



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Dog Day Afternoon</i>	2
<i>Chef Hillary's Kitchen</i>	3
<i>Meals On Wheels</i>	3
<i>USBones.com</i>	3
<i>Breed Specific Legislation</i>	4
<i>Loving An Older Dog</i>	4
<i>Editor's Desk</i>	5
<i>Available Orphans</i>	6
<i>Rainbow Bridge</i>	7
<i>Postcards from Home</i>	7

FOSTER HOMES

NEEDED!!!

Ever thought of fostering?

Maybe in the future?

If you can find it in your

heart, we urge you to

complete the

paperwork now.

Please visit our

website for more

information:

AkitaRescue.org

BE MY BUDDY

BY PULLER LANIGAN

Some time this past Fall, we received several calls from individuals about a roaming young, male, Akita. As the calls came in about two weeks apart with about a week overlapping, I began to wonder if the dog was one and the same. I suppose we will never know, as the dog being fed at the park was never located and disappeared and the dog at the house took up residence for the next 4 months. Before he began roaming again and putting himself in mortal danger by crossing a busy highway each morning and coming to ARMAC. Perhaps, he should have been named, 'Romeo', but his patron named him, 'Buddy'.

Because the host family did cat rescue, initially, Buddy was not allowed in the house. Their yard was only partially fenced and so Buddy loved the freedom of being Sheriff of Nottingham. He escorted neighborhood dogs and their owners on their walks. He greeted children off the bus from school. He helped neighbors work on their cars. But as the old moniker goes, 'all good things must come to an end.'

The family did try to keep Buddy in the house with them while they



were home. It was discovered he was accepting of cats (7). He often came in to watch television with the family and cats perched about the room. On particularly stormy days, he was left in the daughter's bedroom, but he was always happy to get

out and catch up on what he missed on the street. As Buddy was nearing immortality with his new trick of crossing the 8 lane highway, he was moved to Stacy's kennel in January. In a matter of hours, Buddy was found in his neighbor's run, wrestling and roughhousing with a male husky. It seems our young lad has a brain. He climbed on the dog house and over the top. His next foray lead him to a run with a bully Jack Russell.

Buddy loved the little guy's spunky personality. He next introduced himself to yet another dog. Each time impressing Stacy with his prowess of escaping his run to join another dog. He never fought with anyone and was only intent on playing. It was apparent to Stacy, that Buddy just LOVES dogs. She finally had to put her foot down, when he ended up moving the paneling on the roof of his run and getting into the run of a new dog, a young Pitbull. The Pitti was less than enthused with his 80 lb. new found friend. Stacy came running when she heard the furious cries of the Pitti. He had managed to back Buddy into his igloo and wasn't letting him out! Buddy was moved to another building with a permanent top. Stacy by now was calling him Houdini. At least we learned he was tolerant of all sizes of dogs and behaviors. He is often let out with other dogs to romp and play in the paddock. He has shown no desire to escape the paddock as long as there are canine buddies to play with.

Buddy was fostered briefly, but it was determined he did not tolerate crates (he destroyed one) and he is a 'counter cruiser'. As Buddy is not destroying kennel runs, it is recommended that he go to a home with another dog with a secure fenced yard and a secure kennel. He was vocal initially, but not so now...or perhaps a 6'x6' kennel in a den or basement would work well for confining the young man until he learns the routine of the household. That way he could socialize with his canine companion and not leave them to chance. A dog house wouldn't be required either.

