



Tails from the Heart

Young At Heart Pet Rescue's Quarterly Newsletter

A Sanctuary of the Heart

Young At Heart Pet Rescue was founded in April of 2005 in response to the thousands of dogs and cats euthanized in the state of Illinois each year simply due to their age.

Our mission is to rescue and rehome dogs and cats aged 3 years and older, to educate the public on the benefits of adopting an older animal, and to decrease the euthanasia rate for older, adoptable dogs and cats in the state of Illinois.

Young At Heart focuses on senior dogs and cats as adoptable pets for the general public. We also work with other area rescues and shelters, so they may invest more time and space for the older pets in their care. Our rescue has several outreach programs in development to further help the older dogs and cats in our community that have nowhere else to go.

We consider our pets "aged to perfection", and over 130 adopters currently agree! Welcome to the 1st edition of our quarterly newsletter! Enjoy!

Omar started out as a cute little schnauzer mix who needed to be bailed out of the pound because he was "too old" to be adopted out, and his life was hanging in the balance. We were inundated with requests to take him- from the shelter workers to the volunteers to the transport

teams- everybody wanted us to save Omar from a terribly certain future. How could we say no? So, Omar made his way to Young At Heart, and we began the normal routine to find him a home.

When we received the call from his foster mom, Lisa, that she had found a tumor in a not-so-pleasant place, our hearts sank. Omar had lymphoma. We talked to our vet, a specialist, and then our

vet again. Omar was uncomfortable, but his will to live was amazing. We agreed to give it everything we could, as long as Omar kept fighting. We would let him decide when the fight became too much. We had high hopes that the tumor could be removed by a specialist, but

alas, it was in a terrible spot. The specialist felt surgery should be the last resort. Omar's only hope was chemotherapy. The rescue opted to give Omar a trial run on the Chemo, and then decide if going forward with \$3000 of treatment was justified. We didn't want

him to suffer, but we didn't want to give up on him either. It was up to Omar now... *(continued next page)*



"A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself."

Josh Billings



our website
has a new look!
www.yahpetrescue.com

Upcoming Events To Get Your Tail Wagging!

July 28, 2007

6th Annual Taste of Lincolnshire Pet Fiesta

10am-12pm, Half Day Road in Lincolnshire
Join Young At Heart and other pet organizations in a pet parade, meet pets for adoption, and enjoy the tastes of Lincolnshire!!

August 4, 2007

Farmer's Market in Downtown Palatine

7am-1pm- Pet Day at Farmer's Market!
Meet our pets for adoption, buy some great locally grown produce, and meet other area pet businesses!

August 6, 7 & 8, 2007

Shop N Share Days at Jewel Osco

Bring the coupon in this newsletter to any Jewel Osco, hand it in at check-out, and 5% of your total purchase will be donated to Young At Heart!

September 16th, 2007

Young At Heart's Annual Canine Cruise

Gather your sea legs and join us for our annual 2-hour birthday bash & YAH reunion cruise on Lake Michigan! Dog-friendly dogs are welcome, as is the entire family! Treats for everyone, raffles, and more!

Send in the reservation form in this newsletter today!



Omar with his "kids": Ziggy, Scott, Britt & Candice.

...Sanctuary continued!

Omar took the chemotherapy like a champ, only succumbing to nausea a few times, but otherwise remained upbeat and kept his tail wagging! Six sessions later, no tumor could be found, and Omar was declared to be in remission! With Omar on the mend, the question became "how adoptable is Omar?". The answer- probably not very. But, he's healthy for the time being, happy, and looking forward to a long life. After much deliberation and discussion, Omar has become Young At Heart Pet Rescue's first Sanctuary Dog. **No, we don't have a sanctuary yet**, but Omar's foster family has agreed to become a "Sanctuary Home", agreeing to care for Omar for the rest of his days in their home or until we raise enough money to build our Sanctuary. With the incredible support of pet lovers throughout the state, we have been able to come one step closer to our biggest goal- providing a haven where older, unadoptable dogs and cats can live out their days. Welcome home, Omar!

Q: What do you get when you cross a kind-hearted rescue dog who has cancer with a 15yr old boy that shares his bed, a 13 yr old girl that sneaks him treats, a 10 yr old girl that takes him to school to be a certified therapy dog and a 5 yr old boy that reads to him after his Chemotherapy treatments?

