



Animal Friends Update

Fall-Winter 2008

AFRP

ANIMAL FRIENDS RESCUE PROJECT

2008 Adoptions

Total Adoptions Since 1998:

Cat Adoptions: 791
Dog Adoptions: 196
Total Adoptions: 994

12,220!

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF
STAND-UP COMEDY

PROCEEDS
BENEFIT
AFRP!



TICKETS
\$20 IN ADVANCE,
INCLUDES 1
GLASS OF WINE
(FOR 21 AND OVER)

7-9 PM, OCTOBER 16TH
LIGHTHOUSE CINEMAS

525 LIGHTHOUSE AVE, PACIFIC GROVE, CA
MUST BE 18 YEARS OLD TO ATTEND THE SHOW



AFRP THE MOVIE

You Can
Watch it Here:

www.AnimalFriendsRescue.org
or www.youtube.com/user/AFRP1

Mohandas Gandhi said: "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."

Dear Friends,

These are tough economic times, evidenced by the increase in animal abandonment due to home foreclosures through the country. Here on the Central Coast, our community has rallied around the work of AFRP to help save the lives of our homeless cats and dogs for a decade through good and bad economic times. As we look to the future, there are still many challenges ahead to reducing the number of adoptable healthy cats and dogs euthanized every day at the local shelters.

At AFRP we focus on saving the too young, too old and medically challenged cats and dogs. We also help get shy dogs and cats out of the shelter environment along with other animals considered the "least adoptable." In this newsletter, we will discuss a special shy dog who blossomed into the most loving of companions. We also explore the journey underage "bottle kittens" take to find their forever homes.

Everyone needs a good belly laugh and we are having the First Annual Stand Up for AFRP comedy benefit Thursday October 16th, 7 to 9pm at the Lighthouse Cinema in downtown Pacific Grove. Three talented stand up comedians will be on hand to make us chuckle. There will be a wine and cheese reception as well as fun raffle items.

Please also find out more about the upcoming holiday party and get your raffle tickets early. Thank you to our AFRP community—whether you donate, volunteer, foster, or adopt, your support shines hope into the lives of thousands of cats and dogs per year.

With warmest regards,

Alexandra McCabe, Executive Director



Alexandra with Sophie at the adoption center.



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

Save The Date - AFRP's Eleventh Annual Holiday Fundraising Party

Sunday December 7th from 5:00-9:00 PM at the Hyatt Regency in Monterey.

Come enjoy the AFRP Eleventh Annual Holiday Party on December 7th from 5-9pm at the Hyatt Regency in the Grand Ballroom with comedian host, Collin Moulton! Watch for your invitation in the mail in November!

This year's going to be exciting with the band, Sambada, playing salsa tunes and the addition of the live auction! All proceeds raised at our annual fundraiser are used to help with direct animal care expenses such as medical care and spay/neuter costs.

Live and silent auction Items are still needed! You can help AFRP reach its goal of raising \$70,000 for the animals this year by donating items such as timeshares at a vacation home, weekend getaway packages, day adventures, and gift certificates from restaurants, shops, hotels, spas or other services.

As a donor you and your business will be recognized in promotional material associated with the event. If you have a silent or live auction item for consideration please call Karen at (831) 333-0722 or email karen@animalfriendsrescue.org.



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.

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Happy Tails!

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



Maisy, an adorable Cock-a-Poo mix, charmed everyone with her bouncy, effervescent personality. But under her adorable curls were some behavior issues. She became our "boomerang" dog, adopted several times and then returned when her adopters realized she was too challenging for them. Thankfully, an application came from Anne of Ben Lomond. She knew Maisy came with some baggage, and was prepared to work with her separation anxiety and high-energy personality. Maisy now has her forever home!



Monterey County Animal Services contacted us to help **Shelby**, a sweet two-year-old cat that had come into the shelter with a horribly mangled hind leg. Sadly, her shattered hind leg had to be amputated, and the gaping open wound on her hip needed time to close and heal. Throughout this painful and frightening ordeal, Shelby remained calm, sweet and gentle. It was no wonder she quickly found a home with a wonderful family in Pacific Grove that already had another three-legged cat! Many thanks to everyone at VCA All Pets Veterinary Hospital.



