

Fetch!

All the news we can dig up, chase down and drop in your lap ~ August 2011

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www.wesavepets.org
www.wesavepets.petfinder.com

AWF Bake Sales - Mark Your Calendars for August 20th!

Have you ever been to one of AWF's bake sales? If so, then you'll know it takes a LOT of organizing to put it all together. AWF is very fortunate to have board member Candy Roberg at the head of all bake sales. With a lot of work and help from many volunteers, Candy puts on bake sales that have brought in hundreds of dollars for AWF.

Pictured are some dogs who attended a bake sale earlier this year. As you can see, they were intent on making friends and visiting, just like their human counterparts!

If you've thought about volunteering with AWF, working a bake sale is a great way to start. It's fun, you'll meet other enthusiastic volunteers, and you'll do something good for AWF.

Any time you want to help, please contact Candy: Email robergcandy@hotmail.com.



Hogan is doing his best to make new friends!



Dolly, a former AWF foster dog, came to the sale, too. Dolly now resides with her forever family in Muscatine, just one of AWF's success stories!



Pet-Related Sites to Browse & Bookmark

Courtesy of WoofReport.com:

Dog Disease Details: www.akcchf.org/canine-health

Hot Car Information -- Don't Let Dogs Die in Hot Cars! www.mydogiscool.com

Perfect Petiquette - Expert Training Tips Online & Free of Charge:
www.aspcabehavior.org

Vets - Search locally or find one when you're traveling with your pet:
www.MyVeterinarian.com

Pictures from the Cat Adoption Center

We've all heard the old saying about a picture being worth a thousand words, but we think that when you look at these two pictures, you'll know it's true! Two Junior Volunteers are pictured with cats residing at the Cat Adoption Center in downtown Anamosa. Our Junior Volunteers are very important to the Cat Center, as they not only provide love and attention to the cats, but they help out doing anything they are asked to do. Chloe and Mi-Kayla are the first two to come and help. They know the names of all the cats, and you can tell from the pictures that the cats love them, too!



Junior Volunteer Chloe Loftus from Anamosa, with Cinnamon, Louie & Huey



Junior Volunteer MiKayla Whitman, Anamosa, with Morris, who seems to be pleading with her not to leave him!

AWF appreciates all of your hard work, girls. You both understand why volunteers are so important. Thank you!

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Happy Tails of Cats Adopted Since Publication of the June Fetch



Cinder



Nelson



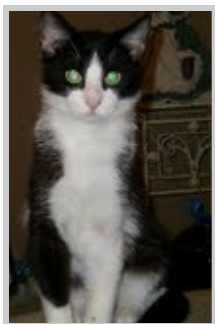
Ruthie



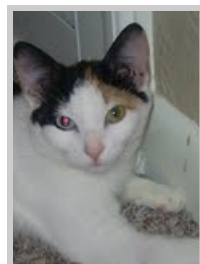
Frances



Millie & Marvin



Wee Willy



Felicia

All of these kittens & cats have been adopted, thanks to the efforts of many volunteers with AWF. Thanks for all you do, volunteers, to better the lives of lost and abandoned animals in Jones County!

In Memory of Angel

This beautiful little girl is Angel. Her story will break your heart and make you grab the tissues, but I wanted to be sure this little girl's life was worth something, and I wanted to share her with you all. Sweet Angel was brought into the Anamosa Vet Clinic by a kind stranger who found her on a lonely gravel road in Jones County. Angel had obviously been hit by a car quite some time before this gentleman found her. Well, the sad news was that having a fractured pelvis from being hit was the least of this little girl's injuries. It was found that Angel had maggots in her hind end, her eyes were literally liquid and rotting away in her sockets and she also had fluid in her lungs. It was immediately very apparent that Angel would not survive her injuries, and even if she made it through the surgery, both of her eyes would have to be removed. Angel was only a year old. As I cried when I got the news about this little Angel who had been laying out on the gravel road, all alone and scared for who knows how many days, I had to force myself to be at peace and happy that she would not die suffering and all alone and scared laying out on that road and not knowing what was going on. So, I ask you to go give your four-legged family members a big kiss and be thankful that your rescue angels didn't end up on the same journey as our sweet Angel.

Melissa Aalfs

AWF Rescue Coordinator



Dates to
Remember



August 7, AWF Adoptable Dogs at PetSmart, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you would like to help escort a foster dog to PetSmart, contact Brandon Franklin at bf514921@hotmail.com.

August 20, Petco event, at Petco, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Contact Gretchen Chamberlain for more information or to participate: glchamberlain@live.com

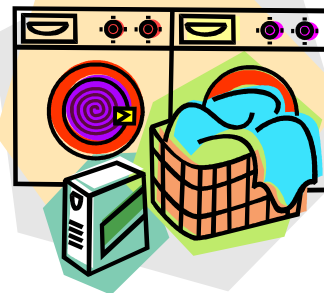
August 20, Bake Sale at Walmart in Anamosa, 8 a.m. - noon. Contact Candy Roberg to help set up, tear down, or bake: robergcandy@hotmail.com.

