



Greetings from the desk of Jim Taylor, NHES Program Services Director, and Interim Manager of The Briggs Animal Adoption Center (BAAC), and welcome to the Fall 2002 edition of *BRIGGS Briefs*!



First, we'd like to give you an update on the three projects that we informed you about in the premiere Spring 2002 edition of *BRIGGS Briefs*. We're pleased to report: (1) the new BAAC Web Page is up and running—please visit us online at www.baacs.org to learn more about our activities and to view the dogs that are available for adoption, and (2) the kennel runs have been completely enclosed—ensuring the dogs additional protection from Old Man Winter. Regretfully, the 3rd project, efforts to raise funds to construct the proposed Cattery for 100 cats has fallen short of its mark at this time. However, we are not disillusioned; we will continue our fundraising efforts in the months ahead and, based on experience, we know the day will come that our Cattery goal will be realized. We thank each of you who have made contributions toward the Cattery, and we'll keep you informed of our progress.



Enclosed Kennel Runs



Training Pavilion

We'd like to also take this opportunity to extend our special thanks and sincere appreciation to The Thornton S. Glide, Jr. and Katrina D. Glide Foundation, and The CitiGroup Foundation for their generous contributions to construct the BAAC Educational and Obedience Training Pavilion. The construction of the open-air Pavilion was completed in September 2002 and will be used for educational presentations to adult and children's civic groups and for obedience training instruction during the good weather months.

Speaking of good weather, Reno, Nevada, provided beautiful weather for all the attendees of the Conference on Homeless Animal Management and Policy (CHAMP). We'd like to thank those of you who responded to our special request to help cover the expenses of sending a BAAC adoption counselor to CHAMP. BAAC attendees included Karen Snapp, Adoption

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Rescues

Glacier—Freedom from the Chain

While visiting relatives in August 2002, David Timbrook, BAAC Chief Maintenance Officer, was informed about a Siberian Husky (the Husky) who had reportedly been abandoned by his owners at a nearby house. David went to the house to check on the Husky and found him tied to a metal stake by a long chain without any available food or water. David approached the house, went to the front door, found it ajar, and called out, "Is any one home?" Receiving no reply, he pushed the door open a little farther and saw that the front rooms were empty. David then went to his relatives' house and returned with food and water for the Husky. During the same afternoon, David contacted the local animal control to inform them about the Husky's plight and the BAAC's willingness to accept him into our program. David also learned who owned the property and contacted him to ask about the Husky. The owner informed David that yes, he had evicted the tenants and they had, indeed, abandoned the Husky. The home owner also agreed to surrender the Husky to the BAAC, and permitted David to return the next morning to pick him up and transport him to the BAAC.



Glacier

Upon arriving at BAAC, this magnificent red-and-white, 2 and 1/2 year-old Husky received his name—Glacier. Although stout in stature, Glacier's previous owners had clearly neglected his most basic care; he was unaltered and infested with worms. He was in serious need of bathing and grooming, which we provided. The fur around his neck, however, was deeply discolored with a

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The Briggs Animal Adoption Center



Greetings

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Counselor; Jim Taylor, Interim Manager; and Cindy Taylor, Animal Care Coordinator, all of whom served as exhibitors and benefited from the daily animal care workshops. In summary, CHAMP was, as characterized by Michael Reed, Director of Peace Plantation Animal Sanctuary, the BAAC's sister organization, "a great four days of understanding, problem solving, networking . . . and coming together with the animal care community from around the globe."

In brief, additional activities at the BAAC over the past quarter have included:

- Serving as the host site for the Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank.
- Once-a-month dog adoption interviews with radio host, Berry Lee, on WINC 92.5 FM.
- Intermittent off-site adoption efforts held at the Dirty Dog Diner in Winchester, Virginia, and Unique Petique in Hagerstown, Maryland.
- Implementation of a Comprehensive Canine Basic Obedience Training Program for the BAAC staff and volunteers in an effort to better ensure that all adopted dogs will stay in their adoptive homes for life. "A well trained dog is a well loved dog."
- Serving as the host site for Spay Today's Spay/Neuter Stamp Dedication to raise awareness of the nearly 6 million dogs and cats that are killed each year in our Nation's shelters, and the cost-effective humane alternative offered by spaying and neutering.

In closing, we'd like to once again extend our sincere thanks to each of you for supporting the BAAC.