A: You get me, "Omar" and my little piece of heaven on earth in my Libertyville, IL. Sanctuary Home. I have the best of life with the Krinninger Family, who provide me with a forever home and all of the medical care that I require each day. Lisa, my mom, says that I'm special and that she saw in my eyes that I wasn't going to give up and I had a lot of life left in me. She felt that if I wasn't giving up, then they wouldn't let anyone give up on me!

Everyone that lives at "Kamp Krinninger" is adopted and has special needs. They seem to understand that it is okay to have good days and bad days. They seem to know when I just need a nap or two or when it's time for one of my walks that I love so much.

Young at Heart Pet Rescue relies solely on fundraising and private donations to provide ongoing medical care for pets like me, and on sanctuary homes to provide a safe haven. At "Kamp Krinninger" and with the support of Young At Heart, I am now HOME!

Happily Ever Afters...

Every dog and cat we rescue becomes a part of the Young At Heart family. We firmly believe in quality over quantity- we would rather be able to provide the best care to a handful of animals than scant care to



"Bailey" - Adopted at age 7
"Bailey has been everything and more than I hoped he would be. He has joined the family and seems to be enjoying his new home. I think he is feeling more and more relaxed knowing that he IS home and not going away. I still have a hard time believing that he is really my dog. Everybody that has met him from neighbors to family to friends just love him and he has been great with everyone of them. Thanks again for your help in bringing him home to us."

-Steve O. & Family



Buy rescue gear at
www.yahpetrescue.com

"Freddie" - Adopted at Age 10

"You can't even imagine what a good life my little boy is living. He has absolutely no growl left in him.. he loves his weekly bath, he's a good watch dog, is completely housebroken and sleeps with me with his head on my chest. He knows to wait and get his paws wiped after rainy night walks and is a good helper to "daddy" who is always in the yard cleaning up leaves, acorns etc. I get bubbly inside just thinking about him and writing about him... what an amazing little creature he has turned out to be and we are so in love and grateful that he is our sunshine. Thank you for trusting his care to us...and following up... never fear...he has the best home ever! I could go on and on....."

-Barbara V.



Freddie, enjoying his yard!

many animals. So, each time one of our pets finds its new family, we are overjoyed. Our adopters become family to us, and we encourage each one to stay in touch with us through the years. Here are just a few...



"Jack" - Adopted at Age 5

"You can't even imagine how much joy Jack has brought into our family, especially my dad. He has been absolutely perfect! My dad meets us at the park at the end of our walk each day and we take the dogs off leash and he won't go more than 5 yards away from my dad (as if he knows my dad can't walk as fast or as far as we do). As soon as my dad says "Jack", he runs to his side and sits down. We saw 3 little kids the other day that wanted to pet the dogs and Jack just wagged his tail and sucked it all in. One of the boys laid down on the ground and Jack laid right down next to him and snuggled up to him. He's just the sweetest thing! Thank you for all you do to save these precious creatures!"

-Annie K., Bob & Cyndy

"Felix" - Adopted at age 4

"Although it's been only 12 days, it seems like Felix has been part of the family for a very long time. Maybe it's because he's adjusted so quickly! What a great boy, and so social! In just a short time he has gone from sleeping in his small room to now sharing a space on my bed with the dog! Anyway, I thought you'd get a chuckle out of the photos that I just took of Felix playing with a rubber band and Freddie pretending that he's not interested...much! Thank you for allowing me to adopt him!"

-Fran B.



Do you have a "Happily Ever After" thanks to Young At Heart? Send your story and a few pictures to info@yahpetrescue.com for our next newsletter!

Young At Heart Pet Rescue's Current Wish List

- Scoopable Kitty Litter
- Frontline Plus & Heartguard
- Chewable Joint Supplements for Dogs
- Gift cards To Petco/Petsmart
- Cat Treats
- Foster Homes

Feel Like You're Being Taken For a Walk?



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Teaching old Dogs New Tricks MEET YAH'S NEW THERAPY DOG!

Thanks to a grant from the PetCo Foundation, we are in the first stage of our Education and Community Outreach Program, aka our "SuperHeart Team". This program is designed to educate the public on the benefits of senior pets while enhancing the lives of people who may benefit from the visits of therapy dogs.

Our "SuperHeart" Dogs are permanent residents of Young At Heart Pet Rescue. Their lives, once meaningless to the people who selfishly threw them away like yesterday's newspaper, will bring joy to the lives of hundreds of people each year. Each dog will first have to complete it's Canine Good Citizen testing, and then will go on become Therapy Dogs In Training. Your generous support will help bring these dogs to nursing homes, daycares, schools, and corporations where they will educate and enhance the lives of everyone they meet.

