



Heidi's Hope
For Homeless Animals
Transforming Animal Lives From Homeless to Homes

Pawsatively Good News!

PLEASE DONATE

August 2024 Issue

**Saving Lives of Homeless
Dogs and Cats and
Feeding Hungry Pets
In Our Community**

Participating in Best Friends Animal Society's National No More Homeless Pets Conference in Orlando



Imagine a world where every stray dog and abandoned kitten finds a loving home—a world where every pet has a place to call their own. This dream is the goal of the No More Homeless Animals National Conference, organized by the Best Friends Animal Society. Each year, this heartening event draws around 1,700 animal shelters, rescue groups, and devoted individuals who are united in their mission to give homeless pets a second chance. It's more than a gathering; it's a powerful celebration of hope, innovation, and a shared commitment to a brighter future for our furry companions.

I first discovered Best Friends Animal Society in 2005, in the aftermath of the disaster of Hurricane Katrina. In 2007, Best Friends came to the rescue again after the dog fighting bust of Michael Vick's fighting dogs. Best Friends took in 22 of the most challenging dogs seized in the raid on Michael Vick's property.

Their positive message on animal rescue was much of the inspiration of my founding my annual animal rescue FUN-raiser, The Bow Wow Luau & The Cat's Meow®, which has raised over \$75,000.00 to benefit homeless and abused dogs and cats in our community.

This year's conference marked Best Friend's 40 year

anniversary and it was a milestone to celebrate the wonderful work they do for animals. Forty years ago, a group of fellow animal advocates pioneered the no-kill movement at a time when more than 17 million homeless pets were dying each year in America's shelters.

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Over the years, I have been fortunate to meet most all of the co-founders at the National Conferences and was invited to lunch with a couple of the co-founders when I was at their sanctuary in Utah. It was such an honor and a privilege to be invited to lunch by co-founders of the animal rescue organization that I admire so much and has been such an inspiration to me!

We can all play a part in this lifesaving movement! Adopting or fostering a pet is a powerful way to help. Contrary to some misconceptions, rescue pets are not damaged; they simply need a fresh start. By adopting a rescue pet, you're offering them a new lease on life and a loving home.

Together we will all work towards our mutual goal and the mission of Best Friends Animal Society to "Save Them All"!

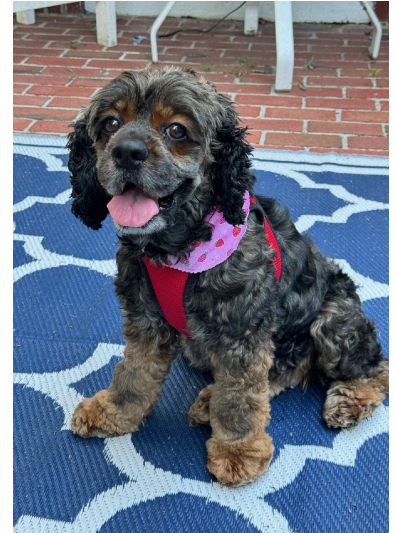
Meet Sophie



***Sophie's Adoption Photo
Her eyes show she has been longing to
be loved***



***Sophie and Trish on
Sophie's Adoption Day***



***Sophie on her First Day Home--
Happy, knowing she is loved and has
her forever home!***

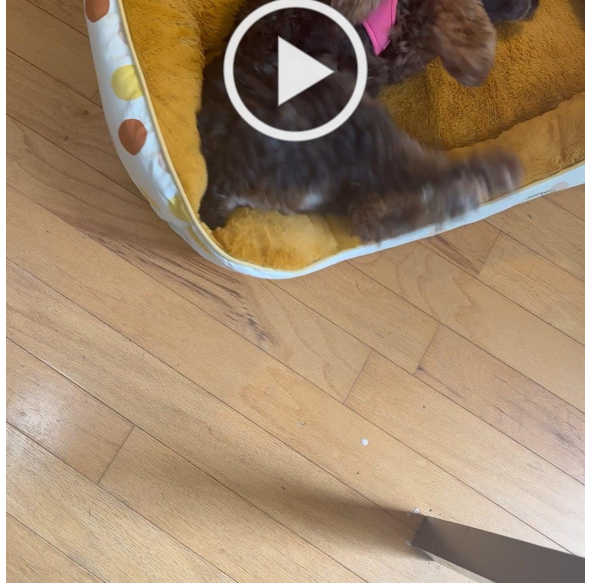
Meet Sophie, adopted last week by our Founder, Trish Arnold! Sophie, is a 7-year-old chocolate and tan purebred Cocker Spaniel. Sophie, formerly Jackie, is a retired breeder dog who spent her entire life in a cage as a breeder dog, with little love or attention. She was likely bred with Poodles to breed countless litters of Cockapoos. After seven years as a breeder dog, the breeders finally retired her. That's when she was rescued by a rescue group who took her to the vet (something that breeders typically don't do for their breeder dogs). Once at the vet, they discovered that Sophie faced some health challenges. Sophie had two surgeries for mammary masses, but she's bouncing back beautifully. After her surgeries, she healed and was put up for adoption. But because of her medical issues, her age and the training involved (being housetrained; learning to walk on a leash, etc.), she was overlooked and not considered for adoption.

