



HSHAR of Tampa Bay In the News

Summer, 2009

Volume 1, Number 1

In This Issue

- Thank you
- Scottie the Squirrel Update
- HSHAR New Arrivals
- Completed the Circle of Life
- Did You Know?
- Holiday Gift Ideas – Sponsor an Animal

* * * * *

Contact Us

Once again we thank you for your continued support and we encourage any feedback that you may have. Please feel free to contact us at: valerie@hshartampa.org or hshartampa@aol.com.



Home Sweet Home Animal Rescue of Tampa Bay (HSHAR) would like to thank our volunteers, friends and colleagues for their encouragement and support on this endeavor. We are happy to report that we received our 501(c)3 status in March 2009. Our website is now up and running, www.hshartampa.org, and we will continue to inform and educate through our website as well as conducting educational programs for children and adults alike. We are currently working on the KIDS CORNER section of our website which should prove both entertaining and educational. We believe that education is the key to compassion, respect and the humane treatment of all living things.

Scottie the Squirrel Update



We received a 10 day old squirrel in January 2009. One of my co-workers, Josh, moved his grille on his back porch and low and behold there were 3 baby squirrels. Josh left them there for a while to see if the mother would come back and get them. She came back and got 2 of them but left the runt. Josh looked for a Wildlife Rehabber to take them but the closest one that he could find was 75 miles away. Josh asked us if we would be willing to take Scottie and we agreed. We recommend that orphaned wildlife go to a Wildlife Rehabber but as former zookeepers we do have quite a bit of experience in this field. We did however refuse to call him Scottie since you try not to bond too much with an animal that will be released back into the wild.

The little squirrel was severely dehydrated when we got him and it was touch and go but we gave him subcutaneous fluids for 24 hours. He obviously had a will to live and so the saga began. Since he had to be fed every 3 - 4 hours, 24 hours a day, he had to go to work with me. We set him up in one of the offices with a heating pad and I would feed him as needed. This went on for about 4-5 weeks until he was weaned. Someone commented to me that a relative of theirs wanted to know, why we would spend the time and money to care for an animal that is very abundant? The answer is a simple one. We believe in compassion and humane treatment for all animals and this little squirrel was no exception. Things progressed with him and in March it was time to release him. He was

Did You Know ???????

- Pigs do not have sweat glands. It is important to provide a mud wallow and/or a pool to keep them cool during the hot weather.
- The lifespan of a macaw is between 50 - 70 years.

eating well, climbing and jumping and getting a little "squirrely" so to speak. We decided to do a soft release so he was released on the property and provided with food and water. After about a week he disappeared and I thought that he had moved on. That was not the case however, he had moved to the goat yard where he remained for about a month. At this point since he was already released we decided that we could call him Scottie. Scottie would come down every morning and greet me while I got his food ready and fed and cleaned the goats. He would run and jump at the goats. He is quite a character. I noticed that in June he had ventured further away from the goat yard, coming back every 3-5 days and then 8-10 days. Scottie had some very distinct markings that made him easy to identify. We haven't seen Scottie lately. I'm sure he has moved on and he no longer needs us and that is a VERY GOOD THING. It means that we did our job and did it well!



Sponsoring an animal makes a great gift. Not only does it provide care for the sponsored HSHAR animal of your choice but the recipient receives a 5x7 picture of the animal chosen, a biography, quarterly update about the animal, children 12 and under receive a birthday card from the sponsored animal, a sponsorship of \$40.00 or more also receives a t-shirt with the HSHAR logo.



RIO

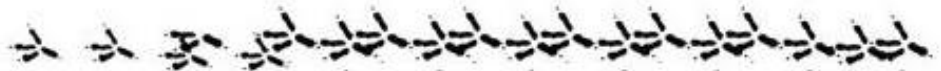
HSHAR NEW ARRIVALS



ARNOLD

On July 13, 2009 we took in a 5 year old blue & gold macaw from another animal shelter. We have named him Rio. Rio was neglected and unsocialized. When Rio lived in a cage it was so small that he couldn't stand up straight or turn around. He had no toys to play with, his beak was severely overgrown and he has huge trust issues, understandably so! This is an animal that amazes me on a day to day basis with his speaking ability, and I am not new to parrots but this boy excels. He occasionally allows me to preen him, and we are making huge strides. Rio pays me the compliment of all compliments on pretty much a daily basis, he regurgitates for me. For those of you that may not be bird people, parrots regurgitate for their mates and their babies. There is no bigger step in the bonding process. We will continue to work to socialize Rio. He also visits Dr. Topor at Livingston Animal and Avian Hospital every six weeks to trim his overgrown beak.

On August 16, 2009 we took ownership of a pot bellied pig named Arnold who was promptly adopted. However, Arnold has recently been returned to us as he proved more than the adoptive parents had bargained for. He is about 5 months old and very active, rooting (digging) around the yard and rearranging the furniture. He knows his name and comes when he is called. He is a very friendly and sweet boy.



Completed the Circle of Life

Mission Statement:

Home Sweet Home Animal Rescue of Tampa Bay, is dedicated to providing a safe haven for unwanted and homeless small farm animals and parrots within our community. Our goal is to place them in loving homes whenever possible.

We are committed to promoting compassion and humane treatment for all animals through education and conservation, while fostering respect for animals and humans alike.



RUDY

It is with great sadness that we share with you, Rudy, our Japanese bantam rooster completed the circle of life on August 5, 2009. Rudy was an integral part of HSHAR, the leader and protector of the chicken flock. Rudy taught us much about chickens and their social structure. He was truly fearless when any intruder entered his territory, chasing them away. Rudy would even spur us if he felt that we were a threat to his girls. I often marveled at the courage that this little four pound rooster exhibited running up to spur an adult person.

Chabo, was rescued with Rudy on December 23, 2008 in Brooksville from a farm on the outskirts of the Withlachochee State Forest. We believe that Chabo spent most if not all of her life with Rudy and was greatly affected by his death. She was nervous and eating proved problematic for her since Rudy use to stand guard while the hens ate. Then he would eat. But he was no longer there to protect her and she allowed the birds and squirrels to run her off her food. That is changing as she is learning that she needs to run them off herself. Shortly after Rudy's death Chabo and Layla were in the goat yard scratching (digging for insects) and Chabo lost sight of Layla. Chabo had such a look of fear but she soon saw Layla and ran over and stayed by her side. Things seem to be getting better for Chabo as she now ventures off by herself and her confidence level is up. We certainly do miss Rudy's early morning crowing and cocky little ways but he continues to live on in spirit.

Acknowledgements:

Home Sweet Home Animal Rescue of Tampa Bay would like to thank:

Livingston Animal and Avian Hospital
15104 Livingston Ave.
Lutz, FL 33559
(813) 979-1955

for the excellent care given to our feathered friends.

