

Please write to Australian officials today and request their efforts to ban the Australian live sheep and cattle export trade!

The Honorable John Howard  
Prime Minister, Australia  
GPO Box 59  
Sydney, NSW 2001  
Australia

The Honorable Peter McGauran  
Australian Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Forestry  
GPO Box 858,  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Australia

The Honorable Senator Kerry O'Brien  
Australian Shadow Minister for Primary  
Industries, Fisheries and Forestry  
PO Box 1193  
Launceston Tas 7250  
Australia

*For more information please visit:*

[www.animalaustralia.org](http://www.animalaustralia.org) – Animals Australia • [www.pacat.org](http://www.pacat.org) – People Against Cruelty in Animal Transport

## NEWS from Spay Today



### Spay Today Has A Landmark Year!

We had set our goal high to spay and neuter 3,200 animals in Fiscal Year 2007 and, although we did not reach this goal, we still had a *Landmark Year* by spaying and neutering over 3,000 animals—3,018 to be exact—for the first time in Spay Today's 6-year history! Indeed, providing this number of low-cost spay/neuter procedures is a true milestone for us, as is the widening geographic service area that Spay Today's 10 participating veterinary hospitals have served. Although located in Charles Town, West Virginia, residents of 21 counties in six different states: Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, and Pennsylvania utilized Spay Today's low-cost spay/neuter services in Fiscal Year 2007. In ad-

dition, we networked with 19 humane societies to provide low-cost spay/neuter and information services.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank each of Spay Today's 10 participating veterinary hospitals and Spay Today's patrons for helping us to make Fiscal Year 2007 a *Landmark Year!*

*Spay Today Staff: from left to right—Connie Graf, Coordinator, Phyllis Saville and LeeAnn Morgan, Spay Today Assistants.*

## NEWS from Briggs Animal Adoption Center



*The Briggs Animal Adoption Center*

Best greetings to each of you from the staff, volunteers, and animals of The Briggs Animal Adoption Center (BAAC). It's been a wonderfully busy time at the BAAC over the past months, beginning with our *Sixth Annual Pedal for Pooches* and including community support actions, such as the BAAC donation of a protective vest to the Jefferson County Sheriff's newest

K-9 recruit, and the donation of 36 animal oxygen masks to the Jefferson County's fire and rescue departments.

During the *Sixth Annual Pedal for Pooches*, participants—cumulatively—pedaled hundreds of miles and generated over \$15,000 to help care for the BAAC's dogs and cats. This is the highest amount that we have ever generated from our *Pedal for Pooches*. And we would like to recognize our major sponsors for their charitable support:

- Nutro Products, Inc.: [www.nutroproducts.com](http://www.nutroproducts.com)
- The Bank of Clarke County: [www.bankofclarke.com](http://www.bankofclarke.com)
- Black Bar Bicycles: [www.blackbarbicycles.com](http://www.blackbarbicycles.com)
- Logo Apparel, Berryville, Virginia (540) 955-3600
- Weatherproofing Systems, Berryville, Virginia (540) 955-4032
- Blue Ridge Bicycles: [www.blueridgebicycles.com](http://www.blueridgebicycles.com)





*Pedal for Pooches' riders gathering at the start.*



*Team Pinky*

- Midas Touch: [www.midastouchhealth.com](http://www.midastouchhealth.com)
- R&R Jackson Electrical, Inc., Berryville, Virginia
- The Lost Dog Bed & Breakfast: [www.TheLostDog.com](http://www.TheLostDog.com)
- Wilson's Asphalt Maintenance
- Bike Stop: [www.rideva.com](http://www.rideva.com)
- Sharon Engle Book Keeping Services, Ruckersville, Virginia (434) 960-9797

It also puts a smile on our faces to give SPECIAL RECOGNITION to TEAM PINKY—10 of us, select staff members and volunteers, for pushing their pedals round and round and generating over \$8,000 in pledge support for the animals. Team Pinky, we applaud you! And the animals—thank you! In the photo above, from left to right, are Team Pinky members: Daniel Claggett, Nathan Eddy, Cindy Taylor, Jim Taylor, Matthew Milburn, Ronnie Timbrook, Lindsay Haines, Julie Beall, Maria Keith, and Karry Herndon. Team Pinky says, “THANK YOU—all our pledge supporters!”

