



Friends of Homeless Animals^{Inc}
rescuing small dogs with big hearts

Presents...

The Bug-eyed Bugle

A newsletter for members and friends

Volume 1, Issue 1, December 2009

Hi and thank you for reading the first installment of The Bug-eyed Bugle. A newsletter to keep you posted on events, to share stories and ideas, to get to know each other and to express heartfelt thanks for all that you do! A group is nothing without its members!!!

My goal in life is to be as good of a person my dog already thinks I am. ~Author Unknown



About Friends of Homeless Animals

Friends of Homeless Animals, Inc. is our new name - we are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with rescue efforts ongoing in both the U.S. & in Mexico. In August of 2007 FRIENDS OF HOMELESS ANIMALS was incorporated in the state of Rhode Island and in July of 2008, we were approved by the IRS as a federal income tax exempt organization: (501 (c) (3)) and further classified as a public charity. Federal ID # 26 0867786.

Currently we have 137 dogs available for adoption, 154 dogs pending (processing applications) and 12 dogs on hold. 460 Dogs have been adopted thru 10/31/09. An estimate of **600** dogs were adopted in 2008 and an estimated number of **600** again to be adopted in 2009! That's great!

We have approximately 90 to 100 volunteers and growing! Please welcome the newest members to the group!

Dan Fetco and Stephanie Fanelli
Cynthia Newton
Harriet Collins
Sam Sepulveda
Kyra and Grant Balstar
AnnaMarie Fitzpatrick
Mike Furlo
Mary Coyle
Samatha Lowd

Bethany Eddy
Janene LeChance
Erin Cheschi
Carol Rose
Amy Bernard
Samantha Curtain
Ellen Gaimari
Shawn Theriault
Sharon Wetmore



The reason a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail instead of his tongue. ~Author Unknown



Behind the scenes



We all see the e-mails: foster requests from Lynn, the home checks needed from Jalah, but who are these ladies? And who keeps track of everything? Here's your chance to meet the people behind the scenes.

I asked everyone to tell me a little about themselves and what they do within the group, in their own words.

“My name is **Doris Baker Fraher**. I am 62 and have been retired for 13 years after 30 years in banking; Leaving my position as an assistant vice president. My husband, Mike and I have been in Maryland for 6 years. The only dog we have is our 13 year old BT, Buster. Buster and I spend the summers in Massachusetts near my family.

I am the treasurer for FOHA, Inc. As the treasurer, I handle receipt of the foster agreements, the adoption agreements, the spay and neuter agreements and any health or behavior agreements that are sent to the group. I print each one and keep a file. I track donations for the dogs and match them with the adoption agreement. When this is done, the adoption is considered completed (excluding ones still needing spay/neuter). I also match these agreements against the biographies on our input systems and along with Roie and Sonia, move the status of each dog from available to pending to adopted as the adoption progresses.

As you can see below, we have seven sites that our dogs are listed on. They received 20,000 views in the week of 11/02/09 to 11/08/09

Petfinder Total Pet Views: 18640

Adopt-a-Pet.com	1,430
Facebook "Save a Dog"	1,333
Petsmart.com	62
DogTime.com	46
Pets911.com	33
Petbond.com	9

During this week, those 20,000 plus views translated into 25 deposits on our dogs!!



