Road Trip!

by Tara Bowser

Our journey with Animal Planet’s Puppy Bowl began back in August 2015, when we received an email from one of their Associate Producers. They were currently “drafting” puppy players and asked if we had any puppies in our shelter that we would be interested in submitting for consideration. The only catch, the puppies had to be between 12-20 weeks old by the time filming was set to take place in October, and we were responsible for getting the puppies to NYC for filming. Luckily, we had recently taken in two terrier mix puppies that fit the age requirements. We submitted Bert (later renamed Rugby) and Ernie, and thus began our relationship with Animal Planet. Rugby went on to make the starting lineup of that season’s game - Puppy Bowl XII. The next two years would bring fame to more Animal Friends alumni - Fuzz and Sable in Puppy Bowl XIII, and Teddy, Bubbles, and Boomer in Puppy Bowl XIV.

Although Puppy Bowl officially airs the same Sunday as the NFL’s Super Bowl, filming actually takes place months ahead of time at a studio in NYC. There’s a lot of prep work that goes into making Puppy Bowl a success. Traveling to the Big City with puppies can be daunting, even when you’ve done it the last three years.

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NAME: Hank

NICKNAME: Mr. Henry Mink Muzzle (because his muzzle feels like Mink)

AGE: 9 in April

BREED: Golden Retriever/German Shepherd Mix

GENDER: Neutered Male

OWNER: Mark Scharnhorst & Maureen Miller

HOW DID MARK & MAUREEN BECOME HANK’S OWNERS: Almost 9 years ago, Mark was at a local Walmart and came across a family in the parking lot. The family appeared to be living out of their van, and with them was a 6-week-old little puppy (Hank) who looked in need of immediate veterinary care. Mark knew the situation was not ideal for a puppy, and after talking with the family, he convinced them to let him take the pup home.

HOW LONG HAVE THEY HAD HIM: Since he was 6 weeks old.

ANY SIBLINGS: Hank was brother to Buddy, the 2015 #1 Dog, who passed away Christmas Eve. 2017. Currently, there are no other siblings, unless you count Momma Kitty, a neighborhood feral cat that showed up at their house and surprised them with a litter of kittens in their window well. Kittens were taken to Animal Adoption Foundation when they were old enough and all found their “forever” homes. Momma Kitty is now spayed and lives with Mark and Hank.

ANY MORE SIBLINGS IN THE FUTURE: No plans on getting another sibling, but if the right one comes along they would be open to it.

FAVORITE TREAT: Ice cream at Grandma’s house - which consists of frozen almond milk.

FAVORITE TOY: His stuffed rabbit or duck, or any nylabone.

FAVORITE THINGS TO DO: Hiking anywhere with his family, going to work with mom so he can hang out with her in the office, and his most favorite pastime is giving face licks!

BEDTIME RITUAL: Hank enjoys a nice evening walk before snuggling up into his dog bed.

BEST FRIEND IN NEIGHBORHOOD: Hank has 2 special friends. Kenzie, the English Golden that Maureen occasionally doggy sits. Hank and Kenzie love to spend hours playing with each other, sometimes having to stop and take a break at the urging of Maureen. Hank’s other favorite pal is Jess, an English Setter owned by AFHS Board Member and friend of Maureen and Mark, Patty Hamblin.

SPECIAL TRICKS: Hank runs and leaps into Mark’s arms. He also knows sit, paw, lay, sit pretty, roll left and roll right. Yes, Hank does know his left from his right! He also has a nice set of vocals and makes the cutest “owl” calls!

FAVORITE VACATION SPOT: Any cabin, in any woods. Hank loves the outdoors, and has spent time vacationing in Michigan, Red River Gorge, Hocking Hills, and Big South Fork, Tennessee.

HOW DOES HE FEEL BEING THE #1 DOG IN BUTLER COUNTY: Hank is very humble, and has made sure not to let his celebrity status give him a big head.

HANK’S ADVICE TO PET OWNERS: Don’t ever treat your pets like they’re just an animal, and don’t underestimate what they understand.

UNIQUE QUALITY: Hank won Best in Show and Pet/Owner look-alike at Animal Adoption Foundation’s annual picnic.

Bedtime Ritual: Hank enjoys a nice evening walk before snuggling up into his dog bed.

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How Does He Feel Being the #1 Dog in Butler County: Hank is very humble, and has made sure not to let his celebrity status give him a big head.

Hank’s Advice to Pet Owners: Don’t ever treat your pets like they’re just an animal, and don’t underestimate what they understand.

Unique Quality: Hank won Best in Show and Pet/Owner look-alike at Animal Adoption Foundation’s annual picnic.