The spring and summer months also enabled us to complete the installation and painting of the 4-board fence around the BAAC's 24-acre property.

While installing the fencing, we also created an enclosed Dog Park that is now being used by our resident dogs and will also be available to visitors/presenters and their companion dogs during events like our Adoption Alumni, Tail Waggers' Wine Tasting, Cool to Care Camps, and other organizational events.



*Completed 4-board perimeter fencing.*

## Jefferson County Sheriff's newest recruit, Deputy Andy

Publicly funded law enforcement agencies are, sometimes, like nonprofit animal welfare organizations in that they find themselves in need of community support or partnerships.

So, when we were approached by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department and asked if the BAAC could help them by providing veterinary medical care and, possibly, a K-9 protective ballistic vest for their newest recruit, Deputy Andy, a 3-year-old, 87 pound German Shepherd, we gladly said that we would.

We look forward to a long relationship with Deputy Kilmer and Deputy Andy, both of whom are committed to help-



*Jim Taylor, Chief Operating Officer, presenting Deputy Andy and his partner, Deputy Kilmer, with a K-9 protective ballistic vest.*

ing us with our humane education activities. Soon, Deputy Andy will be educating children about his career as Jefferson County's newest K-9 recruit.

## BAAC Donates 36 Oxygen Masks to Firefighters

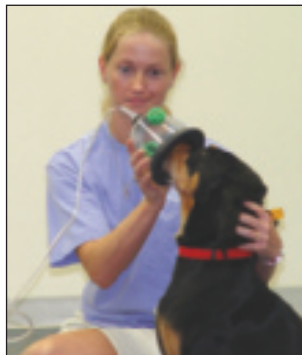
On December 9, 2006, the BAAC took in 3 Shar pei mix puppies who had survived a tragic fire in which their other family members consisting of 2 adults, 3 children, 3 dogs and 3 cats had perished.

Although we do not know if any of these 6 deceased animals could have been saved, this fatal fire did make us question—does our local firefighting rescue personnel have the necessary animal-related medical equipment to assist injured companion animals when responding to fires?

We learned that our local firefighters have encountered many circumstances where a family pet has been trapped in smoke-filled areas and has been in need of oxygen. In response, we learned that these firefighting personnel have, for many years, created “makeshift” animal masks to administer oxygen when needed for animals.

From now on, however, none of Jefferson County's firefighting rescue personnel will ever need to make another “makeshift” animal oxygen mask—because the BAAC has donated 36 animal oxygen mask kits, enough kits for each fire/rescue vehicle in the county. Each kit contains a breathing mask for a large dog, a small dog, and a cat. All local firefighters will, very shortly, be trained in how to use these lifesaving masks.

At the BAAC, we look forward to the day when every vehicle in every fire department in America is equipped with these lifesaving animal oxygen masks. Hopefully, that day will arrive sooner rather than later. (Oh yes, of the 3 Shar pei mix puppies that we took in from that tragic holiday season fire, we named them Mai Tai, Manhattan, and Cosmo. Mai Tai has been adopted to her forever home. Manhattan and Cosmo are still waiting for theirs.)



Karry Herndon, BAAC Animal Care Services Manager, demonstrates proper use of animal oxygen mask at local fire department.

If you think that you might be interested in adopting Manhattan or Cosmo, or one of the BAAC's other wonderful dogs or cats, please come visit us in person or visit our website at [www.baacs.org](http://www.baacs.org) to view photographs and brief biographical sketches to learn more about these deserving animals.

We thank you for your continued support!

Best regards,  
BAAC Staff & Volunteers

## Adoption Alumni

### Adventure Companions, Snowflake and Rabbit

By way of introduction, we—the BAAC—rescued Snowflake from an animal shelter in southern Virginia, where her time there was coming to an end. Rabbit, we accepted from another shelter in rural West Virginia.

Holly Valiulis writes to the BAAC about Snowflake and Rabbit: *Snowflake and Rabbit (formally Bandit) are doing wonderful. Snowy has become the perfect hiking and Kayaking companion. Rabbit, also loves hiking and really any sort of adventure. He is very full of energy and forces Snowflake and me to get out and do more things with him. He gets to go to doggy daycare once a week and loves playing with the other dogs. Although he and Snowflake don't play much together, they certainly rely on each other.*



Snowflake Valiulis—just loving life.



