

Cooper's Tale

Cooper was sold to a nice family that bought him from a breeder. The family consists of a mom and dad, their two young daughters, and their pet poodle. Cooper was going to be a nice addition to their family or so they thought. When the family went to pick Cooper up and bring him home they had a new collar and leash and new dog toys in their car. Everyone was so excited. The breeder presented ten month old Cooper to Mom with AKC papers stating he was a registered purebred miniature apricot poodle. When Mom handed the new collar and leash to the breeder, she was told that Cooper would be carried to the car. Mom was unaware that Cooper had not been trained to walk on a leash. Cooper had lived with the breeder's 20 plus dogs and did fine with his new family's resident poodle. During the two months with Cooper in their home it became evident to the family that Cooper had anxiety issues. Cooper bonded with the mom to a point but was anxious and uninterested around the rest of his new family. One weekend Dad, not Mom, attempted to put a collar on Cooper to include him on a weekend family trip. Cooper became so anxious that he bit Dad's hand during the process. An upset Mom called Animal Haven and asked if we would take Cooper. She was concerned that he might nip one of the children.

Mom had spent a lot of time working with Cooper to gain his trust and she had made progress in the eight weeks Cooper lived with them. She had become very attached to Cooper but was thinking about his best interests not hers.

When Cooper entered our house at the sanctuary, our five senior house cats never gave him a glance. Nobody's hair went up, no sniffing one another, no hissing, and no reaction at all to this new dog that had just walked into "their kitchen". Cooper had no reaction to meeting them either. Our three senior dogs also accepted Cooper without any of the "there's a brand new dog in our house"! It was pretty amazing.

Cooper has been at the sanctuary for several months now. Our friend, neighbor, volunteer, and dog trainer Dana Wall works with Cooper several days a week. She is building up his confidence and is helping him become a happy dog that can learn to trust.

Cooper displays his separation anxiety when left in the house while we venture outside. He collects "things". One afternoon when I returned to the house it looked like Cooper had gone on a scavenger hunt. He had taken a braided chair pad off a dining room chair, a dishtowel from the kitchen, a wooden spoon from the pantry, and a pair of pajama pants from the bedroom. I had to laugh. He had not chewed up any of his "finds", just piled them all together on his dog bed.

Once Cooper was shaved down and treated for an ear infection, he felt and looked like a different dog. His curly tail resembled that of a Basenji, his ears look like they belong on a Saluki, and he sounds like a German Shephard when he barks! Not much of a resemblance to an apricot miniature Poodle. You check out the pictures and decide.

Thank you from Cooper and all of us at Animal Haven for supporting our mission of helping animals like Cooper. We could not do it without you.

Best Wishes and Happy Holidays,

Barbara Bellows



Animal Haven of Asheville is a Section 501(c) (3) nonprofit corporation. All contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Come visit the animals and our thrift shop.



Wild Willy successfully transitioned from the Thrift Shop to a loving home like the five kittens last year pictured on left.

Thrift Shop Nurtures and Socializes Kittens for Successful Adoptions

Last year we told you about the success we had in finding homes for five kittens (pictured above on left) thanks to the nurturing they received at the Thrift Shop. The latest of the kittens to be adopted was "Wild Willy". We humanely trapped him from a neighboring business. He was obviously alone and hungry but too frightened to let anyone close to him. "Wild Willy" entered the cat trap we set for him in a matter of hours and devoured the food inside. He made himself at home in our thrift store. It was soon apparent that "Wild Willy" was a sweetheart and sought the attention of our thrift store volunteers and customers. Being the handsome young tabby he is, "Wild Willy" soon found his forever home! He is no longer frightened, alone, and hungry thanks to your support!!

Our Wish List

Keeping food on the table i.e. troughs and hay racks for 80 plus animals living at the farm is a daunting task. In the cold weather months when the animals need more calories per serving to help keep them warm, this is always a concern especially with the high cost of "well everything"!

Monetary donations are always needed to keep the sanctuary afloat and the majority of these donations go for the purchase of food and/or medical for our rescues. You can help us keep their bellies full by donating food. Whether it be a bag of kale or a bag of pig food, it would be extremely helpful.

The following is a list of foods we are now feeding and a list of additional treats or snacks to help fulfill the animals' nutritional needs:

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| Mazuri or Natures Harvest Potbelly Pig food | All Stock Sweet Feed for Cattle, Goats, Sheep |
| Chicken Scratch (Corn) | Black Oil Sunflower Seeds |
| Flock Raiser Crumbles | Square bales of hay |
| Browns Tropical Carnival G ourmet Rabbit and Guinea Pig Food | Fancy Feast Dry Cat Food |
| Merricks | |
| Dry Cat Food | Purina One Dry Dog Food |
| Wild Bird Food | Kale |
| Apples | Fruit with no pits |
| Corn Tostito Chips | |

Any food you can help with may be left at our thrift store so you will not have to carry it across the foot bridge. You can pick up a tax form for your donation at the store as well. Thank You!

Fall Fundraiser - Another Successful Day!



