



Case: Crystal Dadds and Case **A Life Transformed**

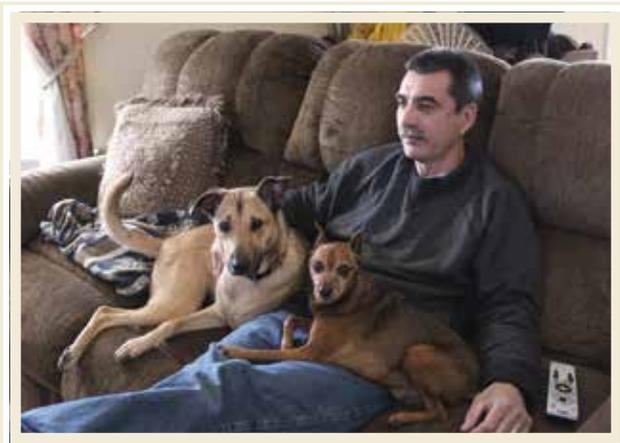
We are so very thankful to the citizens of our county who have the compassion and the courage to step forward to save an animal. The story of Case illustrates just such a story. We received a call from a resident expressing deep concern for the well-being of a dog they had seen. As per our policy, we were on the scene quickly. Our Animal Control Officers were appalled at the conditions they found. A large, emaciated yellow Lab/Golden Retriever mix was found in a pen with months' worth of feces. On one of the coldest days of the year, this dog had very little hair covering his body. Even

worse, due to his extremely poor living conditions and neglect, he was covered in sores. He was immediately removed from the location and taken back to our shelter where he was carefully bathed and given a warm meal and fresh water. The next day, he was seen by one of our veterinarians and received medication to help him on the road to recovery. We knew, however, what he needed the most was a nurturing home and family... and plenty of TLC.

Enter the Dadds family! They saw Case on our Facebook page and fell in love, despite Case's ragtag appearance. His eyes spoke to them and they knew they wanted to help this sweet boy. Because he is still under medical care, the Dadds are his "foster to adopt" parents, which means once he is cleared medically, he will become a permanent member of the Dadds household and join his doggy sister, Gretchen. Here is what his family has to say about Case:

"It was love at first sight. We knew it wouldn't be easy but we also knew what was possible with love and patient care. Case was a one-in-a-million match. He has such enthusiasm for the simple joys of life. He is such a gentle, loving and happy dog that brings us so much joy. Case has touched our lives in a deep way and the feeling of making a difference is priceless."

If you would like to follow Case's progress as he heals, you can "LIKE" his Facebook page, Case's Corner, at: [facebook.com/Cases-Corner-1734004866844425](https://www.facebook.com/Cases-Corner-1734004866844425) (or search for Case's Corner).



Daisy, Tom Peter, and Brinks

A Home for *Daisy*

A few weeks back, a local man and his children noticed a very frightened young dog hiding under a trailer. They were concerned and were kind enough to spend the time to gently lure her out. Once she was out, she was so appreciative that she leaned against the man in gratitude. After no one called to claim Daisy (as we named her), we placed her up for adoption. We knew Daisy was a sweet, loving girl but she was also very afraid in our shelter. We hoped she would quickly find her forever home. We didn't have long to wait! A

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wonderful couple, the Peters, contacted us immediately telling us they had been looking for a very long time for a new family member. They saw Daisy and knew she was "the one." Because they had submitted an application and were already pre-approved, Daisy was soon able to go home. She even has a doggy brother named Brinks. While we often do not know the history of the animals entering our shelter, we do know Daisy's future... a happy life with a loving new family. This is what her mom Haley has to say in a recent update:

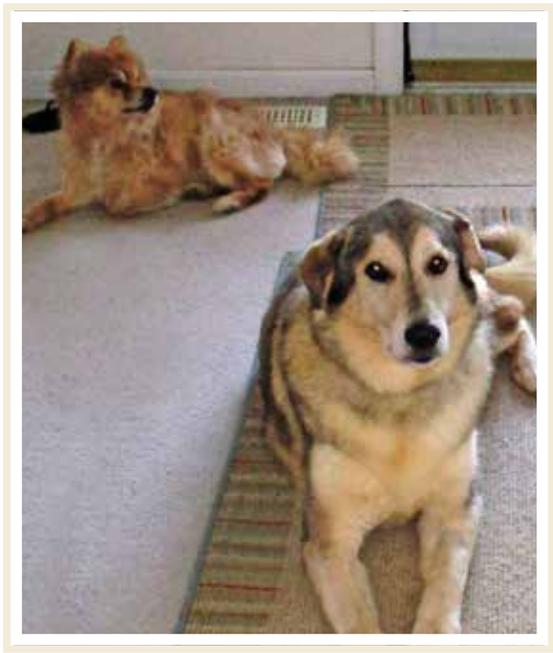
"Daisy is such a sweetheart! She right now loves having my son and his family visiting here. We weren't sure how she would be with the grandkids but she loves them! She has claimed our grandson Brayden as her own.

