

UNIQUELY AKITA



Akita Rescue Mid-Atlantic Coast Inc. (ARMAC)

Winter 2018

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FEATURED ORPHANS by Puller Lanigan

Kitsune

This gorgeous redhead came from a shelter. She was picked-up as a stray and no one came to claim her. She has definitely been a house dog. She is calm, but energetic and attentive. She is friendly and likes walks. She doesn't appear to harbor grudges against other dogs, so she might possibly be okay with another dog. She would have to have a couple of meet and greets.

The bottom line, she is 5-8 years old and we really don't want her spending the winter in an outdoor kennel. She will have access to a heated kennel area at night, but arthritis just raises its ugly head when an older dog spends a lot of time outdoors. She deserves a soft bed and warm spot by the fire. Unknown with cats. She has met the 7 year old grandchild of a volunteer who regularly comes out to walk our orphans for a little enrichment. She was fine with him and gave him kisses. Because of her age, wouldn't put her in a 'children's pet' category unless the home is experienced with large dogs.



FOSTER HOMES

NEEDED!!!

Ever thought of
fostering?

If you can find it in your heart, we urge you to complete the paperwork now.

Please visit

AkitaRescue.org

for more information



Sampson

Lovely, sweet, BIG, shy Sampson; he was the last dog from a backyard breeder in southern Virginia. He was dropped at the shelter when the breeder had no one to care for Sampson while on vacation. Sampson was shut down at the shelter, having never been away from his breeder and only 2 years old. The shelter staff didn't know how to help this blonde behemoth of an Akita, who huddled in a ball on the floor of the kennel. This was a small shelter where

the AC officers doubled as caretakers and kennel staff. One AC officer would sing to all of the dogs as he cleaned the kennels (hence our ode to Dog Dreams). It brought Sampson out of his shell and he would "dance" for the kind officer.

We pulled Sampson from the shelter, but once again he shut down. But thanks to the staff at King Kennels, Sampson is coming back to life. Sampson is a sweet dog, He would do best in a quiet, confident and secure home. Possibly even one with a large and secure (but not dominant) female dog. He has no clue what a leash is, but is learning with the help of the Dodge's who walk him often. And we are looking at a different type of collar that doesn't require going over his head as he hits the ground and becomes amazingly evasive about putting on a choke collar.

Continued on page 2



FEATURED ORPHANS CONT.

Continued from page 1

Blaze

Some of you may remember Bruno and Eva, two adult Akitas removed by animal control for being housed outside with no food, water or shelter. They were a breeding pair, owned by a breeder in Montgomery County, Maryland. While Eva was only 2 years old, it was determined that she had already had at least two litters of puppies. Bruno was deemed 3 years old. When animal control removed the adult dogs and a 6 month old puppy, 8 week old Blaze was left behind because he was inside the house.

Fast forward nearly 2 years, Blaze was then surrendered to the shelter. He was untrained, unruly and a wild child. At least he is fearless and friendly. He hasn't met a stranger. We suspect he may be a sibling of Radar (featured in the last newsletter).

Blaze is handsome, large and working hard on leash training thanks to wonderful staff at Country Critters where Blaze is being boarded. For all of his 'busy body, into everything' personality, he attended a pet expo recently and behaved very well once he acclimated.



Shadow



We received a call from a young woman whose brother was incarcerated. He left behind his 11 year old Akita. She had grown up with Shadow, but is in school now and unable to physically take him. She had called the shelter about taking Shadow, but was informed, due to his age he would be euthanized. She was crushed. Another family member then offered to take Shadow, but after a few months, she was dissatisfied with his care and reached out to us. We reached out to one of our foster homes who does well with seniors and asked if they would be willing to take the handsome Shadow. They agreed.

This dog does not look 11! At the time of this writing, I have not met him, but will do so shortly. He is a great looking guy. We have no idea where he came from, but he was well cared for. The young woman signed him over to ARMAC. Because of his age, we have been reluctant to rush him in for neutering. He deserves a quiet and sedate home for a dog of his age, to live out whatever years he has left, in comfort and dignity. He does not wish to share his home with pets. While he is not aggressive toward children, many old dogs do not want kids poking at them or falling over them, so no small children.

