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25 YEARS AND COUNTING....

On October 11th 2009, ARMAC marked 25 years of hands-on Akita rescue saving the lives of countless dogs around the metro area as well as the commitment to serving and educating the community, with a backyard barbecue and celebration! Below you will find some fun photos of the party in action. Thanks to the ARMAC adopters, foster families, corporate sponsors, private donors, shelter liaisons and veterinary professionals for giving us something to celebrate! A special thanks to the amazing dogs who continue to touch our hearts daily and make everything worthwhile. Thanks for making the last 25 years possible and here's to another 25 more— cheers!!



FOSTER HOMES

NEEDED!!!

Ever thought of fostering?

Maybe in the future?

If you can find it in your heart, we urge you to complete

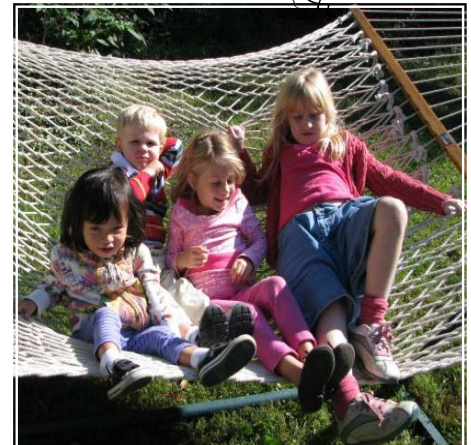
the paperwork now.

Please visit our website for more information:

AkitaRescue.org



Happy 25th Anniversary, ARMAC!



WHY I LOVE PUPPIES— CHIHIRO**TORA II:
RESCUE BEHIND THE SCENES****BY PULLER LANIGAN**

I adopted a PUPPY (6 mos.) last July and she was just wonderful for the first several weeks. Never cried. Always quiet. Walked well on lead. When she finally 'graduated' to going outside (after being wormed for rounds) into the backyard, she always came when called. THEN 'teen years' struck. She quit coming when called. When she did come, she was wet and covered in mint. Mint? Where is there mint with water? She had discovered the frogs and koi in a pond. In an effort to catch both, she ripped all the pond plants out of the pond. In a matter of seconds she managed to destroy what had been a lovely and peaceful retreat and traumatized the fish. I then wondered what I had done? LOL.... We later resorted to old x-pen panels across the ponds to keep her out and fish and plants in. It was ugly. It wasn't until this past summer that a friend who was pet-sitting decided to put in a waterfall. She swore it kept dogs out of water. Seems to have worked. We could uncover the larger pond. She still goes to the small pond though 'frog hunting'. She also dug out of the yard...4 times. Twice outside of the fence. Twice into a neighbors yard, where I spent upwards of 2 hours chasing her around the neighbors fenced (and beautifully tended) gardens in the rain and mud. I was petrified, she would start digging for moles in their manicured gardens. I was so disgusted (my husband of course just laughed) so I told him to go catch her. He did. She patrols the yard like German sentry... and not unlike Akitas before her...rules with an iron paw.

I found the carcass of a baby bunny last week. Birds, toads, frogs, a koi, bunnies....you name it, she wants to try her paw at it. Is furious she can't fly or leap the fence like the deer. I've seen some magnificent leaping when she's after a doe....not her obviously, but the doe is just breath-taking as she clears the fence. ChiChi is livid. She also has a weird relationship with a fox that lives near us. I think she hides in the bushes waiting and hoping to ambush him/her. Sometimes she gives chase (when they are outside the fence). I fear she would try to do it harm. This used to be my worry with Hina...but these days, he just watches the critters in the yard. He did tree a young raccoon earlier this summer. But came in when I called him. Thereby allowing the coonie to escape. Anyway, yes, puppies are entertaining, cute, lovable and frustrating!!

BY PULLER LANIGAN

What do you do when you can't take in all the dogs you are contacted on? You call another Rescue. Seriously. Sometimes I feel as if I am standing on the Floor of the NY Stock Exchange as frantic calls for assistance from shelters and other organizations require quick action to save the life of a single dog. This was the case with Tora II. We STILL have two dogs boarding since JUNE (Cora and Sanno). And yet, we were contacted to take in an 8 year old spayed female taken on a seizure from a home where the adults were arrested. She lived with 3 other large dogs and got along with everyone. She had two things going against her, we were full and she was 8.