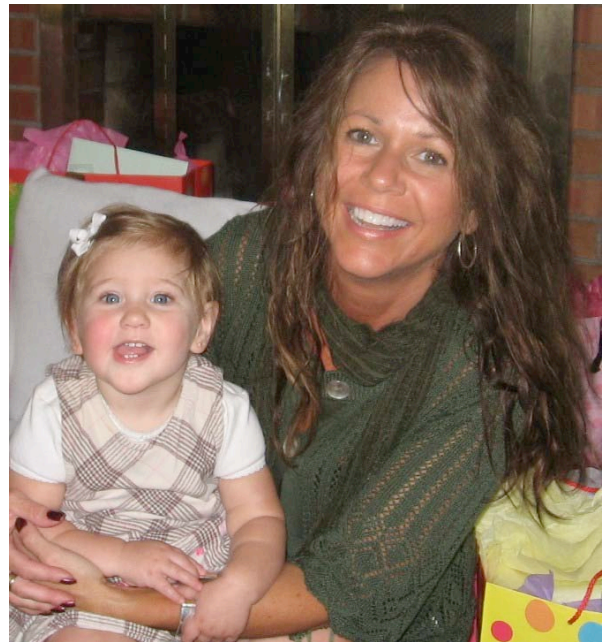
I also file the IRS forms needed for our non profit tax reporting. (if anyone has any experience with this, who wants to take this over, please contact me!!) I set up veterinary accounts near our volunteers, try to get discounted services and pay with our group credit card. This allows us to keep an eye on expenses. This is, by far, our biggest expense! The total on our credit card each year is \$120,000.00!! OUCH! This does not include the vet expenses that we pay to shelters, or to the vets that we do not have accounts with. Double ouch!! These are paid by check from our checking account. I receive requests for heart worm pills, flea treatment and other medication. These go to a mail order pharmacy and are sent directly to the foster homes. Again, we use our credit card to pay for this and to keep track of expenses.

I also receive the adoption donations from paypal transactions or money orders that our volunteers collect or the adopters mail directly. These are then recorded and sent to our bank for deposit, with a report being sent to our president, Roie. Each month I reconcile the checking account, match every credit card charge to the invoices I have from all sources, (mostly vets). I print out a summary of all pay pal transactions. I report our financial position to our president.

I enjoy working with all of our volunteers. I know that each of you are here for the same reason as I am, to save as many Boston Terriers as possible and find them forever homes.
Best regards. Doris. “

Lori A Pelletier

“My name is Lori Pelletier, I am a mother of four, grandma of 2. I work full time and actively volunteer with FOHA. Stems from my love of Boston Terriers and realization of how many dogs are euthanized and gassed to death every day for no reason other than the greed of over breeding and people giving up their pets, just because.



We have three Boston Terriers, 2 of which we purchased from breeders and George of whom we adopted from FOHA. George comes from a high kill shelter and there isn't a day that goes by that he doesn't bring a smile to my face or do something to show me he's grateful to be with us. We are also currently fostering Buddy - our fourth BT, who is a very special case. I am also the volunteer that will make the phone calls to our fosters and adopters the day of transport, to make sure all is good and answer any questions. Should somebody not claim their little dog, I am here in NH at the last stop to pick up who isn't claimed. Luckily enough, this doesn't happen much. I've picked up owner surrenders and held until we could get them into foster care. I've picked up at transports and delivered to people who have to travel a long distance. I've done home visits, passed out flyers on fostering at local vets, ran ads on craigslist and local papers. I've helped with finding foster homes for the dogs, matching our volunteers with who is coming on the next transport. Whatever needs to be done I will do my best to help if it comes my way.

There are many special little dogs out there in need and thank God for FOHA as they are a doggy savior and a heaven sent organization. Every single volunteer does their part to make FOHA as spirited, strong, knowledgeable, loving and supportive as it is. This organization operates on all volunteers, like ourselves that do not have the time in a day to spare, but manage to give it anyways...and all with an open heart. I will continue forever to save as many of these babies as I can. Fostering is and will forever be one of the best things I have done in my life time. I encourage any and all to volunteer, it is the most rewarding experience & so good for the soul. “



“Hi, I’m **Annie Dufour**, I’m French Canadian and I live in Stoneham, MA, with my husband (Benoit), my Boston Terrier (Heidi), my cat (Moumou) and my two parakeets (Titi and Whipet). Beside fostering, I’m the fundraising, donation and spay/neuter follow-up coordinator. In my spare time I don’t like going to the gym but I go anyway, I mountain bike and I read... and I’m a closet casino lover!”



A special thanks to Annie, my proofreader!