**Buddy has since found a home.*

DOG DAY AFTERNOON

THE 411 ON SPRING & SUMMER PET SAFETY
BY SANDY MOYER

We've all heard the warning, "NEVER leave a dog alone in a parked car in warm weather". Every Spring and Summer dogs suffer and die in vehicles that become ovens in a matter of minutes. Leave your dog at home if you'll be going anywhere pets are not allowed. Many people don't realize how quickly the temperature can rise inside a car in warm weather. Temperatures do not need to be extremely high outside to reach dangerous levels inside. When it is 80 degrees and comfortable at our heads, it could be as much as 100 degrees closer to the ground absorbing and reflecting heat back. The best times to walk is early in the morning or late in the evening when the asphalt is coolest. Check how warm the asphalt is by putting your palm on it. Dark colored dogs also absorb more heat than lighter ones. A good rule is not to walk your dogs any later than 10 am and not before 3pm. The later the better. It is ok to go out for a short potty walk but save longer walks for cooler hours. Also, keeping a spray bottle with you, you can mist your dog's coat mid-walk to keep them cool. Bottom line- take extra precautions to prevent over-exertion and keep them cool and comfortable. Puppies and seniors have a harder time regulating their body temperatures and are at greater risk.

Know the signs of heatstroke

Heavy panting is the first sign followed by huffing and puffing - a staring expression - warm, dry skin - failure to respond to hearing his name - rapid heartbeat - profuse salivation - vomiting or collapse. If left untreated the dog will become unconscious and die. If your dog should become overheated, you must take measures to cool him and lower his body temperature immediately. Move the dog to a cool place, out of the sun and give him water. Immerse an overheated dog in cool, not cold, water or very gently pour cool water on him. Place ice packs on his head and neck. A fan, placed in front of the dog will aid in evaporation. See a veterinarian, but only after you cool the dog. According to Dr. William Fortune, a professor at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University, "Dogs become less efficient at cooling themselves as the humidity rises. Just like people, dogs are cooled by evaporation. They only have sweat glands on the pads of their feet and on their nose, which are inadequate for cooling during hot and humid days. Panting helps dogs cool themselves but they still aren't as efficient at cooling themselves as people are." Don't tie your dog outside,



especially in hot weather. Chains on dogs tied to trees or poles can easily become tangled, making it impossible to reach shade and water. If, for any reason, it's unavoidable for a short time, put the dog in a shaded area and provide lots of water in a heavy spill proof container. Use a standard nylon, fabric or leather buckle-type collar. Never hook a tie-out chain to a choke type training or correction collar any time of year. Make sure there's nothing your dog can reach to get the chain tangled on. Remember that shady areas might become hot and sunny areas as the day progresses. Some dog owners who spend a lot of time outside in summer, keep a molded plastic child's wading pool in the back yard for their dogs to play in and cool off in the summertime. The dog will inevitably drink the water. No matter how many bowls of fresh clean water are nearby, however, and since it will get dirty much faster than a pool used by many rowdy children, change the water at least once a day. Never walk your dog mid-day during a heat wave. Skip long walks or limit walks and outdoor exercise to early morning or late evening .

You're wearing shoes and might not think about how hot sun drenched sidewalks and roads can become. When air temperatures approach 100 degrees, the surface temperature of asphalt can cause second degree burns on a dogs paws in as little as 10 minutes of walking.

Water Hazards...

While it's true that most dogs can swim, some dogs are initially afraid of water and some dogs will never like swimming and water activities. If your dog doesn't jump right in or seems afraid of the water at first, let him/or her get used to it gradually. Never throw a nervous, inexperienced swimmer in the water. With gentle encouragement most dogs will soon realize that they can "do the doggie paddle" quite well. Just as people who are experienced swimmers have drowning accidents, dogs can too. Retrieving games can be fun, but they can also be tiring, especially for very young dogs and older dogs. Rough currents or steep slippery banks can be too much for a dog who's already exhausted. Cold water can be dangerous. Unless you have steps to access your pool and your dog has already used them to get out of the water, prevent unsupervised swimming by raising ladders and locking pool gates. If you spend time at the seashore in summer, and pets are allowed on the beach, always provide an adequate shady area and lots of fresh drinking water for your dog. Rinse thoroughly, from head to tail, after any time on the beach. (Another good use for a kiddie pool) Salt and sand can be very irritating, especially to paws and ears. Always dry inside the ears after every swim, bath, or rinse. At home and while traveling, keep your dog away from any source of stagnant water. Drinking polluted standing water that contains certain types of algae can cause rapid, serious illness and death. Ingesting even a small amount of a blue-green algae is extremely dangerous.



