



P.O. Box 1756
Orleans, MA 02653

Fall 2020

NEWSLETTER

The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care



THE SAMPSON FUND
For Veterinary Care

More Life to Live

by Olivia H. Miller

Bruno is a happy, healthy 11-year-old beagle, who was adopted by Provincetown resident Lisa Edwards about five years ago. As often the case in life, all was well until it wasn't. Earlier this year, Lisa noticed a small lump on Bruno's upper left hind leg. "It didn't seem to be giving him any trouble," she said, "but I kept an eye on it." Eventually, however, the lump grew considerably and started protruding from under his fur." That was when she brought Bruno to Herring Cove Animal Hospital in Provincetown to have it checked out.



A needle aspiration and biopsy indicated that Bruno had a cancerous mass, known as a soft-tissue sarcoma. Derived from a Greek word meaning "fleshy growth," sarcomas account for about 15 percent of canine cancers, and are most common in middle-aged or older dogs. Soft-tissue sarcomas arise from connective tissues (fat, muscle, cartilage, tendons, nerves, blood vessels), either on the surface of the body or within an organ. Since it is not understood what causes soft-tissue sarcomas in dogs, there is no way to prevent them.

Typically, sarcomas grow slowly in one area but once established, they can spread (metastasize). Lisa's vigilance paid off. The tumor was classified as a low grade (grade 1). "They told me it was really good they got it when they did," Lisa explained.

The mass would need to be removed surgically. "I'm a single mom with a daughter in college. I couldn't pay for the surgery." Dr. Sadie Hutchings at Herring Cove Animal Hospital suggested that Lisa should apply for financial assistance from The Sampson Fund. As it turned out, she was aware of The Sampson Fund. "About three years ago, Bru-

no had issues with his mouth and needed to have a lot of teeth pulled. The Sampson Fund helped me with the cost of the extractions."

The procedure would need to take place at Eastham Veterinary Hospital, which is an affiliate member of The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care. Lisa filled out an application for financial assistance and it was accepted. Bruno underwent surgery to remove the mass about a month ago and everything went very well. The stitches were recently removed and, according to Lisa, he is doing great and is back to his howling beagle self.

"The surgery didn't faze him," she said, "and the stitches didn't bother him at all. He is a really good dog and has a great personality. We lucked out.

"He still acts like a younger beagle. I'm thankful he will have more life to live. I don't know what I would have done without help from The Sampson Fund. It's hard to even think about that because there was no way I could have afforded the surgery. I am so grateful."

Please detach and return to: **The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care, P.O. Box 1756, Orleans, MA 02653**

The Sampson Fund DONATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

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(Your email address will be used only for communications from The Sampson Fund)

Level of Donation: \$25___ \$50___ \$100___ \$250___ Other___

My check (payable to The Sampson Fund) is enclosed: \$ _____

Please charge my contribution \$ _____ to: Visa Mastercard American Express

Account# _____ Exp. Date _____ 3-digit code _____

Name as appears on card _____ Signature _____

The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Your donation is tax deductible.



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The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care Mission Statement:

*To provide financial assistance
for veterinary care for critically ill
or injured dogs and cats on Cape
Cod and the Islands when owners
cannot afford treatment.*



Follow Us on Facebook

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your support during these unusual and difficult times. We hope you and your pets are staying well and safe. I'd like to share this knowledgeable quote from Steven Feldman, executive director of the Human Animal Bond Research Institute. "For those of us who can work from home, it was Covid that forced us to do so, but it's our pets that made us like it."

And on the subject of the human/animal bond, you might want to read Dog Star: How My Dog Became My Spiritual Guru by Cape Cod novelist, Jeremiah Shaw.

Due to the pandemic, The Sampson Fund has had to cancel four planned fund raising events this year. Of course we miss the revenue but we also miss interacting with you and your pets. We are hoping to host a holiday event. We'll keep you posted.

Our Sampson Fund annual meeting on December 3 at 6:30 will be held virtually this year. If you would like to join us at the zoom meeting, let us know by emailing us at sampsonfund@verizon.net by November 30.

