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BeFreegle Foundation

"Giving Former Research Dogs a New Leash on Life"

Runnin Smoothly...

By Lucy D'Introno

Hello everyone it's me, Lucy. Time for another xcitin issue of the BeFreegle Howler. You know when I was given the assignment of bein your editor, I thought all the stories would be filled with xcitement and adventures of all our Freegle brothers and sisters, I could even tell you about my family where there is something always going on. However, you know, sometimes things just don't run so smoothly like they should.

About 2 months ago, I had surgery on my mouth, because my teeth weren't workin correctly. Well, that surgery was a success, only problem was that I wasn't eatin my regular food anymore and my medicine was always mixed in with my food so I wasn't getting my proper dosage of my medicines to stop my seizures. I know this sounds really confusin, but my Mom and Dad have been workin with my doctor to get my medicines right so I can feel better again. I know my doctor can fix it because he is really smart. Before now, the last time I had seizures was almost 3 years ago, but in the last 2 months these seizures stop by 2-3 times a week, but they only stay for about 5 minutes. I know this will turn out okay because everyone is always protectin me.

In this issue of The Howler, there is always something new and xcitin. We are going to talk about our volunteer, Gail Frydowski. Gail has a title of BeFreegle Team Leader and she is goin to champion of the cause of findin fosters. This is a very important subject, so everyone should listen to Gail and help her in this important part of the BeFreegle Foundation. We also have some very xcitin news about Freegle Sunshine. I don't want to ruin the xcitement and suspense of this story, but you will have to read Sunshine's story from start to finish. Bring tissues.

And finally, Aunt Kate is goin to bring everybody up to date on the BeFreegle News of the month and upcoming events. Pay very close attention to the dates because you never know when a Freegle is goin to be in your neighborhood, lookin cute and cuddly. She's also goin to talk about a sensitive subject of animal testing and why it's so important for all of us to work together. So sit back and enjoy all the xcitement of this edition of the BeFreegle Howler.



From the Desk of Lucy the Freegle.



Freegle Lucy – A special treat for a special Freegle!

Reading Aloud

By Gail Frydkowski



BeFreegle's Team Leader, Gail, with some new friends!!

As a high school Special Education teacher, Humane Educator in the New York City Public Schools and co-chair the NYC United Federation of Teachers (UTF) Humane Education Professional Committee, I have set some important goals for today's youth. My primary objective is to help educators by bring humane and environmental philosophies and materials into their classrooms to and host workshops to help other teachers provide ways of teaching our young students how to be compassionate and caring citizens. Creating a semi-annual newsletter for the committee that encompasses various humane topics.

As UFT Co-chair, I have collaborated with national and local groups such as Born Free USA, Equine Advocates, the New York City Mayors Alliance for Animals and In Defense of Africa.

While my heart is in education, I have also spent many years volunteering with organizations and animal groups such as Animal Haven, a no kill shelter in New York City dedicated to finding homes for abandon dogs and cats in the tri-state area. As a volunteer with Best Friends Animal Society, I was the Humane Education Ambassador working with children in the "I Read to Animals" program at various events throughout the New York Metropolitan area. Currently my passion is volunteering with Humane Education Advocates Reaching Teachers (HEART) and helps at the Caring Kids program, a collaboration between Animal Haven and HEART, teaching young people kindness towards animals. I am a member is good standing with the Association for Professional Humane Educators.

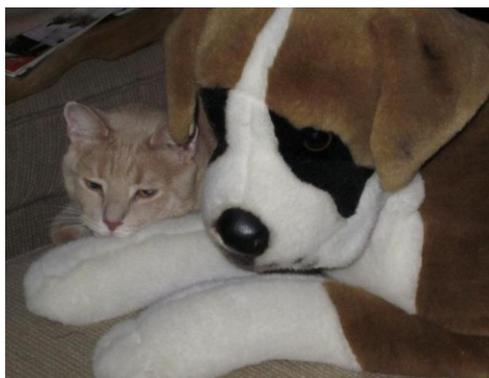
When not working with children and animals I share my home with my two furry cats, Smoochie, who according to his paperwork from the shelter is a DSM or domestic short hair. Thoroughly infatuated with his food bowl, he shares his Mom and home with Rigby, a 4 year old butterscotch tabby with cerebellar hypoplasia (CH). While not life threatening, CH is a neurological disorder that develops while the kitten is in the womb, as a result of their pregnant mother's exposure to the distemper virus. Rigby thinks he is perfect and while Smoochie obsesses over his food bowl Rigby is obsessed with his Mom!