“My name is **Hanna Sandström Barton**, I live in Portland with my husband Rick. I’m originally from Sweden. We have three dogs: Bela, a 6 year old Pug/Jack Russell mix, Wednesday, a 9 year old Pug/Boston Terrier mix, and Brutus, a 3 year old deaf Boston terrier.

I’ve been volunteering with FOHA for the past 4 years and fostering for the past 2 years. Our current foster is Martha, a 2 year old miniature Schnauzer rescued from a puppy mill. I work particularly with dogs with physical or behavioral problems. Particularly deaf or blind dogs, or dogs with fear, aggression or anxiety issues. I’m studying to hopefully become a licensed behaviorist.

I am a tattoo artist and illustrator by trade, and own my own tattoo shop in Portland. In the little spare time I have left over I love to knit, paint (usually dogs), and spend time in nature.”

“Hi I am **Carrie Parenteau** and I have been with the rescue for about a year and a half. I live in Raymond NH. My current fosters are Josh who is a Corgi cross and Charlie an older BT. I process applications of dogs that are not local. I also try to find matches for people who do not know what dog they want. In my time away from the rescue, I teach Special Education in a Middle School. I also have a twelve year old son. I have three dogs of my own, an adorable Beagle mix and two of the cutest Doxies you have ever seen.”



“Hi, my name is **Lynn Pandolfi** I am currently the Foster Coordinator for Friends of Homeless Animals. I have been a volunteer for over 2 years now, and I love helping save these dogs that have done nothing wrong to deserve the cards they were dealt. If it were not for our wonderful foster homes, these dogs would not have a place to go. Fostering is very rewarding and can be at times challenging. The rewards come when one knows they have turned a dog around.

I recently fostered Becky: aka Olivia, a terrified girl from a backyard breeder who does not know what human affection is all about. Besides foster coordinating, (which keeps me very busy) I have a teenage son named Anthony, who is my world. I am now teaching him to drive as he has his permit. I love to walk, (good thing because dogs need them), go to the movies and exercise. I am a Dental assistant and work in a pediatric office. I am 38 years old, was almost married, realized he was not the one, good thing!!!! I spend time with my family, and love helping anyone who needs it. I am blessed with a good life and good friends. I am content and that is the most important thing in life to me.

I am proud to be able to help such a wonderful group. “



“Hi, I’m **Barbara Lindsay**. I started working with FOHA, A2Z adoptions, and Boston Terrier Tea Party in 2004 as data entry person. I download all the applications from Yahoo enter them all on a spreadsheet and copy them to the FOHA volunteers. I have 3 grown children, two boys and a girl and a son-in-law. I have 2 granddaughters, Tessa 7 and Gwentyh 11. I have 3 dogs, a Min Pin, Elvis that belongs to my son and lives with me, a Yorkie from FOHA, Daisy and a white Schnauzer, Lily that belongs to my daughter. They can't have animals so I have them with me. I also have an old cat named Shadow. I live in Weymouth, MA where I grew up and went to school. I worked and lived in Plymouth, MA for over 20 years until retirement, then moved back to Weymouth. I love working for FOHA, Roie, Doris and Sonia are awesome. I've met a few of the other volunteers but not for a few years. “



“My name is **Jalah**. I have 2 kids, 4 dogs 2 Boston Terriers, 1 mini- Dasch and a American Bulldog mix. I am currently fostering Squirty, a 10 year old Boggle with epilepsy. I have been a groomer for 14 years and I have a grooming shop called “The Doggie Den” in North Andover Mass. I also dog sit out of my home. In my spare time, for the rescue, I coordinate all home visits and help with phones and also all applications that come into the group.”



Excluded were Roie, Sonia and Cate. Hopefully we'll get some information on them for the next newsletter.

