



P.O. Box 1756
Orleans, MA 02653

Winter 2021

NEWSLETTER

The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care



A Mystery Ailment

by Olivia H. Miller

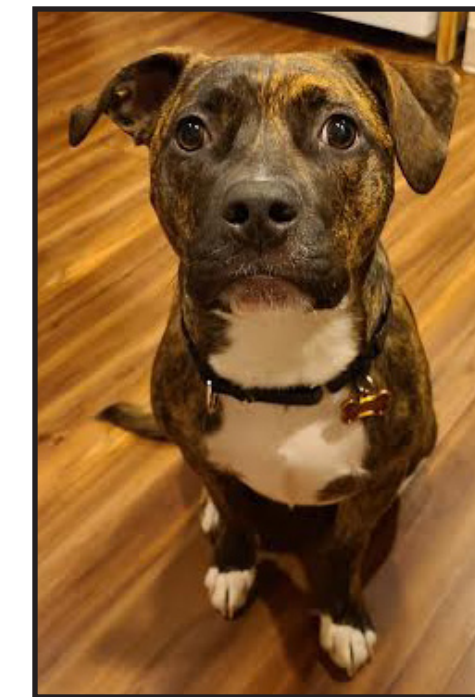
Last February Jeff Johnson of Dennis adopted a pit bull/hound mix from Great Dog Rescue New England. The puppy was among a litter that – along with the mother – came up from Tennessee.

“My 10-year-old son Cameron wanted a dog,” said Jeff. “We actually had picked another dog but it was spoken for already. And then they were all gone.” Fate stepped in, however, when a potential adoption didn’t pan out; Jeff was then able to adopt Comet, now renamed Rex.

About four months ago Jeff noticed that Rex was having issues with eating. “He was vomiting about 20 minutes after he ate, and then he wouldn’t eat for days,” he explained. “He was down to 35 pounds.” Concerned, he brought Rex to Veterinary Associates of Cape Cod in South Yarmouth for an exam. After X-rays and diagnostic tests didn’t identify any obvious problems, veterinarian Dr. Michelle Zarif suggested exploratory surgery to determine if Rex had an intestinal blockage.

As much as Jeff wanted to take that

next step, he was very concerned about the cost of the procedure. “I had already spent a lot of money on the tests. I couldn’t afford to pay for the surgery.”



Since Veterinary Associates of Cape Cod is an affiliate member of The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care, Dr. Zarif recommended that Jeff should apply for financial assistance. He completed the necessary paperwork and was accepted. As a result, Rex was able to have the surgery along with three biopsies. But there was no blockage. It was, said

Jeff, a mystery.

Then Dr. Zarif discovered the problem: severe environmental allergies. “It turned out he was highly allergic to everything...pine, grass, mold, you name it. His stomach was inflamed from eating grass and eating the wrong food,” Jeff explained. “They put him on steroids and allergy pills to coat his stomach.” Two months post-surgery, Rex hasn’t been sick since. And after trying a half dozen different – and pricey – foods, each of which made Rex sick, Jeff has found food his dog is able to eat with no problem. Happily, Rex now weighs in at almost 50 pounds.

“It’s been tough. I was beginning to wonder if the dog really was sick and maybe I was just crazy.” Jeff is extremely grateful to The Sampson Fund for helping with the cost of surgery. “Rex is a really good dog and he was in pretty bad shape. I felt awful for him but I never would’ve been able to afford the surgery, absolutely no way.”

And the news gets better. Rex turned one in December. Happy birthday, Rex!

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.



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

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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,

We welcome in the new year with hope that it will mean a return to some normalcy in our lives. These have certainly been unsettling times with constant concerns about our own welfare and that of our friends and family members. In most households our pets have been more valuable companions than ever before.

Our appreciation goes out to some special folks at Cape Cod Veterinary Specialists who sponsored and Agway of Cape Cod who sponsored and hosted our Pumpkin Carving Contest; Tom Ryan, author of *Following Atticus* and *Will's Red Coat*, who donated a portion of the revenue from subscriptions to his new blog while he travels the country and works on his next book; Holly Lemiux of *Pupcakes on Main Street*, Hyannis who donated a portion of sales during Hyannis' Main Street Holiday Stroll; and Catie Williams owner of *Wonder-Dogs & Friends* who collected donations for The Sampson Fund from twenty-six friends and students.

Our Halloween Candy Challenge asking folks to donate the amount they would have spent on "trick or treat" candy brought in \$3,000. Thanks to all of you.

