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## ROMEO, ROMEO, WHEREFORE ART THOU ROMEO? BY JODI MARCUS

He may be our million dollar dog.

His background : he was taken on a humane hold. An animal control officer on normal rounds saw two Akitas tied to a pickup truck, no food, no water. They took the two dogs and left a notification for the owner. The shelter personnel were struck with how nice the male was and the female although leery, soon warmed up to them. They were occasionally kept in the office or near the front of the shelter. Their owner came in to claim them, was told he had to improve living conditions, pay for their board and given a time limit in which to do so. The dogs hid away from him under the desk. The time limit came and went. The female was placed in a home. The male stayed. The owner returned, was again told the same thing and again given a time limit in which to take care of business before the male would be given back to him. His time was up that Friday at 5 pm. The shelter personnel were afraid the owner would send in a proxy to get him the next morning so they called all the local rescues to see if any could take this dog. One rescue, impelled by the shelter workers' desperation, called us. I told her we had no room. She said the shelter people claimed he was the nicest Akita in the world and they were would do anything they could to have him placed in a rescue.



Romeo, pictured, with Samoyed mix.

She offered to foster him if we would place him. I gave her info about some temperament testing, and she said she would call me back. He passed the temp test with flying colors. He showed no aggression over food or toys, when walked up and down the aisle in front of barking shelter dogs, and sitting in front of a particularly aggressive pit bull, he just ignored them all. So this rescue person took him out and fostered him. He was kept outside in a run during the day and inside the house in a room at night. He played with the female resident Samoyed mix, and loved everyone who came to meet him. His foster family called him a "lab in disguise". They also said he was a bit clumsy. A family called, very interested in him. This family was told on the phone that he was a bit clumsy and that the rescue's vet had opined had a congenital neurologic problem...he has pain responses when his feet are pinched and other than clumsiness, did not seem to be bothered by it. I accompanied them to a meeting place where we all met him. He is tiny for an Akita, but very friendly, had a very odd rear gait, but seemed to be in no pain. The family had recently lost a older dog, and were still paying for his treatment. They were very clear in that they could not keep a dog who was would have a lot of vet expenses. Romeo stayed with this family for several weeks. They said he would cry and actually sometimes scream when he hunched up to defecate.

(continued on page 2)

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, ARMAC!**  
 October 2009 marks the 25th anniversary of ARMAC! Help us celebrate 25 amazing years of hands-on rescue saving the lives of countless Akitas around the metro area as well as ARMAC's commitment to serving the community. **Join us on Sunday October 11th from 1-5p!** If you'd like to attend, please email [HJLaMay@yahoo.com](mailto:HJLaMay@yahoo.com) for an invitation!



## ROMEO (CONTINUED FROM COVER)

This was cause for concern, so we decided to have him checked out by our vet. The potential adopters relinquished Romeo with great reluctance because of his potential for having large vet bills. In another economic time, they probably would have kept him. Romeo's stay with them gave us so much wonderful information about him and his temperament: he gets along with cats, allowed visiting dogs, was not bothered by nor bothered their horses, and he was a super nice dog who liked everyone. We had them bring him to our vet for an examination and he was literally x-rayed from nose to tail. We also had him tested for various tick born diseases since they can cause neurologic symptoms. There were no obvious spinal problems, but x-rays do not show soft tissue problems, such as herniated discs. His shoulders looked a little strange in one of the pictures, so on the advice of our vet, took him to an orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Griffin, at the Regional Veterinary Referral Center in Springfield, VA. (For the record, let me say that I would recommend Dr. Griffin to anyone who has need of an Orthopedic doctor. He is very conservative in treatment, not quick to use the knife.) Dr. Griffin thoroughly examined Romeo, testing his responses in various areas of his rear legs, and said he felt he has a sacral/lumbar problem. He was put on an anti-inflammatory drugs for 4 weeks. If there was no improvement, then Dr. Griffin recommended a neurologic consult. After the exam, Romeo screamed for several days after when he had to defecate. The screams died to low moans, the moans to whimpers, and then about 11 days later, no obvious problem. In the days following, there was an occasional whimper when he started, but nothing after that. At the end of three weeks, he is going mostly with no sound, but still has that odd walk. When I called to update Dr. Griffin, he suggested we do a neurologic consult to try to ascertain what Romeo's future will be. Will he be able to continue as he is or will he need more treatment? This may involve an MRI, and possibly surgery. Yes, I know we need to spend our money in such a way to do the greatest amount of good for the greatest number of dogs. Romeo is young, had such a bad start, and has a superb temperament, one of the best I have seen in my years in rescue. If he requires the MRI and surgery, perhaps we can set up a special fund for him to help defray costs. We will keep you updated on his progress.

