

made. Under necessary restraint, Becky revealed another facet of her character—a granite stubbornness. I was astonished at the resistance she could mount to being assisted off Mandy’s favorite chair, divan corner, or ottoman perch. She had also taken over the toy box, being first at the door to greet people, the guard duty station at the front window, and the noisy barking there. Becky could freeze herself into immobility when I tried to remove her from a contested place. Never any growls or threatening moves, just a stiff bodily resistance that made it difficult to pick her up. The contest between the two dogs was civil and growl free, mainly because Mandy refused to respond to the challenges. Eventually, they were to work out their own relationship, but meanwhile, I had to referee for Mandy’s sake. Becky finally backed off, and for the next two months, there was peace and calm again.



Becky six months after adoption