Kindness and Loving Care for Animals

Noah's Ark Animal Foundation

NOAH'S ARK • PO BOX 748 • FAIRFIELD, IOWA 52556 • WWW.NOAHSARK.ORG

"Spring" into action; become a volunteer. Spring 2012 Newsletter

A Life Changing Day

Ben and I rescued both cats and dogs before, but this cold and rainy Sunday, in May of 2010, would change our lives forever. On that particular morning, one of our chocolate labs discovered something unusual in our front yard: three cold, wet, and scared male pups. Being the animal lovers we are, we knew we had to do something to help them.

Ben and I brought them inside our home and fed them anything they might eat, and eat they did. The pups were little scavengers and had to be separated as they ate. That first morning we let them eat until they couldn't eat anymore.

It was so rewarding after a few days to see their rough fur become soft, and their malnourished bodies become healthier.

What in the world were we going to do with them? We asked all the friends we could think of that might be interested, but the timing just wasn't right for anyone. We even considered keeping at least one, but our animals did not share our feelings about the pups.

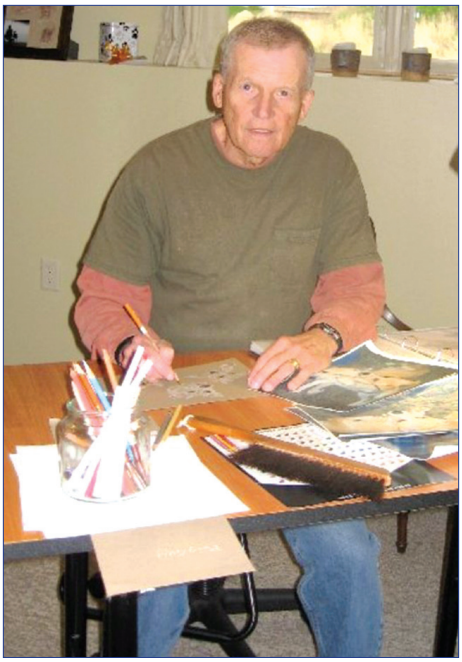
Ben and I had heard of Noah's Ark mainly through store flyers. When I telephoned the shelter, the staff said they would be more than happy to help us out.

Arriving at the shelter, it didn't "look" like the right place. It definitely was not what we had in mind when we thought of or pictured an animal shelter. Weren't animal shelters dreary and sad places? Not this one. Shelter staff gave us a tour of the facility as well as where "our pups" would be residing. This place was even complete with soothing lullabies in the indoor kennels. Noah's Ark was definitely an impressive shelter.

"Our pups" found their forever homes through the Rescue Waggin® program. We were able to carry them on the Rescue Waggin vehicle for transport to the destination shelter. Those three pups had been a part of our lives for a couple of months, and had found a place in our hearts forever.

—Ben and Rachel Parker

Since bringing their pups to Noah's Ark, Ben and Rachel have become part of our shelter family! In addition to evening dog walking, they open their hearts and home to foster puppies that are too young to be at the shelter.



Artist Jerry Stilb

The portrait that Ben and Rachel are holding is entitled "Our Pups" and was done by artist Jerry Stilb. Jerry created the portrait with pictures that Rachel emailed to him. He captured each of the pup's looks and personality perfectly! Jerry generously donated the portrait and framing. Here is a bio and picture of the artist:

Jerry resides in the Village of Kewaskum, Gateway to the Kettle Moraine Forest, in the state of Wisconsin. His formal training in the artistic field includes a year of studies in the Fine Arts program at UWM along with a number of evening classes at the former, Layton School of Art, now called MIAD, in Milwaukee.

Jerry's art has included works in the following medium: oils, art markers, ink and pencil, and most recently, colored wax pencil on fine art drawing paper.

His connection to Noah's Ark comes at the request of his long-time friend, Bill Grunwald, who is actively involved as a volunteer for Noah's Ark. It is at his asking that the artist has donated his talents and efforts to this worthwhile project.

It has been said that a "picture is worth a thousand words", and, in addition to this, should be an enjoyment of pleasure for the artist and should instill memories and bring a smile to the viewer and the recipient. This is what this artist hopes to achieve.

Happy Endings

Adopting saves two lives; the one you adopt and the one waiting to come into the shelter.

Jake and Elwood Happy Ending

From Mary: My in-laws (Bob and Chris of Des Moines) adopted cats Jake and Elwood. They asked if I would send you an update and a picture of them. They've adjusted VERY well and now "rule the roost" and enjoy sleeping in their nice, warm, soft bed.

Jake and Elwood rule the roost at their new home.

Cooper's Happy Ending

From Mallory and Jacob: Thank you so much for helping us find Cooper. We absolutely adore him. I just wanted to send you an email to let you know how much we appreciate the hard work done at Noah's Ark on behalf of wonderful animals. Jacob and I were both so impressed with the facility and with the people there.

Noah's Ark is truly an amazing place, and we recommend it to everyone.

It is by far the nicest shelter we've been to, and it is very apparent that there is so much love put into it.

Cooper loves life, and everyone in it!!

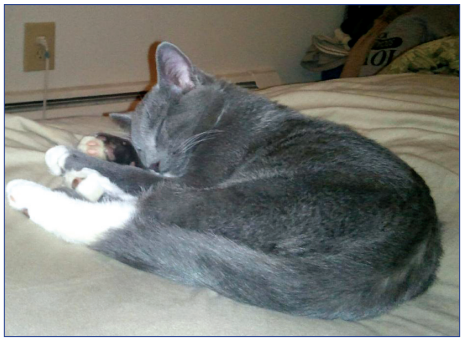
"A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself."

~Josh Billings

Cody's Happy Ending

Hi, my name is Cody and I was adopted 2 weeks ago from the Clive Petsmart. It was great to have to spend my 1st Christmas with my new family. I live with my mom and dad and my teenager. My mom and dad say I had a brother and sister who were dogs. Anyway my mom and dad were really sad because the dogs died within 6 weeks of each other. They were 13 and 15 and both were sick. Mom couldn't stop crying and Dad wouldn't talk about it. Then they decided they wanted a kitten. That's where I come in. My dad had never had a cat before, so I worked on him and now he completely loves me. My mom loves me very much and smiles at me. I love my new family and mom says I'm spoiled rotten like all animals should be. You can see I'm very relaxed in my new home. Mom says I'm the best medicine ever for a broken heart.

Love, Cody and family



Cody is the best medicine for a broken heart.

Serafina is a delight!

Serafina Happy Ending

From Beth: I love Serafina. She is a delight. Always at my side, she follows suggestions, goes outside, loves her walks, and she has only barked twice since we met. I am sure that she misses all of the activity at Noah's Ark, but she does not let on to me!

We have visited several animal shelters recently and we were so impressed by Noah's Ark! It was amazingly clean and all the animals looked very well taken care of. We are so happy to be able to adopt our new puppy from your facility.

—Erica Rebman

Many Thanks, To Our Adopters, Donors and Volunteers!

Thank you! Thank all of you. You are all of our wonderful adopters, donors and volunteers. You along with our adoption partners, Clive PetSmart® and the Rescue Waggin'® Program, made 2011 an amazing year for Noah's Ark. Your generosity allowed us to rescue over 500 dogs and cats and then place them in their forever homes.

Amazing outcomes don't come from passion and commitment alone. They happen because the hardworking staff at Noah's Ark has the resources to make it happen: food, medication, cleaning supplies, training, and so much more.

Noah's Ark receives no government funding for this work. It's all you. Virtually all of our work is supported solely by private donations and grants. And you. Each of you. If our work in 2011 helped make your vision for animals come true, please consider a donation to help us continue our work in 2012. Thank you so much, from all of us!

Noah's Ark Program Updates

Pawsitive Programs That Make A Difference At Noah's Ark

Here is a Rescue Waggin Happy Ending!

Dot (Dottie) joined our family about 3 weeks ago, when we adopted her from Animal Allies in Duluth MN, after she made the trip up here from the Noah's Ark Shelter. She is a truly wonderful dog. We discover new quirks and talents in her every day. She loves to give hugs, is learning her sit down and stay very nicely, loves kids, cats, and other dogs, and has already chased a fox away from the chicken coop. What a smart girl! She and my lab mix love to romp on our wooded 15 acre farm, and play with the many other dogs of friends who come to visit. She is not sure what to make of the big lake though! I have included some pics of her in her new forever home!

