

fencing, but we anticipate that it will be finished soon.

In addition to featuring the BAAC's adoptable animals on our website, the radio, and cable television, we

also take animals to local pet supply stores in the tri-state area (Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland) and set up adoption booths. This adoption outreach effort has been quite successful, resulting in many referrals and recognition of the BAAC as a great place to adopt companion animals.

As of this writing, the BAAC continues to have many wonderful cats and dogs available for adoption. If you, your relatives or friends are considering adopting a companion dog or cat, please come visit us in person or visit our website at www.baacs.org to view photographs and brief biographies of these deserving animals.

We thank you for your financial support and hope that you enjoy reading the remaining BAAC "Rescues" and "Adoption Alumni" sections.

Best regards,
BAAC Staff & Volunteers

Rescues

Scruffy—free from fear and loneliness

Cindy Taylor, NHES Animal Care Services Administrator, lives near a 22,000-acre wildlife management area in the mountains of West Virginia. And while this environment offers a great deal of beauty and solitude for its human residents, it was a lonely and frightening place for a young puppy that Cindy rescued and later named Scruffy.

We believe Scruffy was abandoned—dumped—in this remote area sometime in June 2006, when he would have been only several months old. Somehow he survived on his own through most of the summer.



*Jeanne Clagget, Animal Care Attendant,
with Toby and Judy Triano, Volunteer,
holding Birdie at Petco,*

Near the end of summer, Scruffy began hanging around a small cabin where the occupants would throw out food for him every couple of days.

When seeing this emaciated dog near the cabin, Cindy cautiously approached him with food in her outstretched hand and tried, with a gentle voice, to coax him to her. But he was far too mistrustful of humans to come close enough for her to leash him. Cindy then put down food for the night and returned the next day with a humane dog trap and set it.



Scruffy, the day after he was trapped

It took less than 5 minutes for Scruffy's hunger to override his fear and for him to be safely contained in the trap. Despite being trapped, he was so hungry that he continued eating until the bowl was empty.

We didn't realize how young Scruffy was until after he was trapped and we were able to examine him. Originally, based on looks alone, we thought Scruffy was an old dog. But after examining him, much to our surprise, he wasn't old at all. In fact, he was just a scared, starving puppy with scruffy fur. (We later learned that a little boy who had seen him around his parent's cabin had called him "Scruffy Dog" so we kept the name, Scruffy.)

After getting him to the BAAC, it was clearly evident that parasites had caused an infection in Scruffy's ears and—because he didn't get the proper nutrients that he should have received in his infancy—his rear leg muscles were severely underdeveloped.

With medication, Scruffy's ears improved and with proper nutrition and physical therapy, his muscles began growing stronger every day. And, of course, Scruffy was very scared at first, but he did calm down and slowly learned to play like a puppy with the other dogs and people too.

Update: We are happy to report that Scruffy was recently adopted by a wonderful couple. He lives with three other dogs, several cats and pigs. In Scruffy's latest adoption follow-up, the adopters said, "Scruffy is so



happy in his new home (he wags his tail all the time) and we are so happy to have him here with us.



Cindy Taylor with Scruffy a few days before he was adopted

He and Rhoda (pit bull-mix) are in love, which is just what I hoped would happen. Scruffy bounds around the yard, leaping right over the top of Rhoda, whose short legs just can't keep up with him; so he slows down, rolls over on his back, and lets her jump all over him! It makes my heart sing to watch all the dogs together."

Adoption Alumni

A match made in Golden Living Center— Glenda McClintock and Milan

Glenda McClintock writes the following about Milan who she adopted from the BAAC:

Milan

I love having Milan. There's no question about that!

Milan is a two-year-old dog that I take care of at Golden Living Center, Rose Hill, in Berryville, Virginia. Two ladies, Phyllis and Elizabeth, who are volunteers at The Briggs Animal Adoption Center, brought her here to visit. The first thing Milan did was to relax and lay her head on my shoulder as if we had been friends forever.

