



# Angelwood Highlights



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*Improving the Quality of Life for Children & Adults with Disabilities and their Families*



*Ray & Kemo*

## A Spoiled Dog Lives Here

*Text & Photo reprinted compliments of Susan D. Brandenburg*

The guys at the Angelwood adult home wanted a dog. It had to be a very special dog because the guys at Angelwood are very special. Charlotte McAuley, House Supervisor remembered that Greyhounds are used as therapy dogs in many parts of the country. Back in Pennsylvania, before she moved to Jacksonville, she'd seen firsthand the interaction between those big, beautiful dogs and persons with disabilities. She contacted Shirley Kane of Greyhounds as Pets of Northeast Florida.

"In January, when Charlotte and her assistant, Emogene Copeland, came to our adoption center at the Jacksonville Kennel Club, we looked at a lot of dogs, but Kemosabe was the one they chose to take home on a trial basis," recalls Shirley.

"Kemo's six years old, a very laid-back, easy going boy who has experienced a home environment. He seemed a perfect fit for their unique group home." Three days after the ladies left with a supply of dog food and Kemo in the crate, Shirley called to see how things were going. "You're not getting him back!" was the response.

"Kemosabe settled in so easily that we didn't need the crate. He had the "run" of the house right away (excuse the pun)," laughs Charlotte. "His only requirement was that he be loved all the time. The guys at Angelwood know all about love."

Since Kemo became a member of the Angelwood family, he has endeared himself to residents and staff in many unexpected ways. "Kemo is completely in tune," said Charlotte. "When one of the guys is not feeling well, he senses it. Once, when Stephen was sick, Kemo went into his room and stayed by his bed. Stephen put his hand down and petted Kemo. Knowing his friend was there made Stephen feel better. When anyone needs extra attention, his ears perk up and he trots over and lays his head on their lap."

One of the guys at Angelwood has a lot of extra energy. Kemo helps him by being so good on the leash that the two of them can take a daily walk around the block. He is also a great source of laughter. "He's so funny," said Charlotte. "He's getting braver all the time. He loves to sneak up and lay on the couch, where he is not allowed. If we catch him, he instantly leaps off and gives us a guilty look. Busted!" For one of the guys, Kemo is a safe and accepting recipient of many hugs and kisses.

"Ray is the reason we got Kemo," said Charlotte. "He asked for a dog after he helped me take Bogie, my little Maltese, to the vet one day. Ray loves to hug and cuddle, and now he has Kemo, who feels exactly the same way."

In March, Kemo and his new family were invited to participate in the annual Sandy Paws celebration at Jekyll Island. "Kemo was one of approximately 450 Greyhounds from 23 states who attended," said Sandy Paws founder, Dayle Kelloway. "The boys were amazed at the number of Greyhounds, and they were so proud to show off Kemo. We hope they come back to Sandy Paws every year from now on."

In addition to providing love, exercise, therapy, laughter, and a new sense of pride, Kemosabe (the Apache word meaning trusted scout and friend) is teaching the guys at Angelwood all about teamwork and responsibility. In fact, a dog-bone shaped sign in Angelwood's front yard says it all: "A spoiled dog lives here." "They help feed him, bathe him, give him water and treats," said Charlotte, "and they talk to Kemo, feeling free to tell him their inner-most thoughts. He is, indeed, their best friend."

*Editor's Note: Since this article was written, Ray left Florida to be closer to his parents. We will miss him, but wish him the best of luck!*

## A NEW ANGELWOOD FRIEND

The adult home at Angelwood is happy to have a new friend. Carroll Kendrick- or Bubba as he prefers to be called moved in to the house this fall. With his terrific sense of humor, he is a great addition to the home and to the Angelwood family. Bubba is a huge Gator fan & is quite knowledgeable about his favorite team. Welcome Bubba!





## ANGELS ABOVE US

In the midst of a record setting hurricane season, a new roof was put on an Angelwood home. Huge thanks go to the **Northeast Florida Roofing & Sheet Metal Contractors Association, Inc.** for coordinating the project as well as providing the materials, and to **Liberty Roofing, Inc.** for providing the labor.

## Special Events

For event information & sponsorship opportunities, call Angelwood at (904) 288-7259 Ext. 19 or Email [alexiswoods@angelwoodjax.org](mailto:alexiswoods@angelwoodjax.org)

### An Elegant Evening of Art

Featuring Susanne Schuenke & Diane LaFond

January 27, 2006 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Hosted by

Cole, Scott, & Kissane, P.A.  
1805 Copeland Street  
Jacksonville, Florida 32204



### *Fashion Show*

For Angelwood Summer Day Camp  
Spring 2006 TBD



## ANGELWOOD GOLF CLASSIC

Monday April 24, 2006

Contact for this event: Brian Kelly or Susan Fields (904) 348-6400  
for golf tournament sponsorship opportunities

## PARENTS NIGHT OUT!

SATURDAY JANUARY 21, 2006

5:30 P.M. TO 9:30 P.M.

CALL ERIN LA VECCHIA TO ENROLL

(904) 288-7259 EXT. 13

*WISH LIST*

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*The Mission of Angelwood is to Improve the Quality of Life for Children & Adults with Disabilities and their Families.*

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