



Mid-Atlantic German Shepherd Rescue

Providing Rescue and Adoption Services in MD, DC and VA



Karl's Korner

from

www.magsr.org

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From KARL'S PAD ~My surgery...



To all my friends,

A big K thank you for your donations and messages of support. I really appreciate everything you've done to help MAGSR and my foster mom give me my second chance.

Thanks to you we could pay for the MRI, which made it clear I had to have surgery weight away. And I was able to have my surgery as soon as it stopped snowing and the roads cleared. It was done on Tuesday, February 16th by a really good surgeon. I checked in at Chesapeake Veterinary Surgical Services the evening before and I must say I was frightened. I have never spent time away from my foster mom, but the staff at CVSS were wonderful to me and took great care of me.

I was told that they didn't find anything they didn't expect, which is medical talk for the surgery went went as planned. I was pretty groggy for the first 24 hours and could not stand on my own. I remember there was a nice woman who kept checking on me during that first night; I wasn't really awake but I could sense her being there.

Once the surgical drugs wore off I began to miss my home and mom again, worrying and worrying that I had been abandoned again. I can't help it if I still get pretty nervous sometimes ... you understand, don't you? My back and head hurt, my legs were not co-operating, I couldn't stand without the aid of a support sling and I was frightened again. The vet techs were wonderful, but I wanted my foster mom, just my foster mom. I tried to tell them, I whined and cried, and just when I was starting to give up I heard her voice....oh my gosh...there she is! All was right with the world again and she even brought roast chicken. Nothing else mattered and I knew I'd be ok.

From KARL'S PAD ~ Back home...

I am home now and doing well...well if you can call having to stay in a crate a good thing. When I first came home from the hospital, I wasn't very comfortable and I didn't like that crate getting in between me and mom. She didn't like it either and neither of us got much sleep.

My incision is about 14" long with shiny silver staples holding it together. Brrrr --- it feels cold back there if there's a breeze, but the sun warms me up....



I am on strict rest for 4 full weeks, no running, jumping, stairs....nothing. (I hope Abby doesn't forget that I like to play with her...). I must be leash walked but that is OK as I get to stay close to mom.

I have to go back to the surgery doctor for a 2 and a 4 week check up. Then comes the good part! If I have been a good boy (which I am trying desperately to be) and my spine is healing well, I will be able to start water therapy to remind those lazy muscles in my back end what they are supposed to be doing. Mom said I'll get to walk underwater on a treadmill and that sounds like fun!

So, that's it for now, I want to thank everyone again from the bottom of my heart, and if you can find it in *your* heart to spare just a little bit more, well, I heard that the water therapy and other rehab is kind of expensive, and I don't want to be greedy because my MAGSR mates Donovan and Dixie (aka Maggie at her foster dad's house) also had surgery and need rehab, too.

Lots of love and big sloppy kisses from,
your friend 4 ever,

Karl

THE MAGSR CHART ~ KARL'S PAD medical updates... by *Karl*

And here's a shout out to:



Miss Dixie, aka Maggie @ her foster home, who has a long, incision like I do, but her staples are already out and she's already started her water therapy. She's doing weight bearing & weight shifting exercises, passive range of motion, massage and stretching excercises, and even doggy situps with her foster dad's help, and she has a good prognosis but its a lengthy process because she had lost the use of her back legs entirely and with no warning at all.



And here's Donovan relaxing (I'll spare you the shot of *his* incision...). He's on crate rest too, after a tough surgery last week where his femur snapped and he suffered a spiral fracture that had to be repaired, so the surgeons could only perform a Femoral Head Ostectomy (FHO) and not a total hip replacement as hoped. He has to be kept quiet for the next 4 weeks too, doing only very passive PT exercises; after that his foster mom says they want to get him in the water right away.



Our friend Pharoah has had his share of medical problems too and he's still is trying to get his epileptic seizures under control, with the help of his foster mom and dad.

And finally, look at Marlowe, playing in the snow and using all 4 legs instead of having to hop around on 3, and she found her forever family, too!



VISIT US SOON AT WWW.MAGSR.ORG

*Thanks again to all of you for responding to our individual appeals and replenishing the **MAGSR Medical Fund** so we can heal, get well and be ready for our furever homes.*

Love and sloppy kisses, from *Karl*

Questions? Email us at question@MAGSR.org