

# Story Time with ARPO!

(vol. 2)

September 30, 2006



Last year's "Story Time with ARPO" letter got rave reviews from our many fans and we appreciate the feedback we received. We again want to share a few of our animal stories with you to let you know that we do indeed *"put your money where our mouth is!"*

**Samba** is a snip of a pup who lost his sight due to neglectful owners leaving an eye infection untreated. This very sweet and mild mannered guy now has a new best buddy in his new home.....a FELINE of all things!! He's not too selective though and also likes to run and romp with the big dogs at the dog park.



This "**Little Honey**" of a girl came to us in dire need of some good medical attention. She had a severe skin infection and had been neglected. While in her foster home, she showed her own care-giving tendencies and affectionately dry-nursed a couple of kittens who were lonely for their mother. They'd been dumped at an area shelter at a much too tender age and needed someone to give them security. Little Honey is now in a permanent loving home of her own.

"Please get me out of here.....please help me!" were the cries of **Willow**. This kitten was stuck between the drywall panels in the wall of an apartment! We don't know how she got there or how long she had to stay, and we're not sure we really want to know. With the help of some animal lovers and some carpentry tools, Willow was soon safe and had made a new friend in ARPO. She is currently looking for a forever home!

Ever had to bottle feed a tiny puppy? It's a very time-consuming and sometimes heart-wrenching task. **Mia** was found at the young age of *one week*. Her caring foster mom fed her from a baby bottle every few hours until she was able to eat on her own. After several weeks of tender loving care, Mia found a permanent adoptive home. It's reported she still has an affection for being bottle fed and likes to "share" her little human sister's pacifier!!



Sometimes the best of kids gets caught up in the wrong crowd! That's what happened to our boy **Wilbur**. We were called to help with a streetwise pack who were causing havoc. Wilbur had a rotten tooth, defensive fight scars, and tested heartworm positive. We're still not sure if it was his good luck, or ours, that landed him with ARPO. He now has a permanent home where he's become the "resident rehabber" by helping other dogs learn that Good Guys Do Finish First!! Attaboy Wilbur!



Pitter patter, pitter patter.....wonderful music to a puppy-lover's ears. But this cadence was offbeat! Our little **Pitter** only had *THREE* feet. Born in a puppy mill, her fourth foot was undoubtedly chewed off by her nervous, unsocialized mommy who feared human touch and would rather kill her own young than face the miller's neglect and abuse. Thankfully, Pitter's spirit was unharmed, and she's now in a wonderful, loving home.....enjoying daily walks and romps around the yard with those precious three feet!

Ear cropping should be left to a veterinarian! Someone out there is trying it at home without success obviously. Poor **Elmer** and **Susha** came to ARPO (on separate occasions) with their ear flaps cut off so short it looked like they had no ears at all. Luckily, we were able to find some dog lovers that could see well beyond the physical deformities that had been forced upon these two and saw them for the truly loving pets they were. Both are now in forever homes.



A bald rack of bones came wandering into an elementary school grounds one day. Luckily, he chose a school where an ARPO member happens to teach! **Mack**, as he soon came to be known (he needed that strong name!), was missing most of his hair due to severe mange (thankfully not the contagious kind). After spending several months in a loving foster home, enduring numerous vet visits, and packing away a fair amount of groceries, this pitiful skeleton transformed into the beautiful dog he was intended to be. It didn't take long for a lucky adopter to recognize Mack's beauty (inside and out!) and he was placed in his forever home.

On a mission to reclaim an ARPO dog from animal control, one of our board members happened to spot a thin, sickly white boxer as she scanned the kennels. Wearing her heart on her sleeve, and being a softie for the breed, she couldn't leave **Violet** behind knowing she was considered unadoptable and facing certain euthanasia. We were out of funds, and out of foster space....but,....well,....we'd just have to make room and find the money! Through the member's dedicated efforts of raising money for vet bills, we were able to save this deaf boxer. "Violet" soon blossomed into the beautiful flower she is today. She's "living the good life" and shares her abode with another rambunctious boxer, in a home where she couldn't be more loved!



Mud Pies anyone? No....make that **MUD PUPPIES!** We were called to help with a litter of puppies that were born into horrible living conditions, literally living in their own "mud". The young puppies' infected feet were swollen to the point their tiny toes were the size of human fingers! Their tails were bare, one had a white eye and was thought to be blind, and one had an abscessed jaw. With wonderful vet care, medication, and a little time & tenderness, they all survived and began to thrive. All nine (eventually healthy) pups were placed into loving permanent homes.



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By sharing our animals' stories with you, we hope you will continue to see the overwhelming need that lies out there in the animal community. Our foster homes have been filled to capacity (and beyond) this past year. Through their efforts, and the great efforts of our volunteers, we've been able to rehome over 200 animals so far this year, and 1,761 total since ARPO's inception in 1998. Our efforts have been successful only because of your generous donations.

*This kind of an organization cannot exist without substantial financial supporters.*

*We sincerely appreciate your generous contributions.*

Please continue to help us educate the public on the importance of spaying/neutering pets. This is the only way we can end the terrible suffering and euthanasia in our local shelters and put a stop to the staggering pet overpopulation crisis in Indiana. Encourage anyone looking for a new pet to "**OPT TO ADOPT**" and visit our adoption events on Saturday afternoons at the Castleton Petsmart! Our website ([www.adoptarpo.org](http://www.adoptarpo.org)) sports some of the most adorable fuzzy faces in town!

We thank those of you who've already offered us your support this year. Our need, and the needs of our rescue animals, continue to grow. Even a small donation can make a large difference in a needy animal's life. **You are our LIFELINE**, and we sincerely thank you for your kindness as we again ask for your continued financial support.

ARPO forges ahead, knowing Indiana's homeless animals are counting on us.

Can we count on you? Please help us help them!

ARPO Board of Directors

Alliance for Responsible Pet Ownership, Inc.

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ARPO is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.