

## From Randolph County to Seattle

### Washington couple finds dream dog at local animal shelter

**Penny L. Pool**  
Staff Writer

Daniel Schneider of Seattle, Wash. came to Roanoke to find a blue-eyed darling, met Bindy, and took her home to live with him and his wife Kelly Michaelsen on their houseboat in Seattle.

"We've been looking for a dog on Petfinder for over six months. The Petfinder search engine starts with your location (Seattle) then lists dogs by proximity to that location. We were very specific in the dog we were looking for. My wife wanted a husky with blue eyes. We knew though that we couldn't get a pure-bred husky on our house barge because it would just have too much energy. We were also looking for a more medium sized dog for our house and easier to handle in the car," he said.

Kelly would go through the hundreds of husky listings on Petfinder a couple of times a week. After researching many dogs who didn't seem to fit well, they found Bindy's page posted by Ran-

dolph County Animal Shelter.

"We fell in love with her eyes and although we knew she was shy, we were sure we could give her a loving home," he said.

Conveniently, he had some family events in Brooklyn, N.Y. and re-arranged his schedule for a long travel day, starting with a trip to the airport there at 3:30 a.m. He flew into Atlanta and rented a car for the ride to Roanoke where the shelter was involved with Barktoberfest. There he met Bindy. Shelter personnel had brought her to the event for him and they immediately clicked under the RCAS tent as he held and cuddled her.

He said, "At Barktoberfest, it was great to see how many dog lovers there were around. I was definitely impressed by how many people were involved with the Randolph County Animal Shelter."

He carried Bindy, now called Juno, short for Juniper, to his houseboat in one



#### Forever home

**Daniel Schneider of Seattle, Wash. meets his new companion at Roanoke's Barktoberfest celebration.**

of the slips in the marina in Seattle. Calling it a house barge, he said it looks like a small apartment on the inside, with two floors and about 550 square feet.

Juno definitely has some husky in her (tail, blue eyes, undercoat), but she probably has some lab or beagle too. She was stressed and

nervous during the travel but it is clear she is definitely loving her new home. She considers the house and her crate a "safe-zone" but in the past few days she was happy to venture out into the 20-acre park next door and the surrounding streets and bike path, Schneider said.

"Kelly and I are both re-

ally active. So we can't wait to have her come along with us," he said. Seattle is very dog friendly. The default in many stores and restaurants is that dogs are allowed. On the marina, she has to be on leash, but there are many, many other dogs here.

They were pleased to give her a home. It was clear the

shelter gave her very good care, but we know that we can provide her a forever home, he said.

"They (Randolph County Animal Shelter personnel) were super helpful in working with me over the past several weeks. We arranged for her to get neutered, and we also got a vet check-up to understand her heart worm status," he said. It was a five-hour flight to bring her home.

They expect to have plenty of time to spend with her. He is an engineer and Kelly is just starting her anesthesia residency at the University of Washington in Seattle.

There is not an oversupply of rescue dogs in Seattle since it is such a dog friendly city. Many of the rescue huskies are former sled-dogs and need a large yard with a 6-foot fence, which ruled them out.

They are looking forward to spending time with Juno relaxing, walking, and playing games as she adjusts to the different climate.