



BAY AREA PET ADOPTIONS NEWS

WINTER 2019

The End of an Era - Toby Gets a Forever Home



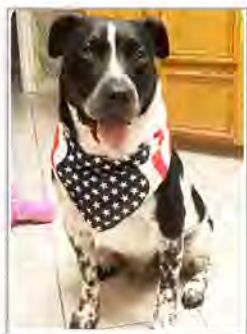
On November 1st, Bay Area Pet Adoptions celebrated the end of an era, with Canine Volunteer Coordinator Georgie Baker's last day. Georgie has been volunteering with BAPA for almost 12 years and her legacy was punctuated with an enormous act of kindness: she officially adopted BAPA's longest term dog, Toby. Many of you, may recognize Toby from his Facebook page, Toby Furpaws.

Toby came to the shelter approximately 8 years ago and had been adopted and returned twice. He is a big brown dog, with a happy go lucky smile. He is well behaved and has wonderful skillsets but had not found his perfect fit. You see, Toby was one of those dogs that people just walked past without taking time to get to know him. His kennel manners, like many shelter dog's manners, left a lot to be desired. He barked and didn't always react well to strangers. Many dogs don't or they act out in an effort to gain attention; so if a dog catches your eye, ask to see him/her outside of their kennel. Give that barking, or scared, dog a chance.

Toby was lucky. Bay Area Pet Adoptions has dedicated volunteers who love him, and Georgie spent many long hours with Toby, realizing she couldn't relocate without him. Lucky Dog!

Phenomennal Finn Needs a Home

Finn, along with 9 other dogs, arrived at BAPA approximately 5 years ago, from a horrible situation. Finn is the last of that rescued group. He is a short, stocky guy whose size and big head seem to intimidate people. He has become another one of those dogs whom everyone walks by. Admittedly, Finn can be like a bull in a china cabinet, but once you get to know him, he is just a huge, happy goofball who loves to play in the pool and enjoys toys (pink plush is his favorite). He especially enjoys his time hanging out with volunteers and staff where he is known to give big wet kisses. Though choosy about his K9 buddies, he seems to take a shine to bigger rough and tumble, tom-boy type four legged ladies (who quickly learn that they can rule the play yard). Go Finn!



Now it's Finn's turn to take over the sad reality of BAPA's Longest Term Dog. Be sure to "like" Finn's new Facebook page: "Phenomenal Finn". Let's get this big hunk of a guy some social media coverage and find him his perfect home! He deserves it! Finn loves this quote:

Adopting a dog may not change the world, but for that one dog the world will change forever.

A Rock Star Puppy Reunion



Last fall we rescued six puppies left in a ditch, caged with no food or water. These six little ones were survivors and needed names to reflect their personalities. Thus, the Rock Star puppies came to be: Hendrix, Mercury, Bowie, Janis, Joplin, and Prince. They enchanted our staff and volunteers. We had such fun watching them grow and grow and grow... By December some were tipping the scales at over 30 pounds. Like most puppies they were playful, mischievous, and full of love. Best of all, they were ready for adoption. How delighted were as one after the other found forever homes over the next several months.



This September was the anniversary of their first birthday. A volunteer who adopted Bowie suggested a reunion at the shelter to celebrate and provide them with a chance to reunite for an afternoon of play. She offered to arrange a birthday party to remember. Invitations were sent and excitement mounted as all six adopters responded - YES!



On September 8th the Rock Stars arrived except they were Rock Stars no more for each had been renamed. Instead Finley, Cash, Maui, Trixie, Mary Jane, and Leo were ready to party. They played as if they had never been apart and then enjoyed balloons, cake, and puppy presents. They had a ball and so did we! Rhonda Tipton took photos of all the festivities. For our staff and volunteers the best part of the day was receiving hugs and kisses from our Rock Stars who clearly remembered us. We knew we had made a difference in the lives of these six very special pups!



Linus, a Very Special Little Guy

Who is your favorite Peanuts character? Well, it's about to become Linus. The Peanuts gang came to Bay Area Pet Adoptions in April 2019. They were a sweet litter of four kittens we named after the Peanuts comic strip characters: Charlie, Schroeder, Lucy and Linus. All have been adopted to loving, forever homes, with the exception of little Linus.

