



Home At Last: Room Alumni

HUNTER & SHILOH

Their new owners write:

"...at age 67 and 76, we had to admit that we just weren't up to coping with a puppy who barks all night, piddles on the floor and wants more exercise than we do. I don't remember when it dawned on us that an older dog looking for a home would be ideal. Shortly after we had this idea, we discovered two mature dogs, Hunter and Shiloh, through WAG. They are labs, best friends, 7 and 9 years old and for quite some time had been looking for a home.

These boys are the most amazing animals ever and we loved them from day one. They arrived at our doorstep all trained and dazzle people with an immediate response to commands. They are a bit like "Velcro" in that they are our constant companions, content to lie at our feet.

Mature, loved, calm, well trained and well mannered animals are a joy to live with. There is a puppy inside them that still chases a ball – but even better – we all tire of the game at the very same time. We walk our new/old dogs – but like us, they don't need any heavy exercise. The sight of a yellow lab and a black lab walking in lockstep downtown is a gateway to many conversations and has been a great way to meet people.

Mature dogs, like mature people, add comfort and friendship to our lives. Why adopt a puppy or kitten when there are so many older animals just waiting for a loving home and a family who will appreciate the many blessings they offer?

Because we are seniors now, adopting mature pets has been a wonderful solution for our need to have that lovable four-legged furry presence in our home once again. WAG is a great organization and adopting older pets through them has been a terrific experience."

SWF Seeks Human and Canine Companionship

Five-year-old Single White Feline with ermine fur and beautiful yellow diamond eyes seeks permanent relationship with loving humans, preferably including a dog, looking for companionship and affection. Desires family that loves to give and receive abundant attention, including hugs, kisses, snuggling, and maximum lap time. Cuddling needs to be a favorite activity. Should like unobtrusive company in every room of the house. Would prefer family that likes to decorate with blanket-filled baskets as well as dog and cat beds. Dog companion should enjoy mellowing out with cat companion, napping, and listening to stimulating conversation (understanding cat-speak not required). A dog companion that enjoys getting washed is optional, but preferred. A house with a sunny window is definitely a plus. Discerning food taste not required: gourmands are definitely preferred to gourmets. No cats need respond.



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Making a Difference, One Animal at a Time

OUR MISSION

Founded in 1996, WAG is an all-volunteer rescue and adoption organization based in central New Hampshire. We are dedicated to providing humane care and shelter for abandoned, abused, and unwanted animals; finding them suitable homes and increasing public awareness of responsible pet ownership.

While we work hard to make each placement permanent, we know that things can change in people's lives. WAG will take back any pet without question, regardless of how long the pet has been in the adoptive home. We are here for an animal's entire life—no matter what.

Room in Your Heart

WE ARE ANIMAL GUARDIANS • ANNUAL APPEAL 2011

We Are Animal Guardians, Inc. (WAG) is an all-volunteer animal rescue organization that serves 17 communities in central New Hampshire, most of which are not covered by other animal shelters. Since its inception in 1996, WAG's adoption program has provided an unusually high level of service for its animals and adoptive families. WAG's adoption process includes caring for each animal in a foster home until it is adopted. This insures a high quality of life for the animal during the weeks, months,



New Room program alumni Hunter and Shiloh enjoy the view from their new truck. See back cover for their story.

or, occasionally, years it takes to match them with a compatible adoptive family. It also provides the adoption coordinator with valuable information about each animal's temperament, which helps to find the adoptive family that is the best possible fit for that animal.

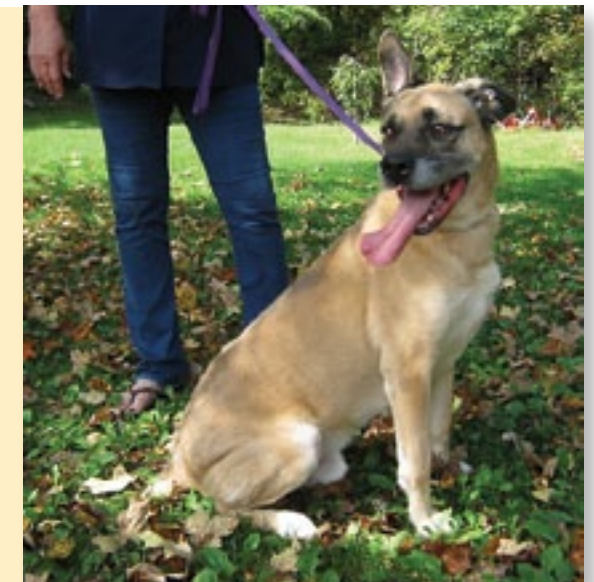
All WAG animals get complete veterinary care and are spayed or neutered before placement. WAG also takes on the care and placement of older animals.

The Room in Your Heart program takes care of our special cases. For example, the Room program supports the animals that take a little longer to place. Also, many of the animals that come to WAG are sick or injured and need special veterinary care. Room funds pay those vet bills.

PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED FORM AND GIVE AS GENEROUSLY AS YOU CAN! Your support is crucial for these animals that need help the most.

