

A quarterly newsletter for Volunteers, Friends & Supporters of The Oasis Animal Sanctuary, Inc.

Issue #23

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LOOK AT ME!



Here's me now!

"Did you know that your donations helped save me? A long time ago I was a work horse on a farm around Lancaster PA. I had a very hard life – I even suffered a broken hip that was never set. After about 20 years, when I was no longer able to work my owners sold me and I was bought by the 'Killers'. I didn't know who they were, but someone didn't want me to go to them so just before I headed up a truck ramp they called a woman who bought me. I went to live with her but I came with some health issues: my feet were cracked, overgrown and sore. I had skin infections all over. I suffered a trauma to my jaw earlier in my life resulting in some bad teeth and I could not eat very well. I wouldn't let anyone near my face! I was sad, thin and weak; I hurt all over, and was scared of everyone too. The nice lady worked with me to overcome my fears. Then she called Oasis and surrendered me to them. They got me medical attention, had some dental work done by an equine dentist, and got a blacksmith to trim my feet. That was really scary because I was afraid he would hurt my sore hip. But now I know he won't hurt me, and I am surrounded by gentle people who love me, and some other friendly horses taken in by Oasis. And I can finally EAT! Because of my age and condition, the people at Oasis said I

could stay with them forever and that's exactly what I want to do. Your donations help pay for my care.



Here's me when I was first surrendered to Oasis

Thank you from the bottom of my heart! Love, Pius"

Yes, everything about Pius is big, especially his appetite! To help defray the costs of his care Oasis is starting a sponsorship program for him. For example, a donation of just \$10 a month will buy a 3 day ration of hay. He also eats 18 pounds of Senior feed a day; a \$20 monthly donation will cover the cost of a bag of Manna Pro Senior feed to last him 3 days, and a \$35 monthly contribution helps cover the blacksmith, his bi-monthly de-wormer, and his necessary joint supplements. If you sign up as a sponsor you will receive a quarterly update and picture of Pius, along with the warm satisfaction of knowing you are directly helping this senior Gentle Giant that gave so much of himself for others. All of us at Oasis experience such an uplifting feeling when we see this formerly pathetic animal now trotting happily across his field. **Please complete the sponsorship form on page 4. Thank you!**

Go to www.petfinder.com and input the zip code "08081" to see all of our adoptables.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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FALL FUN!

Save these dates for some fun filled evenings, while helping homeless animals!

On **Friday, October 23rd**, Oasis is partnering with The Williamstown Rotary Club for our first Oktoberfest Beer Tasting Party. It is being held at the VFW Post #1616 at 1940 N. Black Horse Pike, Williamstown, NJ 08094. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. There will be a number of micro-breweries there for you to sample their product, as well as lots of food and entertainment. 6 PM to 9PM. Reserve your spot now by calling Oasis at 856-262-1222.

Then on **Tuesday, October 27th**, Bob Evans in Turnersville, NJ is hosting a Community Fun Night for Oasis. Have dinner there and Oasis will receive 15% of the gross proceeds. The kids will love the characters Biscuit and Gravy, who will be there to entertain

them. 4PM to 9PM. In order for Oasis to receive credit for your attendance you need to present a flyer when paying your bill. Please call Oasis at 856-262-1222 to get the flyer (sorry, we can't give them out at the restaurant on the 27th), or email us at oasisanimalsanct@yahoo.com. The restaurant address is 3841 Rt. 42, Turnersville, NJ.

On **Saturday, December 5th**, Oasis is hosting a "Come Wine With Us" wine tasting event at Sharrott Winery, 370 S. Egg Harbor Rd, Blue Anchor, NJ 08037. Tickets are \$20 and there are just 60 spaces available. Come for an enjoyable evening of good food, GREAT wine, fun people, and easy holiday shopping! 6 PM to 9PM. We had a similar event in March of this year and got rave reviews! Spaces will go fast, so reserve your spot now by calling Oasis at 856-262-1222.

GETTING GREENER

Many of our readers are responding to our effort to be more environmentally conscious by requesting their newsletter via email. We are still working on that and hope to have the winter issue ready for that venue. Of course if you prefer to have it mailed to your home, that's OK too! To have the newsletter emailed, please complete the coupon at the back of the newsletter and mail it in, or email us at oasisanimalsanct@yahoo.com.

WAIT... HELP STOP!

Do you really want to help the animals, at **NO** cost to you?!

