

# Pets from Our Past

## **Bike-Riding Dog Had Narrow Escape**

MY BROTHER, Roland, and I grew up in Des Moines, Iowa in the 1940s with a dog, “Boots,” who was quite unique—he liked riding on our bicycle with us.

With his paws over the handlebars and his body spread over the frame, away we’d go.

The only time he’d jump off was if he saw a cat or squirrel. He’d jump off and chase it up a tree, then find us to resume his ride.

One day, in 1946, Boots didn’t return home and we searched the neighborhood. We finally found him stuck in a culvert. He couldn’t back out or turn around.

Our neighbors helped remove the debris and Boots was free, although he was so weak, he couldn’t walk and rode home with me on the bike.

—Jane C., Nampa, Idaho