartworms, fleas and ticks.

Regular veterinary care may catch health issues early, when they're easier and less expensive to treat. Maintaining a nutritious diet and ensuring pets get enough exercise also may help prevent health issues.

Low-cost clinics: Some communities have organizations that offer spay and neuter services and vaccinations for lower fees. Veterinary schools also may offer services at reduced costs.

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A good diet, exercise can help prevent health issues

Pet insurance: Consider pet insurance, which can help defray the costs of healthcare for unexpected illnesses, injuries or wellness visits. Coverage options, monthly premiums and claims processing vary among pet insurance companies, so it's important to do your homework and compare the details to find one that works for your budget and needs. Some organizations have rated pet insurance companies and found some are better than others in specific areas, such as affordability, senior pets, multi-pet families, waiting periods, claims processing or customer satisfaction. To find the reviews online, search for "pet insurance ratings."

Companies offering pet insurance include: ASPCA Pet Health Insurance, Embrace, Fetch, Figo, Healthy Paws, Lemonade Pet Insurance, MetLife Pet Insurance, Pets Best, Pumpkin, Spot and Trupanion.

Financial assistance: Some veterinary schools and nonprofit organizations may be able to provide financial aid to pet owners who qualify. Financing for vet costs also is available through credit cards from CareCredit or Wells Fargo. Crowdfunding platforms – seeking donations on the Internet – are another alternative.

Veterinarian organizations also suggest talking to your veterinarian. Your veterinarian may be able to recommend less expensive treatment options. If you let them know you have financial constraints, they may be able to set up a payment plan or deferred payments. You have nothing to lose by being open about your situation.

One or more of these strategies may make vet care more affordable for pet owners, enabling them to get their furry companions the care they need to be healthy and happy.

The joys of mixed terriers

In addition to our cairns, CCTR has some terrier mixes who would make wonderful pets, but are too often overlooked in favor of cairns or our cousin breeds. We asked our volunteers who have adopted mixed terriers to tell us what they find endearing about these special pups. This is the first in an occasional article from a happy owner of a mixed terrier.

By Hope Kersten



Meet Pringles – a perfect mixed-breed boy!

Five years ago, our female purebred cairn crossed the bridge. I had my mind made up that I wanted another female cairn. After a few months, our Col. Potter matchmaker sent us an almost 9-year-old mixed boy because he was in foster care just 15 minutes from our house. At the time there wasn't a lot of interest in him. After thinking that's not what I wanted, we met him and instantly fell in love, and four years later the rest is history!

The same night we brought him home, he was tapping at the door to go outside – no potty training needed. He's smart and always up for an adventure, whether it's a car ride to the store, a hike in the park, a summer day out in the boat or sitting outside at a brewery. We're all happier when we can be together. He's also very loving and affectionate. My day is so much better when I wake up and he's snuggled up to me. He loves everyone he meets, old or young. He's made new human and dog friends in his time with us. He's a joyful little guy who seems grateful every day to have landed with us.

What I've learned from adopting a mixed terrier, is to not have any preconceived notions. He taught us to have an open mind and in the end it's all about giving a dog a good home!! We've given him a great home, but he's also brought so much happiness and joy to our lives. He taught us to never judge a book by its cover. We'll continue to adopt mixed-breed terriers in the future. Great things come to you when you're not looking for them.



So many ways to help!

CCTR's first Howl'O'Ween store featuring hand-crafted decor items with a Halloween or autumn vibe, is still open! All items feature cairns (or cousins) to decorate your home for spooky season or with an autumnal vibe. These items will be keepsakes that you can bring out every year to enjoy.



Announcing the first CCTR Annual Calendar featuring our adopted dogs from opening day (July 2025) through the end of July 2026. Pre-orders are being taken through **October 31, 2026,** on our website. A limited run is planned so don't put off ordering and get yours as soon as you finish your newsletter reading! Order here or on our website under menu item: Help Us - Calendar sale.

Be sure and check out CCTR's partner: Lynch Creek Wreaths. They have not only freshly handmade holiday wreaths but centerpieces, garlands & other gifts. If not for your home, a fresh wreath delivered to family or friends makes your holiday giving easier. Available to order through **December 13, 2026,** and 10% of your order will go to Cairns & Cousins Terrier Rescue!



Coming November 6th through the 15th, our final 2026 Auction to benefit CCTR. Our Heart-Made Creations Auction will feature not only the typical auction items (including many dog-themed items, of course!), but hand-crafted items, including stained-glass artwork, handmade afghans, a quilted advent calendar and an original "Mo and Mom" handmade quilt (CPCRN folks will know why this is so special!). The auction is being set up and opening day will be announced on social media & via an email with details and teaser photos, so watch for your notification!

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