

# AAC Paw Prints

**SPRING 2003**

## **Animal Adoption Center**

a.k.a. Friends of Camden Animal Shelter (FOCAS)  
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## A Feast for AAC's Animals at Short Hills Deli

April 28th was a very tasty day. Short Hills Deli and Restaurant on Evesham Rd. in Cherry Hill hosted an Animal Adoption Center night. Starting at 4:00pm, pet lovers from all over turned out for great food and an opportunity to see friends and swap dog and cat stories. We consider Jerry Kaplan, owner of Short Hills to be one of us—he is a dog-owner who is well-known in the community as someone who supports humane treatment of animals. He has donated money to the Animal Adoption Center in the past, and has promised us that he will host similar fund raisers each season. Mr. Kaplan said, "I love animals, and I did this to support the Animal Adoption Center basically because you don't kill the animals, and I believe you are doing something important."



The picture shows the Ass't. Fund Raising Chairperson, Fred Weber, presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Kaplan for his very generous contribution to the shelter. (Remember that because we are a no kill shelter, we receive no assistance from local or state agencies—we survive by running fundraisers and appealing to our friends and those who think like we do.)

We encourage all animal lovers to go and say 'Hi' to Jerry, and have something to eat while you're there. It's all good!

## About the little "fall out" story sheets.

Animals sometimes develop health problems, and we get faced with situations that we do not have the resources to deal with. This creates a real problem for us because we are truly a no-kill shelter and will not euthanize an animal because of a chronic condition.

The three little notes about Honey, Gonzo, and Allie, are just this kind of special situation. We want to get them everything they need, but do not have the necessary funds. Read the little notes and help if you can.

## Come soon to see Jackson

...he's such a good boy that he won't be here long! This five yr old Shepherd/ Lab mix has all his manners, and loves kids, cats and dogs. His family had give him up because their young child developed a severe allergy.





**In case you were wondering...**

Those who have seen our brochure and newsletters know how long we've been open (13 years), how much our monthly veterinary bills are (over 3,500.00) and who the animals are—how they came to us, and what they need. But do you know who we are? This is the second in a series of articles to tell you about us (last time we told you how we spend our funds). In this and the next four articles we'll tell you about the heroes who keep us up and running.



## The Volunteers—Heroes of the Animal Adoption Center

Animal Adoption Center is a non-profit organization that formed for one reason—To make a difference in the lives of unwanted dogs and cats. We feed, nurture, retrain, treat, re-home, and love our animals—and **we do not kill them**. Yet we do not have money or staff to support this kind of effort. How do we do it – we have our volunteers. These are people who show up just because they are needed, just because the animals wait to see their friendly faces.

They bathe babies, walk old dogs, cuddle lonely cats and—you name it. One caring lady spent eight hours helping us do



the laundry. A retired gentleman landscaped our lot. A highly skilled volunteer answers our calls and keeps our records, and she shows up every day! At least four teenagers regularly walk the large dogs, and the kids and the dogs are all learning how to be together. Three women (maybe more) come in four

or five times a week and sit with the cats in the community room. These gals have been known to climb into a large cat cage if a particular cat needs special attention.

The lady (above) took one look at Buddy and just started hugging him. Buddy is an all-star – here he is letting her know that those Pit Bull stories are just not true.

Taylor (the Dalmation) and her pal (on the left) just came back



from a walk. She was so mistrustful when she first came in that our Dog Manager allowed no one but himself to handle her for over a week. With patient and persistent kindness she's become a happy loving pet who is now easy to handle. She is now one of the favorites. Taylor was saved by our staff and her volunteer buddies.

How do we get our volunteers? Some are adopters, some saw our web page, and others

just walked in one day and said "Can I help?" We gratefully said "Yes!" Come in, just do what you like to do, there is a job for everyone. We have an 85 year old who sews blankets and 12 year olds who come with their parents to feed kittens. Each volunteer has a unique talent, preference, and ability—they work with the animals, use their professional skills, or help us raise the money we need to stay open (see the Short Hills story). Just show up. You don't need a red cape to be a hero, just walk in the door at 501 N. Berlin Rd. and ask, "Can I help?"