MEET OUR NEWEST SUPERHEART DOG!

Little Miss Maisy



Maisy is a German Shepherd/Basset Hound mix who excels at all things comfortable. She has a knack for making people smile and embracing her short-comings in life (ahem, her legs!). Rescued from a kill shelter where her age and her silly looks had the odds stacked against her, she has now become a priceless member of the Young At Heart Community Outreach Team! She is currently undergoing training to pass her Canine Good Citizen Test (and she says to tell you that it's a piece of cake!), and can't wait to try start meeting new friends!

Help support our SuperHeart Team! Donate Today!

Take one Pet and call Me In The Morning...

- * Seniors with dogs go to the doctor less. Dogs are preventative and therapeutic against everyday stress.
- * For people aged 65-78, dogs are a major factor of conversations with passersby. Companion animals readily elicit friendly responses.
- * Pet owners have lower triglyceride and cholesterol levels.
- * Pet owners have fewer minor health problems, lower medical costs, better psychological well being, and higher one-year survival rates following coronary heart disease.
- * Pets promote social interaction, decrease the feeling of loneliness and isolation, and increase morale and optimism.
- * Pets encourage playfulness, exercise, and promote laughter.
- * Pets satisfy the need for touch and to be touched, and give non-judgmental warmth and affection.

Source: Health Benefits of Animals: Seniors abstracts and articles.



Did you know that Young At Heart currently has 7 adopted dogs that are either already certified therapy dogs or are training to become therapy dogs? It's true! Older dogs are great therapy dogs!

A LOST PET WEARING AN I.D. TAG HAS A 90% CHANCE OF BEING RETURNED!



At Best Friends, our mission is to provide the absolute best pet care, in a friendly atmosphere of safety, comfort and fun. To ensure peace of mind to you, our customer, we promise to care for pets entrusted to us as if they were our own.

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Children's World- Preschool for All
Goldman Sachs
Mary Ann Hetreed
Lisa & Jason Kasper
The Krinninger Family
Matthias Jans Architects
Steven Paulson
"Peaches" Family
The Rowland Family

Yes! I want to support the rescue of older dogs & cats!

Name _____

Address _____

email _____

I have included a donation in the amount of: \$ _____

I have enclosed cash, check or money order.

Credit cards are accepted at www.yahpetrescue.com via paypal.

Young At Heart is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit charitable organization which is 100% volunteer-run. Every penny donated goes directly to our rescued pets!

PLEASE USE MY DONATION FOR:

___ General Care of The Animals

___ Sanctuary Fund

___ YAH's "SuperHeart" Therapy Team

___ Sponsorship of: _____

___ In Memory Of: _____

___ In Honor Of: _____

Ask The Pet Vet

Q: I found a lump on my pet. What should I do?

A: You should always get a veterinarian to check out the lump. A lump may indicate cancer, but many such growths can be harmless. Any time a lump is seen or felt on an animal, it should be tested to determine whether it is cancerous or just a benign, non-cancerous lump because even the non-bothersome lumps can be a very dangerous type of cancer.

Your veterinarian may wish to perform a fine-needle aspirate on the mass. This is performed quickly, without the need for sedation in most patients. For this procedure, a small needle is placed in the mass. A syringe is used to aspirate the cells of the growth into the needle. These cells are then put onto a slide, stained, and evaluated under a microscope by the veterinarian or veterinary pathologist. The test can separate benign fatty growths called "lipomas" from other serious problems that may require treatment.

If the fine-needle aspirate does not provide a diagnosis, the veterinarian often recommends a biopsy. A biopsy involves taking a large piece of tissue from the growth, or surgically removing the growth. This usually requires sedation or anesthesia. The tissue must be processed and analyzed by a pathologist, which can take several days.

A mass found on your pet should be examined. A fine-needle aspirate is a simple, inexpensive diagnostic tool that may provide a rapid diagnosis.

Darin Flaska DVM

Ask The Pet Vet is contributed by Darin Flaska, DVM. Dr. Flaska graduated from the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine and currently is part of the wonderful staff at Arlington Heights Animal Hospital. In his spare time, Dr. Flaska enjoys spending time with his wife, Bree, and their 4 cats.



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Some Easy Ways You Can Help Young At Heart Pet Rescue!

Like To Surf The Web?