If you've been sponsoring an animal and you don't see them in this flyer, it's probably because we didn't have room to include them. If you'd like to know how your animal is doing, please contact us at 529-5443 or wearewag@gsinet.net and we'll be happy to fill you in.

TY – This Boxer-Shepherd cross loves life and everyone – and we mean everyone – he meets. We know it is a cliché, but you would never be able to guess this rescue's age (9 years old) from his behavior, as he is happy and happy-go-lucky. His foster family calls him "Mr. Meet-and-Greet" because he has to shake hands – literally – with everyone he meets: first one paw, then the other. They also call him the "Neighborhood Watch," as he keeps track of everyone and everything in the neighborhood. Ty is one of those push-button dogs: If you want to play, he'll do that for as long as you want. When you want to stop, he's happy to lie down near you with a bone. Not that big considering his parentage, Ty is a compact 65 lbs. His docked tail never stops wagging (or maybe you'd have to call it wiggling, as his whole butt wags). He does need regular exercise and consistent rules, like all Boxers and shepherds do. He's great in the car and fine with cats, but he is a people person, not a doggy dog: when given the choice of being with people or other dogs, he chooses the people every time. While he's OK when he meets other dogs, he really doesn't care about playing with them – or doing much of anything else with them, either. Nirvana for him would be to be with someone who will make him a real part of the family, preferably one who loves to play as much as he does.



MOST OF THE PETS IN THIS FLYER CAN BE ADOPTED.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT WAG AT 529-5443 OR WEAREWAG@GSINET.NET

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RIPLEY – SPECIAL NEEDS. Our best guess about this 6-year-old rescue is she's a husky-Whippet cross. She has many features of both breeds: She's Whippet sized – about 35 lbs. – and has the soft, smooth coat of a Whippet. She has the beautiful sky-blue eyes of a husky. The great mystery is where the ears – which are big enough to pick up Mars, never mind Guam – came from. Athletic like a Whippet, when she runs she is a thing of grace and beauty. She's also like a Whippet in that she's quiet in the house and can curl up into the tiniest ball in the corner of a couch (that is, if she isn't in your lap, her

favorite place to be). However, like a husky, she is a high-energy dog that needs quite a bit of exercise every day. She'd be perfect for someone who loves to walk a lot or jog. Also, like a husky, she's an escape artist, so needs a very securely fenced yard with a tall fence. Once she starts running, she forgets her training and will not come back, so she needs to be on-leash when she isn't in her yard. And unfortunately, like many Huskys, she doesn't like other dogs or cats. She has made some progress on this, but we are sure she can make more and are willing to provide anyone who adopts her with free consultations with a professional trainer to help her improve her manners with other dogs. Her need to be an only pet with a securely fenced yard is what makes Ripley a special needs dog. The other thing about Ripley that is exceptional is, while she likes all people, she adores – worships wouldn't be too strong a word – all children. We've seen her try to crawl into baby carriages. Her basic house manners are terrific and she adores riding in the car, too.

THE CAPTAIN –

This incredibly athletic grey tabby (swirls and all) parti-color came to WAG when his owner had to go into a nursing home. When we say "athletic," we're talking about beauty, not activity level: there is something about this 1-year-old cat that makes him more graceful than other cats. He truly is poetry in motion and is a joy to watch. He likes toys, but he likes people better. Cappy is shy for about 30 seconds and then he becomes a real people person. In fact, we think Cappy would make a great politician, because he loves to talk! He loves to be petted and have his ears scratched. He's also a window kind of guy. He's fine with other cats and doesn't mind quiet dogs.



MARTY – This 15-pounder is a true Heinz 57. We wonder if he has some Chihuahua genes, because he has the "Chihuahua grin," but who knows? Actually, what Marty reminds us of the most is Dumbo, as his ears are so big you think that he could become airborne with a stiff breeze. Personality-wise, Marty is both animated and easy-going. While he is high-energy, he's happy to take a toy (he's a toy fanatic) and



go play by himself if you're busy. He has a short, smooth, easy-to-care-for coat and beautiful golden eyes. He does need regular exercise, but because he's so small he's easy to keep in shape. On the other hand, don't let his small size fool you: he can keep up with any exercise regimen. Very affectionate and loving, his foster mom reports that his favorite thing is "to be scratched on top of his head, between his magnificent ears, and he looks at you dreamily like he's soaking up your face." This

not-quite-2-year-old's training is coming along great, but it needs to continue. He's fine in the car, but we recommend a crate or doggie seat belt because he likes to drive. He loves to play with other dogs and is good with kids – he's great with everyone, in fact – but we think he's too small and fast for really young kids. He is not good with cats.