September 4, AWF Adoptable Dogs at PetSmart, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you would like to help escort a foster dog to PetSmart, contact Brandon Franklin at bf514921@hotmail.com.

September 17, Bake Sale at Walmart in Anamosa, 8 a.m. - noon. Contact Candy Roberg to help set up, tear down, or bake: robergcandy@hotmail.com.

And Another Thank You Goes to...

Long-time AWF volunteer Atha Jensen, who does ALL of the laundry for the Cat Center. Atha, you make life at the Center so much easier with all of your hard work, and we thank you very much!



Warning About Sago Palms

If you have a sago palm in your yard, please be aware that they are very poisonous to animals (see this story about a little dog in Texas):

<http://www.safehavenanimalrescue.com/dogs9.htm>



Volunteer Spotlight

[Editor's Note: This month's spotlight turns to Jen Fasnacht, an integral part of the Urgent Dog Team].



Jen (pictured here with former AWF dog Connley, (now known as Gracey), is originally from Ventura, near Clear Lake, but she has lived in Monticello since 1999. She is married to Stephen Fasnacht, and their kids are DeArzae, 14, and Tre, 10.

Jen says, "I am part of the Urgent Dog Team. I take photos of dogs that come into the clinics, and I'm a contact for the urgent dogs. I receive emails and phone calls, review applications, and arrange for placement of these dogs (with the help of the urgent team, especially Melissa Aalfs, who works tirelessly for these dogs and has been a great help to me over the years). I have also helped with transporting dogs, and will, occasionally, do very short-term fostering."

When she's not working with the Urgent Jen is an occupational therapist and works in home health and long-term care.

Hobbies? Animal rescue (of course!). She also has started running again after a 19-year break; Jen also plays piano and loves watching her kids in all of their activities.

Jen says she's always had a love for animals, but she didn't start volunteering until 2008. She saw a brochure for AWF in a gas station and decided to contact the group. Her first mission was to meet an AWF co-founder at a small puppy mill in rural Jones County on a freezing cold winter day. Jen says they took five or six dogs from there, and it wasn't long after that that she was asked to help take calls on the urgent dogs.

I asked Jen if she had a story about her volunteer work that she would like to share. She replied, "Recently, I fell in love with a little Shih Tzu. She was a recent Urgent dog, and I had gotten a lot of interest in her from calls and emails, but nothing was really panning out for her. I finally found a home for her and she left with a new family on a Saturday morning. By Saturday evening, they called and said she wasn't going to work out for them. So, on Sunday I arranged to get the dog back from them and take her home with me. She stayed with me one night, but I took her back to the clinic in the morning as my family and I had a very busy week coming up and couldn't add a foster dog to the mix. Her 'urgent' time was actually up, but she had nowhere else to go. In the meantime, another application came in. The family sounded great, they were very interested and really wanted to meet her, but they couldn't come to see her until Thursday. Well, by Tuesday afternoon, I couldn't stand the thought of that little dog spending one more minute in a kennel, so I took her home with me again. Over the next 48 hours, I fell in love with this little girl! She was great with my kids and even got used to our four cats. Thursday evening, the family, consisting of mom, dad and three kids, came to our home and this little dog warmed up to them immediately. It was as if she knew exactly why they were there. She went home with them that night and I have heard that she is going great and is a wonderful addition to their family (see picture above of sweet Gracey).

"This story is exactly what I love most about this work -- being part of making a successful adoption happen. I love seeing the bond that forms almost instantly when a good match is made.

"If you are thinking about this type of volunteer work, you need to stop thinking and start doing! I had absolutely no clue what I was getting into when I agreed to be on the urgent dog team, and it was a bit intimidating at first. Now I love it! And there are so many ways in which to help. If you are good with a camera, we always need help getting photos quickly so that AWF has as much time as possible to place the dogs in their new homes."