Determined not to fall victim to the 'old dog' trap, we contacted someone who works primarily with another group, but who seems to have 'the knack' for finding great homes for old dogs. She was instrumental in the rescue of



Rip, the old guy on death row in a shelter in Georgia. Her house too, was full and her husband was recovering from an injury. She happened to have a dog leaving the kennel she uses and we were able to coordinate with the shelter, transportation for Tora to get to New Jersey. Tora II was yanked from the shelter by the director along with her companion, a 6 year old Shepherd and handed off to a Newfie rescuer. I had the opportunity to talk with her briefly about Tora and was stunned that she brought two adult female dogs into her home with an 11 year old female Newfie (ancient) and adult male Newf. Nobody raised a lip.

The older Newfie wasn't happy...but true to Newfie nature, she was forgiving. As Tora II and her companion were only staying a week until they moved on to other rescues, the old girl managed. Tora spent maybe two weeks in the kennel before her forever home turned up. I am now trying to finagle a deal for our dear old Cora to go to NJ...for that lucky kennel and hopes for a new home.

CHEF HILLARY'S KITCHEN BY HILLARY LAMAY

Gingerbread Dog Biscuits

The wonderful and spicy aroma of these gingerbread dog treats reminds me and my family of the warmth and fun of the holiday season—decorating gingerbread houses and cookies! Now this recipe has gone to the dogs! Share one with your best friend today :)

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 cup white flour
- 1 teaspoon ginger
- 1 1/2 teaspoons dry yeast
- 2 tablespoons molasses
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 cup water
- 1/2 cup cornmeal
- 2 tablespoons wheat bran
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon



Directions

Using a dough hook attachment on your stand mixer, put all the ingredients in mixing bowl. Knead on medium setting for about 3-5 minutes or until ball of dough forms, or knead by hand).

Roll out dough on a floured surface.

Using bone cookie cutters, cut out the dog biscuits.

Place them on a lightly greased baking sheet and **let them rise for 30-60 minutes.**

Bake at 300 degrees F for about an hour, or until lightly browned.

You can freeze these and use as training rewards long after the holiday season :)

Bow Wow Wow Yipee Yo, Yipee 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



Follow ARMAC on Facebook!

Keep up to date on events, issues, and get to know some of your fellow Akita lovers in the area! Join our group by typing in

' Akita Rescue Mid Atlantic Coast, Inc. ' in the search field!

Interested in volunteering? We also have a sister group set aside for ARMAC Volunteers where you can sign up to assist us at events. Join our group by typing in **' ARMAC Volunteers! '** into the search field. Once you've joined either group, feel free to add any stories, photos or pet-friendly recipes and we'd love to feature them in a future newsletter! It's a great forum for asking your Akita-related questions or if you have any ideas on how to help us spread the word far and wide!

ZUMO'S STORY AS TOLD BY JODI MARCUS

Zumo: Well, HELLO!!! I am Zumo aka Azumi aka Lakota. I am 11 months old and if I may say so, a pretty good size for my age...and I am very good looking, too. And nice, I am very nice also. I have my own fan base in my neighborhood; the local young ladies LOVE to fuss over me. Why not? I flap my very cool red eyelashes at them and they swoon. Okay, okay, you want to know how I ended up in rescue. I will turn you over to Jodi for part of my story.

Jodi: A message was left on the rescue answering machine about a five month puppy who was injured, and spent the last month at the vet, recovering from surgery to fix his front leg. He was returning to the shelter in Lynchburg in a few days. Could rescue take him? Jodi called the shelter back to get a little more information. The puppy was been tested for food and toy aggression and did not react. He was a little shy, but warmed up quickly and had stolen the hearts of most of the shelter workers as well as the employees at the veterinary hospital. All the shelter knew about his background was that he had been dropped off as a stray. His left front leg was twisted around and he was "down" on his right front leg, the foot up to the elbow touching ground, as he attempted to walk. The shelter had a vet evaluate him, who decided he required surgery and treatment. He would need physical therapy after surgery to keep his elbow flexible. Jodi agreed to take him. He returned to the shelter and arrangements were made to have him neutered and a date was set for him to be picked up by rescue. In the meantime, a local law enforcement officer saw the puppy at the shelter and made inquiries. (Continued on page 5)

TORA UPDATE: ARE YOU SMARTER THAN AN AKITA? BY SHANNON CUFFLEY & PULLER LANIGAN

Excerpts with Tora's current foster:

SC: 'She's a wonderful dog.

