

Friends of the Shelter Newsletter

Volume Oct/Nov 2005



Madeline Belle – She Survived Katrina and Has A New Forever Home!

By Angela Carrejo



Madeline - BEFORE

Several families in Northern New Mexico signed up to help the Katrina victims by fostering an animal that had been displaced by the storm. This poem tells the story of one such dog.

In spite of all that Madeline has been through (the local vet believes that Madeline probably had a litter of puppies while she was homeless; she also had worms), she is a sweet, loving dog who is being spoiled rotten (as is her right) by her new “parents”. Madeline weighed about 7.9 pounds when she arrived and is already a hefty 10 pounds! Madeline has been adopted by her foster parents, Angela Carrejo and JaNelle Haught.

ODE TO MADELINE BELLE, A Fine Southern Dog

**You arrived late one night with matted fur and a strange odor.
the cage that carried you was filthy
from the arduous trip that brought you from there to here.
We were told of the thousands of animals left behind,
your days unaccounted for,
the rising water,
the lack of food,
and of the mud that covered your fur.
We brought you home,
fed you,
shaved of the damaged fur,
dressed you in colorful outfits to keep you warm and,
held you for hours non-stop.
You learned to chase cats,
showed us you were adept at playing fetch (even outrunning the big dogs),
and preferred to be first in line when treats were given out.
You seem to have forgiven those who left you behind
for those reasons unknown;
and instead,
you hold onto the promise of tomorrow,
where your food bowl is always full, you have a bone at your disposal
and every toy in the house is now yours.**



Madeline - TODAY

From Homeless to Happy



Victor



Ivy

Victor and Ivy were found roaming together at the grocery store. Both are beautiful mature pure bred German Shepherds. When the owners did not appear, the dogs were 'fixed' and placed in good homes.



Lady



Scooter

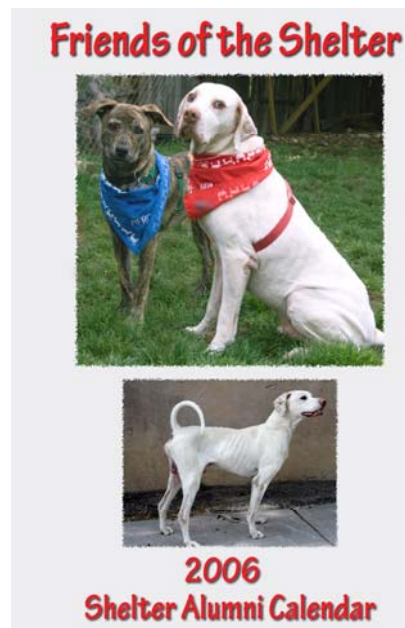
Scooter and Lady were surrendered together. Scooter was easily neutered, but Lady's spay surgery was complicated. Friends of the Shelter paid for this extended care. Both dogs were adopted by a family who has a 5 acre fenced yard where the dogs will have lots of room to run and play.

First Annual Fall Festival

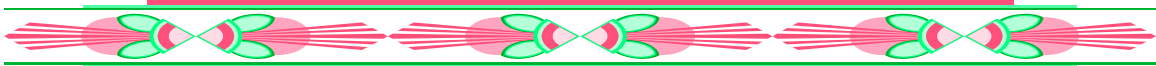
Friends of the Shelter had a very successful and enjoyable booth at the Los Alamos Fall Festival on Saturday and Sunday, November 5th and 6th. T-shirts, notecards and catnip bags were sold. A small mobile adoption was held (mostly cats this time). Four cats were adopted during the event.



Friends of the Shelter 2006 Calendars Now Available



Friends of the Shelter will be selling their 2006 calendars Saturday, November 19th at the Arts and Crafts Fair at the Middle School. The sale begins at 9:00 am and continues until 3:30 pm. The calendars contain pictures of shelter animals who have found wonderful, loving homes. If you are unable to attend the Craft's Fair, the calendars will be on sale at local businesses and through members of the Friends of the Shelter. On December 6th they will also be on sale in the lobby of Los Alamos National Bank. Calendars are \$15.00 each. All proceeds benefit Friends of the Shelter, a local, non-profit animal welfare group.



Tammy's story

Tammy, a one-year-old pit bull, was abandoned at the Los Alamos County Animal Shelter in December 2004, and gave birth to a litter of puppies shortly thereafter. Tammy was a wonderful mama and a great favorite of all the shelter volunteers who helped care for her while she was at the shelter. Her affectionate and fun-loving personality was evident throughout. When the puppies were old enough to be neutered and placed in good homes, Tammy went to a wonderful home of her own in March 2005.