Each time Milan would visit, I would take her in my lap—in my wheelchair. She seemed completely content and happy just riding up the hallways with me. We visited with other residents who liked dogs. She enjoyed the attention, and she would let them pet her.

Nancy Siegel, the assistant director of nursing, asked me if I would like to adopt Milan. I was so happy and said, "YES!" We have always had pets growing up—even a pet pig! So, we got a dog bed and bowl and all the necessities for Milan.

Since she has made Rose Hill her permanent home, Milan hasn't had any accidents and has been friendly to everyone. She doesn't tear anything up and likes to play with her toys. She couldn't be a better pet. Milan is not overly excited and does not bark a lot. She's just a great dog!



Glenda McClintock and Milan—a perfect match

The staff at Rose Hill is supportive and always willing to help out. They come on their own and offer to let Milan go outside. When Milan comes back inside, she knows exactly where my room is and runs to my room and jumps on the bed. It didn't take her long at all to figure out where my room is.

Milan sleeps in my bed and I sleep in the dog house (just kidding). She does seem very secure sleeping in bed with me. We both sleep all night. Before she goes to sleep, she stands up and says her prayers.

Milan makes me feel good. She makes my life more exciting. To do something for someone else makes my life more meaningful. I enjoy visiting the other residents with Milan. I understand Milan was mistreated before she came to the BAAC and it makes me happy to make Milan happy.

*Glenda McClintock
Golden Living Center, Rose Hill
Berryville, VA*

Gracie Katrina Heerd

I first heard about The Briggs Animal Adoption Center from a friend of mine. I had lost my cat suddenly and the house was too quiet, and I was too lonely without him.

I visited the Briggs' website and looked at the cats online. I then called to make an appointment and my daughter and I went to see



Phil and Gracie—loving life

the cats. (I was pleasantly surprised to see how clean and organized Briggs was!) We met Lindsay, our adoption counselor, and she took my daughter and me to see the cats. I really wasn't prepared for the number of cats available for adoption. They seemed very content, and it was very difficult to decide which cat we'd like to adopt. One cat stood out in the crowd, Gracie. She is one of the friendliest cats I have ever seen!

My husband, Phil, was required to come to Briggs before we could adopt Gracie, so we did that the next day. I wanted to take her home that night after Phil met her, but she had to have a final check-up with the Briggs' vet. So, we picked her up the following day and brought her home. It was the week before Christmas and we were expecting company during the holidays. We were told that Gracie might get a little stressed during the holidays, but she thrived with the attention she received. She went from lap to lap and loved everyone petting her.

We were told that Gracie was a Katrina rescue, and we thought that it was great that people cared enough to rescue stranded animals that would not have had a chance, if not for these caring people. I feel sorry for the people who lost Gracie... Gracie loves attention and loves to talk to us and she's usually on my lap or my husband's lap. She even likes my two young grandsons who are, sometimes, loud and move around quickly. She seems to take everything in stride. She sleeps in between us every night and greets us every morning with her good morning meow! The adoption of Gracie has been a great experience for my entire family, and I would recommend Briggs to anyone...

I can't imagine my life without my Gracie.

*Thank you, again,
The Heerd Family—
Kathy, Phil and
Gracie Katrina Heerd*

Supporter Spotlight

Local Artist Supports BAAC

The BAAC operates on Mrs. Anna C. Briggs' guiding philosophy that companion animals are sentient creatures, each of whom has intrinsic value in and of themselves.

Local artist, Ronnie Timbrook, brings our companion animals to life in his Woodburning Memories by meticulously burning the soft grain of Pine. Shown on the right is artist, Ronnie Timbrook, with Anna C. Briggs, NHES Founder, and two of Ronnie's many woodburnings. (Mrs.



*Ronnie Timbrook and
Anna C. Briggs*

Briggs recently purchased a woodburning portrait of herself with her dearest companion dog, Tippie. Ronnie donated a portion of the proceeds from this sale to the BAAC).

