

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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Fall 2003

Jake's Dog House, a friend in Deed

Whether it's grooming, treats, toys, or sponsorship, Jake's Dog House always comes through for us. These caring, generous people take some of our scruffiest characters and turn them into movie stars (well, almost). The special attention our dogs get from Nora (Marlton manager) and her groomers makes them look good to their future families. The result is simple – more dogs get homes!

The entire Jake's Dog House chain got started because two people, Jeane and Jon Stein had a very sick puppy (Jake) that needed lots of activity and stimulation if he was to get well. When they couldn't find the kind of puppy/dog stuff they wanted, they did some web and mail-order shopping. This resulted in a huge list of products that needed to be sorted and cataloged. Other dog lovers learned about their search and started asking about the treasures they were finding. The Steins decided to create a catalog and take some of the neatest stuff to a kiosk in the Cherry Hill mall. One kiosk became two, which led to a store, named appropriately Jake's Dog House after the puppy who started it all. They now have a super-cool network of dog boutiques with five in NJ (Marlton, Cherry Hill, Moorestown, Deptford, and Atlantic City) one in Towson MD, and a seasonal store in the K of P mall. Jake got better, and so did their dog business which offers all kinds of gourmet dog treats, unusual toys, doggy wear and gear, photos, artwork, holiday stuff, and grooming (at the Promenade). The photo shows Jeane (on the left) with Ruthie, a loyal member of Team Jake outside their store.

Jake recovered completely, and his grateful parents remember the other dogs in the world who are still in real trouble. Nora's group and the team at the Deptford store regularly tell their customers about us and are responsible for a steady stream of contributions to our pets and projects. Note that Jake's Dog House is one of the Dogwalk03 sponsors, and will be at the park in Haddon Heights with some great dog stuff. Be sure to look for them and the Chrysler Pacifica and the Chrysler Town and Country mini-van (courtesy of Fleetway Chrysler in Oaklyn) that Jake's Dog House has outfitted with all the goodies needed for safe dog transport.



Jeane Stein and Ruthie at the Promenade store in Marlton, NJ.



Frankie

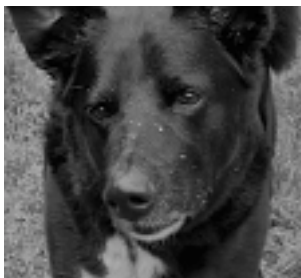
is a sociable, loving guy who was owned by a boy in Camden who loved Frankie, but didn't devote the kind of time and attention a dog needs. Frankie was often left alone outside. Eventually he was left in the backyard full time. Frankie was bored and lonely, and tried to get out of the yard.

At that point, the boy's mother packed up the dog and took him to a local kill shelter. A member of the Camden rescuer community who had known Frankie and his situation took an interest in him and petitioned to have Frankie admitted to the AAC. It took some weeks for space to open, but Frankie is now safe, and looking for a home.

Frankie is mostly Husky (notice the blue eyes), a little bit of Pit Bull, and some other (not sure what) mix. He is about one year old and is great with people and seems to like most other animals.



Sebastian may have lost his home due to the war in Iraq—he came to us when his owner, who is in the military, was transferred to a base where she would not be allowed to keep him. So Sebastian is here with us. He grieved for a while, but this guy has a good spirit and a big heart, and he's more than ready to meet a new family.



Sebastian is a nice boy who is looking for a permanent home. He is a Shepherd/Lab mix who, at seven years old, is settled enough to be easy to take care of, but young enough to still romp and play.



Berkeley spent several years tied up in the yard, wondering why he wasn't part of the family. He was left outside almost 24/7 until one day the chain broke and he got out. He was found roaming. He spent a week of "stray" time at a local animal control shelter and was, not surprisingly, never reclaimed by his negligent owner.

Even the sweetest larger dogs have a hard time finding adopters before their time runs out at animal control shelters, so it was fortunate that we were able to transfer Berkeley to the Animal Adoption Center. He needed quite a bit of "sprucing up" after years of neglect and we discovered a sweet, smart, gentle boy. We have one more task to perform for Berkeley—to find him a home that deserves him.

