Several residents of Rude Ranch celebrated milestone birthdays this summer! Long term residents Scruffy and Pebbles both turned 21 in March, meaning they are completely legal!

Pebbles came to Rude Ranch in 2002 from the Anne Arundel County SPCA. Pebbles and her cage mate, Ziggy were given up by their original owners. However, the shelter was getting full and as the oldest cats at the shelter, a decision had to be made regarding the cats’ future. Ziggy was a staff favorite and everyone pleaded with Rude Ranch Executive Director Bob to take Ziggy. (It worked)

The day Bob picked Ziggy up would have been Pebbles’ last day on earth. Bob saw Pebbles’ forlorn look and couldn’t leave her behind. Both cats (and 3 kittens) came to Rude Ranch. Pebbles eventually settled into our intake room and helped raise many kittens over the years. Upon turning 15, Pebbles retired from her post as a kitten nanny and moved onto the main floor, supervising us humans on a day to day basis. She does her cardio every morning, making sure she runs several circuits around the sanctuary. She also lets us know when it’s lunch or dinner time by sitting and staring intently at the food bowl.

Scruffy the terrier came to Rude Ranch through the Anne Arundel County Police. In 2003 the police received a call about an abandoned car in the woods. Upon arrival, the officers had to deal with a small dog that was guarding the car...whenever anyone approached the car, the dog would lunge and snap at them. The officers knew that Rude Ranch was close by and asked if we could help. It took approximately 15 minutes and a bag of dog treats before the “vicious” little terrier was rolling over for tummy rubs. Unfortunately for the dog, every time he rolled over, sticks, rocks, dirt and anything on the ground stuck in his fur making him look pretty scruffy. It didn’t take long for the name Scruffy to stick. The car that Scruffy was guarding was eventually traced back to a known crack house and meth lab. Everyone decided it was best to not even try to return Scruffy to his home. Scruffy was neutered, vaccinated and eventually moved into our dog area while he waited for his forever home. (He was adopted, but returned for barking too much.)

Along the way, we did notice a few of Scruffy’s quirks: he was easily confused by doorbells. Anything that sounded remotely like a door bell, even on the radio or TV sent Scruffy running and barking at the door.

Continued on page 7
Welcome to our Fall Newsletter!

We hope everyone had a happy and relaxing summer with your families and pets! At Rude Ranch the time flies by! It seems like just last week I was writing about our plans for the spring and summer!

This has been an incredible year for Rude Ranch and homeless animals in and around Anne Arundel County, MD. I am very excited to announce that after only a year our SAVECats program is having a major impact improving the lives of homeless, stray, abandoned and feral cats. This program will have a major impact for feral and community cats for many years. Read more about this program on page 4!

Things at The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook, Rude Ranch’s high quality spay/neuter clinic are going great! So far this year we’ve spayed and neutered over 4,500 cats, dogs, rabbits, and guinea pigs. The demand for our services has been incredible! We’re still forming partnerships with several humane societies, rescues and animal controls to provide spay and neuter services to all that need them. We are always looking for new rescues and shelters to form new partnerships!

We are getting ready to start another year participating in the Combined Federal Campaign and the Maryland Charity Campaign. We are also participating in the National Capital Area United Way for our eighth year. These programs enable federal, state, county and corporate employees to donate to their favorite charities through payroll deduction - an easy way to get a tax deduction and help Rude Ranch at the same time. If you have a friend or family member who participates in any of these campaigns, let them know about us! Our designation numbers are: CFC: 45379, MCC: 52-2312763 and United Way: 9664.

As always, I want to extend a special thanks to our adoptive families, contributors, supporters and volunteers who are vital to our success in our goal to save abandoned and neglected animals and place them in new loving homes. Without you, we could not help the animals.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Rude
Executive Director

Wanted: Volunteers!

Do you want to help animals?
Do you want to talk to other people that are helping animals?
Do you have a few hours between 8 am and 3 pm Monday - Friday?
We Want You!
The Rude Ranch Sanctuary, Spay Spa & Neuter Nook and SAVECats all have a variety of volunteer positions. Email us at info@ruderanch.org for more info!

