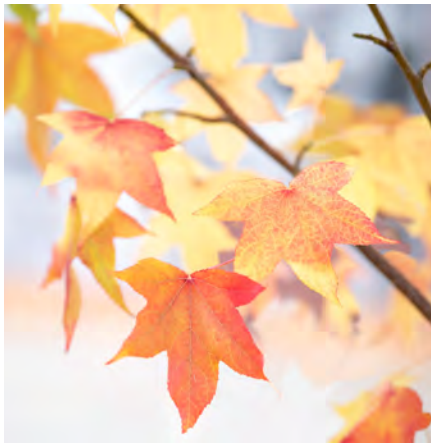
NBRAN
NATIONAL BRITTANY RESCUE & ADOPTION NETWORK

Fall 2026, Issue 3, Volume 18

The Brittany Advocate



President's Corner

By Sue Spaid

From Poacher's Partner to Loving Companion: The Story and Heart of the Brittany

If you have ever opened your heart or home to a Brittany, you already know there is no other breed quite like them. Their bright, expressive eyes and energetic "whistle-while-you-work" demeanor instantly steal hearts. But to truly understand why our rescue dogs act the way they do—and why they make such extraordinary companions—it helps to take a step back into history.

A History Built on Partnership

The breed traces its roots back to the 19th century in the rugged, northwestern peninsula of France known as Bretagne. Local peasants and gamekeepers needed a compact, versatile hunting dog that could do it all: point, flush, and retrieve woodcock in dense brush, all on a modest budget.

English hunters visiting France often left their pointers and setters behind between hunting seasons. These dogs bred with local native spaniels, giving rise to the modern Brittany. In fact, for decades, they were known as the "Brittany Spaniel." However, the American Kennel Club (AKC) officially dropped "Spaniel" from the name in 1982 to better reflect the breed's actual hunting style—they point rather than flush like traditional spaniels.

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President's Corner (continued)

Unlike large sporting dogs bred for wealthy estates, Brittanys lived inside the modest cottages of French peasants. They were bred not just to work side-by-side with their owners all day, but to sleep by the hearth with the family at night. This dual heritage directly shaped the remarkable temperament we see in our rescue dogs today.

The Brittany Temperament: Joy, Drive, and Sensitivity
Brittanys do not do anything halfway. They are agile, endlessly enthusiastic, and require regular physical and mental exercise. Without an outlet for their energy, a bored Brittany can easily turn to creative destruction or nuisance barking.
Thanks to their origins as family-dwelling house dogs, Brittanys form deep bonds with their humans. They thrive on being part of the pack and generally do best in homes where they aren't left alone for long stretches.

Highly trainable and quick to learn, Brittanys excel at obedience, agility, and scent work. However, their smarts mean they can also learn how to open latches or jump fences if they feel like exploring!

Perhaps the most crucial trait for adopters and foster homes to understand is their sensitivity. Brittanys respond poorly to harsh corrections or heavy-handed training. Positive reinforcement, patience, and gentle guidance bring out their best selves.

In rescue, we often see Brittanys who were surrendered simply because their previous owners underestimated their energy levels or misread their sensitive nature. Once placed in an active home that offers consistency, exercise, and love, these dogs blossom into deeply loyal, entertaining, and affectionate family members.

Whether you are fostering, adopting, or supporting our rescue mission, thank you for loving this spirited, historic breed!

New Team Brittany t-shirts are here!

Thanks to our partnership with Brittany Schlake, at Birdie, we are super excited to offer our NBRAN followers & friends these amazing New Team Brittany T-shirts designed exclusively for NBRAN!

Not only will you look fabulous in your new T-shirt but NBRAN gets a donation for each t-shirt sold. Just make sure to use the Code: **NBRAN** at checkout. So if you're ready to shop, go to **https://yesbirdie.com/collections/nbran**

Our foster Willow

By Bob and Kelly Glozzer

Willow came into our life as a foster in April of 2025. She really bonded with our boy Ace. They would play together, then eventually would cuddle together. She is really smart and picks up on commands. She has a mischievous side also, she likes to grab a slipper or tool and carry it around. We had Willow for almost 6 months. She fit in with us really well, but we knew she was meant for another loving forever family. Willow had many adventures with us. We surprised her with a trip to Tennessee. We went to visit our niece, but took Willow to see her sister Ivy. They sniffed each other and did their own thing. We were surprised they didn't interact with each other that much. So after the visit we went to Bush's Beans, but Duke wasn't there that day. Willow got her first taste of camping in a tent. Later we rented a cabin, I believe she enjoyed that more.

