



Animal Friends Update

Winter 2008

AFRP

ANIMAL FRIENDS RESCUE PROJECT

Total Adoptions
Since 1998:

11,167!

2007 Adoption Statistics

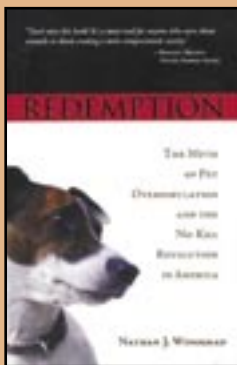
Cat Adoptions: 1,159
Dog Adoptions: 254
Total Adoptions: 1413

BOOK REVIEW

Redemption

by Nathan J. Winograd

Nathan Winograd's *Redemption* tells the history of animal sheltering in the United States. It is also the story of the "No Kill" movement and about believing in the community and trusting in the power of compassion.



Winograd is the Director of the national No Kill Advocacy Center (www.nokilladvocacycenter.org). For some, *Redemption* is a controversial book. Winograd pulls no punches. He tells it like he sees it and challenges all of us to step up to the challenge to do all we can to save lives now!

Redemption is available for sale at the AFRP Adoption Center as well as online book outlets.

Dear Animal Friends:

This year, 2008, is a landmark year for Animal Friends Rescue Project. In June, it will be ten years that AFRP has been finding loving, permanent homes for over 11,000 cats and dogs, and still counting! Our success is directly linked to your continued support of AFRP programs.

A recent poll in the U.S. found that over 70% of homes have companion animals. With this in mind, a shocking 400,000 dogs and cats get "euthanized" every year in the state of California. In Monterey County alone, approximately 4 healthy or treatable cats and dogs are euthanized each day. That's a total of 1,326 healthy and treatable cats and dogs euthanized in 2006. It is sad to think this is the fate of some of our special friends. Finding viable solutions can seem overwhelming. Yet, saving an additional 4 cats and dogs each day is attainable. We must move towards a more progressive paradigm in our community. We must seek solutions in partnership with our local shelters to put an end to euthanasia of healthy and treatable cats and dogs.

As the new Executive Director, I am excited to help further the heart and soul of our mission in tangible ways. In this newsletter, we have included information about innovative feral cat programs and an article about dog fighting. Also, included is a review of the dynamic book, *Redemption*, by Nathan Winograd, which outlines No Kill solutions for homeless dogs and cats. February, which is National Spay/Neuter Month, provides an opportunity for community education and outreach regarding the importance of spaying and neutering companion animals.

Please keep an eye out for upcoming AFRP adoption events and celebrations of our 10th anniversary. Finally, thank you for finding ways to foster, volunteer, adopt, financially support and love the animals that are such an intrinsic part of the tapestry of our lives.

Warmly,

Alexandra McCabe, JD
Executive Director



Alex and Friends.

Upcoming Events

Please visit our website and click on the "Upcoming Events" link to view a complete and up-to-date list of our adoption days and fundraising events. There's always something happening! www.AnimalFriendsRescue.org

Volunteer Spotlight - Christy Seawell & Ronnie Sweet

AFRP frequently receives compliments on our web site for its ease of use and timely updates. What many people don't realize is that a handful of volunteers are responsible for making sure these updates happen. Christy Seawell and Ronni Sweet are two such volunteers.

Christy and her daughter began volunteering with AFRP in 2003 socializing cats at Posh Pets, cleaning cat cages in Salinas, and working as adoption counselors. As Christy's schedule changed, she needed to find a new way to continue helping the animals. Updating the home page provided Christy the flexibility she needed. She says she especially loves to post and read the Happy Tails "because it shows what a great job AFRP is doing."



Christy Seawell

Ronni has always enjoyed working with animal welfare organizations, but a demanding work schedule had made it difficult. Ronni was happy to find time to volunteer again when her job situation changed. Ronni's background in web design and the flexibility of posting adoptable animals on the National Pet Portal website were a great fit. One of her fondest memories involves a black lab, formerly Betsy with AFRP, who caught her eye. Ronni felt Betsy could be a good match for a friend looking to adopt and she was right!

Both Christy and Ronni feel it's important for people to know that you can find volunteer opportunities that will work with your schedule. What may seem like a small job can make a big difference. Thank you, Christy and Ronni, for all that you do!



Ronnie Sweet

P.O. Box 51083
 Pacific Grove, CA 93950
 Phone 831 333 0722
 Fax 831 333 1956
www.AnimalFriendsRescue.org
info@AnimalFriendsRescue.org

Main Adoption Center:
 560 Lighthouse Avenue
 Pacific Grove
 Hours: Tues-Sat 12-5

Treasure Shop:
 154-17th Street, Pacific Grove
 Hours: Mon-Sat 10-4
 Phone 831 333 0491

Mission

We are dedicated to finding good permanent homes for stray, abandoned, and abused companion animals and to ending the overpopulation crisis through focused spay/neuter programs.

