

THE BASSETTEER

A PUBLICATION OF BASSET HOUND RESCUE OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



BOSS SHOWS WHO'S BOSS

When Boss, the seven-year-old basset, was taken in by BHRSC, it was clear at first glance that he had suffered years of neglect ... and with it, agonizing pain and discomfort.

His rib cage protruded from his withered body. He had an orange-sized, ulcerated mass that bulged painfully from his neck and was so infected, it smelled of rotten flesh. On top of that, he had several small masses that were thankfully found to be benign. He hadn't been neutered or

received any dental care. Boss' internal problems were just as heartbreaking: his eardrum had ruptured, causing him a great deal of pain, and he had high blood pressure.

But it was his sad eyes that said it all: "Please help me."

At that point, Boss – a sweet, loving dog – had no idea what he did to deserve such treatment at the hands of his previous owner who surrendered him to a shelter.

**READ ABOUT BOSS' HEALING JOURNEY ON PAGE 3
YOU CAN HELP TURN MORE HEARTBREAKING STORIES
INTO HEARTWARMING TALES BY DONATING TODAY!**



• LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT •

Every day at BHRSC we are faced with hounds with heartbreaking stories. Hounds who need us in order to overcome their current situations, and find the loving, forever homes they deserve. Some have been severely neglected, like Boss on the cover. Others have been treated harshly and are afraid of everyone they meet. No matter what the situation, when we see these hounds, we also see hope.

We know with the right healing care, whether veterinary or behavioral, and plenty of love and patience, the vast majority of these hounds will be able to go on to live the incredible lives full of love that they each deserve.

Our volunteers work tirelessly to help each hound who crosses our threshold, and our fosters take them in to nurse them back to health (and in many cases, grow their confidence in people again). Our supporters are also an incredible part of their journey. Without your generosity, and belief in BHRSC's

mission to rescue, rehab and rehome, more than 100 hounds each year would remain lost, neglected and unloved.

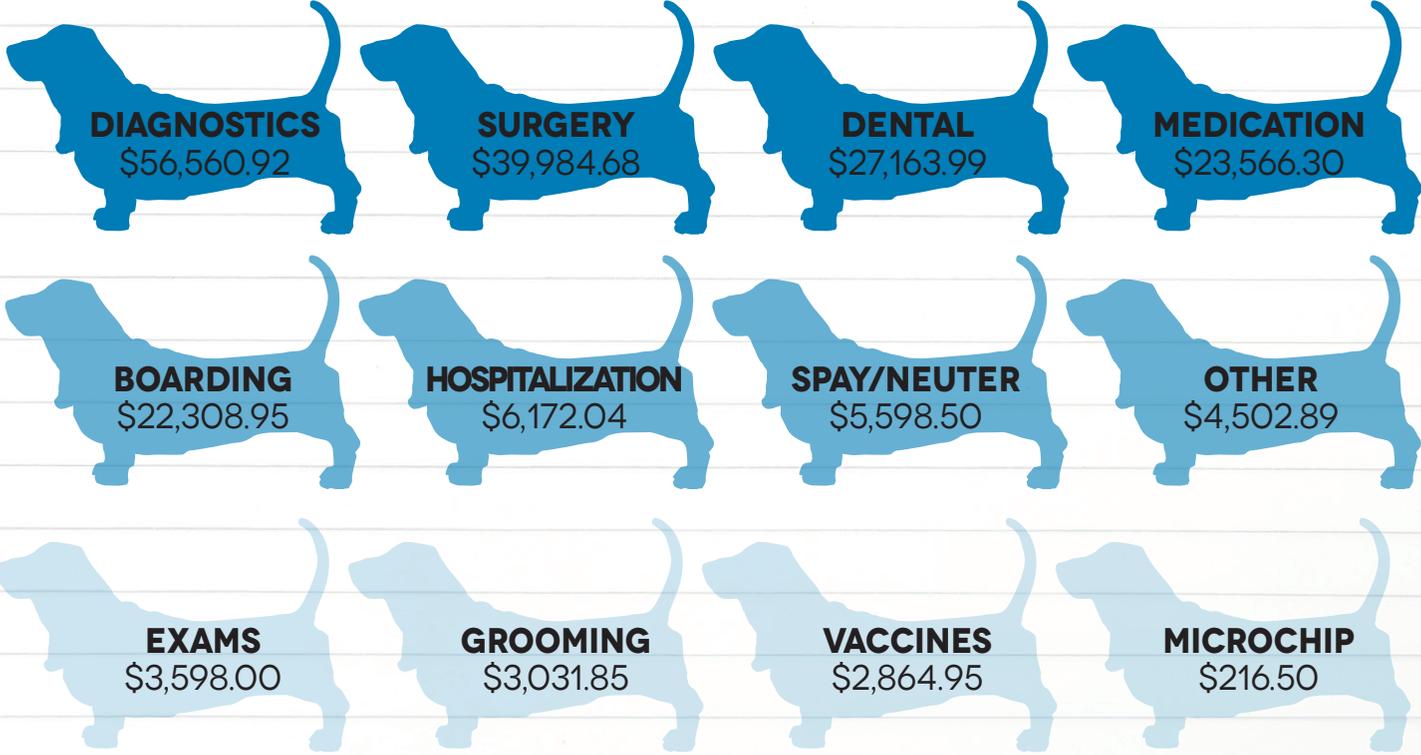
That is why we have created the Healing Hounds Medical Fund to help dog's like Boss, and so many others who come to us each year in need of lifesaving medical care. Your support allows us to change so many lives, and take these deserving hounds from forgotten and sick, to adored family members.