Our foster Willow (Continued)

Willow and Ace became very close with each other. On September 6th 2025, Willow was adopted and transported to Illinois, to the Greatest Mom and Dad she could ask for. Fast forward to August 2nd 2026. We surprised Willow with a visit, with Ace and our newest adopty, Gus. Boy oh boy, there was a lot of excitement and playtime for them. We stayed a week and got a lot of play dates that week. Willow's forever loving mom and dad (Kara and Pat O'Mahoney) were gracious enough to help set it up. Until next time, Willow be a good girl. We love transporting especially, when we get to meet the forever parents. We also foster from time to time.

Penny, the Calendar Girl

By Amanda Taylor

NBRAN rescue Penny (Irmo, SC) was selected to be featured in The Paw Print's 26-27 calendar! Proceeds from calendar sales are donated to various pet charities. We are so proud of Penny and love her very much!

Ocean Dog Beau

NBRAN Beau, adopted in January by Ross & Kris of California, is shown racing along the Pacific Ocean beach this summer.

Birthday Boy Max

By Samantha Miller

My husband Colin and I adopted Max about two years ago just before his first birthday. Today we celebrated his third, hence the birthday hat photo. I've also included images of him and his pig that he carries to bed, as well as him in his beret which he will just wear around in true Frenchmen fashion.

In the last two years since we adopted Max, he has gone from timid and shy to a clingy little menace who firmly believes personal space to be a complete myth, and if you are not petting him, he will pet you - or rather paw punch you in the face until you pet him in return.

He often steals single socks and shoes, and the remainder of his brother's (Pippin the Shih Tzu) dinner if no one is looking. Despite his rapidly expanding criminal record, Max has become an irreplaceable member of the household, often leading the group howls and singing the songs of his people.

We are so happy with the outcome of having gone through NBRAN and will definitely do so again in the future.

Lucy Checks In

By Nadia De Jong

Lucy joined our family on June 7th and she has settled in so well with her little brother Gerry (also an NBRAN rescue). While Lucy is older, she loves playing with Gerry and while she lets him know when she has had enough, he could play forever!
We feel very fortunate as they give us so much love and our lives are so much richer with their presence.

James, Nadia, Gerry and Lucy

Fosters Needed!

Fill out your foster application at **http://www.nbran.org/get-involved/fostervolunteer-application** or email **info@nbran.org** with your questions.

Sam the Weatherdog

By Wayne And Dorothy Hayes

LI wanted to send you a little update on one of your wonderful success stories.

We adopted Sam in January 2023, and since he became part of our family, he has filled our home with love, laughter, and plenty of surprises. We honestly can't imagine life without him.

One of the most amazing things we've discovered is that Sam has a very special talent. Long before a storm arrives, Sam knows it is coming.

It can be a beautiful sunny day with blue skies and not a cloud in sight. Yet if Sam quietly leaves the room and goes to his favorite hiding place between a chair and the kitchen island, we know exactly what's about to happen. Sure enough, thunder, lightning, or rain isn't far behind.

Just today, Sam went to his hiding place a full hour before the storm arrived! We looked outside and couldn't understand why he was hiding because the weather was still beautiful. About an hour later, the thunder rolled in, lightning flashed, and the rain began.

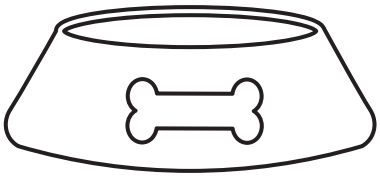
Here in Alabama, our trusted meteorologist is James Spann. Since Sam seems to have such an incredible ability to predict approaching storms, we've affectionately nicknamed him "Sam Spann." It's become a running joke in our house that Sam gives us the first weather alert, and then we wait for James Spann to confirm it.

I've attached a photo of Sam dressed for the part. We think he looks ready to join the weather team!

