

NEWSLETTER

The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care



As Luck Would Have It

By Olivia Miller

Ralph is one lucky dog. The pit bull terrier was an hour away from being euthanized when he was rescued from a New York City shelter by Colby Mickle. Colby brought Ralph home to Brewster where, according to his new owner, "he got to see the woods for the first time, swim in the ocean, meet horses and chickens. He's been a blessing to me."

Ralph's life was spared a second time this past summer. He was acting lethargic and "just wasn't himself," according to his owner. His condition worsened over the next few days, so Colby brought his beloved 60-pound companion to Cape Animal Referral and Emergency Center (CARE) in South Dennis. "I was freaking out, not knowing what was wrong," Colby recalled. "It was 2 a.m. when I loaded him in the truck and brought him to CARE."

Tests and X-rays showed an object lodged in the dog's intestine. Colby knew immediately what it was: a fragment of a ball. He remembered Ralph chewing apart a ball but didn't think the dog had eaten it. Not only had Ralph ingested part of the ball, it had ripped a three-inch gash in his intestine. Ralph needed surgery... and quick. As is often the case, the timing couldn't have been worse. "I was in the middle of a career change and had just left my job of five years," Colby explained. Money was tight and cost was a major issue. Ralph was only



two and a half years old, and I kept thinking that just because I don't have the money shouldn't mean he doesn't deserve to live."

While at CARE Colby learned about The Sampson Fund for Veterinary Care. "I had no idea if The Sampson Fund would say "yes," but the next morning I filled out an application." Happily, The Sampson Fund agreed to help with the cost of surgery and treatment.

Following a four-day stay at CARE, Ralph was "one hundred percent himself" when he got home...never mind that he still had staples in his stomach. "At two-and-a

half, he's got a lot of energy. It was hard to keep him quiet," said Colby.

"I am extremely grateful to the staff at CARE and to The Sampson Fund for making it possible to save 'my son.' My biggest concern was that his breed would be an issue, but they were really cool about it and didn't stereotype.

"I'm lucky to have Ralph in my life. I look forward to getting out of work and taking him to swim or play fetch. He goes everywhere with me, and everyone loves him. He loves people and other dogs. I've never had an issue with him. He is a good boy."



P.O. Box 1756, Orleans, MA 02653
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508-240-7387

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Sampson Fund

Affiliated Hospitals

Barnstable Animal Hospital - Hyannis

Brewster Veterinary Hospital - Brewster

Cape Animal Referral Emergency

Center (CARE) - South Dennis

Cape Cod Animal Hospital - West Barnstable

Cape Cod Veterinary Specialists - Bourne

Falmouth Animal Hospital - North Falmouth

Dr. Michelle Jasny - West Tisbury

Lower Cape Veterinary Services - Eastham

New England Veterinary Oncology Group

Oceanside Animal Hospital - Sandwich

VCA Pleasant Bay Animal Hospital - East Harwich

Vineyard Veterinary Clinic - Edgartown

Veterinary Advisor: Lilan Hauser, DMV

SAMPSON FUND MISSION STATEMENT

To provide financial assistance for the rehabilitative veterinary treatment of critically ill or injured dogs and cats whose caregivers cannot afford treatment or who are found without known caregivers, thereby offering an alternative to euthanasia and preserving the unique emotional, social and beneficial bonds that tie animals and humans together.

For further information about The Sampson Fund, please visit our website at www.sampsonfund.org

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear Friends:

The last quarter of the year is always a busy one for The Sampson Fund. In October pets donned their Halloween gear for photos with our not-so-scary witch, trustee Tracy Plaut. Howl-A-Day-Inn again hosted the event and transformed the dog day care center into a spooky scene. And then December brought three Pet Photos with Santa events, at CARE, at VCA Pleasant Bay Animal Hospital and at Brewster Veterinary Hospital. Our wonderful Santas, Joe Yukna (Joe the Dog Man), Jack Bakker and Dr. Bill Kaser made these really fun and successful fundraisers for The Sampson Fund. Once again Snow's Home & Garden in Orleans included The Sampson Fund in its gift-wrapping for charity program, inviting our volunteers to wrap gifts for its customers for donations to our cause. This is a wonderful community program that benefits many local organizations.

We are grateful to have received support from The Mary-Louise Eddy and Ruth N. Eddy Foundation, The Carson Family Foundation, and The Marian Craig Leers Charitable Trust. Funds received from these foundations enable us to fulfill our mission of helping Cape Cod dogs and cats and their caretakers.

We hope you will come cheer on those brave souls who will plunge into the frigid water at West Dennis Beach to raise funds for The Sampson Fund on Sunday, March 3, at noon. If you want to "plunge," you may sign up by contacting CARE, which sponsors the event, at 508-398-7575.

What better way to celebrate "International Pet Day" than dining at Hearth 'n Kettle for breakfast, lunch or dinner...or all three? Hearth 'n Kettle will donate a portion of all sales on that day to The Sampson Fund. You need to bring a copy of the flyer announcing the event for us to qualify for the donation. The flyers are available on our website, at The Sampson Fund affiliated hospitals, and elsewhere in this newsletter.

