

NARF News



How "A Special Needs Dog" Becomes "A Special Dog"

A stray is picked up by Animal Control. She has a rabies vaccination name tag on her collar. Her name is still visible on the tag but the identification number has been intentionally altered to make it illegible. The poor girl has clearly been abandoned on the streets of Bakersfield to fend for herself. Abandoning any animal is a heartless thing to do, but in this case it seems particularly cruel since she is obviously visually impaired and, as we would learn a bit later, also congenitally deaf. The shelter quickly discovers that she is a wonderfully well socialized and sweet girl. But sadly, publicly funded animal shelters are typically not equipped to be able to put sick, injured or handicapped animals up for adoption. Lilly is a double merle with both audio and visual issues. So the alarm goes off to find a rescue organization that can and will take this special needs girl. I am fortunate to be one of the people contacted. Lilly becomes a NARF rescue and one of my foster dogs.



Fast forward a few months. An animal control officer for the city of Palo Alto (Bill) and his veterinary receptionist wife (Pam) contact NARF regarding Lilly. We meet to find out if she might be their forever dog and it turns out she is indeed the right dog for them!

One year later: Lilly, Pam & Bill are together for about a year now. During this time, Lilly works in her first elementary school visit that includes making friends with an autistic 3rd grade student. In addition, Lilly becomes a respected member of the Palo Alto Animal Services team, providing emotional support to a number of people in high stress situations incidental to any animal control service.

Lilly raises NARF donations: Pet Food Express offers a professional photo session in exchange for a donation to recognized animal welfare organizations. Lilly's donation is made to NARF and the City of Palo Alto Animal Service. From the photo session, Pet Food Express chooses an image of Lilly for display at their Palo Alto store. Lilly is an almost daily visitor to this Pet Food Express, looking forward to meeting her friends behind the counter while on her freeze-dried hot dog break during her workday with the City of Palo Alto Animal Control. Lilly is truly a very special dog.

President's Message

Hello again to all of our wonderful supporters! We appreciate your continued support because without you, it would be impossible for our mission to carry on. I am sure you all know that NARF rescues, rehabilitates, and finds forever homes for hundreds of dogs and cats each year but did you know that we also have specialty programs that reach out into our community to help even more animals in need? Four amazing specialty programs are made possible by the generous donations of our supporters like you! These programs are designated to help loving pet owners in our community who just don't have the funds to provide necessary care for their own animals. For the past several years, these funds have had very low balances and we have not been able to help as many animals as we would like. Thanks to loyal supporters like you, we are now able to put some money away for these programs, but with so many pets and families in need, your continued support is essential! Take a look at some of the ways your donation makes a huge difference:

- **The Senior Program Fund** places deserving older cats and dogs with loving senior (over 62 years of age) owners and assists with necessary future medical care. There is not even an adoption fee for these animals!
- **The Steve Askins Spay/Neuter Fund** provides financial assistance for much needed spay and neuter surgeries for cats and dogs. Don't litter! Spay and neuter!
- **The Desimone Fund** is a medical assistance fund that provides financial assistance to people who either own cats with medical issues or who are helping stray cats. Meow!
- **The Miles Fund** is a medical assistance fund for people with dogs who can't quite afford necessary medical care. Calls for this fund are usually on an emergency basis, with the animal needing life saving immediate treatment such as surgery. Woof!

Your donations are vital to the success of these very worthwhile programs. Without you, our faithful friends, we would be unable to carry on this mission to help as many dogs, cats and families as we can!

Thank you so much for caring! -- Linda Pope, President

Be sure to join us for our 2014 Walk-a-Thon on September 7th!

The NARF Walk-a-Thon has moved to September! On Sunday, September 7th, our 19th annual Dog Walk-a-Thon will take place and you are cordially invited to come by and have fun. You can still be with hundreds of NARF friends who come out to enjoy a beautiful day at Los Gatos Creek Park. You will be able to walk with canine companions (yours or NARF foster dogs), participate in the incredible raffle, enjoy lunch and have a wonderful time. For all the details, please check out our website at www.narfrescue.org .

Also, please check us out on Facebook, and remember to *like* us!

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NARF Gifts to Benefit Loving Animals

Supporting Gifts

Supporting gifts allow Nike to rescue, rehabilitate and secure loving adoptive homes for hundreds of companion animals annually. Additionally, these gifts are crucial to Nike's continued success in educating our community about conscientious animal care, loving behavior modification, and the vital importance of spaying and neutering. \$_____

Honorary & Memorial Gifts

These honorary and respectful gifts further all of NARF's life-saving programs, while honoring and remembering loved ones and friends – both the two-legged and four-legged varieties. NARF will send gift announcement cards, in addition to printing gift acknowledgments in the newsletter. Please provide name(s) and address(es) for appropriate and timely recognition. \$_____

Canine Medical Assistance Fund

Contributions support Nike's pro-active efforts to spay and neuter non-foster dogs within the greater Santa Clara Valley area. Through this important fund, donors help combat the overpopulation epidemic that claims the lives of tens of thousands of adult dogs and puppies each year in our local cities. \$_____

Kathleen Desimone Memorial Feline Fund

Donations allow Nike to provide medical care for local, non-foster kitties in crisis situations. Contributors assist Nike in reaching out to suffering animals that have no other available resources. Established through the generosity of animal lover Kathleen Desimone's estate, this special fund fulfills her wishes to promote and endure the health and well being of cats. \$_____

Ask your employer about matching donations

Honorary and Memorial Gifts Form

Recipient Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

From: _____

Memorial: _____



Mail to: Nike Animal Rescue Foundation
P.O. Box 26587
San Jose, CA 95159

Note: All donations are tax-deductible



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Nike Animal Rescue Foundation
P.O. Box 26587
San Jose, CA 95159
(408) 224-NARF (6273)
www.narfrescue.org

**Please visit our website at www.narfrescue.org for more
Nike Animal Rescue Foundation updates.**

NARF Meetings

Board meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. If you have an idea to present to the Board, contact NARF at 408-242-6273.

Nike Animal Rescue Foundation

P.O. Box 26587, San Jose, CA 95159 (408) 224-6273 and (408) 946-2291 (cat specific).

The Nike Animal Rescue Foundation (NARF) is a non-profit, all volunteer organization founded in 1985, dedicated to protecting dogs and cats. We strive to eliminate animal overpopulation through spay and neuter programs and public education. Our volunteers rescue and shelter dogs and cats in need. We provide medical care and locate quality, permanent homes.

All Dog Pet Adoption Fairs are held on Saturdays from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Sundays from 12:00 to 3:00 PM. All Cat Pet Fairs are held on Saturdays from 11:00 AM to 3:30 PM. The location of each pet fair is advertised on our website www.narfrescue.org. Everyone is welcome to come by. Please do not bring pets for adoption unless by previous arrangement.