### Romeo's costs to date:

\$591.34 for x-rays, sedation for x-rays, tick panel, blood work and thyroid panel

\$90 for Orthopedic consult

\$28 anti-inflammatory med

\$80 neuter/shots

**789.34 Total**

### Potential costs:

\$84 urine culture ( his blood test came back with a high BUN, so a urinalysis is needed to see why)

\$247.50 Neurology consult (includes 10% discount)

\$1500 for MRI (if necessary and/or if we are able to have it done)

**Please consider donating to help Romeo, today.**

## WHAT SAYING "NO" TO YOUR DOG REALLY MEANS

BY NANCY FREEDMAN-SMITH

I finally met my sister's new Golden Retriever puppy Talulah, and she is sugar and spice and everything nice, just like I have been hearing for the last month from my entire family. We are all in love with her, and she is delightful. At just 12 weeks, Talulah is housetrained, and learned sit, down, paw, to walk politely on a leash, and she has very nice manners. My parents are so very proud of the new grand dog and all the kudos I have been hearing for the last month are all true. She is wonderful. My entire family is quite dog savvy and they had not solicited any advice for this puppy, until yesterday. Over lunch my niece, who is in grad school mentioned that the only problem she is having is that the pup not only picks things up, she ingests them. I joked that there is a saying among dog trainers that "puppies are only vehicles for their mouths." Rachael didn't laugh and told me it was quite serious and she had discussed it with the vet. "What have you taught her?", I asked her. "She's good, I tell her no and she will leave it alone." Rachael replied. "But what did you teach her", I asked again. "No she is fine, she drops it if I tell her no, she is good about it really, but I am afraid she will swallow something if I am not there. Our other dogs were not like this." "Have you taught her "leave it?" I insisted. I then went on a spiel about the word "No", and showed my niece how to teach Talulah to teach leave it and to trade up for toys, two must knows for puppies. I teach leave it by rewarding the dog for looking up at the handler. The thing is "No," does not really teach dogs anything. It will (hopefully) interrupt behavior, but to be really effective, you need to replace an unwanted behaviors instead of always suppressing them.

Much in the same way that you can't always tell your kids what they can't do, but instead need to guide and teach what it is that they can do. By teaching a puppy "leave it" and the release word "OK", you start to teach the dog self control and to check in with us. It is a form of the game Mother May I, and dogs love games. Dogs are very "what's in it for me" creatures and if all they ever get is loss of their prize, just using the word "no!" can lead to unwanted consequences. If you only use the word "No!", and every time your dog picks some thing up you take it from them, you could inadvertently teach them to bolt or swallow before you steal their prize. I can not count the number of dogs who have come to me for behavior counseling, AFTER they have had dangerous and expensive surgery to remove rocks and socks and other non edibles. They all have one thing in common. They were not taught leave it properly.

*The next time you tell your dog "No", please stop for a moment and think about what it was you actually just taught them.*



# CHEF HILLARY'S KITCHEN BY HILLARY LAMAY

## Pumpkin Pooch Cookies

Our autumn favorite is back! Fall into the harvest season with this yummy and easy treat your pups will drool for!

### Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups whole wheat flour
- 1/2 cup pumpkin, canned
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 4 tablespoons softened butter
- 1 whole egg
- 1/2 cup buttermilk

### Directions:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Combine flour, cinnamon and nutmeg and cut in butter. Beat egg with milk and pumpkin and combine with flour, mixing well. Stir until soft dough forms. Drop by tablespoons onto ungreased cookie sheet and bake for 12 to 15 minutes. Let cool and serve.



**Bow Wow Wow Yipee Yo, Yipee HEY YOU!**

**Do you have a yummy recipe your pup loves? Is it healthy and easy?**

**We'd love to put it in the next newsletter! Please email Chef Hillary with your submission: [HJLaMay@yahoo.com](mailto:HJLaMay@yahoo.com)**



### ***Follow ARMAC on Facebook!***

Keep up to date on events, issues, and get to know some of your fellow Akita lovers in the area! Join our group by typing in

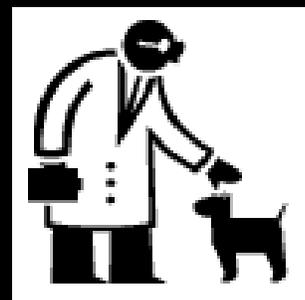
' **Akita Rescue Mid Atlantic Coast, Inc.** ' in the search field!

***Interested in volunteering?*** We also have a sister group set aside for

ARMAC Volunteers where you can sign up to assist us at events. Join our group by typing in ' **ARMAC Volunteers!** ' into the search field. Once you've joined either group, feel free to add any stories, photos or pet-friendly recipes and we'd love to feature them in a future newsletter! It's a great forum for asking your Akita-related questions or if you have any ideas on how to help us spread the word far and wide!

## **AFFORDABLE AND CONVENIENT SPAY/NEUTER OPTIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO OUR COMMUNITY!**

**For our Northern VA audience:** The Neuter Commuter travels to PW County to transport animal into Washington, D.C., where the spay/neuter procedures are performed. There are no income requirements and anyone can participate, but space is limited to 30 animals each month. Low-cost services, such as rabies vaccinations, will be offered for animals receiving the spay/neuter procedures. Full instructions and details are provided on the application form. All reservations and payments are made in advance and on-line. For more information: [www.pwspca.org](http://www.pwspca.org)



**For our Maryland audience:** SNAP, Inc offers low cost spay/neuter certificates, financial aid to those unable to afford spay/neuter surgeries, and to reduce pet over-population through sterilization. Anyone of any age who needs assistance for spay/neuter surgeries should contact the SNAP Program. For more information: <http://community.carr.org/fullrecord.asp?record=999>

## THE DOG FOOD PROJECT

### A LESSON IN IDENTIFYING BETTER PRODUCTS FOR OUR DOGS

In the section "Label Information 101" the pros and cons of the information available on the product label are discussed in detail. This article provides recommendations for actually picking out a quality product. The process is not always simple and often you will have to make up your mind whether something is still acceptable for you or not. If your dog doesn't show sensitivities to things like for example wheat, corn, beef, or brewer's yeast and they are of good quality (e.g. USDA inspected or antibiotic and steroid free etc.), they are not "bad" and you have absolutely no reason to feel guilty if a food contains them! I could go on with countless examples for ingredients that have been vilified due to people's half-knowledge that finds the internet as a prolific breeding environment. It is our goal to provide you with all the tools that you need in order to make an informed decision whether a particular food is acceptable for you or not. The recommendations below are based on the official AAFCO definitions of food ingredients, my independent research of those ingredients and also advice from other sources. Except for very few more widely available brands I have not taken special needs formulations for allergies or other health concerns into consideration, since they are formulated under completely different aspects.

#### **Step One - Determine the main ingredients of the food**

Contrary to popular belief, it's not always the "first five" or "first seven" ingredients listed that make up the major portion of a product. The number of main ingredients actually depends on the specific formulation of a food and the degree of variety included, so one brand may have only three or four main ingredients, while another could have eight or ten. What you need to look for is the first source of fat or oil that appears in the ingredient list. This can either be from an animal or vegetable source, there are good and bad ones of both, but more details on that later. Anything listed before that first source of fat, and including it, are the main ingredients of the food. Any other items are present in much smaller amounts to add flavor, function as preservatives, help with the manufacturing process or provide dietary benefits (e.g. probiotics, vitamins and minerals).