The Petco adoption days have been not only fun, but a big success!!! Not only are people interested in meeting the dogs available for adoption, we are able to get the word out on our group AND educate people. A lot of people are unaware of how horrible puppy mills are and don't understand why you should not buy a dog at your local pet store. In addition to this, people don't often see the horrible state in which some dogs are when they come into rescue. (Lynn made some great educational posters.) They only see the end result, a healthy, happy dog, thanks to their loving foster home. If nothing else is accomplished at these events, at least we get to inform. **DON'T SHOP, ADOPT!!!**

In October 2009, Pixie was adopted by being at an Enfield, CT Petco adoption event. A young woman walked by with her baby, she stopped looked at Pixie, and played with her. Pixie was good with her little girl. She came back an hour later with her Hubby!! They were looking for a playmate for their dog: one that was good with children too. Sweet Pixie was their answer!! She was at the right place at the right time!! Pixie was adopted by a sweet couple and is doing great in her new home.



Picture above are Gina Vidal, Tammy Phillips , Cynthia Newton, Lynn Pandolfi and Dawn Libby. The kids were a HUGE help!!! October's Petco event.

December 2009, Olivia was adopted by being at an Enfield, CT Petco adoption event. A woman walked by, saw her and asked, "Can I hold her?" This woman just lost her dog of 13 years and was feeling lost. Well Olivia just fit right into her arms. They are very happy with her and Olivia is adjusting just fine. She is in a great home and getting all of the love and attention she deserves. Thanks to Sherry, Stephanie and BetAnn for attending that event!



Olivia's new family!!

Gina Vidal had also arranged Petco Adoption events in North Haven CT. Carrie, Jalah and Lori hold Petco adoption events in New Hampshire and will be in Manchester, NH, on Sunday Dec 27th. Nancy Demers often joins them. If you'd like to hold one in your area, please contact Annie or Lynn.

Back in the spring on 2009, I helped with a FOHA booth at the Durham Veterinarian Pet Fair in Durham Ct. It was a great event, despite the horrible weather. There were 60 + booths, ranging from different rescue groups to animal services. It was a fun time and nice to meet some members of the group. Missie Rose, Nancy Savioli, Nancy's friend, Sal DiRusso, Sherry Mascaro along with myself, Tammy Phillips stuck it out the whole drizzly, chilly day.



Missie and Tammy in front of our *awesome* booth.



Nancy Savioli at the Durham Vet. Pet fair.

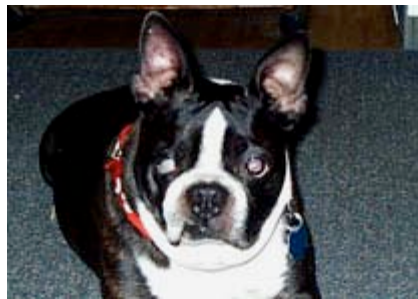
Annie Dufour has arranged many other fund raisers over the past year. A Zack & Zoey doggy jacket exchange; a Plum Island Soap raffle. Three "Fundables" fund raisers, one for Hera and her pups, Pandora and Charlie the blind Cocker Spaniel. There was also a "Chip in" for Russy. Gina put together a "Fundable" for her foster, Chelle. Roxanne made doggy cards to sell and Hanna raffled a chance to win a gift certificate for her tattoo shop.

Nancy Demers manned a table at a local Walmart entrance. Jan Tracy's sister has also raised money for FOHA. Hanna has worked many fairs, including the Dog at Works Festival. Brigitte also worked many fairs, including Paws on Parade. Thanks to Carrie, Jalah, Mary Jo, Pam, Cate, Kelly, Janyte, Colleen, Heather, Mellissa, Mary and Ellen for participating in fund raising events. Just giving up your free time is huge, and you are appreciated!!!! Thank you for what you do!!

**If I have excluded anyone, I am sorry. Please send me your event stories and photos!

Did you happen to see the "Happy Tails" write up on the Petfinder web site?
Posted during the week of November 16, 2009

This week's
Happy Tail



Chester

From Michelle of Tiverton , RI:

I always wanted to have a dog of my own. A friend of mine suggested searching on Petfinder.com. I came across Friends of Homeless Animals out of Providence R.I. I was so touched by the stories of these dogs that they have rescued and thought it was great that they place them in foster homes until adopted instead of putting them in cages in a shelter. When I did the search, I saw Chester and read his story. He was rescued from a horrible puppy mill and is blind in his right eye due to the lack of care. I had to meet him. So they set me up with his foster mom so we could go to the house to see him. I felt the connection with him right away, and so did my husband and two children. We adopted him, and he has been a blessing to have in our lives. I couldn't have asked for a better dog and would definitely consider adopting another one soon. Thanks to Friends of Homeless Animals for rescuing my best pal from that horrible puppy mill.