2021 marks the 35th anniversary of The Sampson Fund. I've been enjoying reading the 1986 log book of the Fund. Dr. Chris Donner was the founder/president and there were ten trustees: Homer R. Oldfield, Nicholas B. Soutter, C. Edward Kemp, Jane Wagoner, R. King, C.E. Kemp, Robert Jones, Nadine Schmitt, Margie Hartwell and Holly Achur.

Dr. Donner is still an active trustee and Olivia H. Miller, a volunteer in 1986 continues to help us by writing our newsletter cover stories.

The original affiliated hospitals were: Animal Health Care Associates, Barnstable Animal Clinic, Eastham Veterinary Hospital, Pleasant Bay Animal Hospital, Veterinary Associates of Cape Cod, Mashpee Veterinary Hospital, Vineyard Veterinary Clinic and Dennis Animal Hospital.

Over a twenty-four month period, 1986 through 1988, \$4470 was used to help pets receive critical veterinary care. Currently we provide more than that amount in financial help in one month.

The growth of The Sampson Fund is due to support from you. We are overwhelmed at the generosity that was shown during our end of the year appeal. This will ensure that we will be able to meet the needs of the pet loving community as we enter into this new and still challenging year.

Patti

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

Agway of Cape Cod Charitable Foundation
The Grace W. Allsop Foundation - The Zachary Fund
Joan Bentinck-Smith Charitable Foundation
The Bryce Family Foundation
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Marian Craig Leers Charitable Trust
The Thomas C. McGowan Fund For Animals through
The Cape Cod Foundation



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.

Remembering Our Pets

"Ruaidri"
Martin Haspel

"Butter" and "George"
Elizabeth A. Mansure

"Wrangler"
Melissa Marchand

"Riley Gavriluk"
Tammy Chester

"Yogi," "Spanky" and "Coco"
Brian Bernier

"Lola"
Dana Calkins

"Molly," "Betsy," "Audrey" and "Tess"
Heather Brenzel

"Zara"
Galen Purdue

"All Lundell Pets, Past and Present"
Betsy Lundell

"Teddy"
Jan and Joan Carstanjen

"Max"
Ann Beckert

"Pooh Bear"
Bob Bourgojn

"All My Cats"
Patricia Debs

"Bianco" and "Marley"
Joan Hensler

"Abiquiu"
Diana D. Gould
Chris and Ann Donner

"Irwin," "Buster" and "Sookie"
Leigh Boutilier

"Lily"
Emery Gross

"Sadie Lucille"
Lisa Benson

"Raku Cat"
Paul and Anne Fitzgerald

"Boomer"
Debra Bassett
Shirley Knowles
Anne and Larry Spaulding
Rachel Kirchgessner
Tyler Burton

"A few pets I have lost over the years"
Ariel Hurley

"Weeble"
Elisabeth McCartney

"Belle"
John T. Bresnahan

"Larkspur" and "Magic"
Susan Engle

"Gabby"
Mark and Margaret McManus

"Radar," "Toby" and "Muffin"
Kelly Hall

"Roxie Farmer"
Sally Tarbell

"Stella"
Lorie B. Morris

"Real Seductive"
Helen B. Chestnut

"Sassy"
Philip Magnuson

"Ricky"
Chickery J. Kasouf

"All of our furry kids"
Dorothy Vance-Booth

"Sammy" and "Lily"
Emery Gross

"Woody"
Deanna Avery

"Ella"
Grace Galvin

From Our Friends At...

Massachusetts Society For The Prevention of Cruelty To Animals

Low cost spaying and neutering as well as vaccinations and some veterinary procedures are now being provided at the Centerville facility for pet owners who qualify. For more information go to www.mspca.org/clinics or contact clinic coordinator, Cary Payton at 508-815-5226.

Animal Rescue League of Boston

A new program providing emergency housing for pets whose owners may be experiencing housing instability or may be at imminent risk of homelessness due to the COVID 19 pandemic has been established at the Brewster, Boston and Dedham facilities. A pet that needs a temporary home will first be evaluated for health and behavioral issues and then placed in an appropriate foster home for up to 4 months.

The first step in the process is to contact ARL's Admission Office depending on location: Boston 617-426-9170 x140; Dedham 617-426-9170 x404; Brewster 617-426-9170 x305.

Brewster Dog Park

The Stanton Foundation has committed \$250,000 to the town of Brewster to build a dog park and \$75,000 has been pledged for this purpose. Agway of Cape Cod will provide pick-up mitts and Nauset Disposal will donate their waste removal services. If you would like to help in this effort email friendsofbrewsterdogpark@gmail.com.



Creatively carved pumpkins were on display at The Sampson Fund's Pumpkin Carving Contest at the Agway of Cape Cod's South Dennis store. Customers were able to vote for their favorite pumpkin with a \$1 donation. Agway generously matched their customers' donations.