Call TD Bank at **856-728-1700 NOW**

Just sign up for their **Affinity Program**, select **Oasis Animal Sanctuary** as your charity of choice. We **only need 25** more people/households to sign up, then we receive a year-end donation from TD Bank! **CALL NOW!!**

A memo from the Oasis founders on **Michael Vick**:

A number of our supporters have questioned us on our opinion of Michael Vick; some have even suggested we solicit a donation from him. In light of the controversy surrounding this individual, we want to share with you the results of some research we did as well as our collective thoughts on this topic.

The following was obtained online from actual court documents displayed by ESPN sports:

... .. **July, 2007**: Michael Vick and three others were charged by Federal authorities, with felony charges of operating an unlawful, 6 year long, interstate dog fighting ring at Vick's 15 acre property in Surry County, Virginia. He was accused of financing the operation, directly participating in dog fights AND executions, and personally handling thousands of dollars in related gambling activities. Federal prosecutors proceeded under the federal "Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act (the "RICO" Act).

..... **August, 2007**: Vick plead guilty to conspiracy to travel in interstate commerce in aid of unlawful activities and to sponsor a dog in an animal fighting venture. Vick had also agreed that in April 2007, 6 to 8 pit bulls were killed, by various methods, because they "underperformed" in the fighting ring.

..... **Judge Henry Hudson** of the U.S. District Court in Richmond, Virginia observed the following: Michael Vick did not always co-operate with authorities; he was vague and deceptive in his polygraph tests; he failed a random drug test for marijuana. Thus he concluded that Michael Vick had not accepted full responsibility for "promoting, funding and facilitating this cruel and inhumane sporting activity."

A quote from **Bloomberg.com**: "You were instrumental in organizing and promoting this activity", U.S. District Judge Henry Hudson told Michael Vick when he sentenced the former player to 23 months in a federal prison and three years probation. "He was in this thing up to his neck with the other defendants," the judge told Forbes.

There is plenty of explicit detail on the internet and in the news regarding the atrocities the dogs suffered and how some died; we will not regurgitate it here. The Oasis Board members are fair-minded and believe everyone deserves a second chance; HOWEVER, Michael Vick must truly be sorry and want to change his ways because it is the right thing to do, not to regain money, power and fame. To be remorseful the change must come from him willingly, from his heart; not as a requirement to resume his football career. Would Michael Vick have realized the "error of his ways" had he not gotten caught? Probably not.

We and the Oasis Board members hope Mr. Vick will someday genuinely appreciate the gravity of his horrendous deeds. It is the only way he can move forward in his redemption. Whether he can change his heart is truly, and only, up to him.

Thank you for allowing us to express our view.

Pam and Phyllis

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FRIENDLY'S RESTAURANT IS ANIMAL FRIENDLY!

On Monday evening September 21st, Friendly's Restaurant # 7412 , at 5700 N. Black Horse Pike, Turnersville, NJ hosted a dinner fundraiser for Oasis. Oasis will receive a portion of the proceeds the store earned between 5PM and 8PM. A nice evening out with friends, good food, GREAT desserts, - and money for the animals! Wags and Whiskers to General Manager Derrick Sharp and his crew for hosting the fundraiser!



Clockwise from left: President Pam Brighton, her husband Allan, and Trustee Allison Münch share a Friendly moment with the General Manager, Derrick Sharp.

GOOD NEWS!

Sebastian, the Himalayan cat on the cover of the last issue of the Oasis newsletter has found his new forever home. **Walter**, the little black cat in the summer newsletter is being adopted by his foster family. **Daphne**, one of the trio of orange tabby kittens, was adopted by a very nice couple, while the other two - **Caramel and Sneakers** - were adopted to another lovely couple, together!

LET YOUR LOVE OF ANIMALS LIVE ON

For those of you thinking of **donating a portion of your estate to Oasis**, please be sure to include our registered name ("The Oasis Animal Sanctuary, Inc."), our federal ID number (22-3810323), and our registered address: c/o Van De Weghe, 14 Easton Drive, Erial, New Jersey 08081. Since there are a number of animal welfare organizations with somewhat similar names, this will ensure your exact wishes are carried out.

LOOKING FOR A HOME

DD Impressive is still with Oasis, looking for her forever home. She is 21 years old and full of life. About 16 hands, she is a well trained, **registered Quarterhorse** mare. She is very ride-able, healthy, and up to date on shots.



Savannah was found wandering in the Victory Lakes section of Williamstown, NJ. No one has claimed her. She is an elderly cat that is happy just hanging out with you. A little camera shy maybe, but not people shy. She is currently in foster care with a few adult cats and is getting along with them. She is spayed, de-wormed, and tested negative for FeLV and FIV. **Any room in your home and heart for this lovely lass?**



TOO NEW FOR PHOTOS

We are taking in 4 tiny kittens – 3 males and a female. Call us for more information on these little ones. 856-262-1222



VOLUNTEER WITH OASIS

If you would like information about becoming an Oasis volunteer, please drop us a line at oasisanimalsanct@yahoo.com or call **856.262.1222**

NUMBERS ... NUMBERS... NUMBERS...