The more than 2,000 hounds who have passed through our doors since we started in 1997 thank you, and we look forward to many more years of hope, healing and happy tails.

Sincerely,

Melissa Ruthenbeck-Chiaramonte and the Hounds of BHRSC

★ 2019: VET EXPENSES TO DATE ★



TOTAL:

\$195,569.57



BOSS SHOWS WHO'S BOSS (CONT'D. FROM PG. 1)



BOSS BEFORE



A Fighter Through it All

Aside from the surgery to remove his ulcerated mass, Boss received: an abdominal ultrasound to check for any further involvement of the tumor in his organs; a complex neuter surgery due to an abnormality; another surgery to remove the other masses; and deep dental cleaning.

Boss Shows Why He's Boss

On March 10, a couple of months after his rescue and when he

had a clean bill of health, Boss found his forever family: Heather along with her husband, Ransom, five-year-old daughter Kylie, and another Basset Hound named Daisy Duke.

They first met Boss at a dog park so he could get acquainted with his future basset sister. They instantly fell in love with his sweet disposition, his grey beard and "old man face" as they lovingly call it, and how he rolls on his back for belly rubs the second you pet him. To this day, Boss is the sheriff of the dog park because he loves walking the perimeter of it.

At home, Boss became fast friends with Daisy Duke, and they haven't stopped playing since – except for naps, of course. Boss has quick bursts of energy, but one-year-old Daisy Duke has puppy energy. Boss shows her who's boss by nipping at her or running after her, and his favorite toy is anything she has in her mouth. When it comes to his human sister, Boss is amazingly gentle and patient, letting her snuggle up close or play with his ears.

"Boss Hogg is the sweetest boy ever," says Heather, "He warmed his way into our hearts within seconds." 🐾



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Monday: Closed
Tuesday-Friday: 7am-6pm
Saturday: 7am-4pm
Sunday: 9am-2pm

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HAPPY TAILS ARE ONLY POSSIBLE WITH YOUR HELP

If it weren't for the swift actions of compassionate people like you donating towards Boss' emergency care, his deteriorating health would've taken a sharp turn for the worse.

We know the holiday season is a busy and stressful time of the year, but your support could be the difference between life or death, and continued suffering or newfound happiness. Please donate to BHRSC's Healing Hounds Medical Fund today to help other hounds like Boss.

HAPPY

BASSETS FLYING HIGH

A basset family surrendered to a shelter in Fresno took the ride of their lives and are already finding forever homes, thanks to coordination between Pilots N Paws, Pet Rescue of Unwanted Dogs (PROUD) in Central California, and Basset Hound Rescue of Southern California. Their transport was truly one of a kind - in a bright red helicopter from Visalia to Santa Monica - on a hot summer day.