When Trish read her story, it tugged at her heartstrings. She also knew she was finally ready to adopt a dog--and, as she had done when she adopted her beloved Cooper, she wanted to adopt a dog who otherwise would not be adopted. This dog has had a hard life and deserves love and a forever home!

But Sophie is now in her forever home, and she's soaking up every moment of her new life! In just her first week in her new home, she's already exploring her new home, mastering leash walks, housetraining and loving her car rides. She often rolls in the grass with pure joy and proudly showed off her first toy!

She is such a sweet and loving dog who is adapting wonderfully, embracing her newfound freedom and affection. After spending her life confined in a cage, Sophie is now embracing a newfound freedom and finally experiencing the life she has always longed for and truly deserves!





Sophie is rolling around in her bed, as she frequently does, enjoying the life she has always longed for and deserves!



C^{paw}per Cares about Homeless Animals

Celebrating Fur-ever Home Heroes

Fostering dogs and cats is an amazing way to make a big difference in an animal's life, and it's incredibly fun for you too! When you bring a furry friend into your home, you're giving them a cozy, loving space to unwind and thrive. Instead of being in a noisy shelter, they get to experience the comforts of a home environment, which helps them feel safe and happy. This is a game-changer for pets, helping them become more confident and ready to find their forever homes.

For you, fostering is a blast! Imagine having a new furry buddy to cuddle, play with, and watch grow into their best self. It's like being a superhero for pets—helping (continued)

them heal and showing them love while they wait for their forever family. Plus, fostering is a flexible way to enjoy the joys of pet companionship without the long-term commitment. You get to make a huge difference and enjoy the fun of having a pet, all on your own terms! The benefits don't stop at just the pets and you. When you foster, you're also helping out local shelters and rescue groups by freeing up space and resources. This means they can take in more animals and offer them the care they need. Each time you foster, you're playing a key role in getting more animals out of shelters and into loving homes. It's a win-win situation that really adds up!

**Ready To Adopt Your New Best Friend?
Check Out These Sites for Adoptable Pets**

In Need of Good Homes?

In Need of Good Homes:

You can't change a rescue dog's past, but you can rewrite his future.

Rescue does not mean damaged.

It means they have been let down by humans.

Please Make Adoption Your Only Option!

- [New Hanover Sheriff's Office Animal Services Unit](#)
- [PawPrints Magazine by PawPrints Magazine](#) -
- [More Adoption Options and Pet Resources](#)
- [PetFinder](#)
- [Adopt-a-Pet](#)

If you have lost or found a cat, dog, etc

- www.24petconnect.com

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Heidi's Hope For Homeless Animals

Transforming Animal Lives From Homeless to Homes

*Heidi's Hope For Homeless Animals...
Saving Homeless Dogs and Cats and
Filling Pets' Bowls with
Food and Hope!*

Please Donate



Heidi's Hope for Homeless Animals, Inc. is a 501 (c) organization that is an intake organization who helps pets at risk of euthanasia and helps prevent owner surrender. The Bow Wow Luau & The Cat's Meow® has donated over \$70,000.00 to reduce shelter euthanasia. Our Pet Food Bank prevents owner surrenders and has donated 134,155 LBS. of pet food. We created a unique coalition of local governmental agencies and human charitable organizations to provide pet food to the most food insecure. We expanded our Pet Food Bank and Pet Meals On Wheels Chapters in Onslow, Pender and Brunswick Counties. WoofStock, adopts at-risk dogs and cats. Our Disaster Relief Programs filled three tractor trailers with pet food to hurricane-impacted areas from Hurricanes Maria; Florence and Dorian. We sent two crates of pet food to help Hurricane Ian pet victims. We sent five pallets of pet food to war-torn Ukraine. We are committed to saving the lives of homeless dogs and cats and will not stop until all dogs and cats have good homes!



Best Friends
Network Partner
SAVE THEM ALL



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