### Come in and meet our friends



#### Taz

This gentle guy used to live right near us. We watched helplessly as he was left outside almost all the time on a short heavy chain in an untended yard, but we were unable to do anything. When his owner needed to vacate the property, we were able to get Taz. At first Taz was a bit confused by his move across the street, and

was very skittish. Then he discovered people (our kind of people) and he fell in love with the whole human race. Taz is waiting to meet you.



#### Able

is a survivor, and is a cat who is determined to be in a good mood, no matter what. Able was brought in as a kitten with a small mark on his nose that we thought might have been cancer. After three Vet visits, treatments, and ointments, his nose is clearing up,

except that now it is in everyone's business. He loves to snuggle and burrow into a lap or under an arm. His coat feels like velvet, and Able will "talk" to you if you feel like having a conversation.



When **Snowball** was found, he was being dragged around by kids in a bad neighborhood. The ACO captured him and he was taken to another shelter where it was discovered that he was deaf. He is such a sweet dog that every effort was made to save him. Snowball was adopted from there to a family

who apparently wasn't prepared to handle a deaf dog. He is with us now, waiting to find his family. Snowball is one great dog. If you are prepared for his special need, you will never be sorry you adopted him



**Petey** is Mr. Personality. He loves to be with people and other dogs—and will be great in a multi-dog home. Petey is smart and attentive, and pretty good looking too. He's gentle, but he's got lots of energy. He loves to play and will delight in taking long runs or walks with you.

## Ruby

lived with her mom in a big old car. The woman loved her and cared for her as best she could, but simply was not able to create a real home.

Eventually, the woman had to go into a shelter, and Ruby couldn't go with her. Ruby was a well-loved

cat, and she shows it. She loves to cuddle, and is a great communicator with her meows and purring. This beautiful cat will charm you. Come meet her.



A typical black cat. **BOO** is a pouncer, that's where she got her name. She waits until she thinks you are not paying attention, then pounces at your hand, her supper dish, even in her water. She is quite a comedian. Cute and feisty, this two-year old neutered girl is waiting for you to come in.



## BEWARE, BEWARE! What you don't know about Dogs and Cats.

House cats that have gotten out have been injured and killed because they visited a neighbor dog's back yard! You may think that your cat is "Only going right outside, and the dog(s) next door are so nice..." That thought can set you up for tragedy.

The gentlest dogs, when in their own back yard, will respond instinctively to pursue an outsider. They react to a visiting cat as if it was a squirrel or a raccoon—in fact any unfamiliar animal is considered a danger to their territory and a threat to their "family ." Dogs in a group will try to corner the unwanted guest, and can poke, shake, and prod a cat in their excitement. The cat of course is terrified and only struggles to get away. This triggers more aggressive behavior on the part of the dogs. This situation can cause everything from scratches and bruises for all involved to serious injury and even death to the cat.

Understand the nature of your pet. Cats are curious and confident, and they cannot be "outside trained." Dogs are loyal excitable defenders of their territory and will chase and subdue any unfamiliar critter. It is not a matter of "that stupid cat" or "those vicious dogs." These animals are acting according to their nature—so the warning is to the cat owners--keep your cats inside.

What to do if a confrontation occurs : Do not try to grab the cat. The frightened animal will not be able to tell friend from enemy and can give you a nasty bite. Get the hose—direct an intense stream of water on all the animals. The shock of the water may distract the dogs long enough to let the cat to dart away. Throw a blanket over all the animals. This can also provide a distraction that may allow the cat to get away when it is removed.