Pick-Up Trucks...

Like so many of the dogs who die in over-heated cars, many of the dogs involved in tragic pick-up truck mishaps are much loved pets that their well-meaning but un-informed owners take with them wherever they go. Putting a dog, unsecured, in the back of a pick up truck, is dangerous even if you're only going a few blocks. It's unsafe even if your dog is an obedient and faithful companion who would never, under any circumstances, jump off the truck or make a move without your command. There are also some state-wide laws and laws in cities and counties in various states that prohibit driving with a dog in the bed of a pick-up truck. When riding in hot, summer sun, dogs can become overheated and suffer heatstroke. Insects, gravel particles, and other flying debris can cause eye injuries, or lodge in the throat or nasal passages and cause serious problems. Sudden braking or swerving, even hitting a pothole or bump in the road, can throw a dog off a truck. The sight of a dog flying off the back of a truck onto a highway can cause a major traffic accident and, in the commotion that follows, a frightened and disoriented dog might manage to get up and run away, in spite of painful bruises and cuts. Most dogs who live through the ordeal must be carried off the road, because of serious injuries like fractures and/or internal trauma and bleeding. Don't attach a dog's leash or chain to the inside of an open pick-up truck. If a dog tries to jump off or is thrown from the truck, it could be hanged or seriously injured by being dragged along the road before the driver ever realizes what happened. Never put a dog in a truck bed covered by a tarp or a metal or plastic shell made to fit right over the bed. Regardless of outdoor temperatures, a pet inside a covered truck bed without ventilation can become a victim of carbon monoxide poisoning. Anytime a dog must ride in the back of a pick-up truck, place the dog in an airline type kennel or use a covered pet crate and fasten it securely to the truck bed Always park in the shade in and have drinking water available in hot weather. If there are no alternatives and no room in the cab of the truck, lovingly leave your dog safely at home!!

CHEF HILLARY'S KITCHEN BY HILLARY LAMAY

Ham's Down!

Croque Monsieur pour vous et le Pup

Get a head start on Bastille Day with these French grilled sandwiches that are sure to please you AND your pup!

Put down that red gingham tablecloth under your pup's favorite shady tree and enjoy a picnic together with these yum-o sammies courtesy of Rachael Ray!

Ingredients:

- 4 tbsp butter
- 1 1/2 tbsp flour
- 1 c milk
- salt & pepper to taste
- 2 tsp dijon mustard (for human's sammies only)
- 8 slices sandwich bread
- 8 slices deli ham
- 8 slices Gruyere or Swiss cheese

Directions:

1. In a small saucepan, melt 2 tablespoons butter over medium heat.
2. Whisk in the flour and cook for 1 minute. Whisk in the milk until thickened
3. Season sauce with salt, pepper to taste. Reserve a quarter of the sauce for the dog's sammy.

Whisk the mustard into the people's sauce

4. Spread one side each of 6 bread slices with the people's sauce. Use to make 3 sammies with 2 slices each of ham and cheese. Spread the remaining 2 bread slices with the dog's sauce and then assemble the sammy using the remaining ham and cheese. Keep separate.

5. In a large skillet, melt the remaining 2 tablespoons butter over medium-low heat. Add the sammies and cook, turning once, until golden on both sides, about 4 minutes total.

6. Let cool, slice and serve!



Bow Wow Wow Yippee Yo, Yippee HEY YOU!

Do you have a yummy recipe your pup loves?

Is it healthy and easy? We'd love to put it in the next newsletter! Please email Chef Hillary with your submission: HJLaMay@yahoo.com

MEALS ON WHEELS!

