

Paw Prints

Animal Adoption Center a.k.a. Friends of Camden Animal Shelter (FOCAS)

A No-Kill Shelter for companion animals

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Winter 2004

This story is our holiday gift to you...to all of us



nce upon a time there was a gentle little dog named Terry who was taken in as a stray in a “kill” shelter in Delaware. Terry did not have use of his right forelimb; his paw was bent at an odd angle and he could place no weight on it. The veterinarian who served the Delaware shelter suspected nerve damage, which would mean that Terry’s leg would have to be amputated. And he had a troublesome skin problem.



Despite his health woes, Terry had a cheerful and loving disposition. He was friendly with all animals and people and he considered himself just a normal, healthy, happy dog. However, the folks in Delaware did not see him this way. Terry was deemed unadoptable by the shelter because of his medical conditions, and he had used up his seven-day “stray time” ...that meant that Terry’s time was up, period.

A group of Delaware rescuers heard about him and put out a desperate plea to area rescue groups and no-kill shelters for anyone who might have room for this sweet dog, and it had to be in a hurry because the clock was ticking. The Animal Adoption Center responded.

We took Terry to Evesham Veterinary Clinic, where the diagnosis of nerve damage was confirmed— the withered limb would have to be removed. We scheduled the necessary operation.

While we waited, we treated Terry’s skin condition with medicines, baths, and nutritional supplements, and we also introduced him to some of the nice people who visit our shelter. The operation went well and he came through with flying colors; but good care and services are not cheap...the vet bills have mounted to over \$500. But Terry is a very special dog. This little guy has the most amazingly positive attitude, both before and after his operation—always eager to charge along, hopping happily on three legs, he was one of the most memorable little “champions” we’ve ever had—and *had* is the key word here. One of the families that visited our shelter remembered Terry. They came back and brought a little girl in to meet him (the Princess of this story), and it was love at first sight. The fact that he was a three-legged dog mattered to exactly nobody.

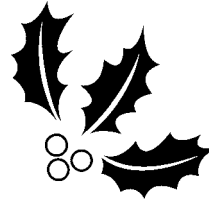


Terry, now known as Toby, had found his family and went away with them to live in the nearby kingdom of Voorhees, NJ. He hops, jumps, and plays, and sometimes the Princess has a hard time keeping up with him.

Our hearts go with them and our best wishes that they’ll *live happily ever after*.

This Holiday season,

in honor of Terry and all the others like him who we help, please send a donation to our Veterinary Fund. We know that Terry got the love and treatment he needed and deserved, and thanks to your generous donations we will be able to continue to do the same for others.



Here is Toby at our Dogwalk where he covered the entire 3K course, easily keeping up with all the other dogs. He deals with his physical challenge by happily ignoring it.





Lovey

is a super cat. Technically she is described as a dilute calico, domestic short hair. She's a medium size, medium aged cat, but there is nothing else average about her. Lovey is great with children, other cats and dogs! She has such a wonderful personality that she doesn't even get upset when people tell her that she looks like a

rabbit (see photo). Make her holiday wish come true.

Benny

has it all. This medium sized young male is an orange and white tabby who has fascinating green/gold eyes. He's a sweetheart of a cat who loves to talk. Just come by and speak to him and don't be surprised when you get an answer. All we need is someone who speaks "cat" to do some interpreting. Mannerly and dignified, Benny will be a happy addition to any family.



Fuzz

is a character. He is a medium sized one year old adult domestic short-haired tabby. If it can be said that a cat knows how to have a good time, Fuzz is your guy. He loves attention and gives as good as he gets. This picture tells the story.



Mickey

a great name for a cat. His short haired fur is sleek and pitch black. Gentle and graceful, this six-year old fellow has the most startling gorgeous green eyes. When you look into them you just know that he is thinking something deep and wise. Mickey is also a talker and will hold catversations with you. Mickey gets along with everybody, other cats and dogs too. He is patiently waiting here to meet you.



A Prayer We've Heard

Heavenly Father, Help us remember that the jerk who cut us off in traffic last night, is a single mother who worked nine hours that day and is rushing home to cook dinner, help with homework, do the laundry and spend a few precious moments with her children.

***Help us to remember** that the pierced, tattooed, disinterested young man who can't make change correctly, is a worried 19-year-old college student balancing his apprehension over final exams with his fear of not getting his student loans for next semester.*

***Remind us, Lord,** that the scary looking bum, begging for money in the same spot every day (who really ought to get a job!) is a slave to addictions that we can only imagine in our worst nightmares.*

***Help us to remember** that the old couple walking annoyingly slow through the store aisles and blocking our shopping progress, are savoring this moment, knowing that, based on the biopsy report she got back last week, this will probably be the last year that they go shopping together.*

***Remind us** that the old dog who had an "accident" has been home alone all day patiently waiting for us, that his happiness begins when he hears our car in the driveway—or that the cat who left fur on our sweaters gave us five full minutes of pure delight with her catnip antics...that both helped us forget our worries for a moment and comforted us with their loyalty and devotion.*

Heavenly Father, remind us each day that, of all the gifts you give us, the greatest gift is love. It is not enough to share that love with those we hold dear. Open our hearts not to just those close to us, but to all humanity, all living things. Let us be slow to judge and quick to forgive, show patience, empathy and love.