Best Wishes,
Jim Taylor

Spay Today

Greetings from Spay Today,

In September we celebrated The United States Postal Service's release of the spay/neuter stamps. We held a Dedication Ceremony at BAAC on Saturday the 21st. Six local school children were honored and awarded trophies for essays they wrote, "Why I love cats and/or dogs", bringing the issue of animal welfare to their attention. Six were chosen to show appreciation for the six Veterinary Hospitals and Clinics that work with Spay Today. Speakers at this event included Lynda Foro, Administrative Director of NHES; James Yohe, Manager of Post Office Operations in our area; Sandi Ahern, Postmaster of Rippon Post Office; Ann Small, Founder of Spay Today; and Rusty Morgan, a local community leader who came to support our cause. James Yohe and Sandi Ahern presented Mrs. Briggs with a framed copy of the stamps to honor her lifetime of work dedicated to animal welfare. A second copy was presented to Spay Today, which I gratefully accepted! What a wonderful opportunity we have to place a reminder of our spay/neuter message into homes across our nation; as well as the seven million people who enter post offices each day. I urge all of you to show your support by purchasing and using these stamps for your home and business.

Connie Graf
Coordinator

Rescues

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black residue caused by, we believe, oxidization of the chain collar that he appeared to have worn for the majority of his life.

As of this writing, all of Glacier's medical needs have been met and he is scheduled to be adopted and delivered to a marvelous couple where he will become the fifth member of their canine pack, which includes two other Siberian Huskies. And in his new home, Glacier will never be chained again.

Amelia and Aletta—Flight for a 2nd Chance at Life

Board members and employees of certain SPCAs, like the Cecil County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Cecil County, MD SPCA), work tirelessly to find appropriate adoptive homes for animals rather than readily killing them as a means of population control when their "time is up." The president of the Cecil County SPCA, Ginny Saurez, is just such a board member. The Cecil County SPCA is filled with larger breed dogs that are more difficult to adopt because the majority of the adopting public want to adopt little dogs, which means the larger dogs are killed at an increased rate.



Aletta

Ginny Saurez called the BAAC and requested help with Amelia, a 2-year-old, 68 lb., mixed-bred yellow Labrador Retriever, and Aletta, a 2-year-old, 64 lb. mixed-bred black Labrador Retriever. Ginny informed us that they had already been spayed and received their initial vaccinations. In addition, Ginny informed

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If you live in this area and would like our assistance or would like to donate funds so we can increase our services to save more lives, please call Connie Graf at 304-728-8330.

NHES would like to thank the veterinary hospitals for their continued support of Spay Today.

Apple Tree Animal Clinic, Ranson, WV
Big Springs Animal Hospital, Martinsburg, WV
Hillside Veterinarian Hospital, Charles Town, WV
Inwood Animal Center, Inwood, WV
Silver Spring Veterinary Hospital, Inc., Winchester, VA
Stephens City Animal Hospital, Stephens City, VA

Employee Spotlight



We're pleased to introduce to you, Karen Snapp, BAAC Senior Adoption Counselor and to spotlight her in this edition of *BRIGGS Briefs*.

Karen readily recalls growing up with—loving and hugging—a Doberman, a Poodle and Pugs. As a teenager, she would feed the neighborhood's stray animals, rescue injured birds and small mammals and transport them to the veterinarian or appropriate Wildlife Rehabilitator.

After working in various career fields, Karen sought employment that would give her greater personal satisfaction working hands-on with animals. She found just such a position at a private animal sanctuary where she worked for more than a year participating in the daily care of an estimated 500 cats, 150 dogs, and numerous cows, pigs, horses, goats and a donkey. Although Karen found the sanctuary work to be personally rewarding, she wanted to achieve more for the homeless animals in our society and sought employment at the BAAC.

Karen shares the following about her position as an Adoption Counselor, "I enjoy my job and my co-workers. Placing dogs in quality homes gives me a real sense of purpose, especially when finding homes for some of our longer-term residents like Kramer, Jacob, Courage, and Digger who the majority of the public rarely showed an interest in adopting. . . . I also enjoy helping a dog owner solve a behavioral problem that results in the owner keeping the dog in the home rather than surrendering it."