Like their owners, the pets who are cherished by millions of homebound seniors receiving Meals On Wheels services also need nutritious meals to stay healthy. Appreciating how important it is to both provide seniors and their pets with high quality nutritious meals, MOWAA created We All Love Our Pets (WALOP) – a national initiative that seeks to unite Meals On Wheels programs across the country in their efforts to keep seniors and their beloved pets well nourished. While some Meals On Wheels programs have created projects that make it possible for them to make special pet food deliveries to the seniors they serve, most lack the resources needed to integrate this important activity – keeping companion pets, sometimes a homebound senior's only "family" member, well nourished and healthy – into routine program operations. Until MOWAA established WALOP in 2006, there was no national initiative for focusing attention on the vital relationship that exists between homebound seniors and their pets, or for building the financial resources needed to make pet food deliveries an integral part of the nutritional services local Meals On Wheels programs provide for homebound seniors.

For more information log on to www.MOWAA.org



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



Do you have talent with web design? We're looking for a volunteer to help us redesign our webpage! All time spent is tax deductible! Do you have a groomer or vet you rave about? Who is your trainer? Where do you board your Akita when you travel? What is your favorite brand of dog food? Dog treats? Interested in volunteering at upcoming events? We are compiling information for future newsletters and want to hear from you. Anything at all – tell us what you want to read about or pass on stories to share! Please email contributions to Hillary, hjlamay@yahoo.com!



USBONES.COM!!

ARMAC has joined forces with USBones.com to offer your Akitas healthy, 100% all natural USA made bones. For every purchase you make via their website, using our custom link, 25% of the proceeds will go directly to ARMAC. Hurry and visit USBones.com Order some yummy bones for your Akitas and help ARMAC at the same time!

BEWARE OF BREED SPECIFIC LEGISLATION (BSL)

Dog ownership is under a barrage of legislation that threatens its very existence. The chilling fact is that dog laws in the United States of America are riddled with misinformation, urban myth, and blatant lies. Based upon the egregious fantasies of breed specific legislation, it does not give us much hope for the rest of America's laws beyond of the realm of dog legislation. We must ask ourselves, and our legislators if the rest of our laws are so horrifically flawed. Breed specific legislation (BSL) sets a legal precedent that empowers the enacting body to add any or all other breeds of dogs, or domestic species, with no further public notice. Some breeds are included in so-called "pit bull" bans or restrictions. There is no breed of dog that is recognized by any registry as "pit bull" It is an umbrella term that covers twenty-five to thirty actual breeds. The term originated as a means to describe any dog whose owner fought it in the pit. It has expanded into a very broad, and erroneous legal usage. Some breeds are named under "wolf-hybrid" bans or restrictions. Common theory was that all domestic dog breeds were developed from a proto-wolf ancestor. Now with the advent of the Canine Genome Project it is a fact proven by DNA that all domestic dog breeds were developed from *canis familiaris lupis*, a sub-species of the gray wolf. Wolf-hybrid bans do, in fact, encompass all domestic breeds of dogs based upon DNA evidence. **There are currently 78 breeds banned in various parts of the country and there are areas in which Akitas are one of the banned breeds!** Don't think it can't happen to your breed. Not one of these bans, or restrictions has made our cities, counties or municipalities safer. All dog owners should be treated equally under the law, and the public should be equally protected from all individual dogs under the law. Responsible Dog Owners of the Western States opposes breed specific legislation. RDOWS encourages the passage of Responsible Dog Owner Legislation that addresses the real problems, the irresponsible, or negligent dog owner.—Responsible Dog Owners of the Western States (RDOWS).

***ARMAC is currently seeking a volunteer to help us keep up with legislation in the DC area. Please contact Puller, Lisa or Jodi if you are interested.**

For a complete online list of banned breeds please visit the Responsible Dog Owners of the Western States (RDOWS) at <http://www.povn.com/rdows/banned%20breeds.html>

LOVING AN OLDER DOG BY LYDIA PUGH

With job losses, rising prices, and generally bad news about the economy, the idea of "making do" is suddenly in vogue again...realizing that being resourceful with what I have can be more deeply rewarding than "shiny and new".

