

# HALLIE HILL UPDATE



*Most Unpredictable: Ray Ray*

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## Cat Pen Improvements and Expansion

Nestled behind the Hallie Hill barn is the cat enclosure. We have been renovating the cat pens and recently added a fourth pen to allow more room for our current felines as well as some new arrivals. The cats enjoy an indoor and outdoor area with lots of perches for lounging, tunnels for exploring, and posts for scratching. There is even a fountain with running water. Each pen includes a "hurricane box" that is built to withstand strong winds and the weight of any debris that could fall during a storm. All the cats also appreciate access to an area that is kept nice and warm with heat lamps on cold nights. Interior walls have been reworked to allow more light, and nesting boxes have been changed so they can be more easily cleaned.



Daisy poses sweetly for her picture.

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At Hallie Hill we are always looking for ways to improve our facility for the safety and comfort of our residents.



Cat Enclosures

## Remembering A Friend

We would like to recognize the passing of Mary Wesley Simmonds and her beloved Boykin Mabel. At Hallie Hill, we grew to know and love Mary Wesley through her work at West Ashley Vet Clinic. We appreciated her gentle way with our animals and feel privileged to have had the opportunity to work with her. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends.

## Hallie Hill –A Best Fit

Huck is a handsome chocolate lab that is approximately 12 years old. He suffers from some orthopedic issues and allergic dermatitis that has caused some permanent hair loss on his hind quarters. Huck was surrendered by his previous owners to the Charleston Animal Society where they gave him the veterinary care he needed to improve his skin. Unfortunately, no adopters were willing to take on such an old distinguished fellow with some health issues. After a four month stay at the Charleston Animal Society, we are proud to announce that we have adopted "Huck" into the Hallie Hill family! Huck

can now enjoy the grass, the sunshine, and the camaraderie of other older canines.

In the past two years, we have also adopted two dogs from Pet Helpers. Muffin and Bella were captured as feral dogs in the Sol Legare area. After attempts to socialize the dogs failed, we agreed to provide a safe haven for them.



Huck



Muffin



Bella

## Edward AKA Jake – A Magical Match



This was the seventh day– he was sitting in the same place by an old country store, looking from one side to the other.

Every day it was becoming more and more apparent– abandoned waiting for his master to return.

He was mostly chow with a good bit of age on him and even through his matted coat you could see his ribs– he was terribly thin. I stopped the car, opened the rear door and expected to go through the old coaxing routine. He looked me over and I suppose decided I was his best bet at this point. In he jumped and began to stare at me. Off to Hallie Hill we drove– I was well aware he was very skeptical of the situation. I automatically called him Edward although “Mr. Lonely” would have been more fitting. He settled in at Hallie Hill, but continued looking and waiting for something or someone. I decided to run a Lost Chow ad in the newspaper and on the ninth day of the ad I received a call from a Larry Singer. Mr. Singer stated he could not read that ad another day without meeting the “old fellow”. We arranged a time and on that day Edward and I waited for the “chow gentleman” to arrive. Right on time he came in the shiniest SUV I have ever seen. He opened the rear door and out stepped (in the most regal manner) his two very proud chows– groomed to the hilt with collars floating in the breeze. Obviously this gentleman knew how to select the top of the breed. Edward stayed right by my side and we watched in awe.

Mr. Singer and I sat in the chairs under the old oak tree and he spoke of the ad and how it had touched his heart for he knew chows well. As he spoke I noticed he slowly dropped his hand down and behind the back of his chair. Edward drifted toward Mr. Singer and soon Edward was thoroughly enjoying being patted and loved. Edward had a new look– totally relaxed– no longer stressed and that look of deep loneliness was

replaced by a look of magical contentment and peace.

Mr. Singer stood to say farewell, hesitated for a bit, and while looking straight at old Edward stated he would love to have Edward come home with him. I made sure Mr. Singer understood if it did not work out he would return Edward to Hallie Hill. Mr. Singer assured me he would see that Edward was happy and with a big smile and gracious thanks he and Edward drove away– the two girlie snobs on the backseat, “Mr. Lonely no more”, with head held high, on the front seat right smack dab by Mr. Singer.

Over the years Mr. Singer very thoughtfully wrote with accounts of Edward who he renamed Jake. The following quotes from those letters say it all.

2004, Nov. 26 *“Jake has become my boy... He follows me everywhere, even into bed (never before any of my dogs). When we are all sitting around watching television he lays there just looking at me. Warms my old heart.”*

2005, Sept. 15 *“His breathing problems have not improved, but they are not any worse. He is still my buddy and hangs with me all the time. I bought a ramp so Jake can get into the truck without trying to climb (which is not him anymore). He can no longer jump into bed and I guess I will have to buy him another ramp that is made just for that.”*

2006, Aug. 28 *“Jake is feeling his age and hips are getting pretty bad... He gets groomed once a month as always and looks Great.”*

2007, Sept. 15 *“It is with deep sadness that I tell you that at 10:30 this morning Jake passed away at the Vet's office. Sally and I were with him when he took his last breath and he was looking into my eyes.”*

2007, Nov. 2 *“It was with great pleasure that we received your call... I will always be grateful to you for Jake. He gave us much love and happiness over the past seven years. We will not forget him.”*  
-HMB

## Dog of the Quarter –Kenny



Kenny wandered up to Hallie Hill in 2009 and we were never able to locate his owner. Kenny is a handsome mixed breed; he adores people and is hard to resist when he leans into your hand as you give him a pat. Kenny prefers good neck scratch over a treat and would enjoy becoming part of a loving family who would appreciate him as much as we do.