Though I did have a dream last night that she ate a steak off the kitchen counter that I had marinating. In the dream she told me with her behavior that steak was so much tastier than her "delicious chicken dinner" she had previously.

Luckily, I know her tricks and secure everything in the fridge.'

PL: Gaaahhhh!!! Don't laugh! I had a rescue eat *13* lbs. of country spare ribs we had cooking on the grill. She took them OFF the hot grill. We had 6-7 very hungry guests that night and had to make do with potato salad, baked beans and applesauce. Tano almost became the dinner of choice (at least my husband and the men folk were threatening...).

SC: Oh no, I believe in sharing reality. I want the dogs loved in spite of their all too "human" failings. Yep, our Tora is opportunistic. She used to go for it regardless of who was around, now she's learning to ignore things when folks are looking and to "shop" only when the coast is clear. I found her licking a platter (which was still on the counter waiting to be rinsed) last week. She's taller than she looks. She did have BBQ (boneless) chicken breast for dinner one night. I came in from scrubbing the grill and found her chowing down on one of them. This is where instinct took over and I immediately yelled "NO!!", leapt onto her, pried her jaws open while telling her to "GIVE!" and took what was left away from her. So, I can attest, that she is absolutely, positively NOT food aggressive. Afterwards I thought to myself, "Girl, you could be patching yourself up right now." Tora, meanwhile, licked the carpet and looked at me with cow eyes. Now every time I grill chicken, she is locked in her kennel and stares at me longingly.

She HATES baths. She doesn't yowl or cry, but you'd think you're pouring acid on her. She LOVES toys, especially "Smart Dog" toys. I do believe that she will eventually figure out door handles, though door knobs are tougher due to their roundness.

PL: My mental image of your riding the wild Tora for the chicken is my bright spot of the day! Don't laugh, I had a shepherd who figured out round door knobs (they were all dented after that light bulb went on!) and sliding glass doors!

SC: Glad I could brighten your day.

I firmly believe that SOME dogs are smarter than most folks give them credit for.

I had happy dumb ones and wicked smart planners!



Romeo update:

Romeo (pictured at left) will undergo his MRI on Monday, November 16. If his condition is not degenerative, he has a home waiting for him. Keep your fingers crossed and say prayers for him. A VERY BIG THANKS to all who contributed to help defray the cost of his MRI, especially to the anonymous \$1000 donator who kicked off the fundraising with a bang!!

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 \$450. One could say this patron believes in dogs and believes in Sue Claus!

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).



