

FEATURED CAT Willetta

When a kitten is this cute, she could probably get away with being a mean girl, but there's not a molecule of mean in Willetta's little body. Her personality is as sweet as her face and she simply adores being with people who will adore her in return. This young lady just bubbles with goodwill toward all living creatures and she can't wait to meet the family who will be lucky enough to absorb all the good vibes she beams out to the universe.

Willetta has made friends with the cats in her foster home but hasn't formed any strong bonds, so she could be a low-key companion for another easy-going cat. She could also be happy as the only cat in a family, providing she is lavished with loads of loving attention from her people. She is indifferent to the big mellow dog in her foster home.

Willetta is just under a year old and quite petite. Her tabby coat is extremely soft and plush and she has a purr strong enough to rattle the windows.



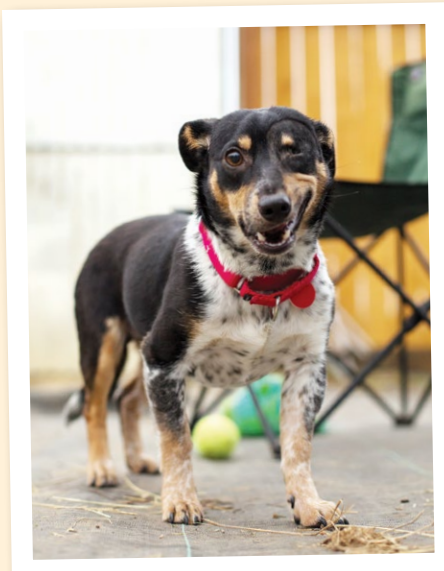
In addition to the hugs and cuddles, there are a few other things Willetta requires from life—namely, a feathered wand that spins around a battery-powered base under a fabric skirt. Most cats we know are not impressed with this contraption, but Willetta is completely fascinated and her new family should plan to stock up on AA batteries—and perhaps keep a backup stashed away, in case of emergency breakdown.

Also, Willetta has a food sensitivity that can cause her system

to rebel against certain ingredients, but we've found a special formula kibble that keeps her in balance. She loves it, and it's easily available to purchase.

She has been spayed and microchipped, is up-to-date on vaccines and tested negative for FeLV/FIV. Her adoption fee is \$100. To learn more about Willetta or any of our cats available for adoption, please call 503-402-8692, email arcf@pdx-petadoption.org, or visit www.pdx-petadoption.org.

FEATURED DOG Linus



Some might think losing an eye would diminish a pup's spirit, but it sure doesn't bother Linus! He's not hesitant or inhibited—just a sweet, spunky guy who couldn't care less that he's not quite like everyone else!

Linus loves other dogs, big and small, and sometimes believes he's bigger than he is. He wants his forever family to include a dog playmate and humans who like to snuggle. Kids under 8 years old are not a good match as he is still a young boy and can get a bit mouthy at play time.

Linus clearly had to deal with the loss of his peripheral vision some time ago. He is very comfortable navigating the world with just one eye, and he feels so much better after having the injured eye removed. Now that Linus is recovered, he is ready to find his

loving forever family. He's still a bit unsure of new people and situations, so his perfect home will include a securely fenced yard and another dog to show him the ropes and boost his confidence. Linus let his foster mom know he'd prefer a home without cats.

This handsome little fellow is approximately two years old, weighs 16 lbs., and seems to most closely resemble a Dachshund/Blue Heeler mix.

All dogs from My Way Home Dog Rescue are spayed or neutered, microchipped, and are current on vaccines and flea control. The adoption fee of \$250 includes leash, collar, blanket, and food sample. If you are interested in meeting Linus, email mywayhomedogrescue@gmail.com or call 503-974-4944.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

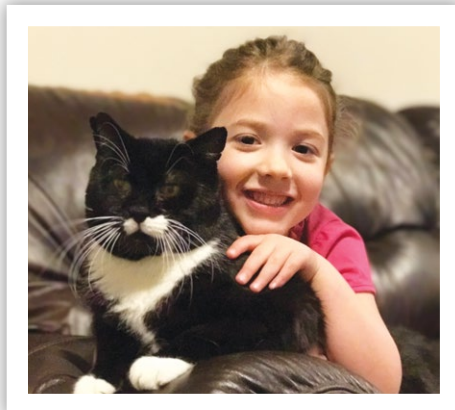
We're getting ready to spring forward here at ARCF World HQ, taking stock of what survived the Arctic blast of winter that caused so much havoc in our area. Winter is particularly hard on the young and the old, and we marked the passing of many beloved companions in the last few months. But spring brings renewed spirits, blooming crocus and camellia, and of course kittens! The cold snap slowed down kitten production for a few months, but somehow they always manage to catch up, and our boot camp volunteers are geared up and ready for the incoming troops.

Our 2nd Annual Art from the Heart fundraiser will take place during the month of April. Once again we will have donated works from more than 20 local artists, including painting, drawing, collage, ceramics, glass, and jewelry. The art (including "Cat" by Lorraine Bushek) will be on display April 3 through April 29 at the Cat Hospital of Portland, 8065 SE 13th Ave, Portland, Oregon. Bidding can be done online at www.biddingOwl.com/AnimalRescueCareFund or at the Cat Hospital any time during their regular business hours. We'll close the bidding with a reception on April 29 from 6 pm to 8 pm. We'll have refreshments, raffle prizes, and beautiful art—something for everyone! Please join us and invite your friends.