Lena, a very sweet seven-year-old Chihuahua had been found as a stray and was taken to the Santa Cruz Animal Services before coming to AFRP. Born with deformed back legs, Lena was unable to use her hind legs normally and often walked on her front legs—doing a handstand! Three corrective surgeries later (thank you Aquajito Veterinary Hospital) Lena was finally able to walk like a normal dog. She found a wonderful home with Gabriella of Salinas, where she shares her new home with a cat, a bunny and a parrot.



Samba had an uphill battle. Not only was she a black kitten (often the last to be adopted) she had a condition called cerebellar hypoplasia, a neurological disorder she most likely contracted in utero from her mother. Cats with cerebellar hypoplasia can lead long happy lives, but have tremors and walk with jerky movements. Sean and Breanna instantly fell in love with Samba when they met her at the AFRP Adoption Center, and check in with us often to let us know how much they love her and how well she is doing.

Volunteer Spotlight

AFRP Junior Volunteers

Animal Friends' Junior Volunteer Program began in April 2008, just in time for the Pacific Grove Good Old Days parade and celebration. Nineteen junior volunteers from Pacific Grove Middle School and ten volunteers from Santa Catalina School walked alongside the AFRP van in the parade. The junior volunteers saved the day by representing AFRP with a "sea of purple" in the parade and then came in early the next day to help clean and prepare the adoption center for the busy day ahead.

Since April, approximately ten junior volunteers have been trained for various jobs and are actively volunteering their time for the organization, despite already completing their mandatory community service requirements for their respective schools. Junior volunteers complete tasks such as cleaning animal crates, organizing the basement storage room, shredding old documents, folding apparel, sorting through donated items and of course, socializing the



animals! They have volunteered at the Paws Fur the Cause Music Festival, Cinco de Fido, AFRP's Open House and 10th Anniversary celebration as well as monthly adoption events.

Adding junior volunteers to Animal Friends' growing volunteer population is rewarding not only for our organization, but is also extremely positive for the kids and the community. It allows young people to build on their dreams and plans of working with animals in the future, and encourages them to be active advocates for animal welfare in their daily lives. Thanks, junior volunteers, for all that you do!

The Accidental Adoption

By Monica Rva

As one of the founders of AFRP, I have fostered many cats and dogs over the last 10 years. As you can imagine I have been tempted to keep quite a few of them but I know that you have to have some limits.

Then came Hershey.

Hershey came to AFRP with a shy demeanor that had prevented him from being put up for adoption at Monterey County Animal Services. I've always been drawn to shy dogs so I brought Hershey home to foster. Hershey quickly grew to trust me and my husband and our other animals. Each day he grew more confident in the outside world. His joyful and playful personality began to show through. Within a couple of weeks, we deemed him ready for adoption.

Soon after making this decision, we found a great home for him. As we said goodbye and Hershey left with his new adopter, I felt that familiar pang of sadness to let go mixed with the joy that he had found his forever home.

Just an hour later, a panicked call came that Hershey had escaped his new home. We combed the streets of Pacific Grove looking for him. After an hour of searching, we went back to my house and there he was on my doorstep! How did he find his way home clear from the other side of Pacific Grove? We had never taken Hershey for a walk in the new adopter's neighborhood! His adopter took him home again and we discussed ways of helping them bond.



Hershey (on left) with two of his new family members.

That night at 2:30 in the morning I woke to the sound of a barking dog. I opened my front door and there was little Hershey on top of my 4 ft stucco wall! I just couldn't believe my eyes. I let him in and he ran in the house and jumped on our bed greeted by kisses from our dogs. He was panting and shaking pretty severely but soon settled for the evening.

Before the adoption, my husband and I had thought seriously of keeping Hershey. After his little escapades we just couldn't part with him again, and decided to adopt him. Hershey had clearly chosen his home and we feel very lucky to have him!