Karen lives in Winchester, Virginia, with her 3 canine kids:

- Tucker—a 9-year-old Lab mix who was rejected by the US Customs Canine Drug Sniffing program because of his short attention span
- Shadow—a 3-year-old Chow/Shar Pei/Lab mix with special needs who came from the animal sanctuary that Karen had worked for, and
- Annie—a 2 year-old Lab mix who Karen rescued from the streets of Winchester.

Karen is a true team player and an asset to the BAAC and the animals in our care. You can listen to Karen the first Thursday of each month on WINC 92.5 FM at 8:00 a.m. as she introduces a dog for adoption to radio personality, Barry Lee, on his morning drive-time show. And you can also see Karen intermittently on Petline 9 Featured Pets of Week on WUSA Channel 9 NEWS at noon.



Franklin

Highlights

us that if we could accept them, she would have them flown from Cecil County, Maryland, to the airport in Winchester, Virginia.



Amelia

We had the available kennel space and gladly agreed to accept Amelia and Aletta. They handled their flight well and have since adjusted well to the BAAC's daily activities, including stretching their long legs in our exercise yards, socializing with other dogs and, in Amelia's case—enrollment in our obedience training program. Aletta is slated for her training in the very near future.

In sum, Amelia and Aletta's "Flight for a 2nd Chance at Life" to the BAAC was a resounding success, and each is now available for adoption.

BAAC Hosts The Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank

The Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank (EVBB) reports, "Most large veterinary blood banks use blood from a confined colony of canine donors, dogs who reside in a housing facility and donate blood every month." As a humane alternative, the EVBB's goal "is to provide 'humane blood'—collected from donors who are beloved pets. Donors visit EVBB once every 2 months to donate, thus eliminating the need to keep dogs in cages for this purpose."

The BAAC supports the EVBB's goal of providing "humane blood," and therefore serves as a donor site once every 2 months for the owners of companion dogs who bring their dogs to the BAAC to donate blood. During their last donor clinic held at the BAAC, the EVBB collected blood from 11 donors and also saw 3 new donors for blood typing appointments. To learn more about the EVBB and their lifesaving work, please visit them on the Internet at www.evbb.com.

New Arrivals & Adoptions

Franklin: Although many dogs have been placed in quality adoptive homes during the past quarter, one of the more educational adoptions involves a little 3.4 lb., 9 week-old West Highland White Terrier that we named Franklin.



Franklin

Franklin came to us from a very kind lady who had purchased him from a backyard breeder but, given his birth defect, she was concerned that she could not afford to properly care for him. Franklin's right rear leg was deformed and is believed to be the result of inbreeding. In layman's terms Franklin's defect is most accurately described

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Charles Town, WV 25414-1023
P.O. Box 1023



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as: from the knee of his right rear leg down, he has a partial duplication of the lower leg, foot, and toes. Although it is unlikely that Franklin will ever use this leg, the veterinarians do not believe that it will be problematic for his mobility.

Of course, Franklin captured the hearts of all BAAC employees. But given our knowledge that he was such a young puppy with special needs, we withheld our individual desires to adopt him in favor of placing him in a quality adoptive home with Todd and Lara Morey. In addition to being a wonderful adoptive couple, Lara Morey is also a veterinarian who we know will be able to provide Franklin with the best of care throughout his life.

Hope: Once again, we could highlight any number of the other dogs that have been adopted during the past quarter. We would, however, prefer to share Hope's story with you, because Adoption Center life just wouldn't be complete without a cat-tale.

Despite our concerted efforts to inform the public that we do not have facilities for cats or kittens at this time, unknown persons continue to intermittently drop off cats/kittens at our front door. Such was the case with Hope.

Late on a Monday afternoon, BAAC Volunteer, Phyllis Saville found a small cardboard box on one of the chairs in the front of the BAAC. Inside the box was a very small kitten who soon became known to us as Hope. She was so named, because given her declining health, we could only Hope that she would survive. At the time of her discovery, Hope weighed less than 1 lb., was infected with ringworm, and suffered from a serious upper respiratory infection.

Over the ensuing weeks, following appropriate medical care, Hope's condition continued to improve. Today she is a normal rambunctious kitten and will soon to be adopted by a committed family.



Hope

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

Enclosed is my contribution of \$_____ to support the BAAC, a program of NHES on behalf of the animals in need.

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Address _____

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Donations are tax deductible - Membership includes quarterly BRIGGS Briefs.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO BAAC/NHES

THANK YOU!