Everyone likes to indulge around the holidays, including your four legged friends. Here are a list of common foods that are harmful to dogs and cats.



Avocados, chocolate, coffee, onions & onion powder, garlic, grapes, raisins, Macadamia nuts, alcohol, moldy foods, such as blue cheese, anything sweetened with Xylitol, tea leaves and raw yeast dough.

Member spotlight:



Meet Missie Rose.

I asked Missie a few questions about herself and experiences volunteering with FOHA. Here is what she had to say.

“My name is Missie Rose, I am 28, single, and live in Providence, RI. I grew up in Seekonk, MA, the oldest of 3 children. We had a Golden Retriever growing up. I went to University of Delaware, lived in NYC for a year, moved back home. I love New England.



I have always been a dog lover. I use to tell my parents "I wanted to have 10 dogs when I grew up!!" We joke about it now because I have had as many as 5 dogs at a time. That's about my limit! I tell my parents they are going to have grand dogs not grandchildren. My great aunt had a Boston Terrier named Plute, (pronounced Ploote) when I was little and I have always loved the breed.

I became a member in October of 2008. I had adopted a Puggle in September of 2008 and was interested in a friend for her (Millie) but not sure about having two dogs full time, and had always wanted to foster, so just seemed to be the right time. I volunteer for both FOHA and PAWS New England, so I have had 8 total between both rescues in the past 15 months....



Here is the list of some of my favorite fosters, (if forced to choose) Holly, Tiki Rum, Dolly, Bailey, Jimbo and Brandy Alexander. I have a habit of nick naming my fosters, I have the wall up my staircase with each of their pictures and their nicknames under them.

Holly --aka “Holly Nipples”, she must have had a million litters, I got her in January ‘09 and there was snow on the ground, her nipples use to drag in the snow!

Tiki Rum-she was a mini little thing, and I called her “Stinkie” cause she had the worst breath...she was my shortest foster, as I only had her for a week.

Dolly--I got Dolly in February, and she was from Texas. There was snow on the ground and she hated to go outside in it . She lived with an elderly lady who had Alzheimer’s and went to a home. The family did not want to keep Dolly. Dolly acted exactly like an old lady herself, very prim and proper. Her papers said that she never ate dog food as she only ever ate her owners meals on wheels food. I got a call for her in March from a woman who wanted to adopt her, and that is when I realized she was too sweet for me to let her go. So Dolly is my foster failure. She still acts like a little old lady. I call her my “Dolly Doodle Noodle”.

Bailey--Bailey was an owner surrender for "biting" the owner’s son. I doubt that was the case as this dog does not have a mean bone in its body. He got very excited and jumped a lot so I would assume perhaps he scratched the son? Who knows, but I picked him up from a shelter in Rhode

Island. I called Bailey “Crooked Tongue” as he had really crooked teeth and his tongue always was hanging out the left side of his mouth. Bailey was adopted by two sisters, and now lives in New England. His owner is on my facebook page so I see a lot of pictures of him. She brings him to work and has a whole album dedicated to "Bailey at work". Bailey dressed up as a lobster for Halloween this year. He is such a cutie.

Jimbo--Jimbo was delivered to me at the Durham Pet Fair. He was an owner surrender as he did not get along with his owners other male dogs. Jimbo may have been my biggest challenge as a foster yet, as he is male aggressive. He is a very meaty boy, and kind of scared me, he was just so angry when I got him. Once I got him home and bathed and introduced to Millie and Dolly he was fine. I have grown quite fond of Jimbo, I have had him since May of 2009. I call him “Jimbo the Bimbo”, not sure why. Maybe because not much rhymes with Jimbo?!

