

LUKA.....A long and winding road

July 27, 2016

The known history of Luka's world began around Christmas 2015. His age is estimated at 5 years, and judging from his condition, he had been a roaming stray for a very long time.

Luka was picked up by a friend of Brenda DuBorg near the airport in Kenner, Louisiana, (near New Orleans). He was extremely thin, and very filthy. Her friend could not keep him, so they took Luka to a friend's house until they could decide what to do with him. He dug his way out of the yard, and she went looking for him for a couple days, eventually stopping a police officer to ask if they had seen him? Amazingly, another officer had found Luka sleeping in the middle of the street and picked him up. The officer took him home over the New Year's weekend, but he could not keep him. During that time he was taken to the Vet, bathed, given shots, and tested for heartworms. He tested positive for heartworms. Brenda was contacted and told that the officer's dog was sick, and they wouldn't be able to keep him. The officer dropped off Luka, then Brenda and her friend took him to the Metairie Small Animal Hospital. On January 4th, Luka was transferred to the Jefferson Parish Animal Shelter, with a note, and his recent medical records. It is not a no-kill shelter, but the shelter staff agreed to do whatever they could to help him. She told the shelter staff that Luka was good with kids, dogs, and just craved attention. He loved sitting in her lap and giving her kisses. He once caught an Opossum, but did not harm him. Brenda visited him several times at the shelter.

The awesome shelter staff did everything they could to find a rescue for Luka without success; he was listed as "Rescue Only" due to the heartworms, therefore was not available for public adoption. A rescue was his only way out. They reached out to every major Husky rescue in Louisiana & Texas, and possibly Mississippi without any luck. Many of these rescues listed Luka as a "Courtesy Post", but there were no takers.

Finally on January 15, Melanie Manning with the shelter contacted Samoyed Rescue of Texas and asked if we thought that maybe he could be a Samoyed Mix? My initial response was "No, not really". She explained his situation, said everyone that has been with him just loved him. Then I thought.....*maybe* if I close my eyes, conjure up some imagination.....I could find some Sammy in there. Hey, he's white, right? He was awful friendly looking. Samoyed Rescue of Texas also had no interest in securing a foster home for him, but he was out of time. SRT's Board agreed that day that we should "Tag him", and have faith that it would all work out. We did. That very same evening, Brandie & Davin, a very experienced

Husky home, offered to foster Luka, and nurse him through his HW treatment's, and other assorted ailments. Wow! Prayers answered!

Next, we had to get him here. With the help of Pilots-n-Paws, (an amazing organization), and Ace Transport Coordinator Terri Varnado, we soon had two flights ready for Luka to arrive in Dallas in style. On January 24th our two gracious pilots, Owen Bordelon and Bruce Bonner flew Luka from New Orleans, LA to Baton Rouge, LA, and on to Dallas, Texas.

Over the next six months, Luka and fosters worked through several cases of diarrhea, intestinal parasites, serious allergies, and the *Ear infection from Hell*. He had the ear infection in LA, and SRT probably had him at the Vet 7-8 times for treatments. After repeating the final procedure, it appeared the infection was cured!! Keeping in mind, this is all **in addition** to his Heartworm treatment and injections. Luka is one tough dude, with a heart of solid gold. If you have ever seen how Immiticide injections for Heartworm treatments can suck the life out of a poor dog, you'll likely never forget to administer them again.

Tamara & Roger, (who adopted Komi Samoyed Rescue of Texas last year), were very interested Luka. After a sleep-over, Komi, Tamara & Roger fell in love with Luka. Tamara's parents in North Carolina adopted Walter earlier this year, making them SRT's first "3 dog family"!! They Officially adopted him on July17, 2016.

Finally.... Luka had a Furever Home.

Samoyed Rescue of Texas, Inc.



