

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

Issue #28

Winter 2011

Circulation 5,100

NICHOLAS & THE CHRISTMAS GIFT

Buried in a bevy of typically distressing phone messages one late December day was an unexpected bright spot. A local mother called to tell us that her 9 year old son Nicholas wanted to help homeless animals for Christmas, and he actually accomplished his goal. When Oasis President Pam Brighton called her back, she learned that the child's idea was to make and sell Christmas ornaments, and to donate the money to a local animal welfare organization. He and his mother searched the web for a local organization, and found Oasis. Nick's Mom informed Pam that he wanted to meet us and to give Oasis a check from the proceeds of his sales. Pam and a few volunteers met Nick and his mom Jennifer at the farm where the Oasis horses are boarded and some other animals are fostered. They got to meet the Oasis critters and loved them all. Nick then presented Pam with a check - for \$300! **He sold his ornaments for \$1.00 apiece; 300 ornaments were made and sold by a caring, giving young man that gave time and energy, along with his Mom, all for the animals.** That is truly what Christmas is all about. Oasis now has 3 new volunteers, Nick, his Mom and her fiancé. We thank them again for Nick's efforts and his caring concern for the homeless and abused animals in southern New Jersey.

Way to go, Nick!

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



Nick W. shows Pam a Christmas ornament he made while presenting her with a \$300 donation

WE WENT HOME!

We are so pleased to announce these recent adoptions:

Forrest – the pot-bellied pig has a new home in a heated barn complete with holiday decorations and two new oink-y friends!

DD Impressive – our registered quarterhorse mare now feels happy and “needed” with a new job in a lesson program for experienced riders.

Darla and Angel – this ferret couple now lives the high life in a beautiful “ferret condo” with lots of toys and other playmates.

Lil Girlfriend – the very social young cat who could not bear to leave foster Mom's home and menagerie. She was adopted out but was returned; Lil Girlfriend greeted each one of Foster Mom's pets with such intense adoration that Foster Mom is keeping her!

CAPTURE THE SOUTHWEST
Handcrafted Solid Wood Furniture, Art Gallery, Jewelry & Home Decor

We offer Free Layaway on all merchandise
 2740 Route 42 North, Sicklerville, NJ 08081
 Phone: (856) 262-4600 Fax: (856) 262-4889
www.bestofthewestdecor.com
 Or our Nautical line at www.capturetheseashore.com

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Pam Brighton, **President**
 Phyllis Van De Weghe,
Vice President & Treasurer
 Jill Galka,
Recording Secretary

Board Members at Large:
 Mary Johnson
 Allison Munch

Design: Heidi L. Mantz
Newsletter Printing
 by: Pirolli Printing

P.O. Box 3
 Williamstown, NJ 08094
 Phone: 856.262.1222
 Fax: 856.740.0156
oasisanimalsanct@yahoo.com
www.oasisanimalsanctuary.org

THE GREAT CISCO RESCUE

by Erin Blackwell

The following is a volunteer's account of “just another day in animal welfare”.

It started with a phone call to the Oasis office. A frantic woman named Tracey told Pam Brighton that her cat had gotten out and was stuck underneath their shed. “Cisco” had been there for 7 very cold, snowy, scary days. She had tried everything to lure him out, but nothing worked and now another major storm was on its way. He would be trapped and Tracey anxiously asked if anyone at Oasis could help. Pam reassured her that we would, and called another volunteer (Denise) and me to join her.

Tracey was exhausted, scared, and in tears when we arrived. She told us, “You're the only ones who would come to help me!” Some people told her she was being silly about the whole thing, and felt utterly lost. We assured her that we would help.

It wasn't going to be easy. The shed was large and FULL, with only a tiny access on one side. Tracey thought of a backhoe to lift the shed and Pam put in a call, but she got the same response Tracey had been getting; we were being silly. So we were on our own. Fortunately, Denise owns a large automotive jack, the kind professional garages use. She and Pam left to get it while I stayed with Tracey.

Personally, I was afraid Cisco was really hurt and that's why he didn't come out. I kept that to myself. I squeezed my head and shoulders under the shed and cleared out some leaves. Tracey helped me, plus brought me blankets to lay on, large flashlights, and hot coffee. As she did this, the first snowflakes started falling. So did her spirits.

When Pam and Denise got back we jacked up the shed from the side where we could access it and found out why I couldn't see Cisco before - he was on the other side of the main support beam. We couldn't fit the jack under that side, but that didn't stop us. I grabbed an axe from the shed and broke up the frozen ground. Tracey dug the loose dirt out of the way and Denise jacked the shed up higher. Pam crawled under, sending us each on one side in case Cisco bolted.

"I see him!" Pam suddenly called out. "He's staring at me wondering who I am." That fear kept Cisco pressed far away from her reach, and the support beams stopped the others from reaching him. We couldn't even use our net in there. Luckily, we could lift the shed higher and for the first time, I saw little Cisco. Even better, I could use the net handle to keep nudging him towards Pam. Cisco jumped out then started to bolt back under the shed in fear of all these strangers, but Pam grabbed him. He saw Tracey and jumped into her arms where she held him in a fierce, thankful hug.