So it is with adopting an older dog. I adopted 9 year old Maverick from ARMAC almost a year ago as a companion to my 8 year old female Akita. He's a big, pushy dog blind in one eye and walks a little funny due to who knows what in his 'always to be unknown past'. Mavvy is a survivor and he's taught me a lot about simple pleasures in the past year. He's not wrapped up in whatever bad things might have happened in the past; the dog lives in the moment. He doesn't waste energy as a baby dog would chewing up my good shoes or eating the furniture...time is better spent stretching out in a sunny spot. No amount of shushing will stop him from howling with the train when it goes by at 4 a.m. each morning. But I've stopped shushing him and instead roll over with a sleepy smile knowing that my knight in fuzzy armor is on guard in the house. He quickly became a devoted friend and companion.



The poet Robert Browning said "Grow old with me the best is yet to come." To me, the best part of sharing a dog's life is the growing old...the graying muzzle, the slowing gait, and the increasing intensity of loving them knowing that time is precious...and, eventually letting them go—perhaps the most vital act of truly loving a dog. People tell me they won't adopt an older dog because it will hurt too much to lose him when he dies...in a couple years instead of ten or twelve.

They're right...it will hurt. When Mavvy goes my heart will break...again as it has with every animal friend I have said goodbye to over the years. I can focus on the pain that will come...or I can focus on the joy that he brings to my life today. It's my choice...our choice. We are so blessed to be their guardians for whatever time they have. If you have room in your heart and life, invite an older dog to join you.

TO OUR ADOPTERS

Another Rescue Angel has offered to pay for half of the Basic Training fees for up to 10 Adopted Dogs who enroll in the PawPaws Canine College for 2008/2009!

The 2-week course is \$425. One could say this patron believes in dogs and believes in Sue Clauss!

The format involves boarding the dog for 2 weeks with Sue so that she can work one-on-one with the dog and then the owner joins her for a 2-day training seminar where you are trained to work with your dog.

Instruction with the humans after the two weeks of dog training involves a 1 1/2 to 2 hour lesson when the owners pick up and then several follow up lessons spaced 1-3 weeks apart

Please go to:

PawPawsCanineCollege.com for more information.

If you are interested in signing up for this training after talking to Sue, please notify Puller (puller@akitarescue.org).



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK: YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

With economic times unstable, we are seeing more and more Akitas surrendered due to foreclosure and loss of stable income. Instead of buying that new pair of sunglasses or new pair of spring sandals, why not donate \$5 to the pups? No donation is too small! We felt compelled to focus this section of the newsletter again on ways you can help. Hands on rescue requires a lot from our foster homes and volunteers. We are thankful to all that make it possible for us to continue to change the lives of the dogs that come our way. If you can find it in your heart and in your wallet to donate even \$5, you will help change the lives of Akitas in need- and all donations are tax deductible!! Below you will find various ways to donate. We hope you will consider donating or continue to donate if you have given in the past. Those of us at ARMAC would like to thank you for your continued commitment and support of our rescue efforts.

PURINA AND ARMAC JOIN FORCES: GIVE A BOWL PROGRAM!

We are happy to announce ARMAC's participation in Purina's Give A Bowl program. By visiting their website you can download a Purina® savings coupon!

If you have not already done so, we encourage you to visit the

Give A Bowl® Website - www.giveabowl.com to download your money saving coupon and help feed the Akitas in our care by selecting ARMAC!!



Go Shopping.....Save Akitas

Remember the phrase, "A penny saved is a penny earned"? Since we discovered the iGive.com community, that phrase has come to mean something very special to ARMAC. And it will to you, too. Because when you become a member of iGive.com, up to 26% of every purchase you make at the Mall at iGive.com will go to ARMAC at a penny-saving, no cost to you!