Jay Shankin

One of our number is gone

On October 22, 2004, Jay Shankin, 55, a Board member of 12 years standing, passed away. Jay worked as a primary therapist specializing in addictions and family counseling at Seabrook House and at his private practice at ARTS in Haddonfield. An animal-lover all his life, Jay supported the shelter's fund-raising efforts with his musical talents and counseling skills. He is survived by his loving family--wife Carole Shankin (Secty, Newsletter Editor, one of AAC's founders), daughter Kelly Rand (husband Ken), son Pat (wife Michele), mother June, and sister Suzanne Killion (husband Emery), and grandchildren Nicky and Brittany Shankin; Brian, Danielle, and Heather Simkin, and Alexis Rand. Jay is also survived by Gussie, Zazu, and Rocky (dogs) and Dale and Martha (cats).



WHO WE ARE

I would like to tell about an incident, one that makes me very proud to be associated with the Animal Adoption Center, especially our volunteers, employees and board members.


In July, 2004 Buttercup—a small female husky mix about two years old—entered our shelter and became one of our adoptables. Our canine manager and dog handlers noticed that Buttercup dropped to the ground and rolled onto her back if any of the handlers raised a hand, made quick body movements or raised their voice. In addition she growled at just about any male that came towards her.

It was obvious that she had been a victim of animal cruelty at the hands of a man. After about a week or so, I decided to befriend her and show Buttercup that she could trust me. After spending about three months bonding with her, she lost her distrust of men. She liked other dogs and had a special affinity for cats. Each evening, before bedding down, she would go over to the cat cages in the lobby and rub noses with Nicky, her feline friend. She sniffed at kittens and showed genuine love towards them. Once she pulled Fuzzy's plate of food out of her cage, and then allowed me to return it to her feline friend.

Late in October, Buttercup was chosen to be adopted by a lovely family. The man of the house visited her everyday for 1 1/2 weeks, then Buttercup went home. Then a mishap occurred. On November 3rd, Buttercup ran through an unlatched door of her home. She was gone...and nowhere to be found. We were informed late that afternoon (just before closing time) by the desperate new adopter that Buttercup had run away. Between November 4th and November 7th, no fewer than 11 volunteers, employees and board members searched from morning to late at night for her. On the morning of November 8th, Buttercup found her way back home. Sightings of her tracked her travels to the opposite end of Magnolia, back to Somerdale and back again to her home. Buttercup's human grandmother wrote a wonderful letter to us saying "You are special people."

This is what the Animal Adoption Center is all about, people who care about those who we come in contact and bond with. God bless every one of them.

To all of you, our supporters, may I wish you a very happy holiday and may the new year bring you all you wish for. God bless.

Alan S. Feinberg

President



Sapphire

is small-to-mid-size dog who has lovely manners. She is generally quite quiet and unassuming. She is excellent with all people, but Sapphire must be an "only pet." She would thrive in a loving family and would really enjoy a fenced yard to romp in, but she is not an excessively high energy dog, and will welcome quiet times curled up by your side.

Bruno

Those who care for Bruno every day know him best, and they say this about him: a Big lump of love! That's Bruno! This handsome Rottie/Shepherd Mix craves human attention and loves to play. Teach him some games and learn some of his and have some fun together. Bruno would do best in a home in where he is not left alone for long periods of time.



Sugar

This dog comes by her name honestly. Sugar is roughly one year old and is a sparkly, happy Lab mix who is just plain huggable, Sugar loves attention, and with her high energy she should be with older children and have a fenced in yard where she can run and play.

Bigelow

This handsome, friendly guy came to us in a swap from another rescue. He's a real "Mr. Personality" who is athletic, but quite laid-back. Bigelow aims to please, and loves attention...but he does not like cats. This affectionate Pointer/Pit mix will do best in a home with older children. He is looking for love and wants to spend the holidays sitting by the Christmas tree with his new family. This is a quality dog. Come meet Bigelow.



AAC's Holiday Contest

Win prizes, tee-shirts, fame.

Write a caption for this picture and send it to us with your holiday donation.



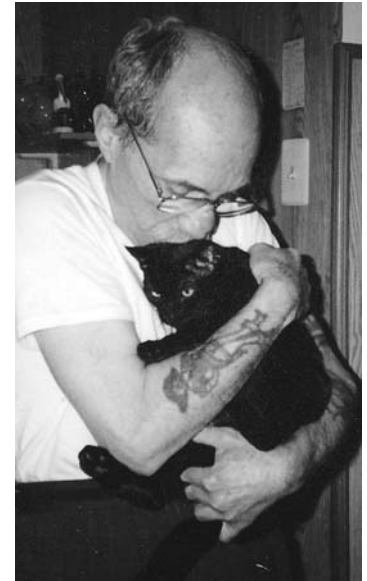
Winner will receive a \$100.00 gift certificate to Petsmart and limited edition Tee-Shirts for your family. The winner's picture will be in our next newsletter (or not, your preference), and...a dog or cat will be named after you, or the person of your choice.

All entries must be received by **February 14, 2005**. Print your caption clearly on the **MY PHOTO CAPTION** line in the donation area below.



Happiness is the love of a furry friend!

Brisa (left) is still waiting, our two friends below have found their homes.



Low Cost Spay/Neuter...call our representative Carol Roman at 856 663-1836.

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.)
- 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

Please Print Clearly

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____

E-Mail Address _____

Amt of donation \$ _____

MY PHOTO CAPTION ENTRY:

