

Pet Tales

FIRST ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

SPRING 2007

RES-Q-PETS HAS A TERRIFIC FIRST YEAR!

Pam Mitchell

We are proud to report that, **in 2006, 560 pets (364 cats and 196 dogs) found homes through Res-Q-Pets!** These numbers represent a lot of hard work by a lot of dedicated people.

During the year we also helped several folks who were trying their best to help animals in need but were in over their heads. We assisted them with spay/neuter, vet transportation, setups for outside feral cats, trapping, placement, and in some cases, just an ear to hear and a shoulder to cry on.

We also had a busy and complicated financial year. In addition to our "normal" outlays for veterinary care, supplies, etc., we took in several animals that were in need of extensive veterinary treatment. The care they received was quite costly but we firmly believe in doing the most we can for each animal.

Thank you to all of the people who donated money, time or services throughout the year. We look forward to an even more successful 2007!

OUR MISSION

Res-Q-Pets' mission is to

SERVE

small companion animals and the general public in the State of New Jersey. The organization will accomplish this mission by:

Saving & sheltering stray animals,

Educating potential adopters and school children,

Re-homing surrendered animals, providing

Veterinary care for backyard & feral animals

Easing animal suffering

WHY IS THERE AN ADOPTION FEE?

Sue Nigro

This is a question that we are often asked. People wonder why we need to charge a fee when the animals desperately need homes. "Wouldn't you adopt more animals if there were no fee?" you may ask. The main reason that we charge the fee is a practical one. Every animal that comes to us, no matter what the manner, receives medical care. Some are lucky enough to need only shots and tests, and perhaps treatment for parasites. However, many suffer from neglect, abuse, disease, malnutrition, and birth defects. These animals sometimes generate veterinary bills in excess of \$1000 each. Some require

major surgery, dental work, or expensive medications. Regardless of the expense incurred, the fee to the adopter is standard. This means that on average we spend more than the adoption fee per animal. Overall, only approximately 60% of our expenses are covered by adoption fees. This means that we have quite a bit to make up through donations, whether it be by selling homemade craft items at shows, wrapping holiday gifts at local stores, from the donation boxes situated at some businesses, or from generous donations from folks who read our newsletter & would like to help out. (Continued on Page 2)

A big **THANK YOU** goes to Pat Terlecki's 4th grade class at Ethel McKnight Elementary School in East Windsor who made and sold chocolate lollipops, donating over \$900 in proceeds to Res-Q-Pets. Res-Q-Pets volunteers visited Mrs. Terlecki's class and brought some of our furry friends along!



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

While this list is not all-inclusive, we'd like to thank the following individuals & businesses for their continued support of our organization:

Doctors Garruba & Vannerson & the entire staff at Nassau Animal Hospital, Dr. Barbara Eisen, Dr. Russo & the staff at Banfield, All Good Dogs Day Care and Boarding, Carolyn's Kitten Corner, Church & Dwight, House of Chews, Rick's Saddle Shop, Robin's Nest, Pedigree Adoption Drive Fund, Pedigree Pet Spa, PetSmart and PetSmart Charities, Petco Foundation

Hard to adopt—easy to love

Valerie Ryan

Has a situation you faced ever required you to act in a way, for your own good, that was very different from the way you really felt inside? Maybe you were at a party where everyone was celebrating and having fun but you felt like crying because of something that was going on in your life at the time. Somehow, you may have managed to suck it up, mingle and smile.



Tiger Tom's adopter was captivated by his eyes.

Maybe you were at a job interview and knew it was in your best interest to shine but it really wasn't "your day".

Some of our Res-Q-Pets adoptees have to deal with similar circumstances. For these animal friends, it not only affects them in that moment, it can negatively affect their entire future by making them "hard to adopt". Nevertheless, Res-Q-Pets, with help from you and other true animal lovers still out there, has been successful with adoptions of even those labeled "hard to adopt".

When you walk in to the room to meet, greet

and potentially adopt one or more of our beautiful kittens, cats, puppies or dogs, most of them naturally put on their most irresistible "Pick me, Pick me" behavior. They rush to the front of the cage or perk up their heads, eager to meet a new friend who will play with them, love them and give them a permanent home. These are the lucky ones, whose time living in a cage is generally short because they are easily and readily adopted into permanent, loving homes.

Then there are a few who, for a variety of reasons, simply can't muster up the kind of behavior that invites the attention or admiration of a potential new family.

Tiger Tom, a sweet extremely affectionate 7 year young male cat, hated being in a cage. He was nervous and fearful when anyone tried to approach and meet him. Forget trying to pick him up or hold him—he wanted no part of it. That was until he met Pat, his adoptive mother. She had the patience and faith to give Tiger Tom a real

home filled with love and her already established pet family there. Happily, Tiger Tom is doing fine. Naturally it took a bit of adjustment time, (a little hiding out, some chasing by one of the other four legged family members) but now Tiger Tom is a fully integrated part of the family and loves watching TV with the whole gang.

Dozer, an 11 year old Pomeranian, was not truly loved for over ten years. He was locked in a crate for long hours and was never really part of a family. He was "found" by Erin and Greg and is now a major part of their family where he enjoys playing with his four "sisters". He has an amazing joy for life and loves belly rubs.



Dozer's first "real" Christmas in a home full of love and toys.

The point is, of course, that with the right people, patience and love, "hard to adopt" pets

simply become "pets" who enhance your life and your home. It's not necessarily an easy task, Making matches and getting them adopted. Their time with us is longer, requiring more food, supplies, attention and care. At Res-Q-Pets, we work hard, we care, we take the necessary time and because of that, we find homes wherever homes are needed—even for the "hard to adopt".



Memories



In memory of **Bud & Ginger**, forever in our hearts. *Diane Spencer*

Bob, who I rescued from PetSmart 2004. *Joanne Zak*

In memory of **Charles & Verna Rollhauser**. *Arlene Alu*

In memory of **Silvio DeBiasio**—a wonderful supporter and terrific Santa. *Res-Q-Pets*

In memory of **Silvio DeBiasio**
Marian Mulawka, Linda & William Beirne, Arthur & Colene Santopietro, Eileen & Gary Negrycz

In loving memory of **Mercedes & Misty**. May they cause heaven to laugh as much as they made us! They will always be loved and never forgotten. *The Doan Family*

Becky, a perfect little angel—you brought a lifetime of joy and love in just a few short months.
Mary Ann Flynn

Sadie—my sweet little girl with the biggest sad blue eyes ever. Your trust in me changed me forever. I miss you so much. You're forever in my heart. *Anita Stewart*

Emilie our precious kitty, the time we spent together wasn't long enough. You were indeed our greatest rescue and you touched the hearts of everyone. You will live in our hearts forever.
Marie & Scott Haley

In Loving Memory of **Quinevere** (my Queen). She always sat above us, had many opinions, was curious about everything and loved to travel. She will be greatly missed every single day. Sassy and Sushi are lost without her.. In Loving Memory of **Diana**, a troubled soul who tried so very hard but ultimately could not make it in our world. I miss you Di.
Pam Mitchell

WHY IS THERE AN ADOPTION FEE?

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The other reason we charge a fee, albeit a less critical reason, is that even though most of our animals are strays, they have value. In our culture, for good or ill, many people equate value with a dollars and cents price tag. While they may not be purebreds, and some may be older and a bit quirky, each animal gives so much to each adopter. In our estimation, if we assessed a fee equal to what a loving animal gives someone, few could afford the luxury. So, we base our adoption fees per animal on what we actually spend for all of them.

Res-Q-Pets
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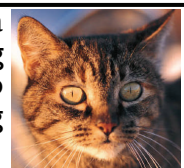
VISIT US ON-LINE AT
WWW.RESQPETS.ORG

DONATION ONLINE AT



A Smarter Way to Give

YOU CAN HELP TOO! Folks often tell us that they wish they could help us but, for a variety of reasons, can't adopt a pet, foster an animal in their home, or commit to assisting with animals at adoption events. But there are lots of fun, creative ways you can help Res-Q-Pets succeed that don't involve direct, hands-on animal care. We are always looking for help with fundraising activities and would certainly appreciate your input and assistance!



PARTY TIME! We've all been to them...birthday or anniversary parties for adults who have everything. And although the invitation may say "no gifts please", guests think "we should bring a little something". But rather than buying another bottle of wine, box of golf balls, or gag gift, why not make a donation to Res-Q-Pets in the name of the honoree?! It's a perfect way to acknowledge the special occasion while making a difference for an animal in need. And if you're hosting an upcoming shin-dig, think about requesting donations to Res-Q-Pets in lieu of gifts. We'll be sure to

send all donors a written thank you. And remember, because Res-Q-Pets is a 501(c)(3) charity, contributions are tax deductible!

ARE YOU CRAFTY?

One of the ways Res-Q-Pets raises money to help support our mission is by making and selling craft items. If you are "crafty" and can make items that we can subsequently sell at adoption events, flea markets, or craft fairs, we'd love to hear from you! Of course, many of our items incorporate animal themes but they don't have to be limited to that. Items can be small (magnets, pins, ornaments, etc.) or can be a little larger (painted bird houses, hand knitted items, etc.). Use your imagination! Recently, Doris Ditmar made lots of cute little bunny baskets for us to sell. Thanks Doris!

If you are interested in lending your talents to help animals in need, please contact us.

Recently, Stacey Gerrity came up with a great idea - she held a "Bark Mitzvah" for her dog Gracie! Guests who attended were asked to make donations to Res-Q-Pets. Stacey collected the contributions and presented us with a sizeable and much-appreciated donation! **Thanks Stacey and Gracie!!**