With the over 500 national merchants at your fingertips, the Mall at iGive.com has everything you need — from books and CD's to clothing, flowers, toys, office supplies and software.

Along with the gas money you'll save by shopping online, you'll also get free membership ... super savings and deals every day ... guaranteed privacy ... and of course, free donations to ARMAC every time you shop!

Join www.iGive.com/ARMAC. Be a philanthropist every time you shop online for everyday items. Start saving your pennies so we can earn them. Get clicking now!



Sponsor-An-Orphan!

Sponsor-An-Orphan was created to benefit the Akita orphans in the care of ARMAC. When you sponsor an orphan, your donation is used to offset the expenses associated with fostering Akitas in ARMAC's care. Some Akitas are adopted quickly, while others stay with their foster families for much longer. Your donation goes directly toward vet visits, medications, food, housing, etc.

How Do I Become A Sponsor?

There are four sponsor levels that you may choose from:

- PAL - one time donation of \$25
- BUDDY - one time donation of \$50
- GUARDIAN - one time donation of \$100
- ANGEL - one time donation of \$500 or more

PAL's receive their name listed with their sponsored Akita on our website (unless requested otherwise) for at least one month. In addition to website recognition, BUDDY's receive a one year complimentary subscription to our newsletter *Uniquely Akita*. GUARDIANs receive recognition on the website for two months and a year's subscription to *Uniquely Akita*. ANGEL's receive recognition on the website and *Uniquely Akita* for one year.

Name of Orphan to sponsor: _____
 Name: _____ Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____
 Enclosed Donation (circle one): PAL/\$25 BUDDY/\$50 GUARDIAN/ \$100 other: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to ARMAC. Return this form with your donation to:

ARMAC
 10489 Lake Jackson Drive
 Manassas, VA 20111-2827

Your donation is tax deductible



*SAVE
the*

DATE:

*Sunday
October
11th 1-5p*

as

*ARMAC
Celebrates
25 Years of
Hands-On
Rescue!!!*

To celebrate 25 years of service to the community and beyond, please join us for a celebration cookout!!

*More details
to follow...*



AVAILABLE ORPHANS

CURRENT LIST OF AVAILABLE AKITA RESCUE (ARMAC, INC.)
 WWW.AKITARESCUE.ORG TO VIEW MORE PHOTOS

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

Cora – s/f, dob 2002, RED with white markings and black mask. If this girl doesn't scream 'Cadillac' (for all you older Akita fanciers), then nothing will. She is a classic 'old style' Akita with a very loving personality towards humans. She is not particularly tolerant of other dogs and she will NOT do cats (or will, but not in the fashion a cat owner wishes). Cora came from a shelter with 9 puppies. Her puppies have all found homes, but Cora needs her own.



Tora-s/f, dob 2006, flashy brindle with white markings. Tora is housebroken, good with kids. Was temporarily kept by a family with a Dachsund and got along fine with the Dachsie, but probably best with a dog of her choosing or only pet. Tora was initially a shelter dog who was seen on our website under shelter listings... 'adopted' by a young man whose parents did not want a dog and within 24 hours was deposited in another shelter in another state! When he surrendered this hard luck girl, he told the shelter he got her from ARMAC and we were contacted. Pieced together the details and the initial contact agreed to foster for us, so ultimately, she ended up in Rescue. Tora has been through obedience class, now the question is, are you smarter than a dog?

(Needs a foster home).