21!!!!! Continued from page 1

There were many times he couldn’t understand why no one was there. Typical dog games such as fetch or frisbee mystified Scruffy. There was no way he could keep up with the more athletic border collie or cattle dogs. He would trip over himself trying to get to the ball or mistime his jump and the ball hit him in the head. Instead, Scruffy made up his own games and usually ran in circles around the bigger dogs and pulled on their tails. Sometimes he tripped over his own paws while running around the other dogs. From then on we never claimed he was an athletic dog, just enthusiastic. Over the years Scruffy has calmed down and is content to bark when he thinks its dinner time.

Rude Ranch staff and volunteers held a party to celebrate Pebbles and Scruffy’s landmark birthdays. Pebbles and Scruffy enjoyed a special seafood blend cake while us humans decided on pound cake!

The Best Little Cat House In Maryland: The Purfect Gift for the Animal Lover in Your Life!

It’s Official! The Best Little Cat House in Maryland is one of the funniest, most touching books you will ever read! It’s the official story of Rude Ranch Animal Rescue. It is now available in hardcover, softcover, ebook and Kindle editions!

Available through the Rude Ranch website www.RudeRanch.org/shop (it really is our sales page!) and Amazon.com. It makes a great gift for any animal lover. The proceeds of each purchase go right back to the furry residents of Rude Ranch.

Thanks to generous people like you we’ve been able to help all of these animals and many more. Your donation will allow us to continue to work toward a day when animals are no longer killed because they are homeless.

YES, I would like to help the animals . . .

Rude Ranch Animal Rescue relies on donations and volunteers to carry out our mission to save the animals. We receive no federal funding. Your donation of a few dollars or a few hours of your time can go a long way toward helping our cause.

Name ___________________________ Address ___________________________
City ___________________________ State ________ Zip ______________
Phone ___________________________ Email* ___________________________
Please choose: ( ) $25 ( ) $100 ( ) $50 ( ) $25 ( ) Other $__________ I would like to volunteer

Our Mailing address is: Rude Ranch Animal Rescue, 3200 Ivy Way, Harwood, MD 20776

New! Donate online with your Mastercard, Visa, or American Express! Go to www.RudeRanch.org and click on the Visa logo.

Donate online with PayPal, too. Our account name is “AnimalRescueRude”.

Does your employer have a matching donation program? If so, your donation will be doubled! Please send any matching donation documentation requirements to Rude Ranch and we will gladly process them. Thank you!

*All donations are tax-deductible. ** Help us maximize your donation amount it is absolutely essential to receive your receipt by mail.
Do I Really NEED To Trim My Pet's Nails

You and your pet are doing well, hanging out on the couch or playing a game on the floor. Then it happens: your cat gets a claw caught in the rug or couch, or you hear your dog's nails clicking and clacking on the floor. You know it's time, but you don't like it, and you know your pet doesn't like it either. It has to be done: its time to trim you pet's nails. Trimming you pet's nails is a regular part of grooming and doesn't need to be stressful. You just need the proper equipment, patience and some treats.

It is important to keep your dog or cat's nails trimmed, otherwise the nail could eventually grow long enough to curl around the toe and embed into the paw pad. This condition is not only painful, but can also cause the paw to become infected.

One of the easiest ways to acclimate your cat or dog to nail trims is to rub and massage their paws and toes from the time he or she is a small puppy or kitten. Even if your pet is older, you can start doing this for a few minutes every day. You should also purchase a set of quality scissor style nail trimmers with a guard to prevent cutting too much of the nail. Do not use guillotine style clippers as they tend to crush the nail which is painful. To better acclimate your pet to the clippers, leave them next to the food bowl for a few days. Likewise its easier to trim your pet's nails when he or she is calm, such as after a play session or a long walk.

When you are ready to trim those nails, gently squeeze the paw pad and top of the toe between your thumb and fingers to help extend the nail. Trim the tip of the nail at a 45 degree angle. Always be careful to trim the nail below the quick, the quick will look like a line in the middle of the nail. If you do accidentally cut the quick, be prepared for some bleeding. There are several products such as quick stop that can be used to stop the bleeding. In a pinch styptic powder or cornstarch can also be used. Always follow up with lots of love and treats!