We simply wanted to thank all of you for rescuing this wonderful boy and giving us the opportunity to adopt him. You changed his life, but the truth is, he changed ours too. He has become such an important part of our family, and every day we're reminded how fortunate we were to find him through NBRAN.
Thank you for the incredible work you do to give dogs like Sam a second chance. We hope his story brings a smile to your faces, just as he brings one to ours every day.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Wayne And Dorothy Hayes

The Doggy Kitchen



Honey Soft Pumpkin Treats

Ingredients

- 1 cup pumpkin puree (no spices)
- 1/4 cup applesauce
- ⅛ cup of honey
- 1 egg
- 1 cup whole wheat flour

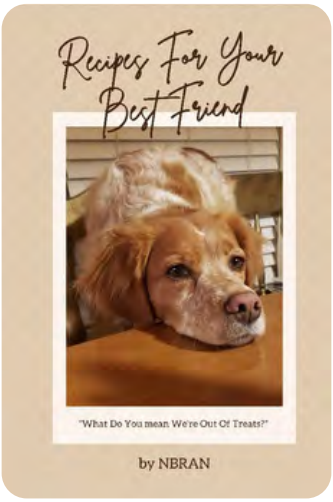
Steps

1. Mix the pumpkin puree, applesauce, honey and egg in the a food processor or mixer.
2. Add 1/2 of the flour and mix. Add the remaining flour and mix again until well combined.
3. Using a 1 inch cookie scoop onto parchment lined baking sheet. These do not spread so you can place them close together.
4. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes.
5. Cool and store in the refrigerator for up to one week or in the freezer.

Check out more dog friendly recipes in the **NBRAN Cookbook - Recipes for Your Best Friend.**

Your dog deserves homemade treats! Buy NBRAN's Cookbook Today

Recipes For Your Best Friend - "What Do You Mean We're Out Of Treats?" cookbook is a compilation of recipes that have stood the test of time and are beloved by pet owners around the world. We endeavored to make sure all the ingredients are safe for dogs.



Buy your hard copy or digital copy at **http://nbran.org/shop/nbran-cookbook!**

Adoptions

We found homes for 75 dogs last quarter!