Berkeley is about three years old; a Collie Mix who is great with people and other animals.

Butch must have had an angel watching over him. He was 24 hours from death in a shelter in Texas when a local rescuer discovered him and couldn't leave the place without him. Over several months, this lady had gathered several highly-adoptable mixed breed dogs at her facility, and could not locate homes for them in her area, while we had several dogs of the age and breed that her clients were looking for right here. So, we arranged a swap to improve the chances for adoption for all the dogs involved.



Butch is a two year old Bassett/PitBull mix (yes, you read that right) who has inherited the best of both parents in his disposition and intelligence. He is a great guy with a zest for life and personality galore and has come all the way from

Texas looking for that "forever" home. Butch is great with people and some dogs, but no cats or small animals.

Henry (the Sultan)

Just take a look at this guy and you can tell a lot about him. He's layed-back, he's confident, he's a deep-thinker, and he's fully aware that the best place in the world for relaxation is a lap. Sweet and quiet, Henry likes to be gently petted. He loves to lounge (like a Sultan) and graciously accepts all the affection you want to give—and he'll give plenty back.



Midnight Halloween cat. Can't you just see him perched on a pumpkin with a big purple bow? This sleek boy knows how to purr and how to pose—he hopes that this autumn will be better than last when he lived on the streets with his homeless owner. Midnight is here because his dad finally had to go into a shelter, and there was no way he could take his cat with him. If you are interested in this gentle cat, you must come in by October 13, because we do not permit adoption of any black cats in the two weeks prior to Halloween.

Kayla If Kayla could speak, she might tell you a story like this: "My life was very dangerous and lonely before I came to AAC. I had to fend for myself from the time I was a kitten, taking food and shelter wherever I could find it. Living on the streets must have left me vulnerable to disease, because when I caught a stubborn case of upper respiratory disease, the infection settled in my eye — it had to be removed to save my life. I can get along quite well though, but I need to spend more time with people. I still get startled when someone approaches on my blind side. I need more one-on-one to feel safe and settled. I guess, in a way, I'm a "special needs" cat. Is there any room in your heart for me?"



*"If your dog is fat,
you aren't getting enough exercise."*

— Unknown





Shana speaks all the time. Right now she is seriously asking for attention. She loves to have her tummy scratched and will lie quite still and purr while happily keeping your lap warm. Shana was given up because her mom had to move and said that she couldn't take Shana with her. This lovely declawed girl is ready to be your new best friend.



skilled with both cats and dogs and wanted to be sure that the shelter was staffed during the heavy snow. ♡ **Bobbie** takes infant orphan kittens home because they need midnight feedings—she has taught others how to handle frightened, skittish kitty newcomers. ♡ **Elaine** manages Petsmart's Luv-a-Pet off-site adoption center and carefully matches cats, adopters, and trains volunteers. ♡ **Jim** is a great dog handler who brings his dedica-

In case you were wondering...

This is number three in the series to tell you who we are. If you've seen our previous newsletters, you know that we've been open over 13 years and that our monthly veterinary bills are over \$3,500. You know about our animals, who they are, and how we care for them. You also know where our funds come from, and how we spend what comes in. Last time we told about our volunteers and how we couldn't get along with out them. Keep reading to learn about our employees.

The Employees— Heroes of the Animal Adoption Center

Because Animal Adoption Center is a NO-KILL shelter, our needs and commitments are very different from those of other animal facilities. We are bound by our Board policies to do all in our power to care for, heal, nurture, and rehome any animal that is admitted into our shelter. Thus, a sick animal does not get "put down," it gets a trip to the vet, regular sometimes round-the-clock medication, and the special attention and exercise needed for a full recovery. All animals are groomed, walked, cuddled, and socialized – it's part of what we do every day. And, we could not do it without the dedication and love of our employees. We've got a group of great human beings working for us.

