

FOX WOOD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2011

Dear friends and Supporters-

Thank you all for your help this year- we couldn't have done it without your help! Though the Fox Wood website

(<http://foxwoodrehab.typepad.com>) isn't updated as often as we would like, if you have checked it out lately, you will see that we are trying to move to a more remote location. We have found a place that is larger, has more land and offers an opportunity for us to expand. That's the good news. The bad news is that we can't afford the move unless we sell our existing place. Many of you who have been here would agree that the current Fox Wood property is exceptionally beautiful

and unique. Many people are wondering why we would leave such a beautiful place. I am very dedicated to working with the animals, and the new place will provide an opportunity to do things that the current location does not. The new place is about 25 minutes south of here. The house needs a lot of work and all new animal pens will have to be constructed. I'm up for the work it will take because in the long run, the animals will benefit. Please keep your fingers crossed for us that we can sell this place and afford the move. So, for the record, and to squash any rumors....

We are not moving to discontinue rescuing animals- we are moving to EXPAND the rescue and do MORE!

And now..... Here is some of what we've been up to all year!

Cancer Survivor

"Peekaboo" was a stray who had a large cancerous mammary gland tumor on her when she was found. The tumor was successfully removed, she was spayed, micro-chipped and now, through it all, we have become very attached to her. We told her if she would "wear the Santa hat" she could stay.



Foxes!!!

Of course, lots of fox pups came in this year! With three pairs of adult red foxes that adore the youngsters, we were able to raise bigger, stronger and wilder orphans than ever before! Every year, pups are brought in that have been raised by well-meaning folks, but they are often too accustomed to people to be successfully released back to the wild. These pups are now placed in with the adult foxes and the other pups, and usually within a week, they are no longer friendly or trusting toward humans. I provide the adult foxes with enough food for themselves and the pups, and then watch as the adults pick up the food and take it to the young. Although they trust me, the adults will often bark a warning to any pups curious enough to try to approach me. Injured pups heal more quickly when they are with other pups and adults.



An injured fox pup



Young Foxes at the release site

This severely injured young porcupine was cowering under a deck in Hamburg.



Check out our website:

<http://foxwoodrehab.typepad.com/>

“Like Us” and read about us on Facebook too!

"Henry"

Dogs continue to be the most rewarding animals to work with for me! This story begins with a call for help from a local Dog Control Officer. An intimidating, growling Pitbull was in the corner of someone's garage. With the help of a Havahart box trap and some good sleepytime medication the dog was taken to the local pound. He was BIG and he would growl when anyone approached. He didn't want to be touched, but we were able to get him on a catch pole and take him outside to relieve himself. As the days progressed, he didn't get any nicer and was clearly not developing into a good candidate for adoption. Something in his eyes haunted me though, and I couldn't stop trying to think of ways he could be saved. On what was to be his fifth and final day at the pound, I raced the clock to get to the vets office in time to save him from euthanasia. When I arrived, the vet had already given him a pre-anesthetic that knocked him unconscious so that the final pink fluid that would stop his heart could be administered. I pleaded with the vet to give the dog a rabies shot and a reversal to the initial anesthetic instead of the pink euthanasia fluid. He was reluctant at first, but then cautiously agreed. The next day Eric Gray from Smilin' Pitbull Rescue was summoned for help evaluating him. Eric saw the same sadness in the dog's eyes that I did and thought that there was a chance he would come around. That was all I needed to hear, we named him "Henry" and he came home with me that day - on a catchpole!



The next morning, I greeted Henry and said "OK Henry, we are going to go for walk. It's either gonna be on a leash or a catchpole, which do you prefer?" Something clicked with Henry and I that morning, and within a few minutes I was able to fasten a leash on him and off we went. As we headed down the driveway and up the road, I wondered about my decision to bring my cell phone, and not my pistol. Fortunately, the walk served to be a very bonding activity for us. I had never worked with an aggressive Pitbull before and was grateful that Eric Gray recommended Dog Trainer Tyler Muto of K9Connection in Buffalo. At the end of our first evaluation visit, Tyler warned me that "Henry" was considered to be "Code Red" dangerous. One thing I knew though, was that "Henry" loved me, and would never hurt me, and that would be the foundation that we would build on. Since that day just a few months ago, and with Tyler Muto's help Henry has made great strides in learning to trust and LIKE people. He has incredible character, a fine sense of humor and despite what is surely an abusive past, Henry is making great strides in becoming a responsive, playful companion dog.