Abigale (Abby) TN

Alice (MO) OK

Amber MI

Amber SC

Amber MI

April FL

Beau SC

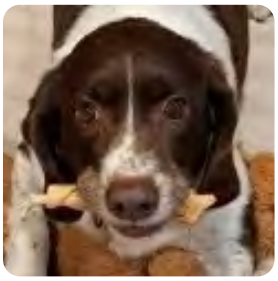
Birdie (MO) OK

Blaine SC

Boone SC

Boone UT

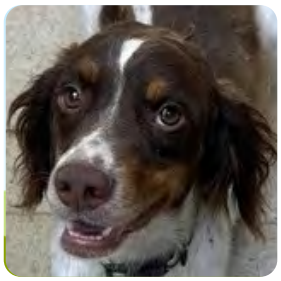
Buddy VA


Buddy Holly MI

Buster K OK

Chili MI

Clark TN


Clementine TX

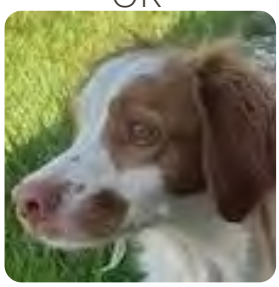
Colt aka William OK

Corbin OK

Cortez OK

Daisy (Truth) TN

Dakota/Dottie SD


Dakota UT

Dallas GA

Danny Boy OK

Adoptions

Dixie SC

Duckie SC

Flash FL

Freddy TX

Ginger UT

Goose Goose TX

Gracie OK

Gus NC

Hershey IN

Hot Cocoa NC

Hudson TN

Ivy GA

Jack MD

Jack Flash (KS) OK

Jimbo GA

Jimmy GA

June PA

Legacy PA

Lexi MI

Little Bear OK

Louie NY

Lucy NC

Lucy Hannah NC

Luke MI

Adoptions

Maggie May NY

Marley ID

Marshmallow SC

Mayble (Holly) NC

Miley MI

Molly PA

Montana TX

Nellie OK

Nellie PA

Oakley GA

Oliver IL

Pearl May (AR) TX

Piper OK

Poppy PA

Quiutito NM

Regan ME

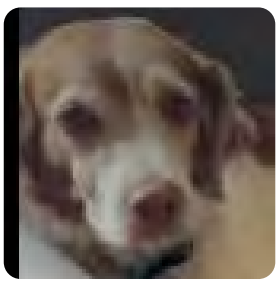
Riggs Rig TX

Rockwell VA

Rosemary OK

Rosie Rae TX

Ruby (AR) KS


Sadie CA

Sadie MI

Sassy Pants OK

Sophie Ann OK

Adoptions

Sophie Soph OK

Stanley OK

Tank (TX) OK

Timmy Toby TX

Trier IL

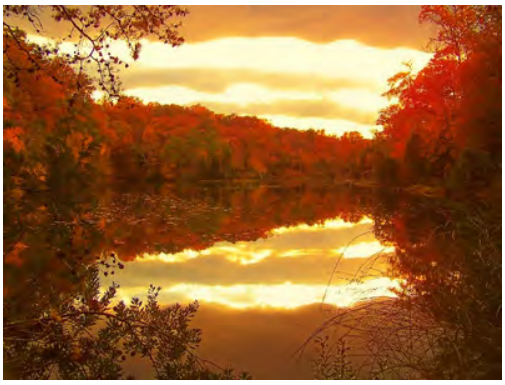
Tucker OK

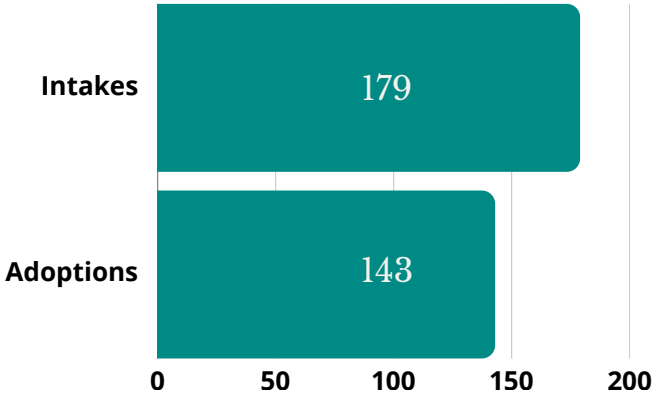
Upscale DE

Willow Bee MI

Zoe NC

2026 Intakes & Adoption





Get Involved!

READ *A DOG'S JOURNEY HOME: 25 STORIES OF RESCUE AND FOSTERING*

Buy a hardcopy or download NBRANs *A Dog's Journey Home: 25 Stories of Rescue and Fostering* from the NBRAN Store or Amazon for Kindle to read stories from NBRAN fosters and adopters.

CHEWY GIVES BACK PROGRAM

Support NBRAN while you shop at Chewy.com!

- Click **here to sign up** directly!
- Sign into your Chewy.com account or create a new account.
- Search for National Brittany Rescue & Adoption Network under **Find Rescue**.
- Click on the ❤️ to favorite NBRAN.

NBRAN gets a portion donated on all purchases & a bonus donation for each new customer that signs up!

COMPANY MATCHES

If your company matches annual donations, please reach out to Sue Spaid at **brittsrgr8@gmail.com** to help set this up!

DONATE THROUGH IGIVE

You can read more about these options on our website under **Resources/Company Partnerships.** It is so easy and it will help us raise money when you shop using these programs.

VOLUNTEER WITH NBRAN

We are always looking for new volunteers to help support NBRAN's mission. You can be a foster caregiver, a driver for the canine railroad, make a monthly donation or sponsor a dog!

- You can learn more by going to **www.nbran.org/get-involved**.
- Sign up to be a volunteer at **www.nbran.org/get-involved/volunteer-application**

NBRAN
NATIONAL BRITTANY RESCUE & ADOPTION NETWORK

Those of you active on social media know of Dobie. For the rest of us, it appears Dobie was hit by a car & was seriously injured-except no one came to help him. So Dobie learned to survive on his own, with a shattered left & right pelvis & too many other injuries to list. In Dobie's last attempt to save his life, he started to "chew" the back of his pelvic region. After 6 weeks of pain, he was fortunately discovered and brought to a shelter in South Carolina. Unfortunately, due to the extent of injuries and no one willing to claim him, he was put on the short list for euthanization. NBRAN heard about him and took this broken, anemic, intestinal parasite and flea riddled pup into rescue and started immediate treatment.

He was taken to a specialist to see if his hip and leg could be repaired. After countless X-rays, ultrasounds & consultations, it was decided the only course of treatment was amputation of his rear left leg since the injury was left untreated for so long. Dobie came through the surgery with flying colors and is making an amazing recovery. He is learning to walk and run with three legs. There is no doubt he will soon fly like any other Brittany. Dobie still requires additional treatment and rehabilitation. His foster mom, Jennifer, is taking great care of him. After he completes his strict bed rest, his real healing & living can start. NOTHING has slowed this boy down nor has dimmed his personality & happiness. You can't help but smile & be happy around him-he exudes joy & patience. There is no "poor Dobie" or feeling bad. It is "You GO Dobie!"