Brandy Alexander—I have had Brandy Alexander since May of 2009 also. He had been adopted out when I got a call from Roie. Brandy as he was having seizures and the people wanted him out. I picked him up and he was a very sad little boy. Having a hard time walking, having a few seizures a day and basically just laying in his bed for hours at a time. He has since been diagnosed with Seizures, Central Nervous System Disease and a Mast Cell Tumor. Despite all his medical problems, he is a happy, happy boy. He LOVES to play ball in the yard and is doing very well. He has his good days and his bad days, but he is a positive little pup. It looks as though he'll spend the rest of his days with me, as he has been adopted and returned twice due to his condition. I call him My “Brandy Mister”. **I wouldn't say I had a favorite foster, they are all special in their own ways.**

If I could change one thing, I would like to increase the size of our group. There are countless dogs in need of foster homes, and I always say if every current foster could recruit one other foster family, we could double our foster homes over night. There comes a point where the current fosters are at their limit, and are unable to take in another foster. But we are in dire need of more foster homes. This method of recruitment could just snowball and allow for FOHA to help that many more dogs find their forever homes.

Behind the scenes, I do quite a few home visits in Rhode Island. I participated in the Durham Pet Fair, which was so much fun, and I am definitely in for next year. I went on the radio AM790 for an interview with "What would Jeff do", a well known dog trainer in Rhode Island. I spoke about fostering and to give a shout out to FOHA. I plan to set up a few adoption days at my local Petco after the holidays are over, and my schedule opens up a bit!!”



Thanks, Missie!

One reason a dog can be such a comfort when you're feeling blue is that he doesn't try to find out why.

~Author Unknown

Meet Buddy, our spotlight dog.



Lori Pelletier is currently fostering Buddy, her 4th Boston, who is a very special case.

“Buddy was severely abused and what some people would call broken. We've had him since September of 2009, and for the first month we had him, I wasn't sure we were going to reach him. Another couple of months later and he is now responding and his super sweet little personality is shining through. Buddy is the sweetest dog anybody will ever know. So innocent and although he's a fully grown boy, his little spirit is complete puppy, only because he sadly enough never got to be that puppy - until now.

It's been a great experience working with him. It takes time, consistency, praise and lots of patience with an ounce of faith to work with the unsocialized and the very frightened, abused ones. I am willing to work with anybody who thinks they could make a good forever home for Buddy. If there is any doubt, he won't go because too much changing him from place to place would be detrimental to him. His next move needs to be his forever home. We have worked very hard reaching him and I want to be sure somebody else is willing to continue this with him. He so deserves to live the rest of his life happy. Watching him come out of this has been heart breaking and painful at times. He needs continual consistent effort and work to move ahead.

November 14th, 2009. Buddy had a big breakthrough this weekend. He BARKED!! And it's a very confident bark coming out of such a scared and extremely non vocal boy. We were outside in the yard and a neighbor walked by with their dog and Buddy was all excited and then out came the loud and very confident bark. Good BOY Buddy!!! He is now interacting with my other 3 dogs (all Bostons). We have him playing frisbee and he is chasing after and retrieving balls too. He LOVES play time. Outside at play time Buddy is a dog and a very happy one at that!! Inside the story is different.

All and all this little guy Buddy is going to be a great addition for the right people. He truly is a beautiful Boston Terrier boy. He is nicely built and I can see why they wanted to breed him as he has wonderful markings. He is a gentle soul, his little personality when it does shine through outside is very puppy like, very sweet and innocent.



Buddy



You know you're a dog person when....

- * You put an extra blanket on the bed so your dog can be comfortable.
- * You never completely finish a piece of steak or chicken (so your dog gets a taste, too).



I would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous 2010. I hope you enjoyed the first installment of **The Bug-eyed Bugle**. Please contact me with any comments or suggestions for upcoming issues.

Fondly,
Tammy Phillips
foamchick@aol.com



Carol Merritt. Eve Shaffer Wright.