



Animal Tracks

NEWSLETTER

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

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Fall 2018

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Another year has flown by, and what an eventful year it's been! In January, Pam suffered a severe injury while moving a horse frightful of an impending storm; we lost power during the 4 Nor'easters that crippled the area; there were unresolvable issues with a contractor for the cat cottage; and I suffered 2 foot injuries. We've also found a new contractor for the cat cottage, and enjoyed a number of very successful fundraisers. A donor provided Oasis with a whole-property generator, and another provided Oasis with a number of needed big-ticket items. We've expanded our Board membership to 6 and had many new volunteers help out. We were blessed to have a volunteer take on the daunting tasks of spearheading the Dinner & Silent Auction, and our Open House & Craft Fair, two fundraisers needing a huge amount of time and effort to make successful. Through November, Oasis took in almost 20 new animals, and through the ravages of disease and old age lost 3 of our beloved resident senior equines – Cierce, Slick, and Romeo - and our cat Sarah.

As we look forward to another busy year we are thankful for our incredibly supportive volunteers and our generous donors. Considering the chaotic world in which we live, it is comforting to see people come together in compassion and friendship to help the animals. I feel blessed to have been given this opportunity to help others on their journey through Life. Their gift in return – unconditional love – is a priceless treasure that can only be measured by the heart.

With the closing of another year, the Oasis Board members – Pam, Mary, Melissa, Dawn, Susan and I – want to sincerely thank our donors, sponsors, and volunteers for all you have done for Oasis in our mission as a refuge for abused and neglected animals. Simply put, we couldn't do this without you!

A joyous and Merry Christmas; Happy Hanukkah; Happy holidays to all!

For the Animals,
Phyllis Van De Weghe
Co-Founder, Vice President & CFO

MEET MOLLY AND DOLLY

Molly (brown) and **Dolly** (cream) are two middle-aged female donkeys (Jennies) that were rescued in August from a local "rescue" that was closed down. The neglected animals had serious dermatitis on their legs causing flies to swarm and bite, making them miserable. Additionally their feet were overgrown into "Aladdin slippers" making standing and walking painful. The two had bonded tightly, giving each other comfort during their ordeal. When they were rescued by Oasis, they were first taken to a farm in Millville where Phyllis Van De Weghe and foster Mom worked with them daily to clear up the skin issues and get them used to halters and being led. They settled in and once they realized they were being helped, they became friendly with their handlers. They were moved to Oasis in mid-September, where they will stay as permanent residents. Molly and Dolly are very friendly now and communicate loudly with the volunteers - especially at supptime!



Molly & Dolly

MEET JADE AND SAPPHIRE

A former feral cat from Gloucester City, NJ, little Miss **Jade** became a momma at just 6 months old herself. She gave birth to 4 babies; sadly only 1 survived. **Sapphire** is Mom's pride and joy; and was named for her beautiful blue eyes. As soon as the kitten is weaned, Jade will be spayed, and Sapphire will also be sterilized when she is big enough. Jade is quite the doting mother over her little one and we are hoping the two can be adopted together.



Jade & Sapphire

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THE CAT THAT CAME IN FROM THE COLD

During the winter of 2011, President Pam Brighton noticed a small black cat struggling to survive in the woods next to her property. Pam tried to catch the young animal using a large dog carrier with some bedding. She would leave food for the cat whom she named Sarah, and the animal would go into the carrier to eat but always left 1 foot out for her great escape. On one particularly frigid, snow-covered day in February, Pam noticed the tiny cat on her deck. She tried to reach out to the animal, but Sarah would not allow it. In the meantime, Pam's own cat Kiera Lea came over to watch the interaction between Mom and the stranger. Pam suggested to Kiera to let the little one know it was OK to come inside. Pam watched in amazement as her cat made circles on the glass door with her front paw – maybe some feline communication with Sarah? She stopped and looked at Pam – who then went outside with some cat food, placed it in the carrier, and little Sarah went in – with all 4 feet! She did not hiss, growl or try to escape once the carrier door was closed. Pam brought her inside and the little cat seemed grateful to be someplace warm.

