

## Rescue Dogs and Behavior

**Many adopted dogs were relinquished for a variety of reasons that were no fault of the animal.**

*By Joanne YohannanSVP, Shelter Operations, North Shore Animal League America*

Q. Do adopted dogs have behavior problems?

A. On the contrary, many dogs in animal shelters and with rescue groups are perfectly well-mannered dogs that were relinquished for a variety of reasons that really were no fault of the animal. Some shelters and rescue groups provide training and basic behavior lessons for the dogs in their care in an effort to prepare them for permanent placement in new and loving homes. There can be behavioral challenges with any dog regardless of where you get it. The key to a successful and long-term relationship is patience and persistence. Remember, once your dog is properly socialized and trained, you will have a best friend for life.