#### **Step Two - Evaluate the quality of the ingredients and the amounts used**

Sadly, this is easier said than done, due to the ambiguous names of many ingredients. As a consumer you have no way of knowing how much of an ingredient is really in a food, or whether a manufacturer uses a good or poor quality ingredient that is available in different grades - AAFCO (Association of American Feed Control Officials - the regulating body for the feed industry) does not permit statements in regards to quality on ingredient labels. You will have to do your homework and determine which manufacturers you trust.

#### **Step Three - Required reading**

Manufacturer's websites, brochures, pamphlets - read it all and if you have questions, don't be afraid to contact them and ask. Does the provided information include facts you can verify by consulting independent sources? Talk to company representatives at dog shows or other venues. How well prepared and how willing are they to answer specific questions? Does the company make outrageous claims without backing them up? Compare how the quality of the ingredients used in their products matches up with any statement they make about proper nutrition. If a manufacturer boasts about "awards" and "winning taste test results", do they reference the exact criteria products had to meet and who conducted the evaluations? If a manufacturer compares a product to those of competitors, are the comparisons truthful or is the main tactic making the competitor look bad without explaining why their own product is of superior quality? Of course everyone is trying to present their own food in the best light, but if pointing out weaknesses in other products or employing scare tactics is all they can do, their own can't be that much better. Make the effort to examine all products in a comparison table provided by a given manufacturer, often they do not represent competitor products truthfully. Consider the use of catchphrases and marketing gimmicks in TV commercials and advertising campaigns. How difficult is it to locate relevant product information like ingredients, guaranteed analysis, caloric content etc. (on the manufacturer's website or otherwise)? Is it readily available or buried in various articles that do not directly relate to the product(s)? The "best" food will not do if your dog either can't tolerate it or won't eat it. Don't be afraid to select more than one brand and see how they work out for your dog. Give it enough time though, it takes 4-6 weeks at the very least to see results.

#### **Step Four - Do your own feeding trial**

The "best" food will not do if your dog either can't tolerate it or won't eat it. Don't be afraid to select more than one brand and see how they work out for your dog. Give it enough time though, it takes 4-6 weeks at the very least to see results. Unless symptoms of intolerance surface, 3-4 months are a more reasonable time frame. The manufacturers of most high quality foods will be happy to send you free samples of their products so you can find out if your dog even likes the taste of a particular food before you buy.

(Continued on page 5)

### TO OUR ADOPTERS

Another Rescue Angel has offered to pay for half of the Basic Training fees for up to 10 Adopted Dogs who enroll in the PawPaws Canine College for 2008/2009!

The 2-week course is \$425. One could say this patron believes in dogs and believes in Sue Clauss!

The format involves boarding the dog for 2 weeks with Sue so that she can work one-on-one with the dog and then the owner joins her for a 2-day training seminar where you are trained to work with your dog.

Instruction with the humans after the two weeks of dog training involves a 1 1/2 to 2 hour lesson when the owners pick up and then several follow up lessons spaced 1-3 weeks apart

Please go to:

**[PawPawsCanineCollege.com](http://PawPawsCanineCollege.com)**  
for more information.

If you are interested in signing up for this training after talking to Sue, please notify Puller ([puller@akitarescue.org](mailto:puller@akitarescue.org)).



## THE DOG FOOD PROJECT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

### Ingredient Groups

#### **Protein**

Protein, in the form of quality meat ingredients, is the most important component of a dog's diet. As animals with a carnivorous background, their digestive tract is designed to utilize primarily meat and fat. It is also the most expensive ingredient for a manufacturer to buy and the profit margin on a product is drastically affected by the amount and quality used. Ideally, the first ingredient of a food should be either a specified meat meal, or a specified fresh meat type followed by a meal. If your individual dog's specific needs limit you to using foods that do not include a concentrated source of meat in meal form, I highly recommend supplementing with fresh or canned meats on a daily basis.