ZUMO STORY (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

EDITOR'S CORNER: GIVING THANKS BY HILLARY LAMAY

He was told that rescue was going to take the puppy, named Lakota, and to contact them. He called Jodi saying his neighbor was interested in adopting the puppy. Jodi suggested he call the shelter, to which he replied he had already done so and they said to call rescue. She gave him all the information on adopting and how to get to the rescue website. Soon after the conversation, she received an email with the name of the puppy's (backyard) breeder. We googled the name and came up with a phone number; it wasn't the breeder, but instead was his father who was happy to give the breeder's number to Jodi after a short conversation. Jodi called the breeder and found out more background info on the puppy. There were two litters in the yard. One was planned, one not. Lakota belonged to the second group. When he was about 8 weeks old, one of the older puppies or adult bit him in or near the elbow, injuring a growth plate. He was taken to the vet, and the breeder complained bitterly that he got very little for the money he paid. Because of that, Lakota was not taken back to the vet even though his condition considerably worsened. Finally the breeder asked a friend to take the puppy to the shelter as a stray. He was about 4 months old at this time and having difficulty navigating with one useless front leg and the other which was not much better. He spent his first months in rescue with Jodi who re-named him Azumi. After an initial evaluation period, Jodi contacted Hillary and her husband George, who had expressed an interest in fostering to see if she wanted to take the plunge and foster this boy. Zumo needed a lot of socialization, something at which Hillary and George excel. He was good with family members, but a bit spooky with strangers, which was not helped by the other dogs at Jodi's who initially bark at all visitors. Hillary agreed to foster if things worked out with their dog Sen, so a first meeting was arranged. (Sen was adopted from ARMAC). There should have been a symphony playing, and a beach scene with the two dogs slowly bounding toward each other. It was love at first sight!! There was a second meeting: Hillary and George agreed to foster after Hillary returned from a business trip. Azumi became Zumo. Shortly afterward, Sen blew out a cruciate ligament and the two had to be kept separate, with very highly supervised interactions. On the advice of her vet, Hillary started hydrotherapy with Sen and took Zumo along with her. Zumo needed a life jacket to stay afloat because he was not moving his injured leg well enough to keep him afloat. Sen's leg did not improve, so surgery was scheduled. After getting the okay from her vet, the hydrotherapy was resumed with both dogs. Zumo was showing marked improvement in his swimming and his leg seemed to have more flexibility and strength after the hydrotherapy, so he continues to go along with Sen. Zumo: So, here I am in my foster home, loving life. I am still very gangly: sometimes my legs and body go places that I don't want them to because I am at what is called a "clumsy age": rapidly maturing body, slowly maturing mind. Hillary takes me to obedience class every week and I am becoming much better behaved (or so they say HA HA). I go to all the adoption events and get along really well with another available orphan, Romeo, who usually attends them too. I occasionally bark at someone with whom I am uneasy, but for the most part feel very comfortable and love going to the events. Now I am looking for my own home. If you want a nice, easy to train, good looking, young guy with energy and amazing red eyelashes, come and meet me!!! I have no doubt I will steal your heart!! Zumo is housebroken, crate trained, obedience trained, mostly non aggressive with other dogs, ignores kitties, and rides well in a car. His front legs both work well and he is somewhat cow-hocked in the rear, something we believe will show improvement with age. (One of my own dogs was worse than him and her legs straightened out pretty well as she matured.) Just remember he is a young teenage male, who, like all teens will push your buttons as well as his boundaries. But this does not overcome his essentially sweet nature. He shows signs of being the great adult and wonderful companion he will become as he matures.

As volunteer coordinator for ARMAC, I am responsible for ensuring resources are available, well in advance, to manage and execute our public relations events. Time, effort, commitment and most of all- help from our VOLUNTEERS is key! Each volunteer bring something unique to the table, both in personality, and in exposure to our favorite breed. Without proper volunteer coverage, events are extremely challenging. Both we and our orphans need potty breaks! So here's to you- a big Akita WOO and warm thanks this holiday season, to our amazing volunteers who helped make the events of the past year, and specifically, the PWSPCA Adopt-a-thon & Fall Festival in October, a huge success. Without your time and enthusiasm, we could not put forth our brightest face to the public showcasing these amazing dogs! A special thanks to Jodi & Charlie Marcus, Kayce Henderson, "Cuff" Cuffley, Lisa Gray, Rebekah Rottman and Rebecca Manners for helping execute an amazing event DESPITE the frigid cold and rain. An extra special Akita bear hug and warm Akita smooch goes out to Janis Gianforte, for her generous donation of NuPro supplements and samples. We raffled off the NuPro and asked a \$1 donation to enter the drawing. I also baked 16 dozen (yes, I said 16!) cookies from scratch to give as a thank you to donors. We were able to raise a solid chunk of money to help defray the cost of Romeo's MRI. Thank you Janis!!!!!! Below are some highlights from the event. If you'd like to volunteer at a future event, please send me an email: HJLaMay@yahoo.com.



The Marcus' w/ Romeo



Top left: Rebekah & Kayce; Center: Cuff & George w/ Tora talking with a guest.



Bottom left: Kayce, Hillary, Jodi, Rebecca & Rebekah w/ Zumo and Romeo.



Hillary & Kayce w/ Zumo



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 2000, Red w/white markings, black mask. Old style girl, LOVES people and wants desperately to be in her own home with NO OTHER PETS.



She is currently being kenneled and loves to go out on a lunge line for hiking in the fields. She was picked up by a shelter as a stray and whelped 9 puppies in the shelter. Her puppies found homes, don't you think she deserves one?