Patti

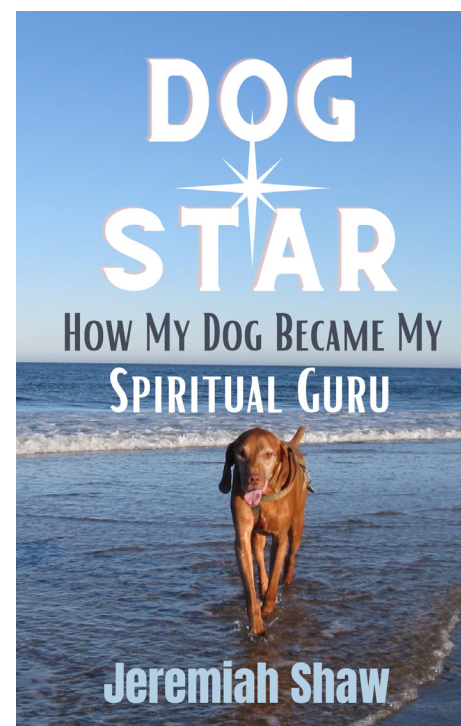
**The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care
Annual Meeting
Thursday, December 3, 2020
to be held remotely**

The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care is grateful for the support of:

The Grace W. Allsop Foundation - The Zachary Fund
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The Sampson Fund is registered with Amazon Smile. When you make a purchase you can choose The Sampson Fund to receive a percentage of the purchase price.



Dog Star: How My Dog Became My Spiritual Guru is a story of interspecies communication and friendship. It is the memoir of a man who was searching for a more meaningful life and the rescue dog who helped guide him onto the true path of happiness.

When a one-year-old Vizsla named Brady unexpectedly appeared on Jeremiah's doorstep, there was something transcendent in the sparkle of his golden-brown eyes. In fact, he seemed more like some kind of Zen master, who might know some of the answers to the deep questions about

the nature of existence, than an ordinary dog. But Jeremiah had more mundane matters on his mind. He was struggling to pay the bills while trying to fulfill his lifelong dream of becoming a successful novelist. A dog simply wasn't on the schedule. But Brady was only a few days away from being put down. The dog breeder said he suffered from seizures. Several families had already returned him, saying he was non-interactive and unfit to be a good pet. Jeremiah was going to be his last chance.

Initially resentful of Brady's intrusion – and all the loud barking and poops on the floor that went with it – into his limited free time, Jeremiah eventually discovered that Brady was a wise teacher who was patiently retraining him to be a better man. And – if he just accepted it – Jeremiah realized that he and his dog had a strange, unbelievable psychic connection that enabled Jeremiah to hear the profound advice Brady was offering, which ultimately changed his entire worldview.

Jeremiah Shaw is a novelist and former journalist who lives on Cape Cod. Dog Star is available on Amazon.com.

DID YOU KNOW...

The first dog shows in America took place in the 1860s. Not surprisingly, one of the earliest shows was hosted by P. T. Barnum.

Pet insurance began in Sweden; half of that nation's pets are now insured.

A cat can't climb head first down a tree because every claw on a cat's paw points the same way. To get down from a tree, a cat must back down.

Approximately 1/3 of cat owners think their pets are able to read their minds.

The United States has the highest dog population in the world. France has the second highest.

One survey reports that 33% of dog owners admit they talk to their dogs on the phone or leave messages on answering machines while they are away.

REMEMBERING OUR PETS

"Solo"
John Walsh

"Zoe Devaney"
Tony and Lynn Felix

"Shayna"
Sidney Bearon

"Ovid"
Grace Galvin
and Joe Buono

"Sadie"
Melanie Phinney

"Ringo"
Mary Powers

"Jethro"
Irene Checkovich

"Ferry"
Claudia Sorgi
Cecilia Briggs

"Cassius"
Paula M Liska

NEW TAX RULING:

For the 2020 tax year, you can deduct up to \$300 per person (\$600 per couple) of charitable donations to non-profit organizations without having to itemize. For more details go to www.irs.gov or contact your tax preparer.