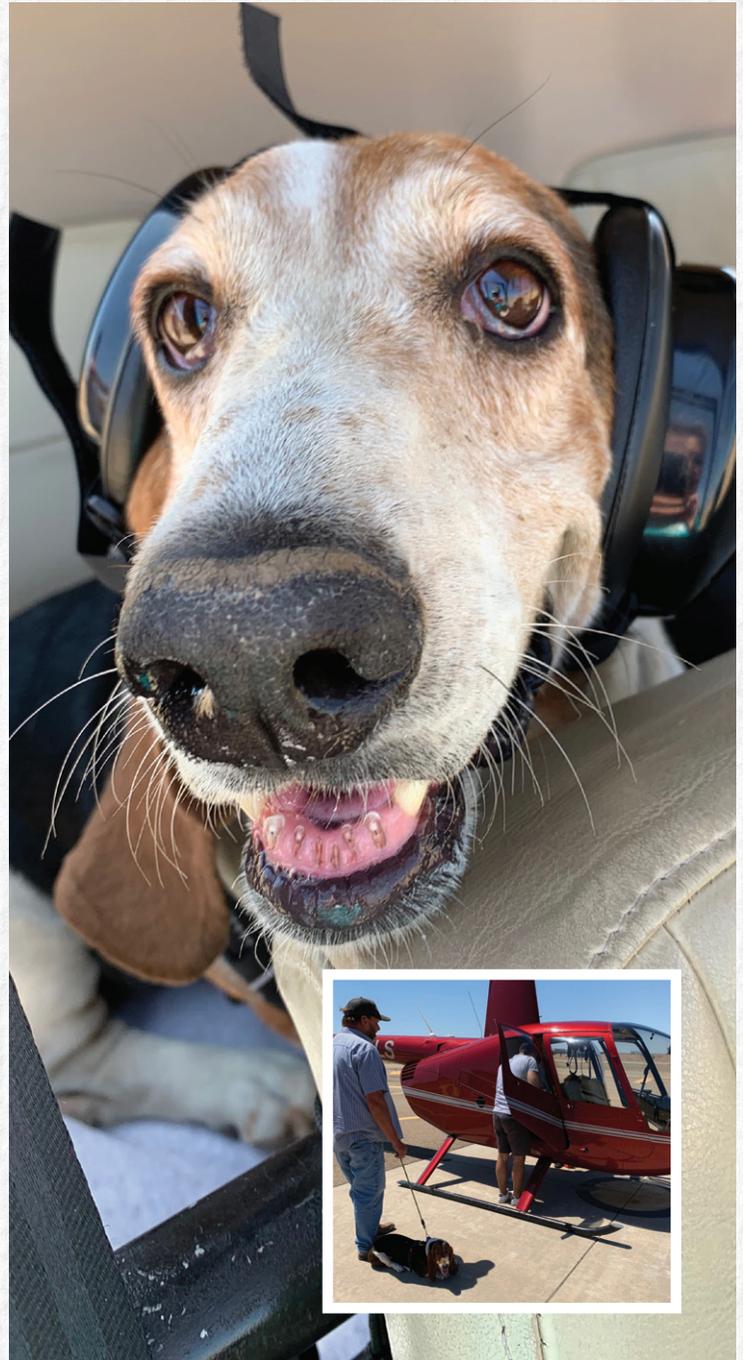
The bassets — Max, Millie and Brandy — are father, mother, and daughter. Barbie Nat, longtime BHRSC volunteer, is the hotline coordinator and answers calls for BHRSC. “People can call if they see a Basset Hound in distress or have questions about surrendering bassets,” Barbie said. She’s talked to many people in her two decades as a volunteer. Among them is Sandi Harbottle, a volunteer at PROUD in the San Joaquin Valley, who loves helping animals find their forever homes.