They have been running around the house and playing with toys together. She is gentle and beautiful. To my surprise she is house trained and knows tricks! She can sit, fetch, shake and who knows what else. She has fit right into our routine. My husband and I watch some TV before bedtime and she right away found her spot on the couch next to him. She loves to snuggle at night. She sleeps with us and our other dog, Brinks the Min Pin. We have a large toy basket and she found that right away. Her favorite toys are the squeaky ones and tennis balls.

We had been looking for a long time for another dog to add to our family. She is perfect! We have a camper and camping is our family's favorite activity. She will be a camping dog with Brinks."

Keeping a Promise –

Dakota & Zerk



Zerk, left and Dakota, right

One year ago this month, a woman entered our shelter fighting back tears. She told us that she was there to turn over her two dogs, Dakota and Zerk. She said she was battling cancer and knew she would soon be unable to care for her beloved dogs. There was not a dry eye in the shelter that day, and the woman begged us to please promise to keep them together. And we did.

Dakota and Zerk made an unlikely couple: Dakota, a tall, long legged female Shepherd/Husky mix and Zerk a little male Pomeranian. But they were so very attached that we knew we could never separate them. Over the next many, many months we would have people

interested in one...or the other...but never both. We took them out frequently to adoption events where they were wonderful and great with everyone they would meet. Still, for over nine months they lived at our shelter while we tried to find them a home together, as we had promised.

Then, their wait was over. Margaret Vanwormer contacted us and we were thrilled to hear she wanted to adopt them BOTH! Margaret tells us:

"Several years ago I had a Border Collie that, unfortunately, I had to put to have put to sleep. At that time I also had a teacup Pomeranian. About 6–8 months ago I decided I wanted to get a larger dog. I met Amanda (Showell, Executive Director of CCHS) at an adoption event. I originally applied to adopt a cat, and Amanda mentioned that I could look at their available pets online and then call them if I was interested in a particular animal. I saw Dakota and Zerk on the website.

In October I went to Bark in the Park, and saw Dakota and Zerk there. At that time I was not looking to get two additional dogs, but I had a Pom so I thought getting a Shepherd/Husky along with another Pom wouldn't be so bad. I was also drawn to them because they had been at the shelter for a while. I decided to adopt them in late December after I got back from Christmas vacation."

And so, Dakota and Zerk are home, together, thanks to the kindness of their new mom who has opened her home and her heart to these two lovely dogs. Not only has she given them a second chance, she has allowed their mom the peace of knowing her much loved pair is safe...and together. For that we are all thankful!



From the Executive Director

The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched—they must be felt with the heart. —HELEN KELLER

The cuddle of a cat, the loving look of a dog into his owner's eyes, the gentle grace of a horse with his rider. The bond of a human with their pet is something that is so beautiful yet can only be felt with our hearts. That love for our pets is something that can feed our hearts, nourish our souls and inspire us to do great things. Over 20 years ago a small group of citizens was inspired by this love to start a grass roots organization in Caroline County to help the many, many animals in need. Before that time the only entity that existed for animals in the county was Animal Control which was located next to the county landfill.

In 1996 this group of citizens and their organization was awarded a 501c3 non profit status and the Caroline County Humane Society was officially born. These animal lovers were fostering animals in need in their homes, holding meetings at their kitchen tables and dreaming of what the future for the animals in Caroline County would be. Today as an "Open heart, Open Door" animal shelter that brings in 1800 animals a year we have come a long way from our very humble beginnings.

The Caroline County Humane Society is like a piece of crystal with many different facets. We oversee animal control for all of Caroline County. We run a progressive, open admissions shelter where no animal from our county is ever turned away from our doors no matter how great the need. We offer no cost and low cost spay and neuter for pets of our county residents and residents in several zip codes in Dorchester county. In our on-site spay and neuter clinic we altered 973 pets last year. We maintain a public pet pantry and give away over 10,000 pounds of dog and cat food to residents who could afford to feed their pets. We offer low cost rabies clinics throughout our county. We prosecute cases of animal cruelty and neglect throughout our county. We help oversee an animal friendly pet emergency shelter in case of a disaster in Caroline County. But most of all we give every animal that comes through our doors the love and nurturing they so deserve while in our care.

This past December we worked with the town of Denton as well as a few local citizens to help trap, neuter and then release (in a different location) close to 40 cats that were behind the Denton Plaza and Food Lion shopping center. This large project is a perfect example of how important it is to the Caroline County Humane Society to work with the citizens of the county for the betterment of the animals that we hold so near and dear.

On Saturday, June 4 we will be hosting a Rocking Rescue Gala celebrating our 20th anniversary of helping the animals of Caroline County. We ask you to join us at Suicide Bridge Restaurant, along with the Fabulous Hubcaps, to honor the past 20 years of work and dedication that the Caroline County Humane Society have put forth in our community. Tickets are available at \$75 each and can be purchased through the Humane Society.

