



# HSHAR of Tampa Bay In the News

Winter 2009

Volume 1, Number 2

## In This Issue

- HSHAR New Arrivals: Bwende and Cassie
- Did You Know?
- Hold the date....
- Educational Programs
- Holiday Gift Ideas – Sponsor an Animal
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Check out the store...
- Sheep General Care
- Acknowledgements

## 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.

*From all of us at  
Home Sweet Home Animal  
Rescue of Tampa Bay  
We hope you have  
Wonderful Holidays  
and a  
Happy New Year!*





## Did You Know



- **What are the long flaps of skin hanging under the chin of some goats?**

*These are known as wattles. Chickens have wattles as well.*

- **How many times does a horse chew in a day?**

*It is documented that a horse chews between 10,000 and 40,000 times a day.*

- **Why are chicken eggs different colors?**

*The color of the egg is determined by the breed of chicken that produces it. However the nutritional value from a brown egg is the same as a white or green egg. It is merely a color.*



## Meet the HSHAR New Arrivals



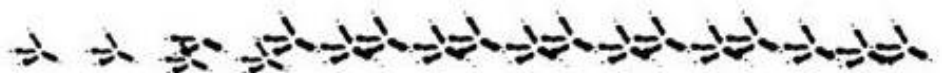
### BWENDE

Bwende is a 6 year old African Grey parrot, just a youngster in the parrot world. On November 7, 2009 we received a call from a local animal emergency clinic and we were asked if we would be willing to take this little parrot. Bwende's right leg was bitten off by a dog, the medical bills could be costly and the rehabilitation long and labor intensive with no guarantees. Bwende's owner did not feel that he was prepared for this. There were very few options for this little guy - euthanasia or surrender him to a rescue or rehabber. But who would want this little bird? We wanted him and jumped at the chance to get him.

On November 8, 2009 he arrived at HSHAR and would prove quite a challenge. We spent the first few days in and out of the vet's office and emergency animal clinics. Dr. Topor from Livingston Animal and Avian Hospital fit him with a special collar so he could not pick at the injury. Things started to calm down and we started our bonding process as Bwende started to heal. Bwende is an inspiration to all who meet him or learn of his story. When it is time for me to take him out of his cage, I say "Pick Up". This is his cue to hold on to the cage with his beak while I slide my finger under his body so he can hop up on my finger, all the while still holding on with his beak to keep his balance. I then slide my hand around him and pick him up. Many people have asked how I taught him to do this but I didn't, we worked together as a team. Bwende is both friendly and talkative, all the traits that we need for an education bird as well as a therapy bird. Bwende teaches us that disabilities are not disabling.

Bwende will require ongoing medical attention as well rehabilitation. We will continue to keep you updated on his progress.

It is with heartfelt gratitude that we would like to thank Drs. Topor and Odachowski from Livingston Animal and Avian Hospital in Lutz, Florida for all that they have done for Bwende and all our other feathered friends at Home Sweet Home Animal Rescue of Tampa Bay. Thank you! - Val





## Educational Programs

We would be happy to conduct educational programs for 4H, FFA, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, school groups or any group of 10 or more located in the Tampa Bay, Florida area.

**For additional information please contact us at:**

**E-mail:**

[valerie@hshartampa.org](mailto:valerie@hshartampa.org)

**Snail mail:**

Home Sweet Home Animal  
Rescue of Tampa Bay, Inc.  
P. O. Box 7845  
Wesley Chapel, FL 33545



## And Our Other New Arrival...



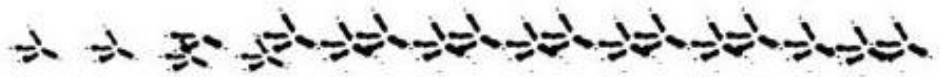
### CASSIE

Cassie is a Blue & Gold Macaw. Cassie's owner developed medical problems that forced her to re-home this family member of 32 years. Cassie's owner tried everything to keep her but finally she was told by her doctor that it was time for the bird to go. That is certainly easier said than done and very traumatic for both the owner and the bird. Thirty two years in one home is a rarity in the parrot world. Parrots are generally passed from one owner to the next as lives and lifestyles change. We spoke with the owner and it was decided that we would take Cassie.

Rio, our other Blue & Gold Macaw welcomed Cassie with a warm "Hi. Hello. Hi." That's Rio though, larger than life. Cassie and Rio were communicating with typical macaw calls and screams within minutes.

Cassie started feather plucking just prior to her arrival at HSHAR. She was given a medical work up and there doesn't appear to be anything medically wrong with her to cause this behavior. We are hoping that this is stress related and she will stop this behavior soon.

