



## Her Wish for a New Forever Home Come True

Mia, a 5-year-old unspayed bitch, came into Rescue in July. Her family gave her up because they had no time for her and lost their home due to the economy and downsizing. Her breeder was not able to take her back, so Rescue and I stepped in. First off, the family had never left her before and they were very sad giving her up. It was quite a traumatic event for her to come to be left with me.



She was my first Rescue but I have done several Rehomes before. I have to say Rescues are very different. When you Rehome one you have bred, they seem to know you when they come back. Mia was terrified with the strange house and people, and the fact that her previous owners were crying didn't help. It took her several days to warm to us, with long walks and lots of balls. Thank God for balls, as she didn't eat much the first few days with us and didn't like our cookies at all. We slowly introduced her to our guys, who, one at a time were OK, but Mia never did warm up to being a pack member. She was very well-trained when we got her but shy with men. She is a real cuddle bunny and would give big kisses and drop the ball for you to play with her.

Along comes Kelly, Mike and Shea--a wonderful couple with a IWS already who wanted to open their home to a new IWS to play with Shea. They came to meet Mia and it was love at first sight for the group. Mia played ball with Shea and enjoyed an afternoon of belly rubs. Mia came back to my house after the visit to be spayed and microchipped and recover. After 2 weeks of healing and a bit of work to get her over the shyness, she was ready to go to her new forever home.

I would like to share this most recent report I received from them:

*Mike, Shea, Mia, and myself headed down to our favorite pet-friendly New Orleans style cooking...celebrating officially since Mike worked on Friday night. One-quarter mile before our destination, Mia popped her head up from under the seat to check it all out. This is HUGE for riding in the car. Dinner was pretty good--we sat in the corner (if there is a corner outside in the yard) and Mia laid down under the seat, but barking 1 or 2 times when she saw new feet. Shea and Mia were treated to steak tidbits which apparently were Yummy! After dinner, we headed to the dog-friendly beach.*

*THIS WAS THE BEST CAPPER OF THE NIGHT. 15 Dogs all jumping in the surf, playing ball, and meeting and greeting each other. It was beautiful to see Mia so happy at the beach. It was like ice cream without the calories. We played for about 45 minutes and got back in the truck with two soaking wet poochers. Mia's face was covered in sand and she couldn't have been happier. The ride home she even poked her head out the window for maybe 3 minutes. We'll take it! So, with two squeaky clean doggies, we all sit relaxing with what is left of the evening."*

So wishes do come true. Mia has found a wonderful forever home. Thank you, Kelly and Mike for opening your heart and home to this lucky girl.

A special thank you to Susanne Hogan who held my hand through this and to Stephane O'Reilly who found us Kelly and Mike and has agreed to mentor them.