He was home, safe, his nightmare over. We were so excited that we hugged each other and shouted in triumph.

Then Tracey whisked Cisco into the house, like the Secret Service sweeping the President away from danger.

We put everything back and loaded our things into the Oasis van. My legs were cold from laying in the snow; I was wet and dirty. And I felt fantastic! We deal with so many heartbreaking moments, it meant everything to be

part of this happy ending. It was a lift that stayed with me for days and still gives me warmth whenever I think about it. "This is why we do what we do," Denise said. "To get all the Ciscos together with all the Traceys to make happy homes."

Those people who talked to Tracey were wrong; it's not silly at all.



Erin, Tracey and Pam celebrate Cisco's rescue.



Ann McCallion
Owner

856-404-9078
267-979-0866 cell
ann@annanimalcare.com
www.annanimalcare.com

3721 Old Black Horse Pike
Williamstown, NJ 08094

Where your pet is part of the family!

**We Can Bring Color
& Song to Your
Backyard!**



Wild Birds Unlimited[®]

415 Egg Harbor Rd. Sewell, NJ 856.218.2973

AN OPEN LETTER TO "JOAN":

Thank you for your letter informing us that you could not support our organization because you've read that donors should not send money to a charity that only gives out a PO Box for an address. Since you did not include your last name or address, I would like to openly respond to your concerns via this newsletter.

The reason we use a PO Box is because our organization is also homeless. We have been trying for a few years to purchase property in southern NJ, which is not only very expensive, but also very restrictive. We need a small farm because of the horses and other animals in our care, and are working hard towards that end. Did you know that New Jersey State law requires an actual physical address when registering a business? The Oasis Animal Sanctuary, Inc. is registered to my home address - 14 Easton Drive, Erial, NJ 08081. That is the address on our required federal and state filings, our state gaming license, employer tax returns, W-2's and other federal and state forms. We use the PO Box so our mail can be picked up daily. If you pull up our annual federal return (Form 990EZ) on our website you will see that it indeed reflects an actual address (mine), and not a PO Box.

I certainly appreciate you bringing up your concern about this because it has alerted me to something we had not considered. There are probably many others who are justifiably leery of donating to organizations showing only a PO Box. We at Oasis are anxious for property to be purchased so we can move the operations and the animals to one location. Just like our animals, Oasis wants AND NEEDS a permanent home!!

I hope that this explanation alleviates your concern about Oasis. We invite you to come and tour the place where we currently lease pasture for our farm animals, and to where some of our cats and dogs are fostered. Certainly whether you decide to donate to Oasis is your personal choice, and while we respect your decision either way, we hope you will reconsider.


Thank you again for sharing your perspective.

Cordially,
Phyllis Van De Weghe
Co-founder & VP

Ph. 856-227-6080
856-227-9292
Fax 856-228-4336

Complete line of
Western & English tack

HORSE'N AROUND TACK SHOP, INC.
236 Mt. Pleasant Road
Sewell, NJ 08080



Home of
"The Razors Edge"

Hours
Mon-Fri 10-8
Sat-Sun 10-6

ADORABLE ADOPTABLES

We have received many calls in the last two years from people who can no longer keep their pets due to their financial situation. In December we took in another 3 such animals. The caregiver had moved out of her home because she could no longer afford to live there. The animals were left in the house alone, with no heat, although the owner said she went to feed them daily. **Misty** is a sweet 14 year old Shepherd-Husky mix, and with the exception of some incontinence, is in amazingly good shape for her age.



Misty and Nick go for a walk

Two young adult male cats, **Bismark** and **Sushi** were surrendered with Misty. Bismark, (a/k/a/ Bizzy), is a lovely buff & white semi-long-haired cat, also very sweet, about 1 year old. Sushi is a tan & black tabby, about a month younger than Bismark. Both cats are very friendly and are up for adoption. Because of her age and incontinence issues, Misty will most likely stay with Oasis for the rest of her life. Sponsor to help with her care would be greatly appreciated.



Bismark smiles for the camera

BOW WOW MEOW

"A PET BOUTIQUE"

FOR PETS & THE PEOPLE WHO LOVE THEM

GOURMET BAKERY * TOYS * CLOTHING

NATURAL TREATS & FOOD

672 Berlin Cross Keys Road, Sicklerville, NJ 08081

Mon - Fri 10AM - 8PM, Sat 10AM - 6PM

856-740-1330 - www.bowwowmeownj.com



Sushi with inquisitive green eyes

Jessie is a very young, small ferret that was found outside as a stray. Because she has had to fight to survive on the streets, we are working on her socialization skills. Jessie needs a quiet caregiver who is experienced with ferrets and who can help teach her that life is much kinder on the inside!