Finally, we ask if you can please consider sending us in a donation in the enclosed envelope, or if you prefer, you can visit our website at carolinehumane.org and donate by credit card or Paypal. We depend on the kindness and generosity of our supporters to help us continue the work that we have been doing from the bottom of our hearts for the past 20 years.

Thank you!

Giving a Senior Cat a Second Chance

Jasmine's Story

Hank, Denise Loving, and Jasmine



unless of course they are suffering and there is nothing medically that can be done to ease their pain.

However, Jasmine was a healthy senior cat who needed and deserved a home in which to spend her

remaining years of life. Many young cats and playful charming kittens arrived and were adopted into homes over the next many months, but no one came for Jasmine. Just when we began to wonder if we would ever find a home for Jasmine, we were contacted by Mr. and Mrs. Loving (an appropriate name!). The Lovings had adopted a puppy from us in the past. They saw Jasmine's picture and read her story on our Facebook page. They knew they were the ones to give Jasmine the home she so needed.

On January 26, 2016, seven months after arriving, Jasmine went home. Our deepest gratitude to this kind family who has opened their hearts and their homes to a senior!

Jasmine, a sweet black cat with huge green eyes and an adorable smoochy face, was 16 years old when she arrived at our shelter in June, 2015. Animals enter our shelter for many reasons and Jasmine's reason was particularly sad. She had lived her life as a much loved family member. However, she found herself homeless when one of her owners passed away and then the other had to go into a nursing home. No one in the family could take Jasmine in. At the Caroline County Humane Society we have pledged to give a second chance to every animal entering our shelter. No animal is too old,

Kelly



Our gorgeous cat, Kelly, holds the dubious distinction of being the longest term resident, feline or canine, at our shelter. Kelly arrived as a stray **THREE YEARS AGO** this past December...she is entering her fourth year with us. Kelly is a very friendly, sweet and loving. She is a laid back girl who doesn't care for dogs but could live with a very mellow dog who ignored her. She is now about six to seven years old. Please call or email us about Kelly...or stop by and visit. *She is waiting patiently for her new family to walk through our shelter doors!*

If you have ever been to our shelter, you have seen that we usually have an abundance of cats and kittens. Through our pro-active programs and lots of hard work, we are pleased to be able to report that over the last three months (December 2015, January and February 2016)

125

cats and kittens

have left our shelter to go to their new homes or to rescue groups.

Focus On: Volunteer Sharon Dennis

The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but by the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others. —DEANN HOLLIS



Sharon and Gabby

The roots of the Caroline County Humane Society are deeply embedded in volunteerism. Volunteers dreamed of and worked tirelessly to create the organization that we know today. Although we now have a staff of people to care for

our shelter and our animals, we could not exist without our volunteers. They fill so many of the needs of our shelter, our organization and, of course, our animals. From the faithful volunteers who we see on a regular basis walking our dogs, caring for our cats, or helping at our shelter and front desk or are on one of our committees, to those who rise to the occasion and help at adoption events, and at our fundraisers, we would be lost without you. However, we would like to focus on one special volunteer who works tirelessly behind the scenes bringing greatly needed funds to CCHS. She is an unsung hero. That volunteer is Sharon Dennis.

Sharon is a lifelong resident of Caroline County and has had a lifelong love of animals. Sharon began volunteering at our shelter over 14 years ago, showing up every week to walk the dogs after work. She also was a “regular” at adoption events, helping dogs and cats to find their new homes. Later, she became a member of the Board of Directors serving two years in that capacity. As a volunteer and board member, Sharon understood the many needs that CCHS had and the things CCHS wished to accomplish. She also knew that the major barrier was a lack of funds. As a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization, CCHS is eligible to apply for grant money from other organizations. Seeking the grants and writing the grants is very time consuming. And, grant writing takes a certain level of expertise. So, Sharon took a grant writing course.

From Sharon’s first efforts in 2004, CCHS received a total of \$10,000! \$5,000 of that was for spay neuter surgery of the shelter’s dogs and cats prior to adoption and \$5,000 was for the purchase of an RV that would be used for adoption events and small clinics.

Since 2004, thanks to Sharon’s dedication and expertise, CCHS has received a total of \$134,327.39 from 19 grant awards!

In 2015, CCHS received its single largest grant award ever: \$40,000 from Petco to be used for pre-adoption medical care of the shelter dogs and cats. And, CCHS has just been notified that we have been approved to receive \$7,000 for the treatment of heartworms in our shelter dogs. This is all because of the dedication, commitment and love of animals, all animals, by one individual: Sharon Dennis.

Sharon is very modest, and doesn’t like the limelight. But, quietly, behind the scenes she is making a huge difference in the quality of life of the animals of her county. Animals have always been a huge part of Sharon’s life: great friends, great companions and a source of comfort. This is how Sharon is giving back to them. And we are grateful every day for her, and for all of our volunteers.

Do you shop on Amazon? Would you like to help our animals at no cost to you? Shop Amazon Smile.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to CCHS. Just go to smile.amazon.com and choose the Caroline County Humane Society as your charity.



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on behalf of the homeless animals of Caroline County

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