ABOUT ARMAC

Akita Rescue Mid-Atlantic Coast, Inc. has been serving the eastern seaboard for over 30 years. We fulfill a wide variety of Akita needs in the greater Washington DC area. We help educate potential Akita owners; we offer support to Akita owners, not only those who adopt from us, but all Akita owners regardless of where they got their Akita. But most importantly, we save the lives of Akitas that would otherwise be euthanized in area shelters. All of our fostered Akitas are spayed/neutered, vaccinated, micro-chipped, and temperament evaluated prior to adoption. Potential adopters are screened carefully and thoroughly to ensure we have a perfect match between family and Akita. Our assistance doesn't stop at adoption. We offer support to our adoptive families throughout the lifetime of their Akita.

Please visit our website for more information on how you can get involved: www.akitarescue.org



Follow us... www.facebook.com/AkitaRescueMidAtlantic

POGO'S ADVENTURES by Niki Pino and Puller Lanigan

This past February ARMAC was contracted by a shelter located on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, regarding a 7-year-old male Akita named Pogo. Pogo, along with a 14 year old Akita, had been brought to the shelter by the owner's children. The owner was moving into a nursing home and could no longer care for the pair. The shelter used words such as "wonderful", "walks well on leash", "knows commands", "good with kitties" to describe Pogo and said he passed his temp test with flying colors.

We reached out to Niki and Bob Pino, who are ARMAC adopters and a foster home, who live in Centreville, MD. The Pino's were out of the country at the time but agreed to foster Pogo when they returned. The decision was further solidified after receiving a glowing report from Niki and Bob's adult sons, Anthony and Chris, who traveled to the shelter to meet Pogo. The brothers were astonished by how much Pogo looked like their older male Akita, Kono, whom they previously fostered and adopted from ARMAC. They agreed to pull Pogo from the shelter and foster him until their parents returned home. When Niki and Bob returned Pogo moved into their home, and immediately acted as if he had lived there his whole life. Pogo and Kono got along very well and we enjoyed seeing photos of 'the brindle boys' hanging out in Ocean City, on the boat, or visiting their Galleria in Centreville.



It didn't take long before the Pinos adopted Pogo and all was well.

Niki reached out to me (Puller) in July, she and Bob noticed that Pogo was approaching eating differently, they felt his neck might be swollen. A trip to the vet confirmed their observations, but the cause was a mystery. The Pino's still had Pogo's original dog tags, so they decided to contact the prior vet hoping that he might be able to provide more information. That evening Niki took Pogo to the prior vet, and to her amazement everyone in that office knew Pogo and was elated that he found a loving home. The vet, upon entering the exam room, said he was going to weight Pogo. 30 minutes later the vet returned with Pogo. Niki was perplexed and asked "before you continue, is it normal to remove an animal from his owner and perform an exam? I've had dogs for 50 years and never once has this happened before!" The vet explained that he has known Pogo since he was a puppy and it takes four people to hold him down. "THIS DOG?" - Niki asked and then stated bluntly "This is the most loving, gentle, non-confrontational dog I have ever had!! Pardon me if I'm in a state of SHOCK since we have never had an issue with him". The vet told her that Pogo was a totally different dog than the one they once knew. Niki then asked the vet about the previous owner and received a completely different story than was originally reported. "Let's just say the owner disciplined him but wasn't very loving and also complained he had difficulty controlling him", stated the vet. An appointment made to bring Pogo back in a few days to sedate him for x-rays and a biopsy of whatever was in his neck. The diagnostic appointment didn't clear-up anything, there was nothing in Pogo's neck to biopsy, only swelling from an unknown cause. An anti-inflammatory agent and antibiotics were prescribed for a period of two weeks. That course of treatment did not elevate the swelling. The next suggestion was a CT scan of his neck.



Niki found a vet specialist in New Castle, Delaware that was willing to perform a CT scan after talking with her original vet; no consultation visit needed. Five days after the procedure they got the results, Pogo has clogged mucus glands, surgery will be required. What? No explanation, no diagnosis, just that he needed surgery! Niki sought out a surgeon in Dover, Delaware, who was kind enough to review the lab work, the x-rays, the CT scans, and other medical information about Pogo, all via email! Wow! In turn, the surgeon referred Niki to Vet Specialty Center (VSC) in New Castle, stating, "Pogo will have the best chance in the hands of Dr. Roberts or Dr. Cafone, they have the best facilities for all the 'what-ifs' that can happen during surgery." That was enough to give one pause for thought! A consult at VSC was scheduled for late August.