It took a while for Sarah to be comfortable enough to come out of her hiding places in her new home (Pam's large guest bathroom), but she was finally warm, dry and well fed. Eventually Pam was able to touch her enough to get her to a vet. Unfortunately she tested positive for FIV (Feline AIDS) but was asymptomatic. Little Sarah got along well with Pam's cats and her dog, so Pam decided to keep her as a permanent resident foster. Sarah was spayed and became friendlier over the years, venturing outside the bathroom and even allowing a few people to pick her up and cuddle her.

Sarah had a wonderful home with the Brighton's. However, she always retained the lessons of her feral-ness, hiding any health issues to avoid looking weak and vulnerable when illness struck; as it did and sadly took her life on Wednesday, July 18, 2018. Apparently she had colon cancer that spread; she never showed symptoms until 2 days before. Sarah was only 7 years old.

Sarah's legacy teaches 3 important lessons – feral cats are truly sentient beings and absolutely deserve compassion and care; feral cats are capable of accepting AND giving love and respect; and FIV is not necessarily a death sentence. Far from her beginnings of hunger and freezing, our little Sarah lived a quiet, happy life. She is missed.



Sarah

COMMITMENT

by Myla Nelson

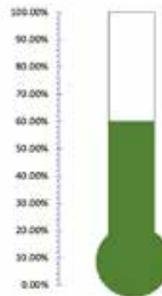
Before I started to volunteer, I had free time and a love for animals. In 2017, it was the end of the summer and I was looking for things to do. My mom's friend recommended The Oasis Animal Sanctuary, so I applied to be a volunteer. On my first day, I was nervous because I did not have any prior experience with horses and I did not know exactly what work I would be doing, but as I kept coming consistently, I learned how to take care of each of the animals and I picked up on the routine. In particular, in the beginning, I was unsure how to reset the horse's feed, but eventually I memorized what each horse ate without having to look at the list. I fell in love with each of the animals. I try my best not to miss days when I am supposed to come in. I come once or twice a week and those are my chances to see the animals, so I don't want to throw them away. If I did not volunteer I would most likely spend that time doing something useless like watching TV, so it is good for me to get fresh air, do something I enjoy, and also help out while I am at it. It's a win-win. It's easy to be committed when each week I am met with such great people and animals.

CALLING ALL ANIMAL ADVOCATES

DO YOU NEED TO BE NEEDED? WELL, WE NEED YOU!

As was reported in the summer newsletter - In order to continue healing abused animals, and to humanely reduce overpopulation via our Sterilization Assistance Program, Oasis needs just 2 things: an ongoing influx of money, and dedicated volunteers. It's that simple. Only . . . it's not.

Our operating budget for 2018 is \$162,500. This does not include funding for the cat cottage renovation; this is simply for the day-to-day animal care and operating the facility. As of October 31st, we have received 60.16% of our budgeted income. Our income is derived from individual donations, grants, co-pays and fees, and fundraisers we run all year long. There is usually a significant spike in donations during November and December and we are hopeful that trend will continue. This is also the time of year when Trustees of Foundations grant money to charities, and Oasis has a few grant proposals out for consideration.



Thank you to the many people who responded to our call for Animal Advocates to help finance the Oasis endeavor. If you love animals, please consider becoming an Oasis Animal Advocate by donating just \$10 a month. Your support is greatly needed, and appreciated!

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– Milan Kundera

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Myla & Dolly

ADORABLE ADOPTABLES - WE WANT TO GO HOME!

These adorable animals are ready for their new life with their forever family. For the Holidays, we are reducing the adoption fee to \$65 for a cat or kitten; the price is further reduced by 20% if you adopt more than 1 animal. For that fee, you receive an animal that was vetted, tested negative for FeLV and Feline AIDS, is up to date on age appropriate vaccines, was sterilized, and was socialized with humans and other animals.

Miss Kitty was returned to us by her new caregiver because she did not get along with the other family cat. Miss Kitty is a beautifully marked calico with striking green eyes. She is very affectionate towards people but apparently prefers to be an "only cat" so she can keep all the adoration to herself!



Miss Kitty (F)

Sassy is still waiting for her new family. How can you resist those beautiful green eyes! Sassy is a friendly and independent kitty looking for a new home where she will be loved forever. She is hyper-thyroid and is on topical treatments 2x a day, VERY easy to do. She likes other cats, but can be bossy. Come see her and make her a part of your family. She loves to talk!