Generically named sources of protein or fat (animal \_\_\_\_, meat \_\_\_\_, poultry \_\_\_\_, etc.) are never present in truly high quality products because they are derived from highly questionable sources. If a manufacturer uses quality ingredients and has nothing to hide, there is no need for generic names. Byproducts of any type are less desirable and only acceptable if they do not make up the main source of animal protein and if the name of the species used is also defined in some manner (e.g. "chicken byproducts" or "beef byproducts" but not "meat byproducts" or "poultry byproducts"). Byproducts consist of anything but the quality cuts of meat and highest quality edible offal used for human consumption. What this means (on a market with high demand for human snacks like "buffalo wings" and cheaper pet foods requiring flavoring agents like beef or chicken liver digest to make otherwise uninteresting food more attractive), I leave to your imagination. Contrary to what many people believe, meat sources in "meal" form (as long as they are from a specified type of animal, such as chicken meal, lamb meal, salmon meal etc.) are not inferior to whole, fresh meats. Meals consist of meat and skin, with or without the bones, but exclusive of feathers/hair, heads, feet, horns, entrails etc. and have the proper calcium/phosphorus ratio required for a balanced diet. They have had most of the moisture removed, but meats in their original, "wet" form still contain up to 75% water. Once the food reaches its final moisture content of about 9-12%, the meat will have shrunk to sometimes as little as 1/4 of the original amount, while the already dehydrated meal form remains the same and you get more concentrated protein per pound of finished product. This means that in the worst case you are left with only 4 ounces of actual meat content per pound of fresh meat included in a dry kibble, many of which contain less than one pound of meat per 2-3 pounds of grain to begin with. Preferably a food contains quality meat meal as well as some fresh meat.

#### **Fats and Oils**

Dogs need a certain amount of fats and oils in their diet, mostly for skin and coat health, but also for proper brain development and other critical processes in the body - and in this regard some are more valuable than others. As food ingredients they should be specifically named and of high nutritional value. Beef tallow and lard make foods highly attractive to dogs and are not harmful, but they are high in saturated fat and low in valuable fatty acids.

#### **Carbohydrates**

Carbohydrates may originate from grains (rice, wheat, barley, oats, corn etc.) or alternative sources like potatoes, sweet potatoes, tapioca or peas. The claim that all carbohydrates in commercial dog food are nothing but fillers and can not be digested by dogs is incorrect - properly cooked (as in extruded and baked dry foods as well as canned foods) they are highly digestible and valuable sources of energy. The tolerance of amounts and types varies, some dogs do better with more carbs in their diet than others, and some do better on grain-free foods with alternative sources. For certain health conditions it is beneficial to avoid high-gluten grains like barley, wheat, rye or oats and favor low gluten ones like rice, millet, amaranth, quinoa and sorghum (milo). Quality is also important, since grains deemed unfit for human consumption (often contaminated with mold) can legally still be used for animal feed. Whole, unprocessed grains (also listed as "ground" or in "meal" form) retain all the nutrients in the bran layer, the original fat content and the endosperm. Grain fragments and flours are incomplete and may have already lost much of their nutritional value during processing and storage. Some manufacturers include one fragment (most commonly brewer's rice) to lower product cost, which is acceptable if whole grains or starchy vegetables are also present. Be wary of products that consist mainly of fragments and flours. Flours are highly refined and while not harmful, contain less valuable nutrients and more refined carbohydrates than whole ground grains. Be careful of "splitting" of ingredients, such as for example rice, rice flour and rice bran all appearing in an ingredient list. Added together they would appear much higher on the ingredient list. Interpreted as lack of digestibility. Unless an individual dog is intolerant or allergic to corn, there is no need to avoid products which include it in reasonable amounts.