Princess – Princess -s/f, dob 2005, fawn with black mask. Our beautiful 'Classic Beauty' has been stricken with Pemphigus. She is responding well to treatment, but will have to be maintained on meds the rest of her life. She has graduated to being with her foster's dogs (several of different sizes). Her best buddy (also looking for a home) is Cracker Jack, a neutered male smooth coated Jack Russell Terrier. Princess is housebroken and walks well on lead. She and CJ are just waiting for the right home



Romi – s/f, dob 2008, silver fawn with black mask and white markings. Abandoned this past summer and left in the backyard for 2 months before a neighbor took her to the shelter. She was depressed and combative. Since recuperating and gaining weight, she is active, happy, playful, bundle of fur. Probably too rough for young children.



Kodiakita, dob 1/07, neutered male. This little (in stature...he is low to the ground and a tank) guy's owners lost their home, moved in with relatives and he and is female companion were tied outside until the owner turned them over to the shelter where they stayed for two months. The owner claimed that the pair had been indoor dogs prior to the loss of the home, but that is in doubt. Kodi was polite at the shelter, passed all (cont'd)



(Kodi- cont'd) temperament tests and came into rescue. Unfortunately his companion had some issues and was euthanized. He was 68 lbs at his first vet visit, loaded with intestinal parasites, but heartworm negative. He now weighs in at over 80 lbs. He is housebroken, up to date on shots, HATES the crate; actually panics in the crate. We are going to try a wire crate and see how he does. Most of the time when other dogs are out, he is "gated" in the hallway and is quite content to stay there. He is not aggressive with Jodi's dogs, sniffs noses with them over the gates, actually escaped once when they did not close the gate tightly, and they came home to him and Annie running loose together. He is very sweet and affectionate with us, but is somewhat headshy at times. He prefers women to men, but is quite content to be petted by Charlie. He has actually started "talking" to them. He is a very nice guy, but has decided his foster home is where he wants to stay, so acts out when people come to see him. Are you the person who can see past his facade to the nice dog inside?

Mr. Handsome- Red/fawn pinto, black half mask, Kabuki eyes, dob 11-17-2001. Was pulled from a local shelter after he was picked-up as a stray. Although initially aloof he warmed up to his foster parents and is showing new and interesting facets to his personality. He knows how to sit and down for his treats, and behaved very well at his vet visit. He loves car rides. He needs an experienced Akita owner, in a home with no cats or small dogs, and no children of any age. He requires a home where he is walked on leash all the time or with a very, very secure fence. No food aggression that we've noticed.



Nakita – s/f, dob 9/02, Red fawn and white pinto with black mask. BIG GIRL. She has grown immensely in the 3 years we have had her. Very pretty! Very 'lovey' with people. Prefer home with children teenaged or older. Obedient, but still dog aggressive on lead. Needs experienced Akita owner. Calm and housebroken in the house. **Needs to be ONLY pet!**

RAINBOW BRIDGE

Shaa

Shaa was truly "my rescue" when I lost my son, Bryan on October 29, 1995. Shaa was only 2 years old then but was with me every step of that horrific way. Shaa did a wonderful job taking care of her mom, far superior than any of my humans. I can not even begin to fathom all the tears she licked off my face through these years.

Shaa and I could have sunk the Titanic together, again! Here is a photo of my Shaa at 13



years in her favorite spot, my huge window in my living room. She loved this perch, she was truly our neighborhood watch. When she did not like what she saw, she bristled up to twice her size. Note: She did far better than the ADT sign! Love to your wonderful group and thank you again for my Shaa!!



- Donna McKenna

Dale

Dale came to ARMAC from a horrible situation. His companion died of starvation and if not for the efforts of his personal guardian angel who drove 40 minutes both ways every day to feed him, he would have suffered the same fate. He was wonderful with her and her child and always glad to see them. Claire Liston stepped forward to foster this great guy and gave him his first taste of the happiness and security of being in a loving home. His happiness was complete when he was adopted by the Creekmore family last summer. They adored him and he returned it tenfold. A few weeks ago, Dale fell ill.

His family took him to the vet and then to a veterinary oncologist. Dale had cancer and nothing could be done for him. His family decided to end his suffering and sent him on his way to the Rainbow Bridge, where he will be waiting for them with a happy smile and wagging tail.