Meanwhile, Pogo had been relatively stable for some time. Then, suddenly, the swelling appeared different, the glands seemed to be growing, and beginning to interfere with his ability to breath and swallow. Pogo's condition had become critical, Niki took him into the vet as an emergency on August 17th, a Friday. One of Pogo's neck was the size of a tennis ball, causing his to wheeze and struggle to breath. Thankfully, the vet that examined him managed to expedite things and surgery was scheduled for Monday. The diagnosis: several mucus glands were swollen under his tongue and around his arteries. It was going to be a difficult surgery. Niki's head was swimming with all this info and she could only hope he stayed stable through the weekend. Monday could not arrive soon enough.

Continued on page 4

POGO CONTINUED

On Monday, prior to surgery, Dr Cafone called Niki and explained Pogo's condition to her, comparing it to kidney or gall bladder stones. He said there is no known reason as to why this condition develops, but he went on to say that the procedure itself is not uncommon. Dr. Cafone went on to say that dogs have 12 mucus glands, so removing a few won't affect their quality of life. The only concern were the ones around and near the arteries, but he had done this surgery many times before with great success! Finally, Niki felt more at ease about the surgery.

When surgery was complete, Dr. Cafone called Niki back, and stated he successfully removed the mandibular and sublingual glands. Pogo would have a drain at the surgery site for a week. Pogo was in recovery and doing well. It would not be until the next morning, before Niki would learn that he was stable enough to return home.

The drain tube was removed one week later, at that time Dr. Cafone confirmed that Pogo was healing faster than expected, and Niki and Bob should have a happy, healthy dog from here on out!! An added benefit: the surgery cured Pogo's STINKY breath!

Here are some signs of possible swollen mucus glands:

- difficulty in swallowing
- the tongue is all twisted inside the mouth
- terribly bad breath
- swelling under and around neck or throat

The Pino's were pleased and grateful for the outstanding care Pogo received at the Veterinary Specialty Center in New Castle, Delaware!

MORE AVAILABLE ORPHANS

The majority of these dogs came from animal shelters, therefore "owner surrender" does not necessarily mean they were received directly from a home.



Delilah

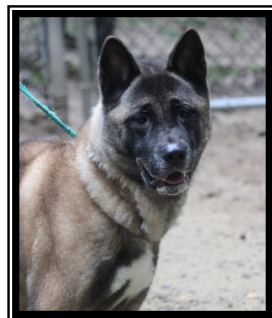
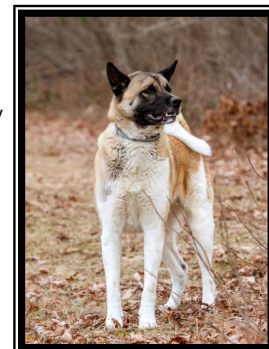
5 year old, 90 lb. spayed female. Taken to the shelter as a stray. She is a happy girl, excellent in the car, gives lots of kisses, unknown with cats, other dogs or children. Boarded in Maryland.

Foster home needed

Manny

5 year old, 87 lb. neutered male. Turned in at shelter. Very smart boy; prefers to be a follower; loves people and belly rubs. He doesn't like to be crated. He pulls slightly on leash but stops with correction. Would be good with a mellow female dog.

Located in Virginia.



Kara

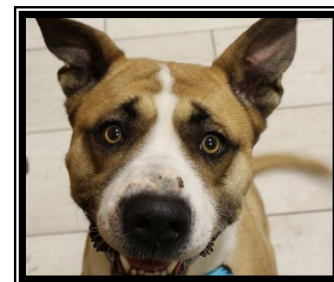
4 year old, 75 lb. spayed female. Owner-give-up. Kara is great with people but gets wound up around other dogs. Experienced owner only. Boarded in Maryland.

Foster home needed

Marlena

7 year old, 85 lb., spayed female Akita/Pit Bull mix. Turned into the shelter. This girl stole out hearts. She has the best of both breeds and is good with cats.