Patti McGan will again host an annual benefit for The Sampson Fund and Animal Rescue League of Boston, Brewster Branch, on Sunday, April 14, from 2 to 6 at Sons of Erin Hall, West Yarmouth. There will be a silent auction, raffles, music, delicious food and a cash bar. We hope to see you there.

And, finally, best wishes for a very happy and healthy 2013 for you and your pet companions.

Patti Smith
President

Join the Christopher S. Donner Society

The Society, begun in 2012, provides special recognition for those members who have included The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care in their long-term plans through bequests or other deferred-giving arrangements.

Christopher S. Donner, VMD, former director of Pleasant Bay Animal Hospital, founded The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care in 1986 and remains an active member of The Sampson Fund Board of Trustees.

Please contact us at sampsonfund@yahoo.com or visit our website at www.sampsonfund.org for a Christopher S. Donner membership form.

Members of the Christopher S. Donner Society:

Mr. Robert Bourgojn
Dr. & Mrs. Martin V. Haspel
Mr. & Mrs. Robert F. Smith

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If you are receiving this newsletter in the mail, either we do not have your email address or you have indicated a preference for a mailed copy. If you wish to have future copies of the newsletter sent electronically, please email your address to us at sampsonfund@yahoo.com.

Cape Cod Disaster Animal Response Team (CCDART) to Hold Orientation and Training Sessions

By Holly Rogers

One of the lessons learned during Hurricane Katrina was that many people will not leave their homes during times of disaster unless they can take their pets with them. While we'd all like to think 'it won't happen here,' the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy showed that the Northeast is, in fact, vulnerable.

CCDART is an organization that assists communities with emergency preparedness for pets. Our goals are to EDUCATE communities on disaster awareness that includes pets; TRAIN volunteers to respond to emergencies; and to RESPOND by providing a fully trained volunteer staff for the pet component at Barnstable County regional shelters.

During Hurricane Sandy, CCDART had a pet component at two of the three county regional shelters. Our vision is to have enough trained, ready, and willing volunteers to staff a pet component at ALL county regional shelters when called upon.

This is where we need the commitment and support of local

communities. We need more volunteers from all areas of the Cape, but especially for shelters at Nauset High School, Cape Cod Tech, and Falmouth High School.

CCDART has enhanced its training program for 2013 and added a one-day introductory training class. This class will train volunteers to assist with many non-animal-handling positions within the shelters, such as registration, security, and safety. In addition, a seven-week course will train volunteers for other positions within the shelters and will require volunteers to have or acquire hands-on animal-handling skills.

One-hour information sessions will explain CCDART's mission and discuss opportunities for you to help. Registration is NOT required. The sessions will be held from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in:

**Dennis, Tuesday, January 22,
Dennis Police Department**

**Falmouth, Monday, February 4,
Waquoit Congregational Church**

**Mashpee, Monday, February 25,
Mashpee Fire Department**

The one-day "Introduction to Cape

Cod Disaster Animal Response Team and Regional Sheltering" will be offered in a variety of locations and dates. You do not have to attend the orientation session to attend this training and people can attend any session that fits their schedule. Preregistration is required for the 1-day training, which will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in:

**Orleans, Saturday, January 26,
Old Firehouse**

**Dennis, Saturday, February 2,
Agway**

**Waquoit, Saturday, February 23,
Waquoit Congregational Church**

**Falmouth, Saturday, March 2,
Gus Canty Center**

**Orleans, Saturday, March 9,
Old Firehouse**

To register for the one-day class or for further information, check our website at www.ccdart.org, find us on Facebook at Cape Cod Dart, email us at training@capecoddart.com, or call 508-737-9467.

In a disaster, be part of the solution! CCDART is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.



All dressed up for The Halloween Howl at The Howl-A-Day Inn.



Santa (aka Joe The Dog Man) calms a not-so-sure feline at the Pet Photos with Santa event at CARE.

Country Garden in Hyannis hosted a Tulip Giveaway contest for nonprofit organizations. And the winner was... The Sampson Fund. Tracy Bassett and Nan Ingraham of Country Garden helped us load up 848 tulip bulbs. The bulbs were potted up by Plants For Pets Garden Event chair, Irene Cooper, and hopefully will be in bloom for the sale on Saturday, May 18. This was a very generous, community-minded project by the folks at Country Garden, and we are grateful for their support. And we thank everyone for "liking" us on Facebook to help us win this fabulous prize.

The Sampson Fund
For Veterinary Care
FUNDRAISER



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Hyannis | (508) 568-2935

3 locations!

Route 28 in the H'nK Plaza,
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3 locations!

9 West Road in Skaket Corners,
Orleans | (508) 240-0111

Thursday, April 11th, 2013
7am to 9pm

Present this flier to your server when you order
and 15% of your total food & beverage bill will be donated to the

The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care

Hearth 'n Kettle Restaurants... *Your Community Business Partner*