“We do it every day - I am constantly on the phone trying to coordinate a rescue. I just sent off 27 poodles from a puppy mill,” she said. She received a call about three bassets who were living with a family in Fresno that could no longer keep them. “The landlord told them they had to get rid of the bassets,” Sandi said. “Of course we will take them.” She knew of BHRSC and that it was the best opportunity for the bassets to find new homes. “The best thing to do is get in touch with a breed-specific rescue, like BHRSC,” Sandi said.

She then connected with Barbie, who contacted Pilots N Paws, a non-profit that connects pilots with animals that need transportation over long distances. “I registered with Pilots N Paws and put the plea out there for pilots,” Barbie said. A week went by with no response and she was feeling discouraged. Finally, some good news. “A young pilot contacted me and said he could do at least part of the journey,” she said. “The three of us got on a text thread to figure out the details.”

The pilot, George Azzi, picked the dogs up at a small, rural airport in Visalia, southeast of Fresno. “This is the first time I’ve seen them fly a helicopter - usually it’s a small plane,” Sandi said. The dogs were secured in the helicopter and George made sure they each had ear protection in place before they took off.

While a hound dog flying high in the sky in a bright red vehicle is more reminiscent of the Red Baron on his doghouse



in the classic “Peanuts” comic strip, these bassets landed safely and are already off to their new lives. Millie, the mother, was adopted by a couple in Oregon with a basset named Daisy, and they look identical. “Millie looks very happy,” Barbie said. Brandy, the 10-month-old, was adopted by a family in Calabasas and has a new Pug sibling. Max is in a foster home and being treated for heartworm. Thanks to coordination from people who truly care about animals, these bassets are already off to a better future. 🐾



BHRSC ALUMNI COMFORTS COMMUNITY AFTER EARTHQUAKES

Alison Dixon, BHRSC's Volunteer Coordinator, has been a dog-lover her whole life, and a basset parent for years. She fell in love with the breed as a child, when one of the houses on her street was home to a fraternity that had a Basset Hound as a mascot. Alison went over to the fraternity every day to play with the genial hound. Since then, she has loved bassets for their zany, affectionate personalities, mellow temperaments and adorable faces.

After their hound crossed the Rainbow Bridge, Alison and her husband, Phil, felt an emptiness in their home in Ridgecrest. Over the years, Alison worked with several rescue organizations and felt BHRSC had the most supportive infrastructure for matching her and Phil with the right hound in need of a loving forever home. The stars aligned and in June 2019, BHRSC's 17th Hound Haul included a precocious two-year-old hound from Oklahoma named Minnie Pearl. Notes from the shelter where she was rescued indicated she "needs manners and is into everything!"

BHRSC's adoption team knew just the family for this rambunctious pup – as a retired couple familiar with the energy of young bassets, Alison and Phil had the patience and time to devote to Minnie Pearl's training. Captivated by her photos, they couldn't wait to meet her, and meeting day sealed the deal! As Alison says, "she has personality in spades and we knew right away she was meant for us!"



Alison and Phil work hard to provide Minnie Pearl with consistent training and reinforcement. She is a good learner, and while she has tons of energy that is sometimes misdirected if left alone ("she's redecorated my house!" Alison

exclaimed), is progressing beautifully with obedience training and knowing just the right level of enthusiasm to accost visitors with.

Alison and Phil already knew that Minnie Pearl was a friendly, loving dog who got along with everyone, but soon they learned she possessed a special talent for comfort. In July, the Ridgecrest area was struck by two of California's largest earthquakes in the last 20 years. The 6.4 foreshock struck on 4th of July morning and was "scary, but not awful. It didn't faze Minnie Pearl at all. She rode



it out beautifully." It was during the main shock the next night, a 7.1 shaker, that the couple began to see Minnie Pearl's comforting instincts. Instead of freezing, Minnie Pearl went right over to her family and stayed with them.