#### **Fiber**

Fiber is the part of carbohydrates that can not be digested by the dog. Depending on nutritional goals, varying levels of dietary fiber with different properties are necessary to make a highly processed food source like commercial kibble "work", since a dog's digestive tract is not designed to process a diet with such high levels of carbohydrates - most commercial dry foods contain 40-50%, low quality ones even more. Depending on the inclusion of ingredients that are naturally high in fiber (e.g. brown rice, oats, certain fruits or vegetables), a food may or may not include specific, isolated types of fiber. Beet Pulp, the isolated fibrous material from sugar beets, is another ingredient that has an undeservedly bad reputation. It is a very gentle, beneficial source of fiber that is not only generally very well tolerated, but also has specific properties that make it suitable as a source of nutrition for the beneficial bacteria that reside in the intestinal tract. The sugar is almost completely removed, what is left in the pulp is only about 1/5 the amount of sugar that you would find in a serving of carrots of equal size. It is also colorless and does not turn a dog's coat red, like urban legends claim. The argument that beet pulp is an "unnatural" ingredient is often brought up, but people who present this complaint seem to forget that it is also not natural for dogs to eat highly processed commercial products with a carb content of generally 40% and more, and a moisture content of only around 10% as opposed to a more natural 60-70%. Added fiber is required to make such formulations work for the pets who eat a dry diet.

For more information, please visit <http://www.TheDogFoodProject.com>

# AVAILABLE ORPHANS

CURRENT LIST OF AVAILABLE AKITA RESCUE (ARMAC, INC.)  
 WWW.AKITARESCUE.ORG TO VIEW MORE PHOTOS

The majority of these dogs came from animal shelters, therefore "owner surrender" does not necessarily mean they were received directly from a home.

**Cora**—s/f, dob 2000, Red w/white markings, black mask. Old style girl, LOVES people and wants desperately to be in her own home with NO OTHER PETS. She is currently being kenneled and loves to go out on a lunge line for hiking in the fields. She was picked up by a shelter as a stray and whelped 9 puppies in the shelter. Her puppies found homes, don't you think she deserves one?



**Tora**-s/f, dob 2006, silver fawn and black brindle with white markings. Tora is now in a foster home and doing well. She is very intelligent, has completed one series of obedience class. Good with adults and children. Likes some dogs, if she went to a home with another k9, it should be something that is very mellow and likes to play non-stop.



**Willow** – a/m, dob 2006, silver fawn with black mask w/white markings. Sweet dog. Housebroken, good with all dogs, good with children. Picked up a stray with an injured leg. Has had cruiate surgery to repair his leg. He is being placed by College Park Animal Control. Abbey at 240-375-3165.



**Princess** – s/f, dob 2005, fawn with black mask, white markings. Our classic beauty is still waiting for Prince Charming. She is housebroken, good with most dogs (and wouldn't mind finding a home with her bf, a mellow JRT fellow named, Cracker Jack!), obedient, affectionate. She is responding well to her meds for Pemphigus and just needs a forever home.



**Kodiakita**, . a/m, dob 2007, rich mahogany brindle w/white markings. This guy is a tank! Small in stature, he is built like a brick house. Surrendered to a shelter w/his female companion. He got out, she didn't. Affectionate and loving once he gets to know you, otherwise typical Akita aloofness. Another victim of the economy. Are you the person who can see past his façade to see the nice dog inside?



**Sanno**- a/m, dob 2003, white with dark fawn cap. What a great guy! Friendly, sweet, housebroken, loves to ride in the car and sings to you! Affectionate and waiting to be the King in your castle. Good with adults and children, although due to his age would prefer teens or older.



**Mr. Handsome**- a/m, dob 2001, fawn with black mask w/white markings. Will need an experienced owner, however, he is an outgoing fellow with most adults. Another intelligent dog who needs a home with no other pets. Loves car rides but will have to be walked as he will escape a yard.