Ronnie is committed to donating 10 percent of the sale price of each of his future woodburning portraits to the BAAC. If you would like Ronnie to create a woodburning portrait of your companion animal, please contact Ronnie Timbrook directly at (540) 327-4329 or woodburn_memories@yahoo.com so that he can provide you with an estimated cost.

Spay Today

In 2001, Spay Today became a program of NHES. NHES, however, did not create Spay Today and it is the story of its creation that we would like to share with you today.

In 1994, two humane-minded women, Anne Small and Susan Goodman, served on the board of directors of a local humane society. Through their volunteer service, they quickly realized that there was a great need for spay/neuter assistance to help combat the out-of-control overpopulation of homeless animals in their rural community. With the need so clearly defined, Anne and Susan moved forward and formed Spay Today.

Anne Small shares her and Susan Goodman's memories of Spay Today:

"It originally operated out of Atlas Auto Parts in Charles Town, West Virginia. Susan ran Atlas Auto Parts and we hired a part-time employee to run Spay Today... Dr. Kevin Roberts and Dr. Norma Inqui were the first veterinarians to



participate. We spayed and neutered over 1,000 animals the first year and that number continued to climb.



Spay Today co-founders, Anne Small and Susan Goodman

After a few years, Susan and her husband purchased Hackwood, a beautiful mansion in Winchester, Virginia, and we then ran Spay Today from this location. While at Hackwood, we hosted several local animal education conferences and introduced to the area the 'Focus on Animals' educational series of videos, which we marketed and distributed all over the country.

When Susan was relocating to another area, she and her husband sold Hackwood and that is when we approached

NHES about taking over Spay Today and operating it full-time. We chose NHES because I had a wonderful history with Mrs. Briggs and trusted that NHES would do a great job with the program...I do know that Susan and I both, still today, feel that spay/neuter and education are vitally important in the animal welfare arena."

Today, Spay Today's staff consists of nearly two full-time employees, 10 participating veterinary hospitals and serves residents from portions of Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland. By the end of fiscal year 2007—June 30, 2007—we anticipate a landmark year with 3,200 cats and dogs being spayed/neutered.

Anne Small continues to promote and help raise needed funds for Spay Today through her volunteer service with NHES, such as serving as co-chair of the Bi-Annual **Bow Wow Boogie**, "Meow Too!" auction committee.

NEWS from Peace Plantation Animal Sanctuary



by Michael Reed
Director of Facilities
Peace Plantation Animal Sanctuary

Hello again to all of you from the desk of Michael Reed, Director of Facilities at Peace Plantation Animal Sanctuary (PPAS) in Walton, New York. I do hope that you enjoyed our first resurrected edition of the *NHES Journal* and now, I invite you to sit back and enjoy this installment.

Since I wrote last, day-to-day life at PPAS has been busy as usual. Our winter this year started out feeling like a long drawn-out fall, but that all changed in the second week of January as temperatures dropped below zero. I believe all of us here feel like hibernating, but the animals we care for continue to inspire us to get out of bed and provide them with the love and companionship they desire and deserve. I must admit that the past couple of weeks have felt like a triage situation. Mother Nature must really love us, because on Valentine's Day we received a gift of 3 ½ feet of snow combined with driving wind, creating snow drifts of 4 to 5 feet deep. I often wonder if the animals realize what we have to deal with so we can be here for them.



Peace Plantation Animal Sanctuary

Speaking of animals, our PPAS animal family is doing great! We continue to find loving homes for our feline friends at a steady pace. Also, because of your support, we were able to take in 13 of nearly 26 cats that had been dropped off at the front gate of a farm sanctuary down in West Virginia. The farm sanctuary didn't have room to care for all 26 cats, and we were glad to help with 13 of them. After we transported the cats to PPAS, all of them received medical attention and were spayed and neutered, except for 2 pregnant females who were