Thoughts from the Owners:
Dogs should live FUREVER!
great adoption
Success Stories

THAI-LEK

I wanted to let you know that “Baby Girl” has a new name. She is now Thai Lek......Lek in the Siamese language means “second daughter”. She has been here for about 36 hours and Thai - pronounced tie as in neck tie! has settled in to her “forever home”.

Thank you for the opportunity to adopt Thai. She has stolen our hearts and I wanted to thank you for the work that you do.

Elsa

Since adopting Elsa in August she’s been the best. Shortly after her adoption we lost our 15 year old dog, and we truly came to believe that Elsa was brought into our lives for a wonderful reason. She’s spoiled rotten and loves to run around the yard with our other dogs, Precious and Joey. She also gives the best cuddles.

BUSTER

He’s full of energy and love to give.

He’s a great friend to our 4 year old who loves running outside with him.

He loves sleep almost as much as food!

CLEO

I just adopted a kitten from you named Cleo who is now Zelda. We are in love. She is the sweetest and greatest little girl! I want to thank you for all you do. Without you I wouldn’t of found my new furry daughter. She is a cuddler and loves to play with her big brother. One day she came home she fell asleep on my face smiling. She now sleeps by her daddy and enjoys her tunnels!
We did it! Another successful auction has come and gone. It’s hard to believe that we’ve just completed our 14th Annual Bark ‘N’ Purr Ball, held once again at Receptions in Fairfield on the 3rd Saturday of March. The event of the year that takes months to coordinate and plan (thanks to the fabulous members of our Fundraising Committee), seems to always pass in the blink of an eye.

Our crowd arrived in full swing, most of them having already started their St. Patty’s Day festivities a day early with a few drinks before the auction. The majority of the attendees are regulars that come back year after year, but we were also pleased to see many new faces in attendance. After checking in at the main doors, they were greeted with the smiling faces of volunteers Deb & Ashlyn, staffing the fundraising table full of pet related items for purchase, all benefiting the shelter.

From there, the crowd makes their way through the main room, passing by each elegant dinner table adorned with images of shelter animals – some already adopted and some still looking for their forever homes. After finding their table and claiming their seat, it’s a quick stop at the bar for a cold drink, then onto the Silent Auction room where the fun begins!

Thanks to the generosity of local businesses and supporters, the Silent Auction tables were packed with close to 200 baskets ready to be won by that evening’s highest bidder. There were a variety of popular items to bid on - from Golf packages to designer handbags, to the most intriguing item, a cat-themed ballpoint pen that was handcrafted from the White Oak tree that was featured in the movie, “The Shawshank Redemption”.

In between upping their bid on the silent auction baskets, auction attendees were also encouraged to take part in the fun-filled raffles and games. The infamous Wheelbarrow of Cheer is always a crowd favorite, with glistening half-Gallon bottles of liquor catching the eyes of many. You could also try your luck at the Chinese Raffle table or Wine Pull. Buying an arm’s length of raffle tickets for the Lottery Chest increased your chances of winning over $200 worth of lottery tickets. And, let’s not forget this year’s Heads or Tails item – a brand new Vizio 50 inch 4K smart TV plus $500 CASH! Read on to learn the lucky winner of that hot item!

With the buffet dinner being enjoyed by all, it was time to introduce the evening’s special Guests of Honor. First up was Porsche, a senior boxer escorted by her adopters, Keri & Stephen. Porsche’s story is one that we at the shelter see all too often. She came to Animal Friends in March of 2018, emaciated and weighing only 20 pounds. With the financial support of our community, and the expert medical care of our staff and fosters, Porsche was nursed back to health and placed into
the loving care of her new parents. As for Porsche’s previous owner, he was charged and found guilty of animal cruelty. Next up was Macy, an adoptable bulldog mix escorted by volunteer Meg Kleman. Macy’s story was very similar to Porsche’s, she was found emaciated and brought to Animal Friends for care. Her owner was never found, so charges were not possible in her case. Making a full recovery like Porsche, Macy was eager to show her love and potential to the crowd, in hopes of finding her forever family. Although she didn’t leave the night with an adopter, she did successfully raise some much needed donations to be used to care for her four-legged friends back at the shelter.

The live auction featured many incredible items, including a Caribbean Cruise for Two, Private Chef’s Dinner for twelve in your home, and the most popular of the evening, a signed Ron Burns painting of Sirius, the explosive detection dog who died in the attack on the World Trade Center. Bidding for Sirius went back and forth between two auction participants, one of which was Major Greg Valandingham of Fairfield Police, who was volunteering his evening as Security for the event. Major Valandingham stayed strong in his bidding, but ultimately bowed out once the bid reached $1200. Sirius would be going home with long-time supporters Nancy and Lil, who later in the evening were also the big winners of the Wheelbarrow of Cheer!