Surrenders: 22 in 2009 (6 foster homes!) **374 since 2002**

Adoptions in 2009: 18

Sterilization Assistance Program: 484 in 2009, 3,666 since inception of Program (2001)

Hundreds of thousands of future unwanted animals are humanely prevented by proactive spaying and neutering!

The following numbers were taken from the website of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. This is part of their "Stray Animal Intake and Disposition Survey – Dogs & Cats, 1984 - 2007", conducted through the Infectious and Zoonotic Disease Program. While the numbers are still staggering, it reflects an overall trend of decreasing animal deaths in NJ shelters:

| Year | Impounded | Adopted | Euthanized |
|------|-----------|---------|------------|
| 1984 | 161,146 | 31,311 | 82,566 |
| 1994 | 118,894 | 40,337 | 51,607 |
| 2004 | 114,942 | 38,111 | 49,975 |
| 2005 | 105,355 | 39,501 | 40,706 |
| 2006 | 100,858 | 37,119 | 41,254 |
| 2007 | 100,734 | 38,090 | 38,742 |

"There are two means of refuge from the miseries of life: music and cats."

- Albert Schweitzer



Moving?

Please help us keep postage costs down by informing us of your new address. Also, if you are getting duplicate copies of the newsletter, please let us know. Drop us a line at P.O. Box 3, Williamstown, NJ 08094, call us at 856-262-1222, or email us at oasisanimalsanct@yahoo.com. This way you won't miss Oasis updates. Thank you.

SPONSOR PIUS

(Story on page 1)

Yes, I would like to sponsor Pius! Please send me quarterly updates on his progress.

Name _____

Address: _____

City/state/zip _____

phone # _____

Please charge my Visa / MasterCard (circle one) \$_____ per month for his care.

Card # _____

Exp Date: _____

Signature of card holder: _____

OR, I will send a check for \$ _____ every month for his care.

WISH LIST

- **Foster homes** for all types of animals
- High quality **cat and kitten food**
- **Cat litter** – preferably non-clumping
- **WaWa gift cards for gas**
- **Postage stamps**
- **Bleach**
- **Manna Pro Horse feed**
- Good quality **hay or hay cubes**

I think dogs are the most amazing creatures; they give unconditional love. For me they are the role model for being alive."

- Gilda Radner



DELIVERED VIA EMAIL: "JUST A DOG"

From time to time people tell me **"Lighten up; it's just a dog,"** or "That's a lot of money for just a dog." They don't understand the distance traveled, time spent, or costs involved for "Just a dog". Some of my proudest moments have come about with "Just a dog". Many hours have passed with my only company being "Just a dog", and not once have I felt slighted. Some of my saddest moments were brought about by "Just a dog". In days of darkness, the gentle touch of "Just a dog" provided comfort and purpose to overcome the day.

If you too, think it's "Just a dog" you will probably understand phrases like "Just a friend", "Just a sunrise", or "Just a promise". "Just a dog" brings into my life the very essence of friendship, trust, and pure unbridled joy. "Just a dog" brings out the compassion and patience that makes me a better person. Because of "Just a dog" I will rise early, take long walks, and look longingly to the future.

For me and folks like me, it's not "Just a dog". It's an embodiment of all the hopes and dreams of the future, the fond memories of the past, and the

pure joy of the moment. "Just a dog" brings out what's good in me and diverts my thoughts away from myself and the worries of the day.

I hope that someday people can understand it's not "Just a dog". It's the thing that gives me humanity and keeps me from being "Just a man or woman".

So the next time you hear the phrase **"Just a dog"**, smile, because they **"Just Don't Understand"**.

- Author Unknown

WHERE IS OASIS

Bow Wow Meow

Tuscan Village Shopping Plaza
3101 Route 42,
Turnersville, NJ 08012
856-740-1330.

10 - 3 p.m. - Visit the adoption showcase the first Saturday of every month.

PETCO

1730 Clements Bridge Road
Deptford, NJ
856-384-9609

12 - 4 p.m. - Visit the adoption showcase the third Saturday of every month.

Please Help the Animals!

Send your tax deductible donation to:

The Oasis Animal Sanctuary, Inc.
P.O. Box 3
Williamstown, NJ 08094

\$15__ \$25__ \$50__ other\$ __

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Address : _____

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