NBRAN will do everything that Dobie needs to live the perfect Brittany life. Since he is just a 9 month old baby, he deserves the very best chance at an amazing life. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, NBRAN will ensure he gets all the care required so he can be the best Brittany he can be. And soon, he will be searching for his happily ever after home.

Dobie is just one of the many Britts that our volunteers work selflessly to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome. While Dobie's cost of treatment was high, the normal cost of treatment for dogs coming into our care has doubled and tripled over the past 5 years. Everyone is feeling the pinch of inflation. NBRAN's operational costs to care forourbeloved dogsare now averaging $35KPER month. This is almost a $10K PER MONTH increase over the past couple of years. No relief is in sight. And we are also seeing more dogs coming into our care each year.

Your help is crucial to NBRAN's ability to plan for dog care needs and veterinary emergencies such as Dobie.

The 2026 Annual Campaign is underway! This is your chance to help NBRAN fulfill our mission to rescue, rehabilitate, and re-home Brittanys in need. As volunteers unite in a common cause, NBRAN continues to be committed to the care of these dogs and providing for their physical and emotional needs.

We are grateful and appreciate any donations. Every dollar helps a dog in need. Show your support by making your donation to our ***2026 Capital Campaign!*** As an expression of our gratitude, the first 100 people who donate $250 or more will receive a 2027 NBRAN Calendar as a thank you gift.

Here are ways you can donate today:

Donate online at ***https://give-usa.keela.co/2026-capital-campaign***

****Please consider becoming a sustaining supporter by making a recurring monthly donation****

Send a check in the enclosed envelope with the bottom of this letter to:

NBRAN, PO Box 5046, Greensburg, PA 15601-5058.

Does your company have a donation matching campaign? If so, email brittsrgr8@gmail.com for more info.

Thank you in advance for your tax-deductible donation contribution (USA Only). Your donation will go towards helping NBRAN to grow and sustain our rescue work in the U.S. and Canada and offset the rising costs of vet care, medicine, health supplies, and surgeries for our beloved Brittanys. ***We can't meet our goals without help from people like you!***

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2026 NBRAN Annual Campaign Contribution

Yes, count me in! I would like to help Brittanys find their forever homes and get the medical care they need. I have enclosed a $_____ to help our beloved NBRAN Brittanys.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ My gift is in honor of/in memory of _____

Mail your tax-deductible donation to: ***NBRAN, PO Box 5046, Greensburg, PA 15601-5058.***

Shop the NBRAN Store

Come check out the NBRAN store for great Brittany merchandise and plenty of fan favorites!

Our online store is fully stocked with great Brittany items inlcuding plushies, decals, T-shirt, stationery and so much.

All proceeds will help us rescue Brittanys in need. Thank you for your support!

Donate Now

Brittanys need your help! NBRAN is comprised solely of volunteers. We need your generous support to take care of our beloved Brittanys.

Your donations go towards their care, food, routine veterinary care, or specialized medical treatments. NBRAN is a 501(3)(c) and all donations are tax deductible.

Please donate today by going to **www.nbran.org/donate** or mail your donation to: **NBRAN, PO Box 5046, Greensburg, PA 15601-5058**

Name_____ Phone_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____

Email_____

In honor/Memory of_____

Fundraising Update - Fall 2026

By Chris Eddinger

As the NBRAN Fundraising team welcomes Fall, we wanted to express our deep appreciation to everyone for their continued generosity. Especially, now as the number of Brits in need of rescuing only continues to grow here at NBRAN. Thanks to your ongoing support NBRAN has been able to rescue 179 Brits thus far in 2026.

In May, the team kicked off Summer by hosting our annual Pamper Chef fundraiser. Thanks to you and our Pampered Chef Consultant Sarah Foust Smith, who donates her commission to NBRAN, our Party was once again a success. When the NBRAN Party closed on June 1st we raised just over $780.00 dollars to help NBRAN Brits in need.

In June, we celebrated baby Boone's 1st Birthday by holding a Birthday Bash fundraiser. For those that may not know, baby Boone, was surrendered to NBRAN late last year and was a pretty sick little boy. He was diagnosed with a number of issues including PRAA (Persistent right aortic arch) and Megaesophogus, amongst other things. However, thanks to your love and support NBRAN was able to provide Boone with the PRAA surgery and other medical care he needed. Because of your support, Boone is thriving, and we are able to celebrate his 1st Birthday!