Journey of Love: The Kittens' Tale



When people adopt a cat or dog from AFRP, they typically ask what we know about the animal's background. Since most of the cats and dogs we rescue start out as strays from our local shelters, our knowledge about their history is very limited. But in the case of "bottle babies," or underage kittens, we know their story very well. Most people are surprised to learn how much teamwork, effort and love has gone into saving each precious kitten.

It starts with a phone call from one of our local shelters: "A concerned citizen dropped off some tiny kittens that were found in their backyard, can you help?" Kittens under the age of four weeks cannot yet eat solid food, and require very specialized care. Time is of the essence and Jill, our Cat Intake Manager, immediately gets on the phone to find a "bottle baby" foster volunteer that is available.

For the next several weeks, the foster volunteer becomes a surrogate mother for the helpless kittens—feeding them around the clock, cleaning them, cuddling them and making sure they are healthy and happy. When they reach four weeks, the volunteer helps them learn to start eating solid food, to use the litter box, and to socialize correctly with people and other animals.



When the kittens reach eight weeks, or weigh at least two pounds, they are ready to be spayed or neutered. At their vet appointment they also get their first kitten vaccinations, are microchipped, de-wormed and treated with flea control medication. Finally, the kittens that had so many people looking out for their welfare are ready to come to one of the AFRP adoption locations. The first part of each kitten's journey is over, and a second journey is about to begin—a long and happy life with a loving family!

Top Ten Reasons to Support AFRP

- **We Need Your Help!** Our efforts are limited only by the funding we receive. More \$ equals more lives we can save.
- **Adopting an animal from AFRP allows us to save another life by opening a space for another at-risk dog or cat.**
- **Bottle Babies Need Us** - Orphaned kittens arrive every week during kitten season, and need bottle feeding by AFRP volunteers to survive.
- **Our "Lifelink" Program** - We help transport hundreds of animals every year from local shelters to other rescue groups—a total of 677 animals in the last twelve months.
- **Injured Cats and Dogs** - We step in to provide costly medical care and foster homes needed to heal injured animals. We help heal their hearts too.
- **Sick cats and dogs** - Being uprooted from the lives they've known causes so many animals to get sick.
- **Shy Dogs and Cats** - need the time and support that our foster homes provide in order to be confident and ready for adoption.
- **Senior Cats and Dogs** - We supply them with the extra time they need to find their forever homes.
- **FIV Positive Cats** - We find safe, indoor homes for them to live out happy, healthy lives.
- **WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!**



AFRP

ANIMAL FRIENDS RESCUE PROJECT

P.O. Box 51083, Pacific Grove, CA 93950

www.AnimalFriendsRescue.org

Return Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 2001
Pacific Grove, CA
93950

Read About Shelby's and Maisy's Happy Tails Inside!



Looking for a Special Home

Joseph may be 10 years old, but he is very young at heart with a friendly, playful personality. A handsome cat with a rich orange tabby coat and deep green eyes, Joseph lost his home when his owner passed away. He gets along wonderfully with other cats and loves to be petted. Joseph takes a daily medication to regulate his thyroid level.



Joseph

Princess is a beautiful one-year-old longhaired calico with bunny-soft fur that is a joy to stroke. Princess is special because she is polydactyl—she has extra toes on her front paws. It almost looks like she's wearing big, furry mittens! Like all royalty, Princess can be a bit persnickety and would do best with an experienced cat person as a single feline.



Princess

Dominic is an adorable two-year-old Chihuahua mix with big brown eyes. He weighs about 12 pounds. Dominic has been available for adoption for many months now, and we're not sure why! He has enrolled in basic obedience classes and has a wonderful personality. Dominic enjoys other dogs, but needs a cat-free adult home or family with teens.



Dominic

Yogi is a senior terrier mix who appreciates the finer things in life—naps in the sunshine, slow strolls around the neighborhood, good food and spending time with loved ones. Yogi is about 10 years old and weighs 40 pounds. He gets along with other dogs, cats and kids and is house trained. Yogi would enjoy a home with a nice backyard and no stairs.



Yogi