

e & Community News

Once altered, shelter's 'long-timers' more adoptable

by April Richardson
Randolph County
Animal Shelter

Ta dah! Randolph County Animal Shelter is excited to announce Jaimoe was adopted by a sweet, sweet family with children. Jaimoe was surrendered to the shelter after vet treatment for a broken leg. The staff and his RCAS Corporate Sponsor Lisa fell in love with him during his recovery. And then, magic happened; Jaimoe and the family's young girl instantly bonded. RCAS posted their love video on their Facebook page. They adopted a fully recovered Jaimoe, and he has started his 'second life' as a beloved family dog. Happy tails!

Long-timers

Tracy, one of our volunteers, has started raising money to 'alter' our 10 long-timer dogs before adoption. They are available for \$50 to a good home. By having the long-timers spayed or neutered before adoption, we hope to increase their adoptability. This could be the step that rings the adoption bell for these 'overlooked, been here too long dogs' that need to find their forever

home. We need your help. A kind sponsor has stepped up to reduce the cost of spay/neuter of all RCAS dogs for the next month! We can offer a spay or neuter surgery and rabies vaccination for \$62 for male dogs and \$67 for female dogs. Our first priority is to have the 10 long-timers fixed Aug. 28, and any extra funds will be spent on spaying/neutering for other RCAS dogs. You actually help two dogs: the dog that has surgery now, and when he is adopted, RCAS has room for an incoming 'replacement.' To donate, go to www.RandolphShelter.org and click the PayPal link. Or call, or stop for info, and pay by check. And you can also shop on our website adoption page, for all dogs; the long-timer dogs' description starts with SPONSORED. Thank you!

Feral cats

We have been asked about local feral cat problems. Often feral cats start off as house cats who are not 'altered' when set free, and the population explosion starts. If you have a feral cat problem, we sympathize with them and you. What can you do? Because RCAS

cannot adopt them out, you cannot surrender them to RCAS. But we offer a solution; trap neuter release. If you can trap the cat, you can get it on our low cost spay and neuter transport program or take it to a vet. If you use our once-per-month transport to the Alabama Spay and Neuter Clinic in Irondale, your cost will be \$40 for the surgery, plus a rabies shot and a shot against upper respiratory infections. When your cat returns from surgery, you release it back into the colony it was living in. You can borrow a live cat trap by calling Robyn, our transport director, at (334) 863-0101. Yes, you can start making a difference in your feral cat population.

Feeding strays

While on the subject of strays, we are frequently asked to be a dogcatcher, which our insurance does not allow. And we do not encourage the feeding of strays because by law if you are feeding an animal, you are claiming ownership. And to surrender an animal to RCAS, you must be on the wait list, so we have kennel space for that dog or cat. Usually this concerns dogs;

it is harder for a rescuer to trap a dog and bring it to RCAS. If someone else is coming to feed that stray every day, what happens in reality is all the dogs (including dogs who normally stay at home) learn where free food is. They come a running from all directions, crossing over dangerous highways to get to the 'food truck' faster. And the good intentioned Samaritan could be the siren call that causes their death.

Volunteers

We are so grateful for our new volunteer, Tammy! Tammy has been taking gorgeous cat photos to help the fur kids find adoptive homes. Her edited photos are so detailed you can count the hairs! Please give her and us an emoji of appreciation or a comment on her pictures! We sure could use more blessings like you in our ranks of volunteers. All you need to do is be at least 18 years old and fill out an application. Join Team RCAS!

As always we thank you for supporting YOUR SHELTER with donations and volunteering! As of July 27, we have had 59 adoptions in July. Shop from the best!