

WORKING LIKE DOGS!

I find folks in the tanning biz to have super big hearts! Chatting with a few pals in the industry, I was thrilled to realize many had rescued dogs from horrible situations. Here's a heartwarming story from industry veteran, Joe Schuster, of 1st Resource:

Petey (a mix of Pit Bull, German Shorthair and others) was born in the mountains of North Carolina and lived near my in-laws, chained to a tree outside of a house trailer. It was a brutal life for him with abusive owners. One summer, my father-in-law found him roadside after a vehicle had hit him, and took him to the local vet. After weeks of recovery, Petey was returned to his owners. The next summer, my father-in-law again found him after he had been shot. The vet removed a 9mm pistol slug from his shoulder and he spent many weeks recuperating with his new family – as he would not be returned to his ‘former owners’. Petey now lives with my family and our four other dogs, loves to be petted and scratched, and spends most of his time warming his body in the sun. He can do that with us for as long as he wants!"

Jackob and Jamie Andersen recently entered the tanning industry, having created a fun under-eye hydration product called Eye Swirls. Although new to our industry, the Andersens are not new to helping animals. One day, Jackob’s neighbors saw a truck pull over and dump a dog onto the side of the road. Jackob offered to help find the dog a home, as the neighbors were unable to keep the Pitt Bull/Lab mix. The local dog pound said any dogs with Pit Bull in them usually are put down within 48 hours. The Andersens were horrified that the dog could be destroyed, as he was young and healthy. Jackob and Jamie already had three dogs and two children under two years old, and are expecting a third child; so keeping the homeless dog was out of the question. After interviewing a number of “crazies” and irresponsible pet owners who responded to their ad on Craig’sList, the Andersens were thrilled to find a couple that already had a similar dog and could give the abused pup a proper and wonderful home. Yay!

Stephanie Henshaw owns three Tan World salons in Kansas. Very much against the cruel and inhumane practices of puppy mills, she also currently has five rescued dogs living with her. Stephanie has personally rescued 30 cats and dogs, and has even created a very powerful video about why puppy mills should be outlawed and why any company that acquires animals from puppy mills should be boycotted. If you email Brenda@eyepro.net, I’ll send you the link!



And, I’d love to receive your stories of how you help others and share them in my future columns. ■



Petey



The Andersens rescued a dog (top photo) and found him a good home.



Stephanie and friends.



Tanning industry veteran Brenda Fishbaugh is president of Eye Pro, Inc., makers of disposable eyewear. She travels extensively training salons on the effects of UV light on vision.



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