CHESTER – The first thing you notice about Chester is his looks: a "designer" breed (Pugapoo), Chester looks like he stuck his toe in an electrical socket, as his wiry coat sticks straight out, especially his mane. He literally is so ugly he's cute. There is nothing ugly about Chester's personality, though: this is a dog that loves family life. He's always up for car rides, watching TV (he likes to sit in the center of the couch so he has the best view), going to soccer games, or going for walks. He's exceptionally good with children. Although this 3-year-old only weighs about 15 lbs., no one thinks he's a little dog, especially Chester, because he thinks size is a state of mind. In fact, his foster family thinks he should be in vaudeville wearing a set of spats! He is really cute when he plays, because he loves to do 360s while airborne. Chester is great in the house, too: in his foster home his favorite place to hang out is on a pillow on a daybed that's right in front of a window. He also likes to sleep on the bed. In fact, in the house Chester isn't on the floor too much, as he thinks the floor is too far from the action. He has no behavior problems and knows his basic obedience. He's OK with other dogs, but cats are not his bag.



POPTART – This beautiful 1-year-old grey tabby came to WAG as a stray. She got her name when she showed a strong preference for the breakfast pastry the first morning she was taken in. Besides supervising the toaster, Poptart is loving life as a house cat. She is a sweetheart who loves to rub noses and take afternoon naps with her foster mom. She enjoys toys. She's fine with other cats, and we think she'd be fine with a mellow dog.

FANCY has her name for a reason: she is one gorgeous cat. She's a beautiful pearly tortoiseshell color combined with a luxurious, unbelievably soft angora coat – that is maintenance-free, by the way. Ostrich feathers can't compete with her fluffy tail! We think she's the Coco Chanel of cats, as she always has the best outfit. And it doesn't stop with how she looks: Fancy also has a wonderful personality. This 5-year-old is interactive without being pushy: you can't keep a secret from her, because she's interested in everything you do. Besides doing this in style, she also manages to be involved without getting in the way. If you play with her (stuffed mice and wand toys are her favorites) she's your best friend. She's also a sun worshipper: if you want to know where she is, just find the sunniest spot and she's there. She's OK with some cats and tolerates dogs, but no young kids for Fancy.



MITZI – We call this tiny (about 5 lbs.) cat our "pocket cat," because she looks like a little doll, she is so pretty and petite. This 2-year-old came to WAG when her owner passed away. A grey-and-white tuxedo, between her Ascot-grey color and her elegant face and carriage, she always makes her foster mother think that she's dressed for Ascot or a ball. Mitzi is shy with you at first, but once she's comfortable, she is sweet and cuddly and likes to follow you around. She is a dear little thing who is very winning. She even smiles, and does this kind of purr thing when she is smiling. This diminutive girl is quiet and well-behaved, but needs a quiet home, so an adult home would be best. She'd be fine with a dog that ignored her. No other cats as they tend to intimidate her.



WANTED: GREAT HOMES FOR THESE SPECIAL CATS

These four cats all need to eat Royal Canin S/O, a prescription dry cat food that is available through many veterinarians and from several pet food web sites. As long as they eat this food, they are 100% healthy and have no problems. Please consider adopting one (or more!) of these exceptional felines. Feeding a special food will seem a small price to pay compared to what you'll receive.

TEDDY is a very rare male tiger calico (calicos are almost always female). We think he is part cat, part Mack truck, as you need to do your weightlifting before you pick him up! Of course, if he had his way, you'd be doing your weightlifting BY picking him up, as he is an extremely loving and funny boy that lives to be carried around and cuddled. He is very charming and tries to win you over by posing in all sorts of adorable ways, moving ever closer to where you store the cat food.... Teddy was found by the side of a road, and we think he's about 4 years old. He gets along pretty well with most other cats, but, like many ex-strays, he's afraid of dogs. He needs an adult home.



GUINNESS – this declawed orange tiger came to us when a good Samaritan saw him being thrown from a car and rescued him. We think he's about 5 years old. Guinness is charming and unbelievably loving. One adorable thing he likes to do is pull the covers over his head when he wants some R&R. He gets your attention by softly head butting you in an endearing, darling way. He would be ok with other laid-back cats, but no dogs or young kids for this gentle guy.



BORIS is a very large, very orange, very hairy 7-year-old long-hair with several extra toes who never stops purring. Boris isn't as athletic as he thinks he is, so attempts feats of physical prowess that he shouldn't. You can't help but laugh at this enormous clown (but try not to hurt his feelings; cats have their dignity, you know). Otherwise, he is happy to sit in your lap as long as you'll have him. Boris gets along with other cats and dogs and loves all people. His beautiful coat does need regular care, but he is great about letting you groom him.



CAMILLE: This beautiful, all-white cat is so graceful, she reminds you of a panther. Sophisticated, elegant, and very sweet, this easy-going girl gets along with everyone – other cats, dogs, and people – and is the best mouser we've ever had at WAG (and that's saying something). She's affectionate without being pushy and is playful and loves toys. She's a complete delight and has it all – except for a home of her own, which we hope will come soon. Beautiful Camille is about 8 years old.



HELP US TO CARE FOR AND PLACE THESE FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS.
WAG IS ALL-VOLUNTEER, SO YOUR DONATION GOES DIRECTLY TO ANIMAL CARE.

PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED FORM AND GIVE AS GENEROUSLY AS YOU CAN.
DONATE ON-LINE AT WWW.WEAREWAG.ORG/DONATIONS.HTM