Can’t Adopt A Cat Right Now? Sponsor a Rude Ranch Cat!

Want to help a homeless animal, but can’t take one more in? Sponsor a Rude Ranch long-term resident instead! Your tax deductible sponsorship of a Rude Ranch long-term resident for just $20 a month (67 cents a day) will provide food, kitty litter and toys for one of our special needs cats. The cats in this program include feral and abused cats, FIV positive and FelV positive cats. Right now most of our FIV cats have sponsors, but a lot of the feral and abused cats are still hoping for a sponsor.

For more information about our sponsorship program, visit our website at www.ruderanch.org and click on “Sponsor A Resident”. Or email rrr@ruderanch.org

Nipper is looking for a sponsor

Trimming your pet’s nails can be frustrating for both you and your pet at first, and it may take several tries to get all your pet's nails in one session. However, with some patience and practice you will be able to get those nails trimmed quickly!
As his name implies, Big Kitty is kind of a big guy. He lives with several other cats on a small farm in Lothian, a rural community in Southern Anne Arundel County. Big Kitty and his crew did a good job of keeping the mice and rats away and his caretakers loved him and his fellow cats. As much as Big Kitty’s caretakers enjoyed the cats, they didn’t want or need any more and wanted to prevent any litters of kittens being born on the property. They contacted SAVECats for help.

On the designated day, all the cats were rounded up and transported to the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook. Things were going well until it was Big Kitty’s turn. That’s when the staff spotted it. Big Kitty had a huge gaping badly infected wound on his front leg, even the bone in the leg was infected. While an infection like this can sometimes be stopped from spreading and healed, it would have required months and months of powerful antibiotics and many surgeries to clean the wound. We weren’t sure Big Kitty’s caretakers and Big Kitty would be able to handle it. The alternative decision was to amputate the leg, and let Big Kitty resume his life as a “tripod.” In the end his caretakers opted to amputate his leg.

Big Kitty spent the first few days after surgery recovering at Rude Ranch. Then he moved into his caretakers’ basement to get used to maneuvering on three legs before going back on duty patrolling the yard. Big Kitty and his caretakers are grateful to the SAVECats program. Without the intervention of the program to get Big Kitty’s wound and subsequent infection would have become even more painful and disabling.

The SAVECats program goal is to work with many communities, Anne Arundel County Animal Care and Control, and the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook to provide a comprehensive solution to Anne Arundel County’s problems with an overpopulation of community cats. In addition to encouraging neighborhood cooperation and harmony, SAVECats is having a major impact at the county’s animal care and control agency. In 2017 the county impounded and euthanized 503 healthy community cats. In 2018, after SAVECats started, the county impounded and euthanized 295 community cats. That is a 41% decrease! Through SAVECats, the number of healthy euthanized community cats will become 0.

As SAVECats grows, we need more volunteers to help with tasks from data entry, trapping, transporting cats, and talking to people about the program. To learn more about the SAVECats program, go to our website at https://aacsavcats.org. If you would like to help, fill out a volunteer form at https://aacsavcats.org/volunteer. If you would like to donate to this program, go to https://aacsavcats.org/donate If you are feeding stray, feral or community cats, or know of a colony of cats, please contact SAVECats at 443.607.2290.

Rudie Ranch is Ready to Invade Government Agencies

There is always so much to do in the Fall: Labor Day, Halloween, Veteran’s Day Thanksgiving, and for many corporate and government employees, it’s the start of the Workplace Campaign Season. Once again Rude Ranch is participating in several Workplace Giving Campaigns, including the Combined Federal Campaign, Maryland Charity Campaign, the Baltimore Charity Campaign, and the National Capital Area United Way!

If you’ve never heard of the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), the Maryland Charity Campaign (MCC) or the United Way, here’s how it works: If you work for the federal government, state government, or a corporation, you can pick one (Rude Ranch!) or several charities to donate to through payroll deduction. Once you designate Rude Ranch, your agency will deduct your tax deductible specified amount from your paycheck and send it to Rude Ranch. Your generous donations through CFC, MCC and the United Way help us to provide the day to day care, medicine, food and litter to our residents, spay/neuter veterinary care for low income families and spay/neuter surgeries for homeless animals.

