

She is “Precious”

By Carole Fry Owen



Deplorable. Indeed this 8-year-old wheaten was deplorable when her owners surrendered her April 24 “asap.” They were heading out of town to find work and needed service fast. They said the Scottie had health issues they could not afford to treat. Margy Tucker and Elizabeth Fredo of North Texas Scottie Rescue are “no-sooner-said-than-done” people. They met the owners, took possession of this sad-eyed Scottie, and mapped out the road to her new life: which included a new name. Presto, she became “Precious”!



Precious was covered in fleas, hot spots, and bacterial and yeast infections, had very little coat, was underfed, and had untreated seizures for four years. Remaking her was a big order. But Margy Tucker, Flower Mound, TX, has been in Scottie Rescue for 20 years and knows the wonderful possibilities. It was decided to make Precious a permanent foster dog of NTSR because of the seizures.

Look at Precious' skin. Barely any coat covers it. Margy says Precious had the beginning of “elephant skin,” an end result of untreated allergies and skin irritations. Luckily for Precious,” asserted Margy, “we can deal with all this.”

“All this” was an expensive undertaking. NTSR posted Precious on its Facebook page, and started a campaign for donations specifically for Precious. Texas Scottie Rescue Fund helps special needs Scottie Rescues in Texas like Precious and added \$500 to the “Precious Fund.”

First prayer was answered. Precious was heartworm negative. Next up: make Precious “decent”: mat removal, nail trim (including a 3-inch nail), flea treatment, a warm soaking medicated bath, plus blood work and antibiotic and steroid injections for her skin. Later there would be a dental and ear flush, evaluation of the seizure disorder and vaccinations.





Improvement was fast. Two days into Precious' new life, she was "feeling very chipper." Margy reported April 26, on NTSR's Facebook update: "Precious is so much better!! She is changing colors and wags her tail and wants to be held. From hot, hot pink to a lighter shade. Good news, her liver is in good shape. She just shows the normal stress of a dog with infections and eaten up with fleas. She is crusty with a lot of scabs, but that will heal."

April 27, NTSR FB—Margy: "Today Precious had a dental and lost three teeth. She also had her ears flushed so we could treat the ear infections (both ears). She sailed through this, and we can spring her out Friday. She will spend the weekend with me. I want to watch her and hope there are no seizures."

April 28, NTSR FB—Margy: "She's out of hospital and on her way to my home so I can observe and shower her with some hugs and kisses and a ton of loving. Precious' skin is light pink like it should be. Yeasty infection still going on in ears, but that is very fixable. This is one happy girl, no two happy girls!"

May 1, NTSR FB—NTSR volunteer Patricia Oldham, Highland Village, TX, writes: "I met Precious tonight. She is a darling love. She's rapidly learning how to be loved and doted on at Margy's. Her little tummy is full of good food and her skin is a normal pink color after medicated baths. During my visit she was running about and rolling over asking for belly rubs. It was so heartening to see an inquisitive, happy Scottie. THANK you to all who have graciously donated."



May 5, NTSR FB—Margy posts Precious discovering ice cream: "Introducing Precious to the good life ahead. No better way than a puppy whip at Starbucks!"

End of Story. Almost: June 5, NTSR FB--Margy says, "Hi Scottie Family, I know you remember Precious. She is now Bella. She is thriving in her new digs. I wanted to share that being the Scottie Lady she is, that she has taken over and ever so gently rules her palace. She has normal skin tone and is growing hair. And still loves her Starbucks! Nope, not spoiled!"

How did NTSR work such a fast turn around in Precious? “I like to dig in and get the ball rolling on babies like this,” relates Margy. “I’m one for immediate action, making sure all the right things are done in an order. Dogs like Precious (now Bella) give me such joy to watch as they recover.”

“Dr. Marla Beach at City Vet of Flower Mound is our vet. When we got Precious, we notified Dr. Beach that we were on our way in,” remembers Margy. “Because of the condition this Scottie was in, we took her through the back entrance where Dr. Beach and staff were waiting for her. Treatment started immediately. I knew Precious was in the best care.”

It seems Precious/Bella is doing good work herself. Vickie Noblet, Trophy Club, TX, lost her husband in 2015, and her Scottie Logan from NTSR in April, 2016. “Precious needed someone to dote over her, and Vickie needed a Scottie companion,” says Margy. “This was truly a heaven made match. Precious came to Vickie in a time of need. So they heal each other. Isn’t that the best?” Since Precious has not had any seizures, is in a home close to Margy and will go to NTSR’s vet, Precious is now a permanent placement, not a permanent foster!



Persons like Margy Tucker make Scottie Rescue possible. Margy founded NTSR. It has been 501 (c) 3 since 2006. Before Scottie Rescue, Margy bred Scotties, later joining Greater Dallas Scottish Terrier Club. Co-coordinator Pat Durwachter, Glenn Heights, TX, and many volunteers are on the NTSR team.

Copyright 2017 Carole Fry Owen

“She is Precious” was first published by Scottish Terrier Club of America in *The Bagpiper*, 2017: #4.