Jessie

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, June 2nd

6PM to 9:30PM

Winslow Villa Manor

Annual Dinner and Auction

Oasis will be hosting our Annual Dinner and Auction from 6PM to 9:30PM at the Winslow Villa Manor on Hay Road in Winslow, NJ. This is our largest fundraiser of the year! Tickets are \$40 each and include a hot and cold buffet, wine and beer, a dessert room, silent auction, Tricky Tray, door prizes, live music, Bingo, and more! Tickets must be reserved in advance – **mail your request to Oasis at PO Box 3, Williamstown, NJ 08094, or call 856-262-1222 and order with Visa or Master Card.**

Hi everyone, my name is Shorty.



I lived with a woman who lost her home and she could not keep me. I am in a foster home now and waiting for my forever home. I am a 10 month old Black Lab & Basset Hound mix. I know that sounds odd and some say I am a little funny looking, but I know I am cute and lovable. I keep my head held high and don't mind at all that my name is Shorty. I am neutered (not a fun day for me!), am doing well with housetraining as long as I am on a schedule, am crate trained, **LOVE to play** with other dogs, and I **LOVE kids**. I try to play with foster mom's cat, but he never wants to play. I am kind of nervous when I meet new adults, but warm up to them in a few minutes, especially if they give me treats - yum!! Though I am energetic and playful, my foster mom says I am also laid back and easy going as I usually don't whine or bark when I spend time in my crate or out back in the kennel by myself. I look forward to meeting my new family, so please inquire about me.

Our Adoption Program offers animals that are vetted, up to date on age-appropriate shots, socialized, de-wormed, and sterilized. Adopt two animals, and receive a 20% discount off the adoption fees.

WITH GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO:

... **Karen Steward** of KC Tack and Stable, 18 Lawrence Road, Bridgeton, NJ (856) 455-5342 for her donation of muck buckets, horse supplements, and a new winter blanket for Poomba, a 30+ year old pony that was abandoned in a field during the summer with no water or food. Poomba loves his new blankie!



Poomba shows off his new attire!

... the **friends and family of Doris Ciarleglio** (Phyllis Van De Weghe's mother) who made donations in her memory, and especially the folks at Samsung Corporation;

... the **family of Tyrone Descove**, who made a donation in his memory;

... **Scott Keagy**, manager of **Friendly's Restaurant** in the Deptford Mall, Deptford, NJ for his fundraising dinner at the restaurant;

... **Katie's Fund of the Philadelphia Foundation** for a \$600 donation for animal care;

... the **M. Edward Morris Foundation** for a \$4,633 grant for the Sterilization Assistance Program;

... the **Natalie Furniss Charitable Trust** for a \$3,441 grant for the Sterilization Assistance Program;

... the **J. Robert Nonemaker Foundation for Small Animals Inc** for a \$2,500 grant for the Sterilization Assistance Program;

... and to all the **sponsors, donors, and businesses that have donated time, money, product, and service** to Oasis for the many animals in our care, our heartfelt thanks once again! **EVERY donation** is important, and we certainly appreciate them all.

THANK YOU!!!

AND THE WINNERS ARE

Our **2010 Holiday Money Raffle** fundraiser helped ten lucky people with holiday bills while raising approximately **\$3,480 for the animals** in our care. Williamstown's Mayor Mike Gabbianelli pulled the winning raffle tickets on November 19th. The winners were:

1st prize: \$696.00

Jeffrey Brown, Merchantville, NJ

2nd prize: \$556.80

Traci Schock, Riverton, NJ

3rd prize: \$487.20

Tina Lovell, Pennsauken, NJ

4th prize: \$417.60

Nancy Gillen, Jackson, NJ

5th prize: \$348.00

Eloise Sulzman, Vineland, NJ

6th prize: \$313.20

Faith Roll, Paulsboro, NJ

7th prize: \$243.60

Cheryl Aldrich, Mt. Laurel, NJ

8th prize: \$208.80

Mori Kiger, Woodstown, NJ

9th prize: \$139.20

Stephanie Ness, Turnersville, NJ

10th prize: \$69.60

Tina Formisano, Vineland, NJ

Congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone who participated!

"We're now on Facebook!

Connect with us and see what's new!"

2010 IN NUMBERS

Animals surrendered:

27 cats, 5 dogs, 1 bird, 2 ferrets, 1 horse, and 1 pig

Animals placed/adopted: 23

Grand total of all animals surrendered to Oasis: 425

Number of participants in the Sterilization Assistance Program: 317

Grand total of all animals sterilized thru the Sterilization Assistance Program: 4,142

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. The more people that sign up, the greater TD Bank's donation will be to Oasis. **CALL NOW!!**

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 \$ _____

Name : _____

Address : _____

We also accept Visa and Master Card

Account# _____

exp date _____

Signature: _____

Please use my email address for sending me future newsletters:

Email address (please print): _____

Please reprint your address: _____