Not a government employee but have a friend or family member who is? Let them know about Rude Ranch. We love to come to the agency events to see everyone, so if your agency is having a charity event, let us human employees know about it at info@ruderanch.org! Our Agency numbers are: CFC: 45379, MCC: 52-2312763, United Way: 9664.

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As a no-kill sanctuary, Rude Ranch Animal Rescue is frequently asked to help rescue a variety of animals, ranging from cats or kittens in trees to raccoons, farm animals and our latest: fish!

It all happened on a very hot day in June. We received a call about a pond located in Bowie. A Spay Spa & Neuter Nook client’s aunt broke her hip and was now in a nursing home. The Aunt probably would not be able to return to her house. The Aunt was very worried about the fish in the pond. She’d cared for these fish for years and was afraid they would not survive the heat without care. Could Rude Ranch help?

Fortunately, Rude Ranch does have a pond, so although it was unusual, we were able to make it work! Armed with fishing nets, hip waders, waterproof tote boxes and Rubbermaid trash cans, we sloshed to the house and began coralling gold fish.

It took several hours (and many weird looks from people passing us on the street) but eventually we caught all the fish (122 in all) and were able to relocate them to the Rude Ranch pond. So far the new fish have adapted well and fit right in with the others!

Rude Ranch Adoptee Update

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SAVEme, Spay and Vaccinate Every Cat!

SAVEme (Spay And Vaccinate Every Cat) is Rude Ranch's newest life saving program. It was launched in July, 2018 and the goal is to spay or neuter every stray/feral/community cat in Anne Arundel County. So far, the program is off to a great start! We developed working agreements with the county’s other cat based non profits, developed flyers and posters for the county’s animal control agency, along with an awesome website and Facebook page, and spayed or neutered over 3,000 cats.

The SAVEme program goal is to work with many communities, Anne Arundel County Animal Care and Control, and the Spay & Neuter Nook to provide a comprehensive solution to Anne Arundel County’s problems with an overpopulation of community cats. In addition to encouraging neighborhood cooperation and harmony, SAVEme is having a major impact at the county’s animal care and control agency. In 2017 the county impounded and euthanized 503 community cats. In addition to encouraging neighborhood cooperation and harmony, SAVEme is having a major impact at the county’s animal care and control agency. In 2017 the county impounded and euthanized 503 community cats. In 2018, after SAVEme started, the county impounded and euthanized 295 community cats. That is a 41% decrease! Through SAVEme, the number of healthy euthanized community cats is zero.

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SAVEme is making a big impact on the number of cats euthanized in Anne Arundel County.

Saved by SAVEme!

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On the designated day, all the cats were rounded up and transported to the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook. Things were going well until it was Big Kitty’s turn. That’s when the staff spotted it. Big Kitty had a huge gaping badly infected wound on his front leg, even the bone in the leg was infected. While an infection this bad can sometimes be stopped from spreading and healed, it would have required months and months of powerful antibiotics and many surgeries to clean the wound. We weren’t sure Big Kitty’s caretakers and Big Kitty would be able to handle it. The alternative decision was to amputate the leg, and let Big Kitty resume his life as a “tripod.” In the end his caretakers opted to amputate his leg.

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Rude Ranch Adoptee Update

All In a Day’s Work

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It is important to keep your dog or cat’s nails trimmed, otherwise the nail could eventually grow long enough to curl around the toe and embed into the paw pad. This condition is not only painful, but can also cause the paw to become infected.

One of the easiest ways to acclimate your cat or dog to nail trims is to rub and massage their paws and toes from the time he or she is a small puppy or kitten. To help your pet become comfortable with nail trims, start by leichting the toe of the foot and gently pushing the nail out. The cat, when first exposed, will usually attempt to back away.