Deciding what homemade vegan food to try first at our annual Fall fundraiser



Another major success for the animals. Don't miss it next year!



Boo Boo and Shorty at work on the farm.



Moonpie, Petunia, and Igor inspecting the new shelter

Our goat population has risen to 21 goats living at the sanctuary. These rescues range in size and shape. "Shorty" is the smallest while "BooBoo" is the largest. Besides ranging in size, they range in age and of course all have different personalities. During visiting hours at the sanctuary, particular goats are fenced separately, mainly to prevent these rowdier goats from direct contact with the public. The gentler goats have free range and mingle safely with the visitors at Animal Haven. We needed additional shelter for the goats plus a dry place for their hay racks. Joe went to work converting the metal carport in our backyard into goat quarters. He has already built barn doors and insulated the walls. Of course, the goats have been paying close attention to Joe while he works to make them comfortable for this winter. Maybe in return, the goats will show their appreciation to Joe and stop nibbling on his tools and construction materials!

Turn the page to enjoy more of Joe's efforts!

JOE TO THE RESCUE AGAIN ! THIS TIME IT'S A NEW PIG BARN



Regular visitors and volunteers at the sanctuary often see a familiar face there. It's Joe Gurley, our friend and neighbor, hard at work building his latest animal habitat on the farm. Last year, one of our goals was to build a barn to house "Lola", our eldest potbelly pig and several new younger potbelly pig rescues that needed their own shelter. Your support and Joe's expertise have made this goal come true. Joe built an eight by twenty- four foot concrete block and wood pig barn. "Lola" and the other pigs now have access to their own sleeping quarters. This new barn has three large separate stalls, each equipped with a heat lamp, solid metal door, and windows with a view. A large overhang on the front of the barn offers the pigs a place to hang out away from the elements and enjoy their beautiful creek frontage.



We are so thankful and proud of this new barn that Joe totally created for the comfort of the pigs. It gives us peace of mind knowing this well constructed barn will be standing well into the future for rescues that may need our help.



Mango

This handsome guy hopped out of the woods onto a riding trail for horses just as two young women were riding by. “Mango” sat there as if to say “Hey look at me. I’m a domestic rabbit not a wild one and therefore not safe living in the woods. Can I hitch a ride with you?”

Well he got the ride he needed and after a trip to the veterinarian to get checked out and neutered, “Mango” was ready for a new home. His rescuers were unsuccessful in finding a family or a shelter to take him in. So, he hitched another ride, this time to Animal Haven.

When “Mango” isn’t playing in his cat tunnel, he will hop up and sit in his patio chair or wicker bench as if waiting for another “ride”. If you love house bunnies, “Mango” is a healthy, happy guy waiting for a ride to his forever home.



Pictured above are members of a youth group from a Church in Georgia visiting in June



For the past 22 years, Animal Haven has relied on our volunteers and community to keep it the quaint sanctuary that it is. We are small in the sense we are on ten acres compared to sanctuaries like well-known Best Friends, Black Beauty Ranch, Farm Sanctuary in New York and California to name a few. We are currently caring for 84 rescued animals at the farm.

Our dedicated volunteers, visiting youth church groups, school children, rehabilitation groups and visitors to Asheville that just want to pitch in and help are “our staff”. Our volunteers working hands on with our rescues arrive at 8:30 a.m. to start their farm chores. Cleaning the many barns, feeding and watering the animals as well as hauling hay bales and feed is done every day, despite rain, snow, sleet, heat waves, sickness etc.

Our volunteers faithfully show up to care for the animals showing them love, compassion, and respect. You can’t help but have a certain favorite animal and many of our volunteers do! Often times they will bring a special snack for their “special” one and hand feed them on the sly.

We have volunteer opportunities at the farm and our onsite thrift store. If you or a friend would like to help out, call the sanctuary or come by and check it out to see what you may be getting into and perhaps you will meet your favorite friend.



Shown on the left and right are Staff members from The Willows, an Asheville rehabilitation treatment center, braving the chill in February to help out on the farm.



Holiday Tips

With holidays in full swing, families are enjoying traditional meals together. It is tempting to want to share tidbits with your pet. But a dog's digestive system metabolizes certain things very differently than ours.

Here is a list of potentially toxic tidbits: alcohol, chocolate, fatty foods, grapes and raisins, macadamia nuts, moldy foods, nutmeg, onions, seeds and pits, xylitol (an artificial sweetener), and yeast in unbaked bread.

If your dog eats forbidden food, you will want to call your veterinarian or a pet poison hotline.

The Truth About Chews

Dogs have an ancestral need to chew. Chewing is good for their jaws, teeth, and minds. A new study shows that certain chews can cause injuries to a dog's gums, teeth, and mouth. Some chews crack into big chunks that can get stuck inside which could require surgery! When shopping for chews for your pet, look for healthy, nutritious ingredients and for chews that will break down into small pieces with no sharp edges.

WISHING YOU THE BEST OF HOLIDAYS!



animalhavenofasheville.org



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