As soon as Ed Bogle retired, he adopted a dog. Sammi, rescued from Friends of Homeless Animals, came north on a truck from Mississippi. When Ed picked her up in Rhode Island, she was about a year old and weighed only 17 pounds; seven years later, she is living happily ever after with Ed in Osterville (and has since gained 20 pounds!).

“When I got her, she was in pretty bad shape,” Ed recalled. “She had already had puppies and she had every bug inside of her, all kinds of worms. I got close to giving up but just couldn’t do it. It was a long recovery but she’s doing great.”

Ed described Sammi as “a hound dog at heart” with maybe some beagle mixed in. “She’s long, probably has some dachshund in her, has floppy ears and her front feet stick out sideways. She’s a lover,” he added, “with those eyes you cannot say no to!”

During a routine veterinary visit at Barnstable Animal Hospital last year, Chief of Staff Mary Ware, DVM, mentioned that Sammi needed dental work. Worried about the cost and how he could pay for it, Ed decided to put it off. But earlier this year, he talked to Dr. Ware once more about having the work done. However, he was still concerned about how he could pay for the procedure, considering that his sole income is Social Security and the procedure would be expensive.

“Merry, the Veterinary Technician, told me that I was probably eligible for help from the Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care. I had never heard of that and asked her what it was.” Because Barnstable Animal Hospital is an affiliate member, Merry explained how the fund could provide financial assistance and the steps Ed would need to do to apply. “She gave me the paperwork to complete and said she’d do the rest. I filled everything out and submitted a copy of my tax return. It was very easy.

“I was accepted, which really pushed me to get the dental work done. The procedure was extensive, Sammi had to be put under and there was a lot of scraping involved. She was there for the entire day.”

Happily, everything went well. “Sammie was back in shape in 24 hours,” Ed said. “After everything she had been through before I adopted her, I didn’t think she’d make it this long. But she’s alive and healthy…now I’m thinking she’s only halfway through!”

“I couldn’t wish for a better dog. I had a knee replaced and sometimes when I walk with her I’ll stop and say, ‘Sammi, you have to take me home now. She turns right around.’

“She’s my best friend. I am so grateful to The Sampson Fund for their help.”
Dear Friends,

I hope these first months of the new year have been kind to you and your pets.

The days are warmer, the sun is higher in the sky, and we have more hours of daylight. We are flitting with spring.

As we begin to spend more time outdoors, we need to remember a few things:

#1 Ticks are everywhere. Always check your pet and yourself after a walk particularly if you go through woody areas.

#2 Be aware of ponds with algal bloom. These blooms can produce dangerous toxins that can be fatal to pets. Algal blooms were detected in a few ponds throughout the Cape last summer.

#3 Be watchful for coyotes. Spring is breeding season and they may be more visible even during the day.

Looking ahead we have some special events coming up:

The second annual Walk ’n Wag will take place on Saturday, May 13 from 9 to noon on the Hinckley’s Pond Preserve, on Route 124 in Harwich. This walk is co-hosted by The Harwich Conservation Trust and The Sampson Fund. Over 300 people and their dogs attended last year. It’s free but donations will be happily accepted. We are grateful to Agway and Cape Cod Veterinary Specialists for being lead sponsors for this event. Sampson Fund Day at Moby Dick’s Restaurant in Wellfleet is a summer tradition. It will take place on Thursday, July 20. The Barry family: owners of Moby Dick’s donate a portion of the day’s sales to The Sampson Fund. It’s a great way to enjoy wonderful seaside while supporting our efforts. And looking to fall, Bark’s ’n Brews hosted by Cape Cod Veterinary Specialists and Cape Cod Beer will be held on Saturday, October 14. This outdoor event is tons of fun for dogs and their people.

We will need volunteers to help out at these events. If you have some time to spare, please let our volunteer coordinator, Danni Jesudowich know. You can email her at dannijesudo- wich@gmail.com.

Be well.

Patti

The Sampson Fund
Affiliated Hospitals
Barnstable Animal Hospital - Hyannis
Brewster Veterinary Hospital - Brewster
Cape Cod Animal Hospital - West Barnstable
Cape Cod Veterinary Specialists - Bourne
Cape Cod Veterinary Specialists - Dennis
Falmouth Animal Hospital - North Falmouth
Leach Animal Hospital - Mashpee
Lower Cape Veterinary Services - Eastham
Oceanside Animal Hospital - Sandwich
VCA Pleasant Bay Animal Hospital - East Harwich
Veterinary Associates of Cape Cod South Yarmouth
Vineyard Veterinary Clinic - Edgartown
Veterinary Advisor: Lilian Hausz, DVM

Remembering Our Pets

Shake and Oliver
Becky Lynn Savin
Lionface
Christy Alferes
Lily
Carol Marsh
Anne Spaulding
Bubbles and Pepe
Stephanie Helm
Scout and Cobie
Pam Kelly
Bella
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Holly
Jody Hines
Coco
Olivia Miller and Ken Kerovkian
Bella
Joan Caputo
Annie
Al Rodriguez
Ben
Jody Hines

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

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The Katz Family Foundation
Marian Craig Leers Charitable Trust
The Thomas C. McGowan Fund For Animals through The Cape Cod Foundation
Ocean State Job Lot Charitable Foundation
The Arlan Wise Charitable Fund

Walk 'n Wag

Saturday, May 13th (9 a.m. - noon)

Please park at the Cape Cod Regional Technical High School (address: 251 Crescent Ave, Hyannis). Then walk 0.5 miles to the Hinckley’s Pond - Harring River Headwater Preserve - Mobility challenged parking on Shipbuilder Drive.

Join us for this fun dog walking event with pet friendly stations, a canine confidence obstacle course, and lots of dog friends and their owners! Dogs must be leashed at all times. This event is free. Donations welcome.

For details see www.harwichconservationtrust.org

The Sampson Fund

Dogs and their people at last year’s Walk ’n Wag.

Photo by Halley Steinmetz