Award-winning auctioneer, Billy Peyton, kept the crowd entertained through all eleven live auction items, while reminding them that their generous pledges were going to support the nearly 6,000 animals that enter Animal Friends each year.

Next up – Super Raffle drawings! With the crowd engaged through the drawings of the Wheelbarrow of Cheer and Lottery Chest, it was finally time for the excitement of the Heads or Tails game. The room was filled with eager participants on their feet, each wearing a gold necklace to signify they had purchased their ticket to play the game. Each stood with hands on either their heads or tails, hoping that the toss from the auctioneer would result in the coin landing on the same side that they had chosen. After only a few minutes of tossing, the game was quickly narrowed down to the last two standing. The final toss resulted in a win for Steve Paullus, a regular volunteer dog walker at Animal Friends. Steve shook hands with the auctioneer, and immediately announced he would be donating his $500 cash winnings back to the shelter. The crowd went wild! What a way to end our successful night!

Animal Friends Humane Society thanks all of its loyal supporters and everyone who contributed. We look forward to your return next year for our 15th Annual BNP on March 21, 2020!
IN MEMORY OF

Nancy Bender ............. Jodi Wells
Hildegarde Luff ........... Jennifer Trowbridge
Patricia Stroz ............. Susan Stroz, Mike
Schwab, Tracey Singer, Tricia Harris, Mary Rohrbacher, Scott & Dee Rice,
Jim & Joanne Stroz, Lori Cribbet, Barb Carmell, John & Kathy Teufel,
Rebecca Mendenhall, Snyder Family

Sharon Deininger .......... Vicki Prost,
Doug & Marylyce Distler, Norb &
Maureen Peters, Claire & Mike White,
Paul R Young Funeral Home

Lois Peters ............. Rhonda Dickerscheid
Betty Lou Brown .......... Anita Ollinger
Patricia Hornsby .......... Jeff Cook, Marjorie and
Jerry Cook

Roger Dennis ............. Harriett Dennis
Andrew Selton .......... Mrs. Sharon Alford
Sarah Marcum, Susan Myers, Joan Crane
Elizabeth Matthews ....... Society of the

Transfiguration

Anna ...................... Joan Crane

Dottie Oroditt ........... Sharon Bowman
Peter Lance Nettleton .... Phyllis Hunter,
Marc Rolfe, Marshall Hunt, Jr.

Their dogs: Tress, Copper, Prince,
Jasmine .................. Bruce & Louise Jeff
Daisy .................... Rhonda Beaver
Abby .................... Tim & Diane Meeks
Broney ................. Matt & Karen Fuchs
Beloved dog, Charlie .......... Joan Crane,
Christine Jones, Carolyn Soupene,
Renaissance Fine Art Supplies

Kenneth Schray ......... Hugh McCullough
Nancy Inman .. Cynthia Calkins, Carolyn
Soupene, June Taylor,
Anne McAdams, Joan Crane

James Gabbard .......... Tony Newton
Mary Geyer .............. Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Sisko, Mr.
& Mrs. John Kehrth,
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Hartnett

Dorothy Profitt ... Patricia Ward, Kevin &
Cathy Combs, & the Fairfield Church

of Christ, Ladies Faith Class

Stormy ................. Kay & Ron Short
Robert Merten .......... Mrs. Marion Merten,
Tom & Donna Vanover, Shirley Mason,
Marvin and Denise Bowling

Lucky .................... Jodi Boyko
Barney .................... Janet Carter
Marion Ritsmon .......... Alice Szemore
Mary Geyer .............. Fred Marcum

4th ANNUAL
CRAFTS, CRITTERS
& CAR SHOW

Fun In
The Sun!

Join Us
August 10th
on the River in Hamilton

Carolyn Kramer .Dick & Reva Dempster
Sherron Family & Thunder, Bella,
Zoe, Zuma .Dawn Knochenmuss
Kayla Dohrmann ....James Dohrmann
Phil & Nancy Shafter .Virginia Craft
Jackie Sandlin Family .Jackie Sandlin
Stephanie Benson .Deborah Benson
Acuff Family .......... Peter Pride
Sue Frazier .......... William Gracie
Chris and Lydia Skoglund .. Ann and
Donnie Higenfriz
Karla Vogt .......... John Vogt
Paula Hutton .......... Danniele Evans
The Ohio Quas .......... Rebecca Klein
Audrey Brown .......... Mark Webb
Erica .......... Jeff & Patricia Vogt
Barb Chappell ....... Connie Kohls
Jon Karlsson & his cats, Mr. Big &
Yum Yum .......... Dawn Knochenmuss
Joe Copas, Lauren Smallwood
Rhonda Bohannon’s
birthday .......... Wendy Cagwin
Terri Wong ................ Julie Veneman
Mozart ........... Kenny Biser