Losing Dale after such a short time with him was a grievous blow to this family. We only hope they find some consolation in knowing that his time with them was the happiest of his life and no dog could ask for a better home than the one they gave to him. For them all we can now offer is our deepest sympathy and utter gratitude that they opened their home and hearts to him.



FAMOUS PEOPLE WHO OWNED AKITAS:

DAN AYKROYD, ACTOR OF GHOSTBUSTERS

AMANDA BEARSE, ACTRESS OF MARRIED... WITH CHILDREN OWNS SAKKI CHER, SINGER ACTRESS

CHRIS GREEN, PRO FOOTBALL PLAYER OWNS SEVERAL AKITAS

DAVE HOLLINS, PRO BASEBALL PLAYER OWNS JAKE

EVANDER HOLYFIELD, HEAVYWEIGHT BOXING CHAMPION OWNS SEVEN!

HELEN KELLER, ADVOCATE FOR THE HANDICAPPED OWNED KAMIKAZE

LINDA RONDSTADT

SARAH MICHELLE GELLAR

CAL RIPKEN

POSTCARDS FROM HOME: GENGHIS- OH BABY!



"Gengh pulled through his heartworm treatments and other parasite treatments and adjustment to family life (I think he was chained outside in his previous home) incredibly well and seems to be liking life as the family pet. This is one of the sweetest natured dogs I have ever encountered (as long as you're not a cat!). He has developed quite the fan club on Sligo Creek where I take him on his walks - people are surprised that such an impressive looking strong Akita is so friendly and well-behaved,"

Nancy Stade
(yes, the striped object is a baby!)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS:

KATHERINE DIN
BARBARA DAVIS
BEVERLY HEWITT

TO DONATE TO ARMAC, VISIT UNITEDWAY.ORG #84389

ABOUT ARMAC

Akita Rescue, Mid-Atlantic Coast, Inc. (ARMAC), is one of the oldest Akita rescue groups in the United States, and is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. ARMAC was founded by a small group of concerned Akita owners and has been serving the Mid-Atlantic seaboard since 1984.

Our highest priority is to save and re-home Akitas in area shelters, however, we also address a wide variety of Akita needs such as educating potential owners, referrals, support for Akita owners, and evaluations of dogs in private homes and shelters.

If you can find it in your heart to foster, adopt, donate or volunteer, please visit our website for more information on how you can get involved:

<http://akitarescue.rescuegroups.org/>



UPCOMING EVENT

RESTON PET FIESTA

RESTON TOWNE CENTER

SATURDAY MAY 2 2009



ARMAC

313 Quaint Acres Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904

ARMAC Contact

- Puller Lanigan
313 Quaint Acres Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904
(301) 680-0788
puller@aktitarescue.org
- Jodi Marcus (703) 730-0844
jodi@aktitarescue.org
- Betty Mcdade (703) 524-9163
Lisa Gray (703) 257-9298
lisa@aktitarescue.org

Obedience Training
Aja Harris (410) 889-9352
Janet McMillan (703) 931-852

Akita Friendly Vets
Ballston Animal Hospital (703) 528-2776
Dr. Learman: MapleShade Animal Hospital (703) 670-7668
Morgantown Vet Care, LLC (304) 599-8269
Nebel Street Animal Hospital (301) 230-6595
Ira Hartwell (301) 261-8463
Capital Dog Trainers (301) 587-5959
Club Pet International (703) 471-7818
Norbeck Animal Hospital (301) 924-3616
Palmer Vet Clinic (301) 293-2121



YES! I would like to subscribe to 'Uniquely Akita' (6 issues annually) for \$25.00 a year

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____
Would you prefer to receive your newsletter in .pdf format through E-mail?
Yes _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Please mail subscription request with check for \$25 made payable to ARMAC to:
Puller Lanigan 313 Quaint Acres Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904