

Story Time with ARPO!

(vol. 3)
September 2007



Dear ARPO Friends and Supporters:

ARPO has been overwhelmed with "special cases" this year, and thanks to your generous help, we've been able to come through for these much deserving animals. We want to once again share some of their sagas not only in appreciation for your kind contributions, but also to let you know of some of the wonderful animals who still need homes.

Through the diligent efforts of our many volunteers and fosters, since ARPO's inception in 1998 we've been able to rescue and place nearly 2,000 animals. As you know, ARPO operates solely from donations and volunteer efforts, and without your help, this would not have been possible.

Here are just a few of our special stories:



Pepsi was abandoned at her own home. Her owners left her in the yard and moved away. Apparently, they thought she could fend for herself and her young puppies with no food/water. The shelter that picked her up affectionately nicknamed her "Granny" due to her advanced age - and the fact that she was more suited to being a grandmother than a struggling new mommy! It obviously took many years of neglect for her to get into the awful condition in which she was found. Her hair was half gone, teeth worn to nubs, severe skin infections and mange, heartworm positive, full of parasites, and to top it off - Lyme disease! Dogs tend to be much more forgiving than their so-called "care-givers" deserve, and even given her serious neglect, she still soaks up any love and attention she can get. We thought she needed a name with a little fizz and are calling her Pepsi!

Casper's elderly owner had to be admitted to assisted living and could no longer care for him. He's a very sweet and gentle soul who unfortunately suffered from bladder stones. His stones were severe and fused together making it impossible to remove them with normal surgical procedures. Poor Casper endured a neuter surgery only to find out a little later that he needed yet a second surgery. The latter surgery was a urethrostomy and involved creating a new opening for him to urinate through and removing his genitals (YIKES!). He is currently recuperating in his foster home and hoping to be ready for his permanent home soon.



Pit Bull Puppies Die From Heat Exhaustion in Unventilated Metal Storage Shed! This would have been the headline had no one stepped in to help them (in fact, one poor puppy did die). Very irresponsible owners decided to try and make a "quick buck" by letting their dogs breed and then selling the puppies. Evidently they forgot that puppies need to be with their mommy for 6-8 weeks. When the pups began to "stink up" the apartment at one week old, they were evicted to the metal storage barnin the middle



of the July heat.....with no air conditioning, no ventilation, no water source, and no electricity. **WHAT WERE THEY THINKING?** Animal control officers were called to the scene, fines were levied, and mom and babies were confiscated. Thank Goodness. Mommy was so sick she was not able to properly care for her puppies, and ARPO's foster moms had to bottle feed the very young pups. Now, several weeks later, they're all "fat & sassy" and currently looking for RESPONSIBLE adopters where they will never again face such unbearable conditions.

Luckily Rex the stray wandered into a dog-lover's yard and began his new life as "spoiled rotten". He got hooked up with ARPO and we began noticing problems with his hips. He was seen by a specialist only to find out that both of his hips needed surgery! Rex is quite a trooper and quickly bounced back from his first trip under the knife. He just recently underwent his second hip surgery and we're in hopes this recovery period will go as well as the first, and that he'll soon be ready for a home all his own.



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These truly special animals are what keeps our ARPO members going. Our board members, volunteers, and foster homes become entwined with the animals and want to do our very best for them. Each and every pet we save is special. The animal community still has an overwhelming need....and that need is for you! You make it possible for us to save them. Whether your contribution comes from corporate sponsorship, workplace matching funds, or whether it's a little extra "mad money" that you don't spend this week, we are grateful....the animals listed here are grateful.

Without your support, Pepsi would surely not have survived abandonment.

Without your support, Casper would likely have died from undetected bladder stone blockage.

Without your support, an entire litter of puppies would undoubtedly have died in an unventilated storage shed.

Without your support, Rex would still be suffering debilitating hip pain and have become unable to walk.

WITH your support, ARPO was able to SAVE these wonderful pets!

We sincerely appreciate your generous contributions.

Public education of spaying/neutering our pets remains our most important avenue to ending the staggering pet overpopulation crisis we still face. In order to end the terrible suffering and euthanasia in our local shelters we must all be committed to aggressive spay/neuter programs. 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) sports some of the most adorable fuzzy faces you'll find anywhere in our area!

Please help us continue to save these lovable animals. Thank you in advance for your support of ARPO.

Sincerely,

ARPO Board of Directors

Alliance for Responsible Pet Ownership, Inc.

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