Puppies abandoned in
Fairfield Twp .......... Michael Aird
Maggie Moser’s birthday .......... Danielle
Burton, Michael Rill
Allie, Scruffy ....... Kay & Ron Short
Trooper - puppy hit by train . Carmen
Fields, Julie Jordan, Heather Hodge,
Joanne Cole, Jenna Hoffmann, Vicky
Derdarian, Julie Hickey, Ashley Johns,
Amy Agoston, Vicki Arand, Kelly Grubb,
Kaitlyn Lawhorn, Melissa Boswell, Leah
Jones, Jana Johnson, Yiskah Israel,
Jeremy Loomis, Judith Renton, Kellianne
Ricci, Tammy Eads, Clarissa Shouse,
Sheri Kohorst, Marvin Wright, Brian
Muny, Amy Humphrey, Debbie Berger

IN HONOR OF DONATED BY

Megan Taylor’s
Birthday ........ Jeanine Thomas
Eric Meister & dog, Charlie. Kiem P Sih
Ashley Therien
Birthday ........ Graham Leatherwood
Barney ............... Lee Ann Black
Chewie .......... Raymond & Deborah Weeks
Kevin O’Meara ....... Kate Siddall
Tara Bowser ........ Susan Stephenson
Chris Schlegel ........ Celia Cano Ramon
Meg Stephenson . Dr. Jim & Emily Scott
Fran Sauer for
Christmas .... Chuck & Peggy Buck
Punki and Chipper (cats) . June Pierce
Adopted pet, LuLu .... Sandy Crothers
Kitty Girl .......... Ruth Brown
Rescued dog, Dillon . Ronald Pennington
All homeless pets ........ Brian &
Alizbeth Young
Giovanni ............ Jessica Shaffer
Isaibo ............. Vicki Dolce

Kathy & Greg Munafa
for Christmas .......... Joan Haydock
Ferris & Wilma
Pendergrass ......... Sandy Collins
Mazzie ............. Judy Van Niman
Shelby .......... Becca & Byron Stowe
Tepker Family .......... Jeanne Thomas
John & Celeste

Staff and Volunteers
at AFHS .......... Rebecca Flack
Annie ................... Nancy Wenning
Squirt the First .......... Norma Rose
Pepper & Cooper .......... Charles &
Joan Binstadt

Lewie, Roxie & Fred .......... Steve &
Jacquie Moore

Christy .......... Michelle Catania
Peggy Johnson .......... Dale Johnson

Leave A LIVING LEGACY

HOW TO LEAVE A LIVING LEGACY: You can name Animal Friends Humane Society as a beneficiary in your will, IRA, life insurance policy, or retirement plan. You can create a Charitable Lead Trust or Charitable Remainder Trust. Include AFHS in your estate planning or donate a percentage of your assets. Encourage pet-loving family members and friends to consider these gift-giving options.

AFHS is a 501(c)(3) donation dependent organization.

1) Canned Cat & Kitten Food
2) Powdered Laundry Detergent
3) Liquid Laundry Detergent
4) Cardboard Trays
5) Postage Stamps
6) Copy Paper
7) Bleach
8) Gas Cards for PetMobile

The trays that hold canned goods, etc. We use these as disposable litter boxes

Our Wish List...and goodies for our staff!

continued from Page 6...
This year, I was fortunate to have the help of my husband, Dan, as well as two volunteers from our Fundraising Committee, Linda Dunaway and Laine Tarter. Our four-legged traveling companions, Smudge (a female Bulldog mix), Astro (a male Retriever mix), and Buford (a male Basset Hound), competed in this year’s Puppy Bowl XV, which aired on Animal Planet on Sunday, February 3rd, 2019. Smudge and Astro appeared as part of Team Fluff’s Starting Lineup, while Buford played second-string on Team Ruff. While off the field, the trio of AFHS pups hit the streets of New York, taking in all the bright lights of Time Square and scents of Central Park. There were a lot of adventures to be had for these three pups from Hamilton, Ohio!

Animal Friends is honored to be invited back year after year to participate in this widely popular event. With more than 10 million viewers tuning in each year, we’ve received great publicity and now have another avenue to spread the word about what great pets shelter animals make. We can’t wait to see which pups will be chosen for next year’s Puppy Bowl!