

Uniquely Akita

Serving the Mid-Atlantic states for nearly 30 years through education, support, and rescuing wonderful Akitas that would otherwise be euthanized in area shelters.

January/February 2013

Featured Orphan

Baby is a sweet, loving girl on the mend after a bad depression.

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Featured Orphan Cont'd, Heartfelt Thanks, Upcoming Events, Congratulations, & Important Reminder

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New Address, Foster Homes Needed, & Postcards From Home

Help us save more Akitas by becoming a foster parent.

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Available Orphans



Have a space available in your heart and home? Consider adopting an orphan.

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Financial Assistance with Vet Bills

Our dogs still need veterinary care, even if our budgets are tight. Learn about some organizations that offer financial assistance for vet bills.

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In Appreciation and ARMAC Store

Thank you to our donors. Show your support with items from our online store.

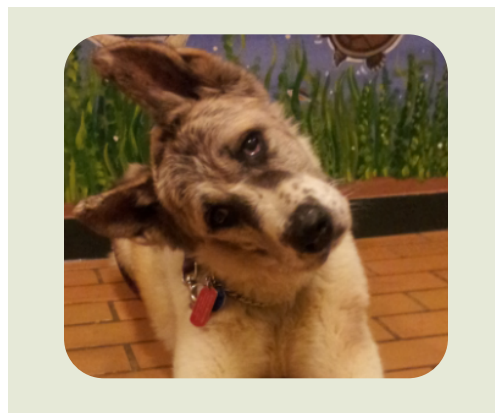
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Featured Orphan: Baby

No matter how long we're involved in Akita rescue, or the number of Akitas that pass through our doors, we will never get over the deep sadness that is invoked when we receive a call about an old Akita that has found itself homeless. This very situation occurs far more often than the average person knows.

Imagine spending your whole life loving and being loved by your family; enjoying the comfort and security of your home, your surroundings, and then find yourself orphaned and alone in a shelter environment. How scared and confused you would be. The story of 8 year old Baby is one such story.



Baby found herself at a local shelter after she and her two canine companions were removed from their home due to their owner's mental illness. While the smaller dog was allowed to return to the owner, the custody of Baby and her beagle friend were awarded to the shelter. Baby was in bad shape; nearly a third of her fur was gone, she had lesions and sores on her skin, and she was quite depressed.

The shelter transferred Baby to a local vet for boarding and treatment, thinking this might be better for her. The vet's office conducted many diagnostic tests but the results were all normal. During this time Baby was steadily losing weight.

Three months after being taken from her owner, a concerned clinic employee contacted ARMAC over Baby's continuing decline. Lisa Gray visited Baby at the clinic to assess her condition and temperament. Lisa was both shocked at her condition and charmed by her temperament. For a dog that had been in a boarding kennel under the care of vet to be in such a terrible state was unbelievable! Lisa struggled to process what she was seeing.

After conversing with Baby's caregiver, the owner of the clinic, and other staff,

— Continued on Page 2.

Featured Orphan Continued

and reviewing Baby's medical chart, Lisa was certain that Baby's condition was not the fault of the clinic. Clearly there was some underlying issue such as Sebaceous Adenitis or depression at no longer living in a home causing Baby's decline. Needless to say, ARMAC immediately started soliciting for a foster home for Baby. Within a day or so, a long time foster family graciously offered to take Baby. Just a couple days after that Baby was transported to Maryland where her recovery began.

Two months after Baby was taken into our foster program she is progressing incredibly well. Baby has gained weight, her fur is starting to grow back in places, and her attitude is one of sheer gratitude! Her personality is delightful; she adores people and loves to cuddle. Despite her age, we have no doubt that a wonderful family will come for her. This special girl will bring much love and laughter to whomever is lucky enough to win her heart!