This has been a difficult transition for Cassie and Cassie's former owner. But, Cassie seems to be settling in now and her former owner checks on her weekly and misses her very much. We feel honored that we were selected to care for Cassie and welcome her to HSHAR.



**\*\*\*Hold the date\*\*\***

**April 24, 2010!!**

**5K Run and 1K Fun Walk for HSHAR.**

**Free Party to Follow with Live Music and Dancing.**

**Surprise Guests!**

**\*\*\*Details to be announced\*\*\***



**Please check out the HSHAR Store on the website to get your HSHAR T-shirt and Baseball cap**



[www.hshartampa.org](http://www.hshartampa.org)

**The proceeds from the sales of all merchandise from the HSHAR Store goes to the care of our rescued animals.**

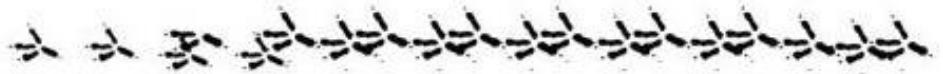


## **Sponsor a Rescued Animal**

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, and a quarterly update about the animal. Children 12 and under also receive a birthday card from the sponsored animal, and a sponsorship of \$40.00 or more also receives a t-shirt with the HSHAR logo.

### **Levels of Sponsorships:**

Chick Level: \$25.00  
Fledgling Level: \$50.00  
Kid level: \$75.00  
Avian Level: \$100.00  
Barnyard Level: \$200.00

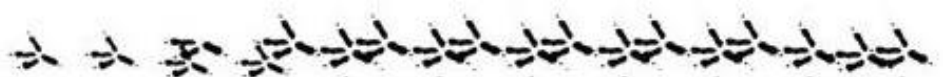


## **Volunteer Opportunities**

We have volunteer opportunities in the following areas:

Computer work  
Educational Programs  
Public Speaking  
Animal Enrichment  
Animal Care  
Photography / Video  
Fund Raising  
Grant Writing  
Administrative

Applications can be downloaded on the website:  
[www.hshartampa.org](http://www.hshartampa.org).



## 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

### Jacob Parker and Josh Stern

for the great job they have done designing and maintaining the HSHAR website

### HSHAR Volunteers

Without them none of this would be possible. Thanks for all your hard work.



## 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](mailto:valerie@hshartampa.org) or [hshartampa@aol.com](mailto:hshartampa@aol.com).



## Sheep General Care



Sheep are flock animals. Living in a flock helps them feel safe. Sheep tend to travel as though they are one entity staying very close to each other. They should always have flock friends.

Sheep should be fed twice a day and should always have fresh water. Loose mineral salt is a key ingredient in maintaining good health. The mineral salt provided for sheep should not contain added copper as this can be toxic to them. Goat and sheep mineral salt are not interchangeable. Sheep are grazers and will eat the grass down to the ground. Orchard hay and Tifton 44 is our hay of choice. Be sure to check with your veterinarian or County Extension office for a list of plants toxic to sheep.

Sheep do not have the aversion to rain that goats do however having wool coats it is imperative that a shelter is provided so they can get some shade. We are located in Florida so the three sided open in the front shelter works well for us. It provides shelter as well as ventilation. Most sheep have wool but some do have hair. The wool can be can be sheared in the hot weather.

Please consult your veterinarian about annual vaccinations and health check ups. Keep in mind that sheep are farm animals and require a veterinarian with that knowledge and expertise. Most dog and cat veterinarians are not equipped to handle farm animals.

Sheep tend to be nervous and are not as friendly as goats. Sheep that are raised as bottle babies tend to have a better bond with humans. It is in the best interest of the lamb (young sheep) not to be pulled from its mother too young. The more interaction you have with the lamb such as brushing the more tolerant they will be of people.

Sheep think with a flock mentality. All the sheep will follow the flock leader. Some people view that as stupid but it is just different. Sheep have no defense mechanisms such as kicking, biting or butting. There is safety in numbers and if they stay together they feel safe. Please bear in mind they are a seven day a week twenty four hour a day responsibility. The average life span is 8 - 12 years.

### Normal Values for Sheep

**Rectal Temperature: 102 - 103 degrees**

**Respiration: 12 - 20 breaths per minute**

**Heart Rate / Pulse: 60 - 90 beats per minute**

### **Recommended Reading:**

Barnyard in Your Backyard, Edited by Gail Damerow  
Your Sheep A Kid's Guide to Raising and Showing, Author Paula Simmons  
and Darrell L. Salsbury, DVM