When I met Kate and Juno, while an education ambassador for Best Friends Animal Society, I immediately saw the BeFreegle vision. I strongly believe that all animals belong in loving, caring homes as family members. The educator in me believes very passionately that every home should have a furry member that the children can read aloud to!

"...teaching our young students how to be compassionate and caring citizens."



Smoochie, finding his place in the sun.



Rigby snuggles with a friend!

The State of Aarros

By Kate Aubry



Freegles Maya and Juno at Beacon Barks.

“...we work towards building relationships with researchers to increase the number of dogs finding sanctuary when their studies are complete.”



Freegle Daisy loving life!!

With so many things going on here at BeFreegle some days, it's hard to know where to start. It has been another busy month with a lot to report. First and most important is that Sunshine's (now officially Sunny) foster family has decided to make her an official member of the family. My recent phone conversation with her new Mom, Bernadette, yielded some true confessions that had me laughing for the rest of the day. Bernadette confessed that both her and her husband, Jim, had fallen in love with Sunny (not hard to do) and while they both always felt that they would eventually adopt her, circumstances beyond either of their control sealed this happy fate for our Freegle girl! Sunny decided that while Bernadette was traveling for business she would take the opportunity to test the waters of jumping on the bed and sleeping with Jim. None of their other dogs are allowed on the bed and we strongly discouraged our BeFreegle fosters to allow a Freegle to learn the habit lest their eventual adoptive family not allow it. Coming home after away for a long week of work Bernadette came home to find that Sunny had taken up residence right next to Jim and looked quite at home there. She looked at Jim and announced that now they would have to keep Sunny since they let her sleep on the bed!! (Good girl Sunny, our plan worked!) She is seriously the biggest snuggle bug they have ever seen and sleeps soundly each night nestled snuggly between both of them. We at BeFreegle could not be happier that Sunny has found her forever family. Much thanks to Bernadette and Jim for opening your home and hearts to Sunny. We know she will have a wonderful and happy life. Of course, we will provide lots of updates, so stay tuned. It's so good to see all of our Freegle girls flourishing in their new lives and it brings us great joy to report to you that all our girls are forever home.

As we look towards the future in the hopes of working with researchers to develop adoption programs to help more dogs from research, we were surprised to be questioned as to our true intentions and position as an organization on animal testing. The subject of animal testing is a very hotly contested debate with both sides equally passionate about their positions. Before founding BeFreegle we made a decision to remain neutral on the subject for the sake of the animals. Our founding documents reflect our position of neutrality and we work towards building relationships with researchers to increase the number of dogs finding sanctuary when their studies are complete. With many recent developments in modern medicine including the use of non-embryonic stem cells and 3D printers, which, in its infancy, is creating human organs from cells, we can hope that science will allow researchers to use these tools and reduce the number of animals used. We all look forward to the day when animals are no longer needed in research but in the meantime, there are tens of thousands in need of sanctuary. We are excited to be forging new relationships to help these animals find their new leash on life. So please stay tuned as we spring ahead with some fantastic news looming on the horizon.

Finally, this month kicks our events calendar into high gear. Watch our [Facebook](#) page for news on our upcoming events which include the Safe Haven Animal Expo on May 17th at the East Fishkill Community Center located at 890 Route 82, Hopewell Junction from 11:00 AM – 4:00pm. Stop by with your pet and for a small donation to BeFreegle our super volunteer, Anna, will perform Reiki on your dog or cat! Hope to see you there!

Also on the horizon is a trip to Washington DC with Freegles Juno and Maya and the whole BeFreegle Team and some new opportunities for our friends down south as BeFreegle expands down the Eastern seaboard! Details in next month's Howler. Until then be kind to one another, take time each day to count your blessings and always leave room for cookies!! On behalf of the Freegles, aaaarrrrrooooo!!!



Dear Mommy,
Happy Mother's Day, I love you...

Our Mother's Day Tribute...



Ode to a Freegle Mom



I came to you quite frightened; all the world was new,
 not knowing where to potty, I just didn't have a clue.

You gave me time and love to see that life is pretty grand,
 my belly full, a tummy rub, your kind and gentle hand.

Oh Mommy you have taught me, that life is so much fun,
 We hike and bike and all the like until the day is done.

So thank you for believing, to see a diamond in the rough,
 I love you more than anything, can't thank you near enough.



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"..thank you for believing, to see the diamond in the rough."



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[Contact Us](#)

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On behalf of all of us at the BeFreegle Foundation, to all the Mom's in all the world who give selflessly each day to their children, human, furry and otherwise, we wish you a very Happy Mother's Day.