AFRP is a member of the Coalition for Companion Animals (CCA) of Monterey County. For more information about the CCA visit www.CCAMonterey.org.

Board of Directors

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 Dana Karstensen-Bryan
Adoption Center Manager:
 Martina Shaw
Satellite Adoption Coordinator:
 Donna Pederson
Office Assistant:
 Micheline Beck
Treasure Shop Manager:
 Jane Roland

Happy Tails!

These are a few of the many lives AFRP has touched during the past year, thanks to your support.



Arriving at the Salinas Animal Services as an extremely sick and emaciated stray last summer, it was touch-and-go for **Mr. Bones**. Thanks to the excellent care he received at VCA All Pets Veterinary Hospital, he made a wonderful recovery. A Pacific Grove couple met him and immediately fell in love. They report Mr. Bones is the perfect match for them, and gets along like a gentleman with their two rescue cats. They plan to take him traveling in their RV when summertime rolls around!



With a distinctive voice sounding like a creaky door, **Cinnamon** greeted visitors of the AFRP office with her trademark "meow." Not one to enjoy the company of other cats, Cinnamon was happiest hanging out with human friends, serving as our "office cat" for many months as she waited for a home. Cinnamon finally met her match recently when Roberta, wanting a single cat companion, offered her heart, home and empty lap to Cinnamon.



What happens when you mix an energetic young Husky mix with a busy family of five? You get a happily exhausted dog and one very smitten family! After serving her stray time, the folks at the Monterey County Shelter asked us to help **Zoey** find a home. After waiting nearly a year for a home, Edwin is convinced that Zoey was simply waiting for his family to adopt her. Now Zoey is getting all the love and attention she could ever hope for.



Why were we so happy when Kim and Sean asked to meet **Mindy**? A longhaired calico beauty, Mindy was with us for a long time because she was so shy around new people. Nervous at the adoption center, Mindy was passed over time after time. With three of their own rescue cats and experience with shyness issues, Kim and Sean allowed Mindy to adjust at her own pace, and report that her loving personality is blossoming in their home.

Have you adopted an AFRP dog or cat? We would love to hear how your animal friend is doing! Happy Tails are posted on our web site regularly. Send a photo and update to info@animalfriendsrescue.org, or mail to AFRP, P.O. Box 51083, Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

AFRP 10th Annual Holiday Party Recap

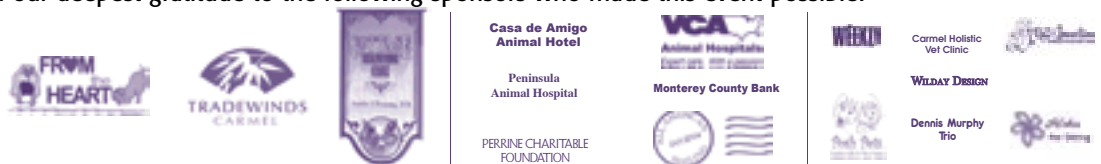
AFRP's Tenth Annual Holiday Fundraiser at the Hyatt Regency in Monterey was a huge success. We raised over \$70,000 for the animals! Our 375 guests enjoyed wine, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, over 250 silent auction items, and dancing to the live music of The Dennis Murphy Trio. Highlights of the evening included a video presentation "Happy Together" showing some special dogs and cats with their new families. AFRP gave away fifty raffle prizes. The lucky Grand Prize winner of the raffle was Cindy Phillips from Aptos who will be enjoying one night at Chaminade in Santa Cruz and dinner for two in the Sunset Dining Room.

Thank you to all our volunteers, supporters, and guests who made our 2007 event memorable!

And our deepest gratitude to the following sponsors who made this event possible:



Guests bidding on silent auction items.



For our full list of the hundreds of generous individuals and businesses that donated to our raffle and auction, please visit http://www.animalfriendsrescue.org/special_events/hp2007_thankyou.html.

The Sad Reality of Dog Fighting

By Barbara DeGroot, From the Heart Dog Training and Doggy Day Care

Dog fighting. The words conjure up images of bleeding, maimed, mutilated, sad-eyed dogs, and rightfully so. We have seen the images all too often in the media recently, with the conviction of professional athlete Michael Vick.

At one time, dog fighting was considered a sport, but now it's all about the money. These dogs are starved, beaten, teased and worse to create the aggression needed to be a dog fight winner. If a dog isn't bringing in the dollars, it's life is considered expendable. The dogs are then disposed of in cheap, inhumane ways.