Here are two reports from her new owners, Jerred and Anna

March 25

Tammy is doing awesome. We have taught her how to use the doggy door. She had never seen a flight of stairs, so teaching her to go up to the second floor was fun; now she runs up and down the stairs.

We have been working on more commands. Tammy of course is even better at sit and now knows lay down and crawl. She also knows "go to bed". She is one of the smartest dogs I have ever seen.

She has really become a goof ball. She will do the funniest things and turn around to see if we are laughing at her. She will run around sideways, jump by springing up on all 4 legs at the same time and other things. She really likes to act goofy.

She has put on quite a bit of weight. She is really filling out and her muscles are building up more than I expected. She is loving the nightly walks we give her.

Our nieces and nephews have come over a couple of times and Tammy has been so good to them. Tammy is such a great dog around kids, including little babies. They have only been around cranky old dogs and are very afraid of dogs. They love Tammy. Even the one year old crawls up to Tammy to pet her. Of course he gets barraged with licks, but he seems to enjoy it. She has really scored points with my wife's sister too.

Originally she thought we were nuts for getting a bully, pit bull type dog; now that she sees how much fun the kids have with Tammy she has found all of her worries were over nothing.

Tammy has been a great addition to our family. She is always cheerful and fun to be around.

May 19

Tammy is doing great. She is becoming very strong. It is sort of crazy how much muscle has grown on her. Goes to show just how much food went to those pups.

We take her on walks every night and she never allows us to forget to do that. Anna started running with her in the evenings, she really enjoys that.

Everyone that has met her has fallen for her. She has something that just gets people to like her. Everyone in the family has been able to spend time with her and they all think the world of her.



ASH

ASH- At Last a Home of His Own

By Monika Bittman

Ash made a remarkable journey of recovery and transformation from a sick stray recluse who terrified everyone in the neighborhood by his imposing posture to a sweet loving and playful pet.

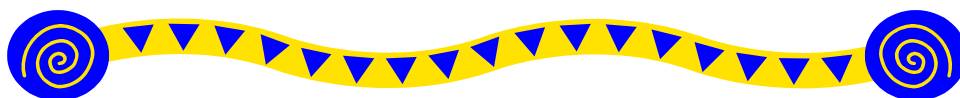
Ash was emaciated and ill - his ears encrusted with scabs and

festering wounds - when he showed up in the yard of his foster home. It took months of daily feeding and patience before he trusted his foster mom to touch him and to take him to the vet.

His wounds were diagnosed as skin cancer from sun exposure after the many years of outdoor life. Los Alamos Animal Shelter patrons and volunteers took up a collection to pay for a surgery to have his ears removed and to neuter him. Ash withstood all his treatments with amazing calm and bravery like a soldier who has already been through the worst.

Now his ears are completely healed, he is cancer free, healthy, strong and extremely appreciative of all the loving care he has gotten in his foster home. His spirit has rebounded, he grooms himself spotless clean, he purrs, loves to play and he dreams about a loving permanent home where he could live indoors as the only cat in the household.

Addendum: Ash's ears completely healed, his spirit rebounded and he enjoyed months of cancer-free, healthy life in his foster home, grooming himself spotless clean and purring. However, his cancer returned and he lost his battle with it November 11 this year. Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Los Alamos Shelter, Arroyo Seco Animal Hospital and his foster mom, Monika, Ash had expert veterinary care and a loving home for the last part of his life. His good spirits and easy-going attitude toward life will be greatly missed.



To find out more information about animals available for adoption, call the Los Alamos Animal Shelter, 662-8179

Volunteers who can help with cat adoption questions:



Mary Timmers 672-9276, Peter Roberts 662-2652

Volunteers who can help with dog adoption questions or for information on volunteering:

Wendee Brunish 662-3252



Sally Wilkins 662-2773

If you have questions or would like to make a donation:

Friends of the Shelter
162 Chamisa St.
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Or email:

sitstaygooddog@earthlink.net

or

herekittykittykitty@earthlink.net

Visit our Web Store !

www.cafeshops.com/fos_lanm

We have t-shirts, baseball caps, dog shirts, hoodies, frisbees, aprons, greeting cards, lunch boxes and many other items. You can get one of our special designs or our unique Friends of the Shelter logo.

(See samples below)



Find your new best friend at the [Los Alamos Animal Shelter](#) !!