Sassy (F)

Spring and **Summer** are two little sisters waiting for their new family. These two will keep you very entertained with their energy and antics! Our resident caretaker Jim reported hearing a "funny noise" one evening in the kitchen. He investigated and found Summer had learned how to dispense ice cubes from the dispenser in the freezer door. And Spring was having a blast batting the ice cubes around the floor! Jim quietly switched the dispenser from "ice cubes" to "water". The kittens never did that again! Aside from being active, these two are loving and happy – a complete joy to have around.



Summer (F)



Spring (F)

Young feline siblings **Midnight**, **Thelma** and **Louise** are still awaiting their new forever homes. Midnight is a stunningly handsome, friendly and playful guy; Thelma is quite the love-bug, and Louise will start to purr when she sees you reach down to pet her. (She will park herself on your lap for as long as you want a lap-warmer!) They can be adopted separately; any one of them would make a wonderful addition to your household.



Midnight (M)



Thelma (F)



Louise (F)

WAIT... HELP STOP!

**Help the animals,
at NO cost to you?!**

Call TD Bank at 856.728.1700

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!!

SADLY DEPARTED

Cierce – 29 year old
Arabian mare

Romeo – 35 + year old
draft-cross gelding

*"A kitten is in the animal world as a
rosebud is in the garden."*

– Robert Southey

WE WENT HOME

Pablo (kitten)
Buttons (adult cat)

ADORABLE ADOPTABLES- WE WANT TO GO HOME

Our horses **Hugo**, **Gulliver**, and **Junior** are also still awaiting their forever homes. Please call for more information on these stunning equines.



Hugo (M)



Gulliver (M)



Junior (M)

AMAZON SMILE

Amazon has a "Smile" program where they donate a portion of the sale to a charity of your choice. Oasis is one of those choices. When you go to Amazon, search for the Smile Program. They have 5 top charities listed, but use the search feature to select Oasis Animal Sanctuary Bridgeton NJ. (Not sure why it's set up with "Bridgeton"!)

That's it! Bookmark the Amazon Smile page and shop from there. .5% of the sale will go to Oasis

HOLIDAY MONEY RAFFLE

Every year Oasis runs Money Raffles to raise funds for the animal programs at the sanctuary. Each ticket provides an individual with 10 chances to win, and the prizes are based on a percentage of the gross income from ticket sales. The winning tickets are pulled at the Franklinville Township Mayor's office. This year's winners for the Holiday Money Raffle, held on November 16th, were:

1st	Janet Kershaw	Thorofare, NJ	\$740.00
2nd	Beth Montgomery	Bergenfield, NJ	\$592.00
3rd	Lisa Buffington	Atco, NJ	\$518.00
4th	Lillian Hewett	Woolwich, NJ	\$444.00
5th	Roger Knudsen	Franklinville, NJ	\$370.00
6th	Diane Battelini	Vineland, NJ	\$333.00
7th	Joanna Bak	Magnolia, NJ	\$259.00
8th	Naomi Rickborn	Atco, NJ	\$222.00
9th	John Detrus	Sewell, NJ	\$148.00
10th	Catherine Umstetter	Sewell, NJ	\$74.00

This raffle netted Oasis **\$3,700** for animal care. Thank you to all who participated, and also thank you to those who donated all or a portion of their winnings back to the sanctuary!

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, January 25, 2019 7 – 10PM

AN EVENING WITH SPIRIT

Immerse yourself in an evening of spiritual connection with Aisling, a local Psychic Medium. Aisling is clairaudient, which means she primarily hears Spirits, altho she can also see and feel them. The event is \$40 per person, and Aisling is donating the entire evening's fees to Oasis. We are serving a light evening meal from 6PM to 7 PM for an additional \$10. Please understand no one is guaranteed a reading - Aisling communicates with the Spirits that choose to show up that night for their loved ones. The event will be held at the farm. Seating is limited to 15. Please sign up early for your spot! Visa and MasterCard are accepted.

WISH LIST

- Bales of straw to keep the ducks & turkey warm this winter
- Pine or cedar shavings for horse bedding
- Gift certificates to Tractor Supply or Horse 'N Around Tack Shop (Sewell, NJ)
- Postage stamps
- #10 envelopes; paper
- A newer van
- WaWa or gas gift cards
- Commercial washer & dryer for the cat cottage
- Gutters for the Barn & installation thereof
- New or gently used 2 horse trailer

Please Help the Animals!

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