—Amy

Breed Rescue

This is Verdell. After watching Verdell wander in the nearby woods and field for three days, Verdell's rescuer decided he didn't belong to anyone and needed help. With the enticing smells and tastes of a few hot dogs, Verdell was coaxed into her backseat. He arrived at Noah's Ark on February 24 weighing in at 6 lbs. Verdell is a Brussels Griffon, a breed rarely found in a rescue shelter.

Verdell was so thin you could see every bone in his little body. His fur was covered in sticky burrs. On top of that, he did not like to be handled. It's very likely that he was used for breeding in a puppy mill. The shelter staff decided that Verdell's best interests lay with National Brussels Griffon Rescue Inc. Maybe they could place him with a foster home. An email was sent and 10 minutes later we received a reply. Of course they would take him! Arrangements were made to transport Verdell to a vet clinic in Des Moines, Iowa and after Verdell's medical was complete, he was taken to a foster home. Verdell's name was changed to Quinn and a report from his foster mom is that he is doing well! Here are a few of her comments:

Quinn is doing just great!

He's moved right in here, loves the other dogs. Very active but that's balanced out with quiet times Big personality in a little body! He's between 10.5 and 11 lbs now, food portions have been reduced. He's very voice sensitive and very smart. Doing well with potty training, stays very nicely in his kennel. Still somewhat shy but improving every day.

Beat the Heat

CCSNAP, the Caring Community Spay Neuter Assistance Program, is offering a special rate of $25 for a cat spay and FVRCP vaccination this month as part of its Beat the Heat promotion. Subsidies will benefit 100 female cats. In 2011, CCSNAP helped to spay and neuter 736 dogs and cats (both companion animals and feral cats) through its voucher program and other promotions. Spaying and neutering are critical components of Noah's Ark work.

Rescue Waggin Program

Noah's Ark has been a PetSmart Charities® Rescue Waggin® partner since 2007. Since then, we have sent 943 dogs aboard the Rescue Waggin' vehicle to animal shelters in Minnesota and Wisconsin. The Rescue Waggin' program transfers dogs and puppies from animal shelters with high pet populations to other animal shelters in communities where adoptable dogs are more in demand.

One of the rewards of being a partner in the Rescue Waggin' program includes applying for special grants, which are funded by Petsmart Charities. In 2011, Noah's Ark received a $25,000 grant to make shelter improvements, including the addition of new stainless steel cat condos, Kuranda dog beds, cozy cat beds and a stainless steel exam table as well as many upgrades to the dog kennels.

Thanks to PetSmart Charities Rescue Waggin' program for helping us save more lives.

"Time spent with cats is never wasted."

-Sigmond Freud

Yes, I want to help save the lives of stray and homeless animals.

100% of your donation goes directly to help the animals and programs of Noah's Ark Animal Foundation.

☐ $25 ☐ $50 ☐ $100 ☐ $250 ☐ $500 ☐ Other_____

Please indicate if you have a preference as to how your donation is used:

☐ Food, medicine, shelter, and care of stray and abandoned dogs and cats

☐ CCSNAP Community spay and neuter program—because there aren't enough homes for them all!

☐ Please send me information about planned giving opportunities benefitting Noah's Ark including endowment gifts, gifts of annuities and stocks as well as remembering Noah's Ark in my estate planning.

Checks are made payable to Noah's Ark Animal Foundation.
Mail to P.O. Box 748, Fairfield, Iowa 52556.

If you would like to use a credit card to donate: Please go to our website at www.NoahsArk.org and click on "Donate"

Please help us conserve our limited funds by checking below if you cannot donate at this time:

_____ **I am unable to donate at this time, but wish to continue receiving your newsletter.**

_____ **Please remove my name from your mailing list.**

Noah's Ark is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt corporation founded in 1988. Donations are tax deductible.
The Foundation's officers for the year 2010 are David Sykes: Chairman and President,
Richard Sarnat: Secretary, Janet Mullen: Treasurer, and Dawn Safrit, Director.

Noah's Ark operates an Iowa licensed animal shelter at 1986 Gear Avenue, Fairfield, IA 52556.
Hours are Tues through Fri 1:00 – 5:00p.m. and Saturday 10:00 – 4:00p.m.

Noah's Ark Animal Foundation
P.O. Box 748
Fairfield, Iowa 52556

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Happiness is Volunteering