**Dennis** , Emily, Vicky, and Alan are part of a litter (we think there are six other pups) found in Camden by one of our associates. Some great neighborhood kids were supplying food and water when they could, and our good Samaritan managed to get these four puppies. She is still trying to get the rest of the pups, and also trying to get the mother to have her spayed. We do not want her to bring unwanted

babies into the world.



**Bubbles** couldn't remain with her family when the baby developed allergies. Bubbles is a mature, gentle, settled, and very mannerly tabby. She is a beauty with long silky whiskers and a white tuxedo front. If you have a lap, Bubbles will be in it, but if you have a squeak toy or a ball, she's ready to play. This girl loves attention.

## WHY SPAY/NEUTER?

The pictures on these pages depict only a few of the tragedies that occur because there are too many pets and not enough homes.

Every day we have to look into the eyes of neglected, abused, injured and abandoned animals that should NEVER HAVE BEEN BORN in the first place.

The solution is simple, and it is our most important project: our SPAY/NEUTER program.

A low-cost program (sponsored by the Animal Friendly license plates of the State of NJ) is available to ANYONE who adopts from an authorized shelter.

Contact our representative,  
**Carol Roman at 663-1836 for information.**  
*Spay or neuter your pet...put us out of business.*



"My dog is worried about the economy because Alpo is up to 99 cents a can. That's almost \$7.00 in dog money."

— Joe Weinstein

Animal Adoption Center's

## Event Calendar for 2003

- **June 2003 Pet Psychic at Petsmart** – Famed animal communicator will come to the Cherry Hill Petsmart store in June. Dr. Elizabeth Severino will tell you what your dogs and cats are thinking and feeling. See below for details.
- **6/28 Bowling Party** at Brunswick Lanes in Turnersville \$10.00 includes alleys, shoes, and refreshments
- **8/2 Music and Conversation at Coffee Works in Eagle Plaza, Voorhees** Music lovers animal lovers, those who like board games and great desserts
- **9/6 FleaMkt and Bake Sale at Cropwell Fire Station in Cherry Hill** Crafters, new stuff, Treasures galore (no junk) and goodies too. See below for details.
- **9/13 Mystery Dinner Theatre**  
*What's for dinner, It's a Mystery* is doing an event with us. Be part of the action, or just come and watch. See below for details
- **10/5 Dogwalk03 in Haddon Hts Park**  
 Rain or Shine. Registration at 9:30am; Dogwalk, contests, crafters, music, Ask the vet, Ask the Dog Expert, Dog Psychic, pictures, event ends with a blessing of the animals
- **11/23 Hootnanny Square Dance at Baron's Steakhouse Barn**  
 With caller and instructions, more fun than you've had in years. For singles and partners.
- **Dec 2003 - Pets w/Santa at Petsmart in Cherry Hill** – the three weekends prior to Christmas.

Call AAC at 856 435-9116 or visit [www.animaladoption.com](http://www.animaladoption.com)

Note: Our activities are not specifically couple-oriented – singles as well as committed partners will enjoy our events.

## Yes, I want to help the animals and your NO-Kill mission!

Use my donation to:

- Supply food, shelter, and veterinary care for those waiting to find their homes. \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Sponsor the pet I cannot take home \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Support kitten or puppy for \$15.00 per month, or support an adult cat or dog for \$20.00 per month (*A calendar and envelopes will be sent to you.*)
- Write a Tribute or Remembrance \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ...because those who love us change our lives forever. Share your feelings for those who are still with you, or those who have passed on. A donation of \$50.00 will allow us to print up to 25 words on our website.  
 (Enter you Tribute or Remembrance...please print clearly)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Honor a loved one \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Dedicate a cat cage \$300
- Dedicate a dog kennel \$500
- Sponsor the Feline Aids/Leukemia room \$800
- Sponsor the Cat Community Room \$800
- Sponsor a Doggy Play yard \$800

*We will have a personalized plaque created with your tribute.*

Print the words exactly as you want them to appear

\_\_\_\_\_

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### Please Print Clearly

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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Amt of donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_