



Group helps foster adoptions of basset hounds



Dog lovers might want to add Basset Buddies Rescues of Texas to their contact list. The nonprofit organization focuses on finding homes for unwanted, abused, and homeless basset hounds in Houston and surrounding areas.

Since forming in 2007, Basset Buddies Rescues of Texas has rescued nearly 1,300 basset hounds. The organization is continuing its efforts to reduce the stray dog population in Houston. Occasionally, mixed-breed basset hounds are accepted into the group as well.

"Houston is probably one of the largest places that has the largest amount of stray dogs," said Jan Trapp, Basset Buddies Rescues of Texas event chairman and board member. "Our main objective is to get the dogs off the street and get them in loving forever homes."

To help the dogs be seen in the community, the organization partners with local businesses to hold pet adoption and fundraisers.

Recently, Brian Johnson who owns the Honest-1 auto shop with his wife in Copperfield, hosted a pet adoption with Basset Buddies Rescue of Texas.

"This is the second pet adoption that we have done. We (work) with different nonprofits. My wife and I are both animal lovers," Johnson said. "After going through everything with the hurricane, that's when we started getting involved in nonprofits for pet adoption. You see it on the news and it just tugs at your heart a little bit."

Johnson believes the location of the auto shop on Texas 6 is an ideal place to host pet adoptions due to the heavy traffic along the street. Johnson and his wife are excited to partner with nonprofit organizations for a good cause in the community.

"We are just small business owners that are (trying) to find ways to give back to the community," Johnson said. "We are trying to get some dogs placed and hopefully makes some families complete."

Mel's Country Café in Tomball holds adoptions once a month and a portion of dessert sales go to Basset Buddies Rescue of Texas.

"Partnerships with businesses helps us to get the word out into the community. The dogs that are available for adoption can be seen and people can come and meet them," Trapp said. "It helps the dogs get adopted a lot quicker."

Basset hounds are taken from shelters and directly from owners who are unable to care for the pets. The process includes, before adoption, placing the bassets in foster

homes. In the homes, the dogs are evaluated by their temperament and behavior. The group updates the animal's vaccinations, insert microchips, addresses medical conditions, and spay/neuters all unaltered hounds. Heartworm treatment is given when needed.

Foster dogs are located in the Cypress, Klein, Spring, and Tomball areas. Cities such as Austin, San Antonio, and Orange also host the dogs as well.

Once adoption applications are placed, organizations members call the person's veterinarian to receive past and present pets' medical records. After that, group members will speak with the adoption applicants over-the-phone and conduct a home visit.

Interested individuals are encouraged to contact Basset Buddies of Rescue. The group continues to look for volunteers, sponsors, fosters, and forever homes. The organization does plan on attending the Houston Pet Expo in May.

Want to know more?

Basset Buddies Rescues of Texas

<http://www.bbrtx.org>