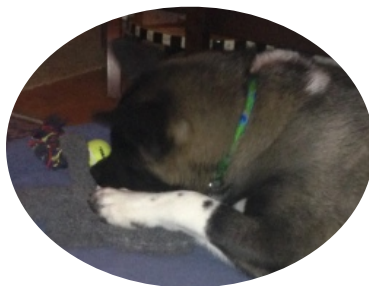
Heartfelt Thanks



We want to thank all of you who have given so generously in response to our pleas for assistance. Your support is always appreciated, but so much more so during these tough economic times. No matter what amount you contribute, know that it has helped to better the world for an Akita. We could not do what we do without you. Many hugs from ARMAC and WOOOOOO from the Akitas you have helped!!!

Congratulations!

Much love and happiness to Joy (fka Cinder), Kansei (fka Reggae), Tango (fka Tanto), and Zoe on finding their forever homes! Without your generous support, it would be difficult for ARMAC to rescue as many dogs as we do.



Here's a note from Tango's new owners:

We want to tell you again how overjoyed we are with our new family addition! Tango is settling in extremely well, and I think he is pleased with us too. We are getting him used to lots of new experiences, of course, and he is rising to all challenges. He loves walking on the bluff, and his tail is totally up, up, up! We had to have a work man here today too (someone we know who likes dogs and knew to stay back) and he warmed to him too. He continues to indicate when he needs to go out, goes into his crate willingly, is now lying down on one of his beds while we eat (big step!!) instead of lunging for the food, and I could go on and on. He is a total joy, and I think his Foster Parents are the ones who helped him make a critical adjustment! Thank you again so much!

Upcoming Events

ARMAC will be at the Reston Pet Fiesta at the Reston Town Center on Saturday, 4 May from 10 am - 4 pm.



Important Reminder: ID Tags

All adopters agreed to put a personal ID tag on their Akitas, as well as the ARMAC tag, rabies, microchip tag (if provided), and county or city license.

ARMAC had two phone calls in December on two consecutive days from people who had found Akitas. In the first instance, they called the number on the ARMAC tag and upon being further questioned, found the owner's personal ID tag. This dog was returned to her home in a matter of hours.



The second one, however, had no tags on. She was chipped and the person who found her called the chip company who contacted ARMAC. We were then able to reach the owner and they were reunited. Had this owner put her personal ID tag on her dog, the dog would have been returned much sooner as she was found right around the corner from where she lives.

PLEASE make sure your Akita has a personal ID tag firmly attached to his or her collar and that the collar is on your dog at all times — in the house, walking, wherever. You never know what will happen and if your dog gets out, gets away from you, or somehow escapes, having a tag on the collar does no good if the collar is not on the dog. If anyone needs an ARMAC tag, please contact Jodi and we will gladly send you one.

Ditto for your adoption contract.



© Darrell Godliman

New Address



ARMAC has a new mailing address! Please address all correspondence to:

13238 Kurtz Road
Woodbridge, VA 22193-4919

Foster Homes Needed

ARMAC needs foster homes more than anything. Your donations are very helpful and much appreciated. Nonetheless, it is not sustainable to board orphaned Akitas for long periods of time, which is the primary reason we often have to ask for financial assistance.

So please, consider opening your heart and home to an orphaned Akita. ARMAC does subsidize fostered Akitas, so it's more about a commitment of your time. By stepping up to foster, not only do you help save that particular Akitas, but others down the road. Money saved on kennel fees can be used towards shelter fees, neuter/spay costs, etc.

Feel free to contact Jodi if you have any questions.



Postcards from Home



Ready (f/k/a Buddy)