John R. (Dog Mgr): In addition to evaluating and training dogs and people, John (with one of our Board members) has set up "dog swaps." Working with rescuers and re-homers in W.Virginia, Alabama, and Texas, they save dogs that would otherwise be doomed; John has gone out on more than one early a.m. rescue, and has even managed to coax his wife



♡ **Judy** into taking some of the pictures for this newsletter. During the snowstorm last winter ♡ **Chris** spent two nights on a sleeping bag in the cat room because she is

tion, caring, and broad canine expertise to our kennel. ♡ **Angel** is a ball of energy who willingly tackles any job. He loves dogs, and they know it and love him right back. ♡ **Adam** is a real cat person. They sense this and respond. Cats that don't like anybody purr for Adam. Like Bobbie, Adam is a natural with cats.

All of our employees have donated extra effort and extra hours of their time. They help out at fund-raisers and events, and somehow manage to get their jobs done, even though Board members are usually underfoot.

These caring, dedicated, talented people are seriously underpaid and consistently overworked. All could earn much more in the private sector. We owe them our thanks and our acknowledgement. Our animals owe them their lives

SPECIAL THANKS
to Fleetway Chrysler and Jake's Dog House for their support of Animal Adoption Center and our DogWalk'03




UNITED WAY Participation

If you regularly give to the United Way, you can direct your donations to the Animal Adoption Center. **Be aware that the process is different, depending on which United Way your donations go to:**

- The United Way agencies of **Burlington County, Gloucester County, and Delaware** ask that you **write in our name and address** for the fall campaign.
- The United Way agencies of **Camden County and South Eastern PA** support only human health and welfare, so we will use these donations to fund the pet therapy project that takes dogs and cats to visit seniors and the disabled. **Please write: "The Pet Therapy Program of the Animal Adoption Center" and our address.**

Remember Allie, Honey, and Gonzo?

Your generosity gave them back their lives. Their stories will be in our Christmas issue. For now, let's just say that there are two children, a six year old boy and a ten year old girl who have been invited to be honored at the dogwalk because of their love and generosity.

Warning "Pets just wanna have fun!" They do not know about hidden dangers in toys. Check your pet's toys regularly—look for any break or hole in the covering that might allow a vigorous dog or curious cat to chew through to the noise making devices inside. Whistles, squeak devices, bells, etc. can be swallowed or can get stuck in a pet's passages.

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.



Animal Adoption Center's Event Calendar



2003

- **09/15 Short Hills Deli** Everybody's got to eat
- **09/25 Mini-Golf** at Pleasant Valley includes 3 hours of play, food, refreshments
- **10/5 Dogwalk03 in Haddon Hts Park** Rain or Shine. Registration at 9:30am; Dogwalk, contests, crafters, music, Ask the vet, Meet Dog Expert, Dog Psychic Dr. E. Severino, pictures, end with blessing of the animals
- **10/11 - "Chinese" Auction**, Lindenwold H.S. Egg Harbor Rd. off Gibbsboro Rd. 6:00 – 10:30 hundreds of great prizes, 50/50s and raffles
- **10/24 – Harvest Social**, Marion House, 507 S. Kings Hwy, Cherry Hill, NJ great food, DJ, beer and setups, raffles and prizes
- **11/03 – 12/03 Sun Bank** Holiday Event
- **11/23 Hootnanny Square Dance** at Baron's Steakhouse Barn with caller and instructions, more fun than you've had in years.
- **Dec 2003 – Pictures of Pets w/Santa at Petsmart in Cherry Hill** – three wkends prior to Christmas .
- **Dec 2003 Pet Psychic at Petsmart (2 of above wkends)** *dates TBA*—Dr. E. Severino tells you what your pets are thinking and feeling. See below

2004

- **Feb 04, Valentine Dance** *date TBA*
- **April '04 Mystery Dinner Theatre at Adelphia** *date TBA*
- **May'04 Golf Outing at Centerton** *date TBA*

Call AAC at 856 435-9116
or visit www.animaladoption.com
for dates and times of the upcoming 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.*)
- 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 \$ _____