

One very exciting item to share is that we are now working collectively and collaboratively with Cornell University as part of a truly fantastic opportunity. Peace Plantation was invited (as one of four facilities) to participate in the Maddie's Fund Shelter Medicine Program.



From left to right—Stephanie Janeczko, DVM Cornell University; Brett Mechel, DVM at PPAS; Michael Reed, PPAS Director of Facilities; and Jan Scarlett, DVM Cornell University.

It is a six year program in which Cornell University was awarded a six million dollar grant from Maddie's Fund to better understand and help shelters and lifetime care sanctuaries respond more effectively to the many intrinsic animal health care issues that we all encounter. Issues such as ringworm, giardia, distemper, stomatitis and upper respiratory will be covered, as well as any other issues that may come up. It has become a wonderful partnership and a great source of cutting edge, up-to-the-minute, veterinary health information that I hope all of our critters will benefit from.

On a sad note (and this could be one reason some people don't last too long doing this), we lost two of our long time residents this summer. Frosty, our little miniature horse, passed, and our little friend Freckles passed away just last week. (You may remember the story I wrote for the last issue about our two beagles Scout and Freckles. Now they're back together again.)



Scout and Freckles—  
forever together.

For some reason it seems that the larger the animal, the larger the void when they are gone. I know this is not entirely true, because the loss of even a small kitten or cat can still leave a hole in our hearts that feels like it's a mile wide. It can be a source of the blues, knowing that

some animals will live out their last days in our care. But it has always been a comfort to know that their last breath will be taken in a magical place that is filled with true love for each of them.

As I shared with you in the last issue, our adoptions are continuing at a slow but ever steady rate, with our focus always on "Quality Adoptions" over "Quantity." Of course, we always send every animal to their new home with a fully packed parachute just in case they ever need to float back down to the safety of the sanctuary. Whenever an animal or two is returned—for whatever reason—we always welcome them back with smiles on our faces.

So, there is a sampling of some of the things that have kept us busy this summer. As with every newsletter greeting that I write, now is the time that I want to express our deepest gratitude for your continued support and kindness. Whether you are a longtime friend of Peace Plantation, or just hearing about us for the first time, I always want to extend an open invitation to all of you to come on by for a visit. Or, please feel free to call or email with any questions about animal adoptions, planned giving, our pet bequest program, or just to tell me a funny animal story. I do always enjoy hearing from all of you!

Best Wishes and  
Meows and Barks,  
Michael Reed

## Resident Highlights

### A Cat We Named Pepe

Newsletter time rolls around and, of course, I wait until the last minute to pick an animal to spotlight for the upcoming issue. You know the type of animal. One that exemplifies what we do, how we do it, why we do it, and—most important—to acknowledge the driving force that enables us to do it (care for animals and then write about it.)

Well, I can say without a doubt, that *you* are that driving force! For some reason you're holding and reading a copy of our NHES Journal, which means that you care about animals. Maybe you're even a supporter of our mission or have adopted an animal from one of our facilities. Regardless, those of you who support what we do, make stories like this one come to life.



Pepe, the cat, was brought to us in a cardboard box by Paula Decker, a longtime friend of Peace Plantation and a down-the-road neighbor. As a part-time job, Paula shears sheep. On the morning that Pepe was found, Paula was just about finished giving a few sheep their summer cuts. As she was getting ready to leave the farm, Paula noticed the neighbor across the road looking at and pointing to some black and white furry thing that wasn't doing a whole lot of moving. Paula, an animal lover through and through, had to cross the road to check out the situation. The homeowner told Paula that the state police had already been called because of the fear of rabies and that the cat had just showed up that morning, stumbling around like a little drunken sailor.

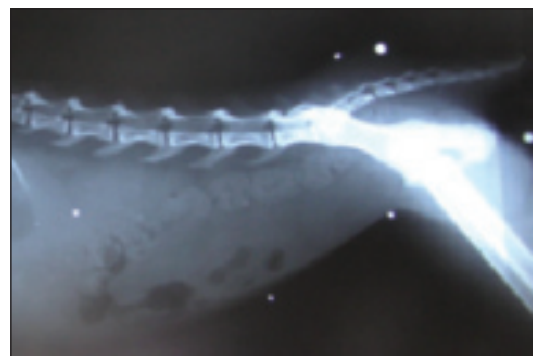
The state police arrived shortly thereafter and Paula's first question was if they could or would, at the very least, transport the poor little guy to a local veterinarian for a medical evaluation. "No animals are allowed to ride in a patrol car," Paula was told. Evidently, the only thing the officer was authorized to do was to kill the animal, because of suspected Rabies, and turn the body over to the public health office to test for Rabies. That was not the answer Paula had hoped to hear. Jumping into action, Paula's impromptu Plan B consisted of swooping the little guy up in her arms, finding the closest cardboard box and—taking a chance that we might be able to help—drove 30 miles straight to Peace Plantation's parking lot.

Some days the word, "No" is just too hard of a word to say. "You betcha Paula, we'll try our best," seemed to come out a lot easier. Upon getting Pepe up to our health care department and looking him over, our first thought was that Pepe had been hit by a car. His seemingly broken-up little body was covered with surface abrasions and he had almost no mobility in any of his legs. Even though he could hardly move, Pepe drank and ate in the sphinx position as though food had never been put in front of him before. Any future this little cat may be given, did not look very bright on that Monday afternoon in June. We administered pain medication again before we left for the day and hoped for the best!