After the shaking was over, everyone in the neighborhood went outside to make sure all the neighbors were okay. Everyone was understandably rattled, and stayed outside for hours. Minnie Pearl was incredibly calm and attracted all the neighbors for the comfort of pets and some loving. She comforted kids, senior citizens, families – all comers. Alison reports that she was very calming and knew not to jump on anyone, and everyone just loved her – "it was like she knew she could be a comfort." These days, Minnie Pearl is a neighborhood mini-celebrity – greeted by everyone who sees her out for her daily walks and sought out regularly by neighbors who now know the power of Hound Dog Love. 🐾

• CALENDAR OF EVENTS •

29
NOVEMBER
Black Friday Sale!
All Day
NOVEMBER 29-DECEMBER 2
BASSETHOUNDRESCUE.ORG/SHOP

07
DECEMBER
Holiday Brunch with Bassets & Adoption Reunion
10 am to 12 pm
CENTRAL PARK, EDWARDS STREET & INLET DRIVE
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92648

02
MAY
23rd Annual Spring Games
10 am to 3 pm
WILLIAM R. MASON REGIONAL PARK
18712 UNIVERSITY DRIVE, IRVINE, CA 92612

For more details on all events, visit www.bassethoundrescue.org/event-calendar

• BHRSC VOLUNTEERS •

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Melissa Ruthenbeck-Chiaramonte
President

Pam Schmidt & Jenny Walker,
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Dawn Keeney, *Treasurer*
Jill McLoughlin, *Secretary*

Basset Hound Rescue of Southern California operates with the daily support of an Executive and Associate Executive Committee comprised of more than 80 dedicated volunteers who help in all aspects of the organization, ranging from taking in hounds from shelters and owners, finding foster and forever homes, coordinating medical care, managing events, graphic and web design, social media and more.

 BHRSC'S TOP PAWS DONORS 

- Offield Family Foundation  Integrative Veterinary Health Center  Consulteron, Inc.
- Employees Community Fund of Boeing California
- The Walt Disney Company Foundation  Wolin Design Group
- Animal Hospital of Huntington Beach  Christina Gonzales  Goodr LLC
- Michael & Marsha Connellan  Just Food For Dogs  Shirley Knopf  George Feltenstein
- Patricia Bigler & Marshall Ozawa  Petco Foundation  Alicia Pet Care Center
- Fred & Katherine Zoltz  Susan Lowe  Walt & Vicki Reeves  Pam Schmidt
- Terry Reimer & Mike Stallcup  Karen & Bryan Casier  Elena Fabri
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NOV. 29-DEC. 2

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BASSETHOUNDRESCUE.ORG/SHOP/

A DEVOTION TO BASSETS

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Amanda Steele, a BHRSC volunteer since 2012, has been instrumental in researching foundations and writing grants that help fund the diverse needs of the Basset Hounds taken in and provided for by BHRSC each year. Amanda and long-time volunteer Karyn Baker worked together for a couple years sharing the immense workload and huge responsibility associated with grant writing. Currently though, Amanda is flawlessly spearheading the grant writing process alone. This amazing passion and drive are what led the volunteer team to select Amanda Steele as BHRSC's Volunteer Spotlight for the Fall of 2019.

When Amanda isn't saving the world one hound at a time, she can be found immersed in her career with a labor union that represents homecare and nursing home workers. In this role, she conducts research and public policy advocacy to advance the long-term care system in California. In her spare time, she loves to travel, bake, run, and go to concerts.

Amanda's appreciation and support for BHRSC began in 2011, when she and her husband Ryan adopted their first Basset Hound, Chloe. Chloe sadly passed away only a year and a half after her adoption, and Amanda and Ryan were devastated. Shortly thereafter, Amanda received a call that a basset puppy was available for adoption. Amanda and Ryan's lives were changed forever, when a "sweet and hilarious" puppy named Havalina bounded into their lives.

Amanda and Ryan consider Havalina to be their child; as so many basset parents do! Amanda and her husband recently relocated and after leaving apartment living behind and moving into a house, they are considering adopting a second hound. We might know where she can find one!

Amanda believes that BHRSC is a "wonderful organization full of people that truly love and want the best for Basset Hounds." "Unique, sweet, loving, goof balls" is the description of bassets that Amanda shares with others.

The devotion and time Amanda gives to BHRSC so willingly has made her the volunteer we want to spotlight in the Fall of 2019. We thank her, as do the numerous hounds that she has helped with the gift of writing grants over the years. Amanda Steele is truly a valuable, capable, giving, and life changing Hound Hero. 🐾

