

## These are Your Stories!



This is Molly Mathis. Last March, Beth rescued many mama cats with tiny kittens and Molly who was pregnant, all scheduled to be euthanized the following day. Dave and I offered to provide a "foster home" for her during her time of need. After one day we knew she would be a part of our family forever. Molly painfully delivered four kittens on April Fool's Day. She was an excellent mother though she was only six months old at the time of their birth. She spends more and more time inside but still yearns for the outdoors. Molly is polydactyl which might be the reason she can scale any tree in the neighborhood. Her zest and curiosity sometimes contribute to her mischievousness. But we love her, just the way she is!

Susan

## Oliver (formerly known as Little Richard)



I took my five year old daughter to a birthday party at the Grace Foundation and came home with a dog! That's been the joke at my daughter's school, but I am so glad I did.

Here is Oliver with his new family. Pepper, our 10 year old loveable Pitbull and Tyke our spry 18 year young Coyote Shepherd. Oliver fit right in as soon as he walked through the front door! Pepper and Tyke didn't even notice him. It was the easiest transition bringing in a 3rd dog ever. Oliver does like to chase our 10 year old cat Othello but we are working on that. He is the sweetest, most laid back dog I know. My twin 5 year old girls and their friends shower him with pets and love and he just stands there and lets them. He has never barked or nipped at anyone! We love Oliver and am glad he chose us to be his family!

## Greetings!

Watch us on the news tonight at 10pm (Fox 40 and Channel 10) or read tomorrow's Sacramento Bee about the abandoned horses at Sac County Animal Control. Peaches, the worst case in the groups came home with us and is at Grace now - read her story. We also have an update on Amerricka's surgery.

It's almost kitten season, so stay tuned for future adoption candidates and read about two of our successful adoption stories! Don't forget about Dr. Mike's Vet Clinic next Thursday on the Life Cycle of the Equine Mouth.

Check out our new Memberships (one for kids too!) and support Grace by coming to the fundraiser on March 6th!

## at Sac County Animal Control - PeaCHeS Makes it to Grace



Peaches is one of the 5 horses taken from an abusive home in Sacramento County by Animal Control. She was emaciated and was almost crippled due to lack of hoof care. Not only was she not given food, but she was unable to get around in order to graze on what little grass there was available.

It looked as if the only humane option for Peaches was going to be euthanasia, but once Grace Foundation Veterinarian Dr. Mike Russell met her and saw how sweet and loving she was, he knew that he had to do whatever he could to save her.

Dr. Mike and Bob Smith, owner of Pacific Coast Horseshoeing School, have spent many hours trying to get Peaches back on her feet. Today, she is actually able to go out and graze and although she is not out of the woods, Dr. Mike is hopeful that she will be able to be saved. Dr. Mike feels that she would make a wonderful therapy horse. Dr. Mike came up with the name "PeaCHeS" in honor of the Pacific Coast Horseshoeing School (PCHS).

Until then, Peaches is going to require a great deal of medical and hoof care. You can help Peaches by making a donation towards her care! Thank you for your help. Click on the link below to read about the abandoned horses at Sac County Animal Control.

<http://www.thegracefoundation.com/sachorses.html>

## Don't Forget! Upcoming Vet Clinic next Thursday

Topic: The Life Cycle of the Equine Mouth: Dental Anatomy and Age Related Changes, Equine Dentistry-Underuse vs. Overaggressive, Feeding the Horse with an Aged Mouth. ecome a member today and you can attend the clinics free of charge.

Note: Dr. Mike will have another Colic clinic this season for those who missed it. If you've already paid for the entire series, you are also now a member, and if you bought your membership in 2010, you can attend the series free of charge! Click on the link below to see more details

<http://www.thegracefoundationofnorcal.org/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/vetseminarsflyer.pdf>

## Become a Member Today and Save on Clinics and Programs!

We have exciting new memberships available, including a Youth Membership! Click on the link below to see what's available.

<http://www.thegracefoundation.com/members.html>

## Dr. Mike's State of Amerricka Address



Ladies, Gentlemen and Volunteers of all ages,

The state of the Amerricka is good. Amerricka, our little mini-horse with the malformed back, is doing great and will be turned out to his new home with the rest of our mini's/pony's this week. Amerricka obviously had the hurdle of dealing with a malformed back, but also had to undergo surgery to remove a cryptorchid testicle. Cryptorchidism is a condition in which a testicle is retained in the abdomen and therefore very difficult to remove safely in the field. While the retained testicle may not be "functional" for breeding purposes, it will still produce testosterone, allowing Amerricka to continue to think "he's all that" so to speak. Amerricka underwent a successful surgery at Willow Oak Equine Clinic for castration. Dr. Linda Harrison did a wonderful job on

Amerricka.

Upon returning to the Grace Foundation, Amerricka had his exercise strictly monitored for the next few weeks to minimize any possible complications from the abdominal surgery. Our wonderful volunteer coordinator, Sharon Merriam, continued her work with Amerricka during this time to monitor how quickly the effects of testosterone wore off. Once his behavior demonstrated that he wasn't very much interested in "being all that" with the mares, he was deemed ready to go live with the herd. Slowly but surely, Sharon stated that Amerricka was less "excited" each time she took him to visit the ponies. Now that he's calmed down and had his feet worked on by the farriers, he's good to go.

So, this week, Amerricka will be turned out for good into the Pony Pasture, where despite his small stature I imagine he'll still think he's running the show.

That's it for now. We'll be back in touch soon!

Sincerely,

The Grace Foundation of Northern California