Located in Virginia.



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Don't forget to use **Amazon Smile** for all your shopping! Amazon Smile lets you select ARMAC to support with every purchase you make. Amazon donates 0.5% of your total purchase price to ARMAC. But you must shop using <http://amazonsmile.com>.

UPCOMING EVENTS



SuperPetExpo™

The Premier Shopping Event...
Everything for Every Pet Owner!

March 15-17, 2019
Chantilly, Virginia



Pet Fiesta

May 4th, 2019
Reston, Virginia

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

We are terribly low in funds! We are unable to take-in anymore Akitas without enough funding to pay the boarding costs.

As you may remember, we lost several much needed foster homes due to relocations out of the area. We are in dire need of volunteers that can help with fundraising, marketing, social media campaigns and merchandise design. We were looking into possibly a brewery fundraiser, are you willing to help?

ARMAC is truly at a crossroad, we want to save as many worthy Akitas as we can, but funding. Foster homes and volunteers have become too scarce to continue much longer. Please think about ways that you can give-back to ARMAC, we can't continue without your help!.



Help change
a dogs life today.
We can all be heroes!

WAYS TO GIVE BACK

Volunteering is the #1 way you can give back to ARMAC! Do you have a few hours of time on a weekend that you can volunteer at an event? Follow our event schedule on our website or use our **Signup** page, <http://signup.com/go/DPDxMB>.

Do you have special talents that could help ARMAC? We all have talents, some are natural and others are acquired. Regardless, I'm sure that we could put your talents to work for the good of the Akitas. Please contact Lisa or Jodi to discuss the many areas that ARMAC needs.



Visit our **PoundWishes** link, <https://poundwishes.com/wishes> and help fund some of the critical medical expenses we need covered. ARMAC will create a PoundWish campaign for an urgent medical need. Then you and the Poundwishes community of pet lovers respond with a donation or by sharing the PoundWish with your connections.

Sponsor an orphan in boarding. It costs us \$300/month to board one Akita, consider sponsoring a month or two.

Foster! We are ALWAYS in need of loving, qualified foster homes. It really is a rewarding way to give-back. After all, your adopted Akita was most likely fostered by a person or family that invested time, love and patience into making your Akita the dog they are today.

Shop through Amazon Smile. Just by shopping through the Smile store and selecting ARMAC as your non-profit, Amazon donates a portion of your purchases to ARMAC.

Host a Facebook fundraiser for ARMAC. Through your fundraiser you can spread the word about ARMAC, share with your friends, family, co-workers, why you support ARMAC and the great work we do for such a wonderful, yet misunderstood breed. Maybe you have some new and inventive ways you can help ARMAC! We are eager for ideas that can benefit both our Akitas and the community!

FOREVER HOME!



Great Caesar has a home with Sara and Matthew!



Lily in her new home with Bob and Dyno



Axel (aka Fats) with Jacob, Emily and Harley (Axel on the right)

Congrats to All!



Dog Dreams

Me and Rex took the car, ha, ha, stay home, stay
 We're gonna run over all the neighborhood cats
 'Cause they tease us from the other side of the fence
 We're gonna go in the swamp and you can't hose us off
 Dog dreams, dog dreams
 Please don't wake us up
 No bad dog, no stay
 No basement, no way
 No choke chain, no dry food
 No fetch game, no, no, no
 No bad dog, no stay
 No basement, no way
 No choke chain, no dry food
 No sit, lie down, roll over, shame
 Me and Rex took the car, ha, ha, stay home, stay
 We're gonna go through everyone's garbage
 Have the dinners we deserve
 We're gonna find some great smelling bitches
 And see if they meant what they said from the end of the leash
 Dog dreams, dog dreams
 Please don't hose us off
 No bad dog, no stay
 No basement, no way
 No choke chain, no dry food
 No fetch game, no, no, no
 No bad dog, no stay
 No basement, no way
 No choke chain, no dry food
 No sit, lie down, roll over, shame
 No bad dog, no stay
 No basement, no way
 No choke chain, no dry food
 No fetch game, no, no, no
 No bad dog, no stay
 No basement, no way
 No choke chain, no dry food
 No sit, lie down, roll over, shame
 Bad dog, bad dog
 Bad dog, bad dog
 Bad dog, bad dog

"Dog Dreams" From original composition by Jonatha Brooke. Lyrics used by permission. Dog Dream Music c. 1990.