Boone's one Birthday wish was to pay it forward to other dog in need like him. So seeing as it was his 1st Birthday, we celebrate his wish by holding a $12 Friday Birthday Bash. Friends & supporters were asked to help us celebrate by donating just $12 dollars ($1 for each month of his life!!) to further help NBRAN dogs in need. Once again, Thanks to you we raised approximately $600 dollars in celebration of Boone's Birthday!

Also in June, NBRAN volunteers Julie Agosti and Deb Tritt spent a Saturday sharing the mission of NBRAN at the Hearts & Claws 20th Anniversary Pet Adoption & Care Fair in Bethal Park, PA. Julie & Deb enjoyed the day meeting new friends, talking about NBRAN, as well as, visiting with past fosters and adopters. At day's end, thanks to Julie & Deb, $300.00 dollars was raised to help NBRAN Brits in need, thank you both for giving up your Saturday to help NBRAN.

We closed out June by once again honoring Dog Dads everyone with our annual Father's Day photo contest on social media. Congratulations once again to our winner Mike Patterson, Jeff Hannah, Richard Dorne. We hope you enjoyed your coffee mug & ball cap.

Fundraising Update - Fall 2026 (cont.)

In July, the fundraising team received word that 10 frightened French Brittanys would be coming into NBRAN's care after their owner, overwhelmed by a series of personal hardships, could no longer care for them. All 10 would need significant vet care, so the fundraising team quickly set-up a $5 Friday campaign to help support the care they would need. However seeing as there were 10 dogs in need we adapted it to a $10 dollar Friday. Also, as part of the Illinois- 10 $10 Friday supporters were given a chance to win a gorgeous handmade Quilt, donated by NBRAN foster Julia Agosti. Thanks to your generosity we raised just over $10,000 dollars to provide vet care for the Illinois-10, who are all thriving in foster.

And finally we closed out summer and headed into September where we once again held our annual Dog Days of Summer Raffle. This year's event held September 11th & 12th, not only brings the entire NBRAN network together but also helps NBRAN rescue and care for Brits like little Dobie.

Dobie was found as stray in Columbia, SC and then taken to the Lexington Animal Shelter. The shelter listed him in URGENT in of help! At only 9 months old Dobie had a shattered pelvis, as well as, other life threatening injuries. Upon hearing of Dobie's situation, NBRAN quickly stepped in. Since arriving in foster care Dobie has undergone a huge surgery to amputate his rear left leg, and had exploratory surgery of his abdomen, and been neutered. He is recovering well but still has a long road ahead, which would not be possible without continued support from generous donors like you!

And speaking of support, Our Dog Days Raffle was once again an amazing success. Thanks to your ongoing generosity we were able to raise 8,950 dollars to help offset the vet care for Dobie and the many Brits like him.

Now that Fall is here, we encourage everyone to stay tuned to our social media pages for the latest updates on upcoming events, such as our annual Scentsy party/fundraiser in November, new additions to the NBRAN store for the Holidays, our annual Share the Love Auction in Feb 2027 and so much more. Please contact fundraising chairwomen Chris Eddinger at ceddinger@verizon.net, if you have any questions about fundraising, have items to donate or services to offer, or are looking to share a fundraising idea.

Thank you!

Follow us on social media for the latest information!

@_NBRAN
@NBRANCR

@National Brittany Rescue & Adoption Network (NBRAN)

NBRAN Leadership

NBRAN OFFICERS

President: Sue Spaid
Vice President: Susan Guthrie
Treasurer: William Canney
Secretary: Dave Voeltz

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Melinde Waddle
Deb Tuthill
Nancy Walker
Kim Perez

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Carol Chimera
Kim Perez

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Rebecca Gehring
David Voeltz

Questions?

Email **info@nbran.org** with your general questions.

RESCUE GROUPS, TRAINING OR PROBLEMS

Email Sue at brittsrgr8@gmail.com

TRANSPORTATION COORDINATORS

Nancy Walker, nwalker@capecod.net
Susan Maerz, peepsmom11@gmail.com
Christine Burke, cburkenebr@gmail.com

ONLINE STORE

Email **Sofia Evangelista** at sofevangelista@gmail.com

OMBUDSMAN

Contact **David Voeltz** confidentially at **david.voeltz@outlook.com** if you have worries or concerns of any nature.