Rabbit Valiulis—Napping (Probably after a fun-filled day at doggy daycare)

*I am so thankful to the BAAC for keeping my dogs safe and loving them until I found them. I know Snowflake still enjoys visiting you all and seeing the people who cared for her for so long. I am so happy to have found you and such a caring organization. When I'm ready for my third dog, you are the first place I will go!*

Thank you and all the amazing staff and volunteers!  
Holly Valiulis



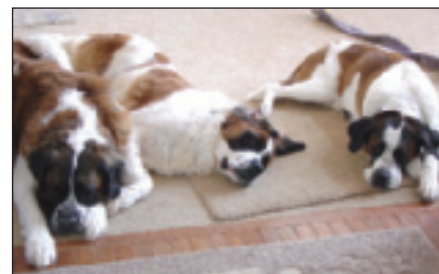
## Fiona and Joey Kelly—From Lives of Neglect to Lives of Love

By way of introduction, we—the BAAC—rescued Fiona from a Virginia animal control facility where she had been for many months. When she first arrived at our doorsteps, she was a very shy girl and quite leary of men. And Joey was rescued by one of our alliance partners—Potomac Highlands Animal Rescue (PHAR). Before PHAR rescued Joey, he had been living on a short chain attached to a doghouse that was far too small to accommodate his growing 5-month-old body. Thankfully, Joey's previous neglect did not adversely affect his personality. He was a gregarious and outgoing fellow when PHAR rescued him and continues to be the same today.

Rick and Diane Kelly write to the BAAC about Fiona and Joey:

*When we added Fiona to our family, we couldn't have been more impressed with what a fine job Briggs does with the animals they rescue. Fiona had been saved from a life of abuse and was given the care and attention that she had been craving, beginning her*

*development into a loveable, sweet girl who is happy to meet everyone. The volunteers and staff at Briggs treat the animals as if they were their own. To see their dedication and love for the animals every time we visit the shelter is heart-warming.*



*Rosie, Joey, and Fiona Kelly in their Forever Home.*

*When we learned that they had rescued Joey, our hearts melted and we had to add him to our family as soon as possible. He is the sweetest boy and has brought much joy to the girls, as can be seen in the photo—and of course to us!!*

*Briggs is a wonderful organization and we are very proud to be associated with all of the great volunteers and staff. Thanks for all the great work you do!!*

*Rick and Diane Kelly*

## NEWS from Peace Plantation Animal Sanctuary



By Michael Reed  
Director of Facilities  
Peace Plantation Animal Sanctuary

As summer in the Catskills is slowly starting to melt into early fall, I want to extend a warm “Hello” to everyone, and thank you for taking the time out of your busy lives to sit back and enjoy this issue of the *NHES Journal*. For those of you who are new to the *NHES Journal*, let me introduce myself. My name is Michael Reed, Director of Facilities, at Peace Plantation Animal Sanctuary (Peace Plantation) in Walton, New York, and this is what we've been up to this summer.

Caring for 275 cats, 6 dogs, 1 blind horse, 2 miniature horses, and 2 miniature goats, plus maintaining an 11,000 square foot, three story barn, twenty acres of land, and a huge rambling farm house is a full time job to say the least. Having just said all that, this is the perfect time to rave about all of the wonderful caring people that make up the Peace Plantation staff. Without them, Peace Plantation would not be the magical place that it is known to be. Several of us have been here for 10-plus years, and a couple of others are pushing the 20 and 21 year marks. I have heard the sad statistic many times in my almost 12 years at Peace Plantation that the average length of time that an animal caretaker will stay in

his/her position is only one year. It does, in fact, take a unique person with a quirky spark to devote their careers to caring for animals. I just happen to work with some of the best!



*Some of Peace Plantation's Staff*

I would now like to share some of the happenings of this summer with you to help you visualize what your continued support allows us to accomplish. My goal of installing more new windows in the barn came to fruition. We had eight windows installed, which should help decrease our heating bill this coming winter, plus keep all of our critters draft free. Speaking of critters, in addition to the cats that already called Peace Plantation their home, we gave refuge to many cats (90% small kittens) that were either dropped off or wandered to our front door this summer. We have also been caring for and treating a group of other cats that came to Peace Plantation after being exposed to ringworm. Now, they're on the road to recovery.