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www.Straydog.org Update

POSTED ON THE INTERNET EVERY DAY AT NOON CENTRAL TIME U.S.A.

Straydog Inc., The Arnolds' Happy Home for Strays, a No-Kill Dog Shelter
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We're running out of funds needed to sustain our mission



Straydog, our Happy Home for Strays

(The hexagon is the "Big Play Yard," which we usually refer to as "the park")
(Aerial photo taken in May 2002, when Pat still had another whole year ahead of her)

APRIL 2004

Bill Arnold's Daily Straydog Log

SATURDAY MARCH 20 2004

SEVEN P.M. UPDATE:

Now we have to find a place for two *more* dogs!

A lady named Ann, who has been in touch with us before about her dire situation after losing her job, is living with her mother at a place that doesn't allow dogs. Ann has been boarding her dogs for the last couple of months, but now she's run out of money to pay for the boarding, so she was hoping to find them a temporary home. Ann brought the two dogs along to our Adoption Day, but no one wanted to adopt or foster either of them. Since Benny was adopted two weeks ago, Macy (Benny's former kennel mate) has been very unhappy living in a kennel all alone. One of Ann's dogs, a white fella with pretty red ears named Baxter, got along fine with Macy at our Adoption Day session, so we told Ann we could try Baxter in Macy's kennel with Macy. Straydog employee and Adoption Day Driver, Susan, said she would foster Sam, the red chow mix, till the lady can get back on her feet again. Ann tearfully said goodbye to her beloved doggies and was so thankful that we were able to help today. Usually we cannot do this, but as we left PetsMart with Ann's dogs plus our unadopted dogs, it looked like everyone had a kennel to sleep in tonight. We wish Ann all the best in finding work and a new home as soon as possible so she can take her dogs back.



Saturday Ann sat at PetsMart with Sam and Baxter, unsuccessfully trying to adopt out her two dogs. At the end of the day Ann said goodbye to her beloved dogs, whom she couldn't afford to keep any longer, and she turned them over to Straydog.

Later back at Straydog

Although they had met and had seemed to get along at Adoption Day, Macy and Baxter's re-introduction here at Straydog didn't work. We walked them around and around on leash, but

we were now on Macy's territory rather than the neutral territory at PetsMart, and here the two dogs acted like mortal enemies as we tried to get them close together for a sniffing introduction. Now what do we do?!

Caregiver John comes to the rescue!

Our employee, John, offered to foster Baxter at his place until the woman can reclaim him. So at almost seven o'clock John's taking Baxter home and Susan's taking Sam home. We'll report on how this fostering goes later.

SUNDAY MARCH 21 2004

NOON UPDATE:

Baxter and Sam (Ann's dogs) have now found a *new* foster home where they can be together until Ann's ready to take them back

Adoption Day Volunteer Renate (whose email to us about a friend named Joyce who'd picked up an injured dog in the middle of the highway, which email was published in our Wednesday, March 17th update--*see* link in the Table of Contents of our Webpage) called Erin Saturday evening and told Erin that she (Renate) had a friend (Joyce) who was so touched by hearing about the situation with Ann, the homeless woman who had turned her dogs, Baxter and Sam, over to Straydog Saturday evening, that she (Joyce) wanted to help. Joyce has a very large outside kennel area that she can divide in two by closing a gate. Joyce's dog can be in one part, and she wanted to know if Ann would like for Joyce to foster both of Ann's dogs for a time, six months to a year if she needs that long, until Ann can get back on her feet again.

Erin phoned Joyce and said we'd begin working on coordinating the transfer of the two dogs to her. Then Erin called Susan (our Adoption Day van driver) and found out that Sam, the red chow mix whom Susan had taken home Saturday night, was very sad and only responded to Susan's eight-year-old daughter, Mary. Sam, who was very happy when we were with him at our Adoption Day at PetsMart, began to growl occasionally, even at Susan, and the dog would not do anything but sit, except when the eight-year-old daughter, Mary, visited with him. Susan's other dogs were not pleased with the new visitor either. Luckily Joyce has come to the rescue!

This morning Susan brought Sam along with her and picked up Baxter, the white dog with red ears, from Caregiver John's place, where Baxter had spent the night, and later Susan and the dogs met up with Joyce and Renate somewhere in the middle of where everyone lives. Susan also gave Ann's name and number to Joyce.

Ann will have a chance to visit with and later to be reunited with her babies because of the wonderful generosity of all the folks involved. Thanks to Susan and John for being willing to take the dogs home with them Saturday night, and thanks to Joyce, who will foster Baxter and Sam together at her home until Ann's ready to take them back.

Thank you very much, Joyce! Best wishes, Ann!

FIVE P.M. UPDATE: Baxter and Sam are doing fine at Joyce's

Renate called with an update shortly after noon--right after she had read our update above. She said that Baxter and Sam had already settled in nicely in their new kennel, which kennel is "carpeted" (at least for now) with thick green rye grass. The two dogs were very happy to be together again, and they were playing together, tussling and running around having a great time. Renate said that Joyce would send us some photos soon. And she did:



Baxter (the white dog) and Sam investigate their new kennel at Joyce's house.

Other photos from this past Saturday's Adoption Day at PetsMart

(3/20/04)



My 95-year-old dad, his granddaughter, Erin (Pat's and my daughter), and Big Bear plus volunteers at Adoption Day