**Zumo Azumi**- a/m, dob 2008, white with biscuit (pale red) markings and apricot ears. A character! Housebroken, great with other dogs, neighborhood children, and ignores neighborhood cats on walks. Currently enrolled in hydrotherapy for an injured front leg. We'll make a retriever out of him yet! Surrendered to a shelter by his breeder when he was injured by another dog.



**Tora (II)** – s/f, dob 2001, brindle and white. Another sweet dog, lived with other dogs, loves people, housebroken, loves to sleep in the bedroom with you. She and her companions were surrendered to a small rural, shelter when they lost their home. Please contact Joann Dimon: jojo2221@verizon.net.



# RAINBOW BRIDGE



## In Memory:

Mocha



I lost my Mocha to bloat this morning. Jodi came to the vets with me to say goodbye to my dear Mocha. Mocha was a wonderful Akita, I only wish that we had more years to spend with him. He will be greatly missed by my family and his female companion Tori. Run like the wind my dear boy...you deserve all the happiness that the bridge will bring. Until we meet again....Mocha Gray, Feb. 22, 2001 - Jul. 8, 2009 Lisa Gray, ARMAC

PS - Jodi wrote this beautiful

poem for Mocha. Jodi was Mocha's foster mom.

### *For Mocha*

My new home brought light and joy into my life.

I abandoned my fears and spent many years

Enjoying my new family.

When my time came, despite her own pain,

My mom let me go, surrounded by her love.

I want her to know when her time comes

She won't be alone. I will be waiting, tail happily waving,

To escort her over the Bridge.

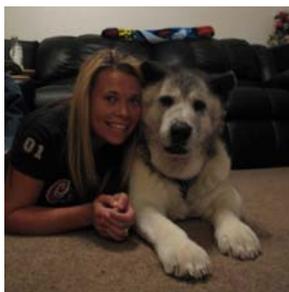
Jodi Marcus July 8, 2009



ARMAC sends well wishes out for a speedy recovery to Shelby O'Donnell. Get well soon, Shelbz!!

## Nanook

"Thank you for giving us the best girl in the whole world! She was my spoiled princess and she knew it! I hope you like the picture, it was done about a week before she passed away." ~ Rebecca Bethard



## ABOUT ARMAC

Akita Rescue, Mid-Atlantic Coast, Inc. (ARMAC), is one of the oldest Akita rescue groups in the United States, and is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. ARMAC was founded by a small group of concerned Akita owners and has been serving the Mid-Atlantic seaboard since 1984.

Our highest priority is to save and re-home Akitas in area shelters, however, we also address a wide variety of Akita needs such as educating potential owners, referrals, support for Akita owners, and evaluations of dogs in private homes and shelters.

If you can find it in your heart to foster, adopt, donate or volunteer, please visit our website for more information on how you can get involved:

<http://akitarescue.rescuegroups.org/>



CONGRATS ON YOUR ADOPTION!

**ROMI!**

**THANKS FOR YOUR DONATION:**

**ELIZABETH MOORE**

**A SPECIAL AKITA WOO FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS:**

**JERRY BURKE AND LEE HARVEY!!**

**TO DONATE TO ARMAC, VISIT UNITEDWAY.ORG #84389**

UPCOMING EVENT

**PRINCE WILLIAM SPCA ADOPT-A-THON & FALL FESTIVAL**

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 17TH 11A-4P**



# ARMAC

313 Quaint Acres Road  
Silver Spring, MD 20904

**YES! I would like to subscribe to 'Uniquely Akita'!** (6 issues annually) for \$18.00 a year

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Janet McMillan (703) 931-852

**Akita Friendly Vets**  
Ballston Animal Hospital (703) 528-2776  
Dr. Learman: MapleShade Animal Hospital (703) 670-7668  
Morgantown Vet Care, LLC (304) 599-8269  
Nebel Street Animal Hospital (301) 230-6595  
Ira Hartwell (301) 261-8463  
Capital Dog Trainers (301) 587-5959  
Club Pet International (703) 471-7818

**Palmer Vet Clinic (301) 293-2121**  
Norbeck Animal Hospital (301) 924-3616