Tora-s/f, dob 2006, silver fawn and black brindle with white markings. Tora is now in a foster home and doing well. She is very intelligent, has completed one series of obedience class. Good with adults and children. Likes some dogs, if she went to a home with another k9, it should be something that is very mellow and likes to play non-stop.



Zumo - a/m, dob 2008, white with biscuit (pale red) markings and apricot ears. A character! Housebroken, great with other dogs, neighborhood children, and ignores neighborhood cats on walks. Currently enrolled in hydrotherapy for an injured front leg. We'll make a retriever out of him yet! Surrendered to a shelter by his breeder when he was injured by another dog.



Princess — s/f, dob 2005, fawn with black mask, white markings. Our classic beauty is still waiting for Prince Charming. She is housebroken, good with most dogs (and wouldn't mind finding a home with her bf, a mellow JRT fellow named, Cracker Jack!), obedient, affectionate. She is responding well to her meds for Pemphigus and just needs a forever home.



Kodiakita, . a/m, dob 2007, rich mahogany brindle w/white markings. This guy is a tank! Small in stature, he is built like a brick house. Surrendered to a shelter w/his female companion. He got out, she didn't. Affectionate and loving once he gets to know you, otherwise typical Akita aloofness. Another victim of the economy. Are you the person who can see past his façade to see the nice dog inside?



Sanno- a/m, dob 2003, white with dark fawn cap. What a great guy! Friendly, sweet, housebroken, loves to ride in the car and sings to you! Affectionate and waiting to be the King in your castle. Good with adults and children, although due to his age would prefer teens or older.



Mr. Handsome- a/m, dob 2001, fawn with black mask w/white markings. Will need an experienced owner, however, he is an outgoing fellow with most adults. Another intelligent dog who needs a home with no other pets. Loves car rides but will have to be walked as he will escape a yard.

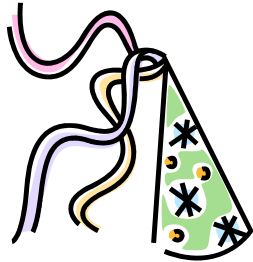


Kira- s/f, 2/09 is a happy go lucky girl. Very affectionate and gets attached to anyone and everyone that pays attention to her. Foster home currently informing her that she is not a lap dog. She leaps like a rabbit into your lap at any given moment. Loves to play of course. So far has done great and been submissive around an alpha shepherd mix for the exception that she has a baby (stuffed animal in her crate with her) and growled a few times while in it when Dingbat waltzed by. She sits, lays, give paw and stays occasionally, so far a quick learner. Walks well on leash, is housebroken, and very much a happy puppy.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

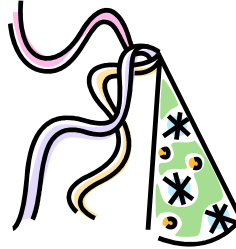
Happy 17th to
Kim's Shiba, Josie!
Kudos, Kim!



Happy 2nd to
Chihiro & Senshi!



Happy 1st to
Zumo!



RAINBOW BRIDGE

In Memory:

Chaka (pictured) 1997-2008

"Chaka was an intelligent, proud and gorgeous blonde Akita who was going to be euthanized unless she found a new home after behaving aggressively with a child who jumped into her backyard where she was tied tightly by a chain. I was only too happy to rescue her. I wanted to help her. It didn't take me long to realize that I did not rescue her but rather she rescued me. She became my companion, my teacher, my confidant, and my forgiving, accepting friend. She will be missed. With love from her grateful human guardian, Craig Foisy and her Akita buddy Bear



Condolences:

To Jane Creason over the loss of her two boys:
Shoyo: Dream Hi's Jin Gi Rei Shii Shu Chin Koo Tei.
Odori: Akita Tani's Odori Bushido

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/>



CONGRATS ON YOUR ADOPTION:

**WILLOW!
TORA II!**

A SPECIAL AKITA WOO FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS:

KIM COTTON- IN LOVING MEMORY OF ARTHUR & TRACY

**ELEA WARF
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**SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 7TH
11A-4P**



ARMAC

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Silver Spring, MD 20904

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Akita Friendly Vets
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Dr. Learman: MapleShade Animal Hospital (703) 670-7668
Morgantown Vet Care, LLC (304) 599-8269
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