While this song is very light-hearted and delights me every time I hear it, it also causes me great emotional sadness for all dogs that end up in rescue. So please, hug your fur bears. with Christmas approaching, and help us get our orphans into loving homes. Some will have a few rough edges to be diligently (and gently but firmly) sanded. Some will just love to have a home of their own.

THANK YOU everyone who donated to Jodi' birthday fundraiser for ARMAC!

Obedience Training

DC/Maryland

Mutt Magic Training Services
 Baltimore (410) 889-9352

Bark Busters
 Timonium (410) 308-3768

Capital Dog Training Club
 Silver Spring (301) 587-5959

Virginia/West Virginia

Best Behaved Dogs
 Fairfax (703) 931-8521

Club Pet Int.
 Chantilly (703) 471-7818

Paw Paws Canine College
 Paw Paw (304) 492-4075

Kennels/Boarding

DC/Maryland

Country Critters
 Millersville (410) 787-9592

Stacy King
 Myersville (301) 293-1737

Virginia

The Bigger the Better Canine Camp
 Nokesville (703) 328-7884

Akita Friendly Vets

DC/Maryland

Friendship Animal Hospital
 DC (202) 363-7300

Norbeck Animal Clinic
 Silver Spring (301) 924-2416

Palmer Animal Hospital
 Myersville (301) 371-3333

Virginia/West Virginia

Ballston Animal Hospital
 Arlington (703) 528-2776

MapleShade Animal Hospital
 Dale City (703) 670-7668

New Baltimore Animal Hospital
 Warrenton (540) 347-0964

Regional Vet Referral Center
 Springfield (703) 451-8900

Animal Medical Center of Cascades
 Sterling (571) 434-0250

Morgantown Vet Care
 Morgantown (304) 599-8269

POSTCARDS FROM HOME



Kangi, paddle boarding.
Happy 4th birthday!

Loved by M. Murtagh



It has been a long time since updating you about Keiko. We can't believe how fast time is flying. Keiko is already seven years old (but still acts like a puppy - LOL)! She is my Velcro dog — follows me room-to-room. She is such a joy and keeps us laughing all the time. Loved by C. Farber

Rainbow Bridge

No longer by our side
Forever in our heart!



Sugar & Spice

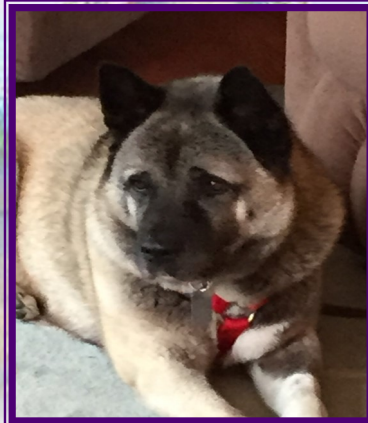
Many thanks to the Geeza family for making Sugar and Spice's last years so wonderful.

These two sisters touched hearts, and had many Facebook followers. We will miss them!



Jade

Loved and dearly missed by Sara Griffin



Chase

You were with me for such a short time, but you left a huge void when you passed.

Forever in my heart, Lisa Gray

Thank you for your donations!!

- Douglas Dziak*
- Andrew Warren*
- Steven Lyon*
- Aaron Hoskins*
- Jirayu Wichitphant*
- Janet Hochule*
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- Yevgeny Lapin*
- Penny Nicholas*
- Lee Harvey*
- The Pudwill's*
- The Meyer's (Wedding Favor)*
- Edwin & Victoria Miranda*
- Susan Eastwood*

~

Thank you to all Santa Paws' sponsors!

~

Thank you to all who donated on Giving Tuesday

~

Thank you to all who donated to Lisa Gray's ARMAC Facebook Fundraiser





ARMAC

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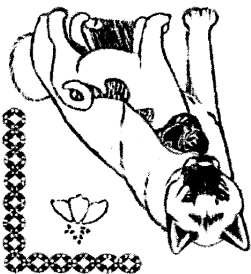
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lisa@akitarescue.org