The most important way to get your pet used to nail trims is to be consistent. Make it a routine and a part of your daily grooming. Just like brushing their teeth, nail trimming needs to be a part of your pet’s routine.

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For more information about our sponsorship program, visit our website at www.ruderanch.org and click on “Sponsor A Resident”. Or email rrr@ruderanch.org

The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook: Saving Lives One Spay At a Time

The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook, Rude Ranch’s High Quality, Low Cost veterinary clinic is almost 7 years old and is still providing world class service and care to animals in the area. So far this year we’ve spayed or neutered over 4,500 cats, dogs, rabbits and guinea pigs. We even neutered Harvey, an opossum for a wildlife rehabilitation group! (Echos of Nature Wildlife). We’ve done over 40,000 spay/neuter surgeries since the clinic opened on October 16, 2012!

Thanks to the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook many animal controls, shelters and rescues in the area have seen significant decreases in the numbers of homeless, unwanted and accidental litters of puppies and kittens surrendered. As a result, animal controls and shelters are not having to euthanize as many homeless animals because there is no room for them.

The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook is available to anyone that wants to have an animal spayed or neutered, regardless of income level or geographical location. We do have some programs available to low income, senior citizens and disabled veterans for reduced fees. For more information or to make an appointment call the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook at 443.607.6496.

Do You Shop at Amazon.com?

Did you know you can shop Amazon.com and help Rude Ranch at the same time? AmazonSmile will donate 5% of your purchases to Rude Ranch (or another registered charity) at no cost to you! It’s simple to sign up and everything from your existing Amazon.com account will still be there! To get started just go to Smile.Amazon.com, sign up and start shopping!

A Little Extra Help

Thanks to the resources of the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook, we’ve been able to help many pets that otherwise would not receive needed veterinary care. Thanks to additional funding from the Maryland Department of Agriculture, we’ve been able to help even more dogs and cats.

The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook recently helped two dogs that really needed some extra help. Ditty Bop and Diesel both have loving families. Unfortunately, both dogs had medical issues that their families could not afford to treat. Ditty Bop had a 3 pound tumor growing on her abdomen while Diesel had a large tumor growing on his chest. Both families wanted their dogs to be healthy again, but did not know where to turn and were considering having the dogs euthanized.

Thanks to extra donations from caring people we were able to spay/neuter and remove Ditty Bop’s tumor. A few weeks later we were also able to remove Diesel’s tumor. Even though both dogs had to take it easy and not jump or run we could tell Ditty Bop and Diesel both felt much better without the added weight and pain that the tumors were causing. Both dogs were able to go back to their families and continue to be well loved companions.

Diesel had his tumor removed at the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook

Thanks to generous donations, Ditty Bop was able to have his tumor removed.
A Note from our Executive Director

Welcome to our Fall Newsletter!

We hope everyone had a happy and relaxing summer with your families and pets! At Rude Ranch the time flies by! It seems like just last week I was writing about our plans for the spring and summer!

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Read more about this program on page 4!

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As always, I want to extend a special thanks to our adoptive families, contributors, supporters and volunteers who are vital to our success in our goal to save abandoned and neglected animals and place them in new loving homes. Without you, we could not help the animals.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Rude
Executive Director

Wanted: Volunteers!

Do you want to help animals? Do you want to talk to other people that are helping animals? Do you have a few hours between 8 am and 3 pm Monday - Friday? We Want You! The Rude Ranch Sanctuary, Spay Spa & Neuter Nook and SAVECats all have a variety of volunteer positions. Email us at info@ruderanch.org for more info!

The Best Little Cat House In Maryland: The Purrfect Gift for the Animal Lover in Your Life!

It’s Official! The Best Little Cat House in Maryland is one of the funniest, most touching books you will ever read! It’s the official story of Rude Ranch Animal Rescue. It is now available in hardcover, softcover, ebook and Kindle editions!

Available through the Rude Ranch website www.RudeRanch.org/shop (it really is our sales page!) and Amazon.com. It makes a great gift for any animal lover. The proceeds of each purchase go right back to the furry residents of Rude Ranch.