Linus is the sweetest of kittens; the Cattery crew describes his coat as beyond soft, more like cotton balls than fur. Linus is a medium hair, Smokey gray guy, and he is known in the Cattery as the cuddle king. He will come and lie down beside you if you sit on the floor, snuggling into the crook of your arm, and rest until he falls asleep. Linus loves all people and cats alike. So, why is this perfect kitten still at the shelter? Linus has minor special needs that occasionally require extra maintenance to his fur, and separation anxiety when he is not with another cat. Linus' ideal home will be with a seasoned owner familiar with the grooming and upkeep of medium length fur, and a home with a companion cat to keep Linus calm and contented when his human family is away. Linus' needs are not complicated, nor do they require expensive medical interventions, just an extra dose of care and awareness.

Sometimes we adopt a pet to be our companion, knowing we will be the caretaker of their daily needs. Sometimes we are able to adopt an extraordinary pet, knowing the caretaker role may go beyond the norm, but that the love and companionship returned will be beyond measure. If you think you are the special person Linus needs, please come by the Cattery to meet him, and be prepared to fall in love.



Donation Form

Please help keep our shelter open.



Bay Area
PET ADOPTIONS
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Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____

We will never share your email without your consent.

Please include your email for updates on our great adoptable animals and our organization.

By allowing us to use your email, we save money by not having to pay for printing and postal supplies. Thank you!

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1000 Other \$ _____

Please return this reply with your donation in the enclosed envelope, knowing that we will continue working hard to care for more animals and find them homes.

Or **DONATE ONLINE** at www.BayAreaPetAdoptions.org/donate.html

Pawsome Play Yards



If you've been out to the shelter in the last few years, you may have noticed that the dog yards have become a muddy mess. The initial culprits were the drought of 2016 followed by Hurricane Harvey in 2017. Of course, our four legged friends took advantage of the problem, romping in the mess and digging holes. We simply didn't have the funds to correct the problem. Last month, all that changed when a Silent Auction winner came by the shelter to pick up their Barktoberfest basket. Horrified by the condition of the yards, this amazing "Angel" was determined to help us. Our "Angel" hired John Solano of

Solano Services to transform our mud pits into grassy play areas. With two yards done, our dogs already think they are living on a ranch! Unfortunately, weather has interrupted further progress. We can't wait for spring when the remaining yards will wear their new grassy coats of green. To our angel we say **THANK YOU!**

A Few Cold Weather Tips

Here are a few safety tips to think about as the temperatures plummet this winter.

- Bring your pets indoors. If you are cold outside, so are they. It's your responsibility to keep them safe and warm.
- Remember to tap your car hood or honk your horn, before starting your engine. Cats and some wild animals may climb under your car searching for warmth and shelter out of the cold temperatures and rain.
- Make sure all of your outdoor water bowls and your livestock water troughs are ice-free.
- Set up cozy shelters for outdoor cats and strays. Remember, it's not their fault they are strays.
- Know your dogs temperature tolerance. If he/she has a short coat, buy a K9 coat or sweater if needed, or even doggie boots to protect his/her paws from the cold and ice when you go for your daily walks.

We all love our animals, so let's make sure we protect them the best we can. After all, as humans, it was our choice to include them in our family, make sure you treat them as such.



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Barktoberfest Sets a Record!

Oh what day! In true Oktoberfest fashion, the weather was gloriously cool and the sun provided a blanket of warmth to keep the shivers away. The air was electric with excitement as old and new friends with their pups came to enjoy the gorgeous weather, festivities and the opportunity to bid on the amazing selection of Silent Auction items. We had a record crowd and our friends from Lighthouse Charity Team were so busy they ran out of food! Our thanks to the Clear Lake Shores Civic Club who sponsored the event. Their hard work really paid off. Drum roll please...they raised over \$32,000 for the shelter! It was a record setting day in many ways and the howls of delight are still echoing in the dog kennels.



Charitable Thoughts

Though the tax codes have changed, charitable giving may still provide a tax savings for those with appreciated stock or those who are 70 1/2 that own IRAs. Two strategies to consider:

Donor advised funds: Many people would like to contribute appreciated stock to a charity, but the charity may not have a brokerage account. This type of account can solve that dilemma. It allows you to contribute assets to a Charitable Gift Account which you can then use to support your favorite charities while potentially receiving significant tax benefits such as a charitable tax deduction for the market value of the stock and a capital gains tax savings on the asset contributed.

Donate Pre-Tax Assets Held in an IRA: Individuals who are age 70 1/2 or older can contribute up to \$100,000 from their IRA directly to a charity and avoid paying income taxes on the distribution. This type of donation is known as a qualified charitable distribution.

We are not tax experts and there are exclusions and considerations to these giving options, so please check with a tax expert if contemplating these options.