Pepe was still with us the next morning, showing us that he had only used up a few of those nine lives and still had a few more stashed somewhere up his sleeve. Our staff veterinarian, Dr. Meckel, requested a full set of x-rays so we could really tell what injuries we were dealing with. Since we do not have an x-ray machine on site, off Pepe and I went to a local vet clinic in town to get a

better look. I had to leave Pepe at the clinic, as they were fully booked for the day and would only be able to squeeze him into the schedule as time allowed. A few hours later the phone call came in that Pepe had not been in a car accident as we had suspected, but more like a drive-by shooting. His little body had been splattered with buckshot.

When I first saw the x-rays, it reminded me of a constellation of a cat against a dark mid-night blue sky. I wondered how that little cat could still be alive. We shaved brave little Pepe down to the skin that very afternoon to expose the entrance and exit wounds that his black and white fur had been hiding. Flushing his wounds daily, three out of the probably twelve buckshot that had ripped into his body, weaseled their way out (only to be saved in his file folder as a remembrance).



*Pepe's x-rays—note the circular white dots, these are the pellets.*

This was one tough little cat!

Pepe's recovery has been a very slow one. By the end of August he was finally out of our health care department and in an adoption room with some other cool cats. Pepe, like so many other animals, deserves a second chance (in Pepe's case, it might be his seventh or eighth chance. We'll never know how many he's used up.) So please remember, that because of you, Peace Plantation is able to give second chances to cats like Pepe—and we thank you!



*Pepe today—fully recovered and waiting to be adopted.*

# Charitable Support: Lemonade, Cookies and Bracelets; and Old Vehicles in need of replacement

## Lemonade, Cookies and Bracelets For Sale

The fundraising efforts of two young ladies, Jessica Ries and Raykelle Higgins, both age 10, conjure up quenching memories of ice-cold drinks on dripping hot summer days with the age-old sign of “Lemonade for Sale”—and cookies and homemade bracelets too.

Even with the mercury forecasted to reach nearly 100 degrees, Jessica and Raykelle would not be deterred from their mission. They set up their Lemonade Stand in their neighborhood, near historic Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, and began inviting passer-bys to help homeless animals by purchasing some ice-cold lemonade, cookies and bracelets. By the end of the day, Jessica and Raykelle had generated more than \$60.00 in sales. The next day, accompanied by Jessica’s mother, Mary Ries, Jessica and Raykelle arrived at the BAAC and—with well-deserved smiles of accomplishment on their faces—presented Mrs. Anna C. Briggs with their jar of coins for the animals.

Jessica and Raykelle are in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Hapers Ferry Middle School. When asked why they had chosen to donate the money from their Lemonade sales to our adoption center—the BAAC, the young friends responded, “Because you do not put animals to sleep.”



Best Friends, Jessica Ries and Raykelle Higgins present Mrs. Anna C. Briggs with the proceeds of their sales—nearly \$60.00.

In response, we say, on behalf of the animals, we thank you, Jessica and Raykelle, for helping us to create a more humane world for our animal friends—and we applaud you!

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

### Seeking Donations of 2 Low-Mileage, 4-Wheel-Drive, Utility Vehicles for use as Animal Rescue & Adoption Vehicles

Our existing 4-wheel-drive 1994 Ford Explorer has traveled 245,141 miles, and our 1994 Jeep Cherokee has traveled 176,938 miles. So, as you can imagine, both vehicles are past their prime. We are now faced with ever-increasing repair bills for each of these vehicles, and really need to replace them.

If it is within your ability, we are asking—if you own a low-mileage, 4-wheel-drive, utility vehicle, would you please consider donating it to The National Humane Education Society?

Our existing vehicles must be replaced before winter.

If you have a low-mileage, 4-wheel-drive vehicle that is in “good” or “very good” condition that you might consider donating, please contact Mike Mahrer, Director of Development, at (304) 725-0506, extension 202, and he will be glad to answer any questions that you might have.

Please know that you will receive the full Blue Book Value for any low-mileage, 4-wheel-drive vehicle that you would donate, because we will be keeping these vehicles and using them as animal rescue/adoption vehicles. We will not be selling them as is sometimes done, which only allows a donor to deduct the less-valuable deduction of the sales price. (Also, if you have a low-mileage, 4-wheel-drive, utility vehicle in “good” or “very good” condition that you will donate, please know that we can travel to your location to pick it up.)



P.O. Box 340  
Charles Town, WV 25414-0340



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## OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT NHES

### You can make a monetary donation

Your donations allow us to educate the public and provide animal care.

and retirement funds can ensure that your desires to create a more humane world will continue beyond your lifetime.

### Corporate Matching Gifts

Your donation could double—many companies offer matching gift plans to their employees for a qualified nonprofit organization like NHES. Your personnel office or human resources department can tell you if this benefit is available and provide the appropriate forms.

*Thank you for taking the time, making the effort, making a contribution...for reaching out and helping animals.*

### You can include NHES in your planned giving

Gifts of life insurance, real estate, annuities, trusts,

If you have any questions about any of the above options, please call Michael Mahrer at 304-725-0506, ext. 202 or email [development@nhes.org](mailto:development@nhes.org). Your support is most important to us and to all the animals we help together—thank you.

**Please don't make the decision that we can get by without your donation because you think it may be too small or because others will donate. We Need Every Donation to Help Us Help the Animals! Thank You!**

PLEASE CUT HERE AND MAIL TO: The National Humane Education Society • P.O. Box 340, Charles Town, WV 25414-0340

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to support NHES on behalf of the animals in need.

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**Thank You for Your Generosity**

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# THANK YOU!