Sadly, training begins at a very early age for most fighting dogs – in some cases, as soon as the pups are weaned. The dogs are baited with small dogs or cats, and struck with sticks or bats to encourage them to attack. Healthy socialization is not encouraged, since that is counterproductive. The unfortunate reality is that many times these dogs have “missed” the optimum learning period and will never be social.

This is not to say former fighting dogs can't ever be good pets, they can be. However they will need a very knowledgeable person to manage them. Most true fighting dogs are only dog-aggressive, not people-aggressive. They will probably never be candidates for being good beach or dog park dogs, but it may be possible for them to have a few dog friends. Supervision will always be necessary, since previous behavior can quickly surface with minimal stimulation.

Through good behavior-based training for both the dog and the owner, former fighting dogs can live long and rewarding lives. One of my favorite quotes is “we become responsible for what we tame.”

For more information about this topic, please visit my website:

www.fromtheheart.info

Editor's Note:

Under California Penal Code § 597.5, dog fighting is a felony! This California statute provides that it is a felony to own, possess, keep, or train any dog, with the intent that the dog shall be engaged in an exhibition of fighting with another dog, or to cause dogs to fight for the purpose of amusement or gain. Knowingly being a spectator at such an event constitutes a misdemeanor. Please contact your local animal shelters if you are aware of any dog fighting activities.



Una, a 6-week-old puppy, was used as bait for dog fighting. Fortunately, she received medical treatment from AFRP and found a loving home.

Wish List

- Cat Safety Collars
- Dog Leashes (4-6 foot)
- Animal Supply Gift Cards
- Small & Medium Pet Carriers
- Citronella Bark Collars
- Furrinator Grooming Tools
- Corrugated Cardboard Cat Scratching Pads
- Washable Dog and Cat Beds

Innovative Programs for Feral Cats

By Lisa McElmoyl, AFRP Feral Cat Liaison

In the past, the belief was trap-and-kill was the only way to reduce the numbers of feral cats. But research shows this is not the case. Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is an effective program where feral cats are humanely trapped, taken to a vet to be vaccinated and sterilized, then returned to their original colony or to a new safe haven. The feral colony becomes healthier, and the number of new litters born is drastically reduced. Communities with vital TNR programs report dramatic reductions in numbers of feral cats entering the shelters.

According to a recent L.A. Times article, one animal welfare group has figured out an innovative way to save the lives of feral cats and put them to work in Los Angeles. The Working Cats Program of Voice for the Animals, a Los Angeles-based animal advocacy group, has placed spayed and neutered feral cats in a handful of police stations



with rodent problems, as well as placing cats in the rat-plagued downtown flower district. “Once we got the cats, problem solved,” said Cmdr. Kirk Albanese, a captain at the Wilshire station at the time. “I was almost an immediate believer.”

AFRP believes in TNR as the most humane way to control the population of feral cats. Whether it's putting altered feral cats to work in police stations, ranches, barns, or simply returning them to their original colonies, TNR is a program that works. We owe a special thanks to all the local Central Coast veterinarians who help us with altering feral cats and to the volunteers who devote much of their lives to helping the feral cats in our area. If you are interested in becoming a TNR volunteer, or can offer a safe living space for feral cats, we would

love to hear from you. You can also help by donating to our “Feral Fund” to help with spay/neuter expenses, or by dropping off cat food at our AFRP Adoption Center in Pacific Grove.



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P.O. Box 51083, Pacific Grove, CA 93950
www.AnimalFriendsRescue.org

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Return Service Requested

Read About the Happy Tails of Mr. Bones and Cinnamon Inside!



Looking for a Special Home

Mariah wants to show you how much love an older dog has to offer. She's about eight years old, with a few gray hairs in her muzzle and a touch of arthritis in her hips. She is a beautiful blend of many breeds, we suspect some shepherd, husky, or possibly Australian Cattle Dog in her pedigree. Slender and knee-high, Mariah weighs about 50 pounds and is a nice medium-sized dog who wants to go everywhere with her person. With perfect manners (house trained, of course) Mariah loves to go for brisk walks and afterwards curl up for a cozy nap. After being found as a starving stray with a twisted piece of baling wire serving as her cruel collar, Mariah deserves to finally have a family to love her and a place she can call home. Can you help?



You have to meet **Jake** in person to appreciate his amazing sea-green eyes. A big, black and white two-year-old with a calm and serene temperament, Jake watches the days go by from his cat tree perch at the AFRP Adoption Center. "Perhaps this is the day someone will take me home?" he seems to wonder. Jake once had a home, but his family took him to a local shelter when they could no longer keep him. When his time was up at the shelter, he came to AFRP. Jake is a healthy, nice cat who enjoys a good scratch under the chin and a gentle stroke down his back. He has his silly, playful moments, and can't resist chasing the end of a cat fishing pole toy. He gets along okay with other cats, but would probably be happiest as a single cat in the home.