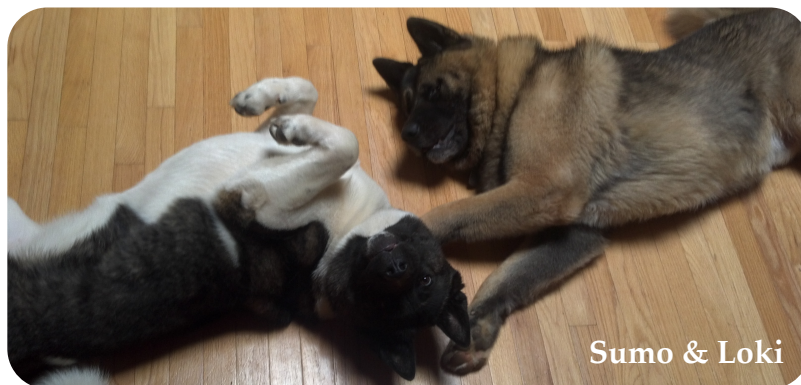
Pancake



Naomi



Blondie the Elf



Sumo & Loki

Available Orphans



APOLLO: <http://bit.ly/11i3uhW>



HOLLY: <http://bit.ly/ZCjn17>



RANGER: <http://bit.ly/WcJLAW>



BABY: <http://bit.ly/X6B08p>



CHAMPION: <http://bit.ly/YD91uQ>



COLE: <http://bit.ly/Y9Tqv>



GABBY: <http://bit.ly/ZoZWc6>

Financial Assistance with Vet Bills

This list was created by American Dog Magazine. Be sure to visit each organization's website to see if you meet their criteria for aid.



Angels for Animals	www.angels4animals.org
Brown Dog Foundation	www.browndogfoundation.org
Canine Cancer Awareness	www.caninecancerawareness.org
Care Credit	www.carecredit.org
Cats in Crisis	www.catsincrisis.org
Extend Credit	www.extendcredit.com
Fairy Dog Parents	www.fairdogparents.org
Frankie's Friends	www.frankiesfriends.com
Gracie's Mission	www.graciesmission.org
Paws 4 A Cure	www.paws4acure.org
Shakespeare Animal Fund	www.shakespeareanimalfund.org
Dog & Cat Cancer Fund	www.dccfund.org
Magic Bullet Fund	www.themagicbulletfund.org
Mosby Foundation	www.themosbyfoundation.org
The Pet Fund	www.thepetfund.com
The Riedel & Cody Fund	www.riedelcodyfund.org

In Appreciation

Your donations aid the boarding, transportation, registration fees, and medical care (routine and emergency) for all rescued Akitas, along with supporting the continued operations of Akita Rescue Mid-Atlantic Coast. A hearty thank you from us all!

Annette Wilson	Jeffrey Olsen	Noelle Elsberry
Ariane Sweeney	Jennifer Stabley (In memory of Sasha & Enzo)	Rick & Judy Fleddermann (Dedicated to Gina-Marie Cincinnati & Haiku)
Becky Heath	Jo Ann Dimon	Robert Fisher
Bryan and Dayna Hoskins	John Washington	Robert Harvey
Caroline and Nathan (In memory of Bo)	Katie Seeler	Robert Marino (In memory of Bella Abdog)
Clarence & Lorraine	Lisa Kahn (In honor of Billy and Lynne Loewy)	Steve Seleznio (Sponsorship of Keiji)
Lindquist	Melissa Harvey	Thrive Pilates
Cristina Cea	Michele Kirk	V.Glynn
David Hawkins	Mike & Joan Gariazzo	
Gordon Dreher	Mr. & Mrs Jonathan Gettleman	
Helen Kenefick (Merry Christmas orphans)	Niki Pino	
Janina Plinsky		



ARMAC Store

Check out ARMAC's online store at <http://www.cafepress.com/armacstore>! Here you will find unique Akita designs on all your favorite merchandise from shirts to flags. Feel good knowing that a portion of your sale goes to benefit our mission of rescue, education and support for the Akita breed.



ARMAC Board

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Jodi Marcus jodi@akitarescue.org	Adoption Coordinator (703) 730 - 0844
Betty McDade	Public Support (703) 524 - 9163
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We want to hear from you!



Please direct any comments, pictures, and/or suggestions regarding *Uniquely Akita* content to:

info@akitarescue.org

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Akita Rescue



Mid-Atlantic

Akita Rescue Mid-Atlantic Coast (ARMAC)

January/February 2013

13238 Kurtz Road
Woodbridge, VA 22193-4919