GoodSearch



You can earn money for Young At Heart simply by using www.goodsearch.com! Designate Young At Heart Pet Rescue as your beneficiary, and \$.01 for every search you do will be donated! Every penny counts!

Like To Shop online?

You can earn money for Young At Heart simply by using www.igive.com! Register for a free account that designates Young At Heart as your cause, and **shop over 680 great stores** like Target.com, ToysRUs.com and more- we earn a percentage of your shopping trip- you buy what you need and help us, too!

Use This Coupon and Save A Life!

Turn this coupon into your Jewel Osco cashier on August 6, 7, or 8 and 5% of your total is donated to Young At Heart!

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	0647651	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
GROUP NUMBER	STORE NUMBER	DOLLARS	CENTS
GROUP: Young at Heart Pet Rescue			
YOUR SHOP & SHARE DAYS: 8/6/2007, 8/7/2007, 8/8/2007			
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PLEASE SIGN THIS SLIP AND TURN IT IN TO YOUR CHECKER WHEN YOU SHOP. PARTICIPANTS CAN MAKE PURCHASES AT ANY JEWEL-OSCO ON THE DATE ABOVE. IDENTIFICATION SLIPS ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN FRONT OF ANY JEWEL-OSCO.			
			

Looking For Love? Meet Some of our Adoptable Pets!



-WINTER-

Winter is a beautiful girl who had a rough start to life. She's learned to trust people, and likes other kitties. She would love a quiet home where someone appreciates her spunkiness and "me" time! She's 4 years old, good with her litterbox, and good with laid back kitties!



-HARLEY-

Harley is a petite little girl, weighing in at 6 lbs. She is very quiet and polite, and gets along with kitties of all kinds! She is a bit shy with strangers at first, but then warms up to be the snuggliest little girl you've ever met. She is 10 years old and just as adorable as cats come!



-MADISON-

Madison is an all-around great girl. Rescued from certain death on a highway, she has become quite the family dog. She is good with dogs and cats, is housebroken, and very gentle. She is about 8 years old, and would love to go home with someone who knows how special she is!



-GALENA-

Galena is a spunky gal, despite being 14 years old. She lived for a year in another shelter before coming to us, and now she enjoys her foster home immensely. She has the cutest squeak, loves to play, and enjoys the company of other cats. She's looking for a quiet place to call home!

The 2007 Canine Cruise Is Here!

Sunday, September 16, 2007

12pm-2pm

\$20.00 per person

Well-behaved dogs are welcome and free of charge!

Feline owners welcome, too- leave fluffy at home, but bring a picture!

**Join us for a dog-friendly cruise along the Chicago River and the lakefront!
Treats for humans & canines, goodie bags, raffles & more! Cruise leaves from Navy Pier.**

Yes, I'd love to go! Reserve tickets for me!

NAME _____

HUMANS _____ # DOGS _____ (please bring one human for each dog!)

Check enclosed for \$ _____ or go to www.yahpetrescue.com/events to pay online!



Trixie's New Horizons at Sunrise Assisted Living



Every so often when we tell someone what Young At Heart Pet Rescue is all about, a person will grimace and say something along the lines of, "Who would want a dog *that* old?" Not everyone is willing to listen to the list of joys that come with adopting an older animal, and we know that not everyone can be convinced. Young At Heart is told almost daily by animal controls and rescues around the state just how much we are needed and that they wished we could save more of the older animals they are forced to euthanize.

Take, for example, Trixie. Trixie came to Young At Heart Pet Rescue after she was dumped at a rural pound when, at 8 years old, her body decided it could no longer crank out puppies for someone's profit. To her human, she was no longer of use and was thrown away. But she was sweet and kind -- the shelter begged us to take her. Because we didn't have any open foster homes, we ended up boarding her for several months until the perfect home came along- an assisted living facility had an opening for a new resident dog. They wanted to know if we had a match- and we did!

On June 22, 2007, Trixie became the second Young At Heart dog to become a permanent canine resident at an assisted living facility. 76 Residents at Sunrise Assisted Living in Crystal Lake, IL can attest to why adopting an older dog is so wonderful. Trixie moved in, made herself at home, and won the hearts of everyone instantly. Every day, dogs just like Trixie are euthanized simply due to their age. Until more people realize the value and love of an older dog or cat, we will be here, fighting to save them. Until then, we will go on saving the world four paws at a time. Congratulations, Trixie & Sunrise! You are a perfect match!



YOUNG AT HEART PET RESCUE
PO BOX 1293
PALATINE, IL 60078

