



Tragedy to Blessing

April 9, 2009



Nearly 50 cats were neutered by Dr. Jack Jones and NAFA volunteers Saturday morning, April 3rd at our \$10 Cat Neuter Clinic. Think of the thousands of kittens that won't be born.

The signs for spring are in the air ... trees and grass are greening, flowers are budding and blooming, warm days and cool nights ... all a welcome after our strong winter.

Spring also brings an abundance of puppies, kittens and unwanted dogs and cats. Remember the old saying - its raining cats and dogs. Well everyone in rescue knows that especially this time of year, there is an plethora of unwanted animals.

NAFA volunteers and supporters are working hard to find foster homes and finances to help all the animals that need assistance. This week alone we have received 37 calls with individuals need to place abandoned animals. It seems that everyone is full and giving people in need the NAFA number. The good news is that Northeast Arkansas is full of wonderful animal angels who continue to step up and support NAFA.

THANKS,

Wannnda



**RESPONSIBLE
FOR LIFE
ARE YOU?**

LARGE MALE DOGS BARRICADED in NAFA's STORAGE BUILDING

As most of you know, NAFA does not have a shelter (per say). Most of our animals are kept in foster homes. We do have interim housing at

our Animal Services Building on Gee Street. However this housing is used for animals coming and going to vet, groomer, adoption, etc. Each day volunteers visit the building very early in the morning and again in early evening after work.

This past Tuesday when volunteers arrived at our Animal Services Building they were surprised by a most appalling turn of events. Nearly an hour into our nightly routine, a volunteer realized that her personal dog, was barking at the storage building door. Even when called away the dog would go back to the door and bark. Volunteers went to the front door of the storage building which usually stays unlocked in case other rescuers, volunteers, supporters, etc., need supplies. The front door had been barricaded with concrete blocks, and some large trash cans.

After moving the blocks and trash cans, NAFA volunteers found that someone had pushed two large male (intact - 80-90 lbs) dogs into the large storage building and then used the blocks and trash cans to keep them from pushing out. The heartless individual, had opened a bag of dog food in the storage room (from the supply used for our PATS program) and poured out food for the dogs. No note was left - no one came to talk with us.

Understand, that while this is a very large storage building, where we keep disaster supplies, it is not designed for animals, there are no windows or ventilation. We do not go in this building on a daily basis. Sometimes it is 5 to 6 days before we go inside. Had it not been for the volunteers dog we would not have even know the two dogs were there.

One of the dogs, a beautiful Pyrenees, had been so frightened and so frantic that he had gashed his back on a piece of siding in an attempt to escape. One or both of the dogs had knocked over cage banks, damaging three of them. It is only by sheer luck that they dogs were not more seriously injured by the falling cages.

An emergency veterinarian was found and the dogs were rushed to the clinic. 19 staples were used to close the gash on the dogs back. The dogs were boarded until a foster home was found.

The good news is that a foster family has taken the two large dogs and they are currently spending days playing and nights sleeping quietly in the safety of a loving home. The horrors of their callous abandonment by a family who supposedly loved them is becoming a distant memory.

A special note: The family who abandoned the dogs, did contact NAFA the next day to say that they had "changed their minds and wanted the dogs back". Of course, NAFA did not and will not return the dogs.



NAFA Pets at the Health/Wellness and Environment Studies School Fair. Pictures are Cinderella (snake), Ella (dog) with Polly (Parrot) on her back, Nineva (bearded dragon) and Podo (ferret). Also in attendance but not pictured were two puppies and kittens, a rat, guinea pig and, of course, NAFA's director "Tut" the cowardly Mastiff.



**(Left) Dr. Jones and assistant microchip pets at "Responsible for Life" Microchip Clinic.
(Right) Miracle and Easter Bunny talk about her amazing recovery.**

QUICK LINKS

<http://www.nafarescue.org>

<http://tutstake.blogspot.com>

<http://www.facebook.com/NAFA.rescue>

www.creaturecomfortsphotography.webs.com

Easter Egg Hunt: <http://nafaevents.shutterfly.com/>

The next few months are going to be very busy and exciting at NAFA - events, activities, training. Be sure to watch your email and come join us if you have time.

Sincerely,

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