Happy Tails! -- Adoption & Rescue Updates of AWF Fosters



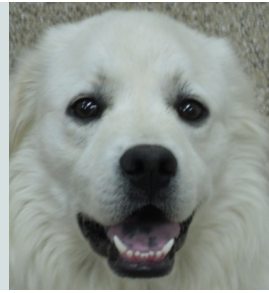
Cash - to Pit Bull Rescue



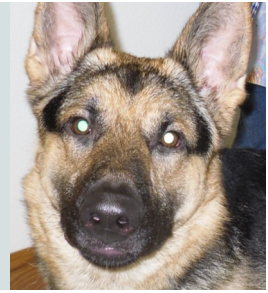
Faye & puppies to Rescue



Taylor - to Dogs Forever



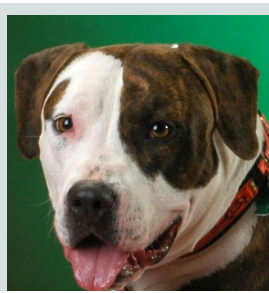
Ricky



Asher



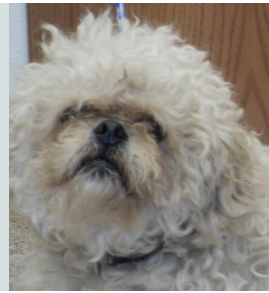
Noah - to Dogs Forever



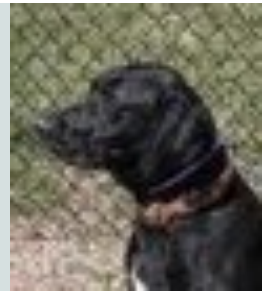
Casey - to Dogs Forever



Betty Blue - to Dogs Forever



Valerie



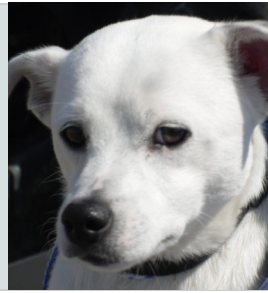
Tyler



Connley



Rossi



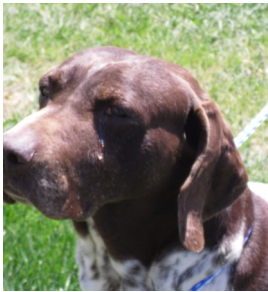
Rudy



Buster



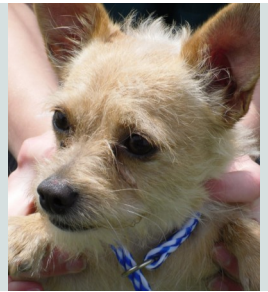
Dolly



Norman - to Great Plains Point Rescue



Aniston



Hogan



Tasha



Jarid

**All either adopted into forever homes or moved to shelters in order to get a second chance to experience life the way all dogs should!
Thanks, volunteers! You help make it happen!**

Melissa,

It's been a bit since our last contact, but I thought I'd follow up with you to thank you from the bottom of my heart for giving me Lilly. She is my constant companion and I just love her to pieces. When I attempt to leave the house, she BEGS to go with me and is such a joyous companion. She sits next to me on rides.... so attentive to just watch the road. This is very unlike her "brothers" who are romping all over the car and drooling on the windows and making quite the mess.



I've attached a couple pictures so you can see what she has to "put up with" as far as brothers. And an extra one that will show you how far she has come from that raggedy doggie who's picture you put on the website. I keep that other picture on my wall to remind me how far she has come. And I was the LUCKY one who got to take her home. (Yippee!!!!)

Thank you so much for letting me take her home. As you can see, she's doing really well.

Lilly & brother Teddy



Sincerely,
Francie

Dear AWF,

Abby is the love of my life!!! She has, and is, bringing me so much pleasure, and I'm so glad I adopted her. She goes everywhere with me except church, and would if she could. She sits on my lap with her front paws on the steering wheel like she is helping me navigate. We went to Kansas for a visit and she is a good rider as it was about 6 hours. We still play ball every day, and that is her favorite activity. We go to the park and around the block for walks which we both enjoy. I can't thank you enough for letting me adopt her. I love her so much.



Abby and her forever mom, Deanna

Deanna Harding

We Get Letters!



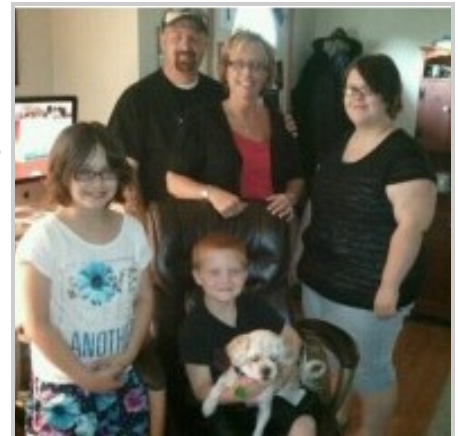
When Moses the 7-year-old Pit Bull came to me, I wasn't looking or prepared for a dog. His previous owner who had gotten him from AWF was unable to keep him, so I said I would hold on to him and try to find him a home. After spending about a week with our family I knew he was there to stay. He was a perfect addition to our family. We got a fantastic dog and he got a baby Rottweiler brother and three little cat brothers. We have a busy house but wouldn't change it for the world!



Lyndee Fuessley

Hi, Jen -

Gracey (fka Connley) is a wonderful dog; thanks so much for everything. She loved all the new toys and dog bed that I bought for her. I think she felt like a princess when she got to her new home. She and the cat are doing well; the cat decided to chase her a little last night, and it was quite comical! I will give you periodic updates, and thanks again for the wonderful addition to our family!



Lori