Thanks to generous people like you we’ve been able to help all of these animals and many more. Your donation will allow us to continue to work toward a day when animals are no longer killed because they are homeless.

YES, I would like to help the animals . . .

Rude Ranch Animal Rescue relies on donations and volunteers to carry out our mission to save the animals. We receive no federal funding. Your donation of a few dollars or a few hours of your time can go a long way toward helping our cause.

Name ___________________________ Address ___________________________
City ___________________________ State _________ Zip ___________
Phone ___________________________ Email* ___________

Please check one: ( ) $25 ( ) $50 ( ) $100 ( ) $250 ( ) $500 ( ) Other $_______. I would like to volunteer

Our mailing address is: Rude Ranch Animal Rescue, 3200 Ivy Way, Harwood, MD 20776

New! Donate online with your Mastercard, Visa, or American Express! Go to www.RudeRanch.org and click on the VISA logo.

Donate online with PayPal now. Our account name is “animalfriends@ruderanch.org”

Does your employer have a matching donation program? If so, your donation will be doubled! Please send any matching donation documentation requirements to Rude Ranch and we will gladly process them. Thank you!

*All donations are tax deductible. **For deductions of your donations exceed the amount you are making your return to way

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There were many times he couldn’t understand why no one was there. Typical dog games such as fetch or frisbee mystified Scruffy. There was no way he could keep up with the more athletic border collie or cattle dogs. He would trip over himself trying to get to the ball or mistime his jump and the ball hit him in the head. Instead, Scruffy made up his own games and usually ran in circles around the bigger dogs and pulled on their tails. Sometimes he tripped over his own paws while running around the other dogs. From then on we never claimed he was an athletic dog, just enthusiastic. Over the years Scruffy has calmed down and is content to bark when he thinks its dinner time.

Rude Ranch staff and volunteers held a party to celebrate Pebbles and Scruffy’s landmark birthdays. Pebbles and Scruffy enjoyed a special seafood blend cake while us humans decided on pound cake!
Several residents of Rude Ranch celebrated milestone birthdays this summer! Long term residents Scruffy and Pebbles both turned 21 in March, meaning they are completely legal!

Pebbles came to Rude Ranch in 2002 from the Anne Arundel County SPCA. Pebbles and her cage mate, Ziggy were given up by their original owners. However, the shelter was getting full and as the oldest cats at the shelter, a decision had to be made regarding the cats’ future. Ziggy was a staff favorite and everyone pleaded with Rude Ranch Executive Director Bob to take Ziggy. (It worked)

The day Bob picked Ziggy up would have been Pebbles’ last day on earth. Bob saw Pebbles’ forlorn look and couldn’t leave her behind. Both cats (and 3 kittens) came to Rude Ranch. Pebbles eventually settled into our intake room and helped raise many kittens over the years.

Upon turning 15, Pebbles retired from her post as a kitten nanny and moved onto the main floor, supervising our humans on a day to day basis. She does her cardio every morning, making sure she runs several circuits around the sanctuary. She also lets us know when it’s lunch or dinner time by sitting and staring intently at the food bowl.

Scruffy the terrier came to Rude Ranch through the Anne Arundel County Police. In 2003 the police received a call about an abandoned car in the woods. Upon arrival, the officers had to deal with a small dog that was guarding the car...whenever anyone approached the car, the dog would lunge and snap at them. The officers knew that Rude Ranch was close by and asked if we could help. It took approximately 15 minutes and a bag of dog treats before the “vicious” little terrier was rolling over for tummy rubs. Unfortunately for the dog, every time he rolled over, sticks, rocks, dirt and anything on the ground stuck in his fur making him look pretty scruffy. It didn’t take long for the name Scruffy to stick. The car that Scruffy was guarding was eventually traced back to a known crack house and meth lab.

Everyone decided it was best to not even try to return Scruffy to his home. Scruffy was neutered, vaccinated and eventually moved into our dog area while he waited for his forever home. (He was adopted, but returned for barking too much.) Along the way, we did notice a few of Scruffy’s quirks: he was easily confused by doorbells. Anything that sounded remotely like a door bell, even on the radio or TV sent Scruffy running and barking at the door.