Bonnie

I work part time as a dog control officer. Unfortunately, sometimes people call us to pick up "stray" dogs that are clearly their own pets. This is the case I suspected with "Bonnie". I was sad when I saw how thin she was and acted as though she has not seen daylight for some time. The "finder" admitted she had been in his basement for "some time". When she was outside, it seemed like Bonnie just wanted to bask in the warmth of the sun. It is very difficult to find a loving home for an older dog- it seems that there are simply not enough compassionate people that want to do something wonderful for a dog for a few months or a couple years. I hate hearing the excuse "I don't want to get attached and then lose the dog". I want to tell them *"It doesn't always have to be about YOU"*. It is sometimes very difficult to find people with truly unselfish, BIG hearts. Fortunately for "Bonnie," Mark and Maria Kaminski are two of those wonderful people- offering to bring Bonnie into their home and love and care for her for however long she might live.



Bonnie *then* trying to warm her thin frame in the sun



Bonnie *now* loved, comfy, warm, and looking great!



"Squeaky" loves the great big new enclosure that Eagle Scout Kevin Neary and his troop made for our coyotes. She comes running when she is called, and loves to roll around and have her tummy rubbed



R.I.P "PUPPY"

July 17th 2011 Puppy ran off to play with her buddy Herbie. She never came home. With much help, I looked for her for weeks. I know that if she were alive, she would find a way to come home. We had 9 good years, and "Puppy" always amused everyone with her colorful character and tenacity.

Rest in Peace "Puppy"

Please remember Fox wood Wildlife Rescue, Inc. during the United Way campaigns. Through the Donor Choice program, your contribution can go directly to Fox Wood. Please remember that Fox Wood *has no paid employees, I do NOT draw a salary from the donations, and every dollar goes straight toward helping animals in need.*

This shitzu was surrendered as a "stray".

Look what a good bath, grooming and some love will do!

This energetic little guy was placed in a great home!



SPECIAL THANKS!!!

- *Thank you to all who made monthly donations
- *Thank you for all of the Chicken!
- *Thank you for all of the venison and other meats!
- *Thank you for the blankets and towels!
- *Thank you to all who volunteered their time!
- *Thank you to everyone who sent donations when they could!



"Penny" **Aka "Meathead"**

The first

Yep, the first Pitbull I rescued.

I was wrong about the breed.

I said I would never bring one here.

This dog changed my mind and taught me that I was wrong about labeling Pitbull's as unsafe dogs.

Once again proving that there are no bad dogs, only bad owners.

Thank you, "Penny"! Dogs always have something to teach us about ourselves!



The next generation? Hopefully! Daughter Jennifer holds the anesthesia mask over a female Red fox while she is being prepared for surgery at the Erie County SPCA to have the tip of her tail removed. This fox was raised by humans who tried to keep a wild fox pup as a pet, and fed her all the wrong foods. She was chewing her tail off, and her leg bones weren't formed properly as a result of the improper care. Thank you Dr. Moran and the wonderful staff in the SPCA Wildlife Department for your generosity and excellence!

So, Why No Open House Fundraiser This Year?

~Heavy sigh~ ... Can anyone tell me what date I could plan it when it won't rain? If we are able to secure our new location, I PROMISE to have an Open House because the new place is large enough to set up inside!



This Gray fox pup came from a veterinary college. They mis-identified her as a Red fox, and had obviously doted on her a bit too much. It's hard not to dote on these adorable pups! She will be staying here, as Gray foxes can become very tame in captivity without an adult pair of Gray foxes to help them become wild.

"New Sheltie" was marched to the vet for euthanasia..... Why? He was depressed? That's what I was told. Most of our rescue dogs stay here for a while, so they can be trained if needed, and assessed so we can match them appropriately with the best family. He now has a good home where he is loved very much!



*These are just some of the precious animals we have come to know.
Each animal comes with a lesson to teach us.
I wish to thank everyone who has made this work possible in 2011!*

Please consider making a small donation to help us continue our work as we grow and continue to service the community and the animals in these difficult times.

Tax Deductible Donations can be made to:

Fox Wood Wildlife Rescue, Inc, 11156 Old Glenwood Rd, East Concord, NY 14055.

Paypal donations can be sent to: Foxladye@yahoo.com