More happy news: Our regular readers know the story of **Large Carl**, the rescued ferocious feral cat who landed in the lap of luxury and love with his adoptive family, including his girl Marci. Their momma works for a place that organizes a fantasy football league every year, and the winners get to donate the prize money to a charity of their choice. And it turns out that their poppa is pretty good at picking players in the fantasy league--good enough to win the big prize of \$1200! In honor of Large Carl and all the other critters beloved by their family, Rema and Eric chose ARCF to receive the donation! Thank you so much for thinking of us and for making Large Carl a part of your family.

Part of our mission is to share our animal care knowledge with members of the community. And we learn from our community in turn! We recently heard from Glenda, foster mom

of our handsome **Milton**, known by his close friends as Mitty. He had suddenly stopped using his litter box—completely out of character. Barring sudden illness, this behavior almost always can be traced to a change in the environment. So we ran down the list: new litter, new box, new location of the box, new food, new anything? No, nothing had changed, except that



FROM TOP: MILTON'S SCARF, CAT PAINTING
BY LORRAINE BUSHEK, MARCI & CARL

Mitty was going potty on the floor and the carpet and hadn't touched his litter box for two days.

We came by to check on Mitty and get a close up view of the problem. Mitty looked perfectly normal, but we watched him walk up to the door of the bathroom where his litter box lives, peek in, then back up and skitter away, as if something evil was lurking there. It's a nice normal bathroom, but we speculated that some horrendous noise from the construction across the street had startled him in the middle of a litter box visit. Mitty was mum on the subject, so our temporary solution was to add litter boxes at the alternate spots he had chosen, and schedule a vet visit to make sure there was no unseen physical problem.

Within the hour came a call from Glenda. "We found the evil in the bathroom! Two days ago I used the vacuum cleaner and I ran out of time so I put it in the bathroom instead of the closet where it usually goes. We put the vacuum back in the closet and Mitty went right to his box." Mitty was quite familiar with the vacuum in use, but he clearly didn't want to risk it coming to life just as he was doing important business in the bathroom. Thank you, Milton—point taken. We know that very soon your forever family will find you, and we'll make sure they understand your concerns about where to stow the vacuum cleaner.

We are deeply grateful to our dedicated foster home volunteers, the wonderful families who adopt our cats,

and the compassionate friends who support our work with generous donations. You all make it possible for us to save lives and share stories, and we thank you.

Happy Spring!

— **Carma Crimins**
PRESIDENT

Since ARCF does not currently have a dog adoption program, we are working with other local dog rescue groups who share our goals and philosophies of animal welfare and rescue.

MY WAY HOME DOG RESCUE

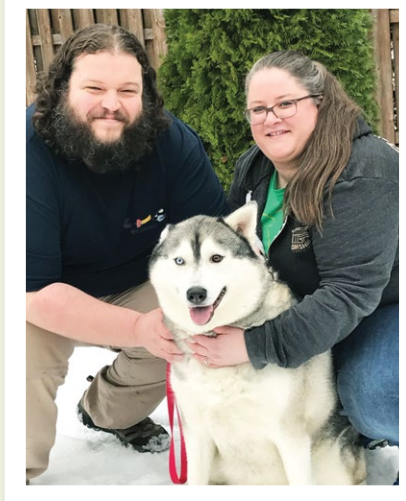
FOR MORE INFORMATION:
mywayhomedogrescue.org
503-974-4944

Koda

Koda's path to My Way Home Dog Rescue is a bit different from the usual route, starting as a stray in an overcrowded public shelter and proceeding with a relay chain of dedicated volunteers to reach a safe place. Koda actually had a home and a family that had chosen him as a purebred pup, but Huskies require more care than many people realize, and the family reluctantly came to the realization they would not be able to meet Koda's needs. They asked My Way Home to help find him an appropriate home.

The first step was to move Koda into a foster home with the ability to assess his needs, give him a chance to chill out, and then hit the reset button. Huskies are smart, willful, and very strong—they need plenty of physical exercise and mental stimulation. With lots of playmates and room to romp in the snow, he soon learned to relax, and he thrived in the company of the people and dogs in his foster home.

When he was ready to meet potential adopters, it was clear that there would be no shortage of applicants to adopt such a handsome and clever dog, but they were carefully screened by MWH volunteers to make sure Koda's next home will also be his last.



Daijha and Mason Bryant are experienced Husky parents. They lost their beloved Dakota two years ago, after sharing his life for 14 years. They wanted to adopt another Husky "someday," but needed time to grieve and adjust to their life without Dakota.

When Daijha saw Koda's picture online she was instantly smitten but a little reluctant to show her husband—she was concerned he might not yet be ready. They had already decided to adopt their next family member from a rescue, and research had led Daijha to My Way Home. Mason was also drawn to Koda's photo and story, and agreed they should complete an application and arrange to

meet him. They traveled from Eugene to meet Koda and he was everything they had hoped for—truly love at first sight. They remembered how much happiness Dakota had brought to their family, and decided it was time to start over again with Koda.

It wasn't all rainbows and sunshine—Koda has separation anxiety and it's challenging to keep him under control on a leash. But they are working with a professional trainer, and by using the clever trick of putting rain boots on his paws, Koda slows his pace to a high-stepping walk so he can get his exercise without yanking someone's arm out of the socket. He loves other dogs, playing with his toys, and happily anticipates his special weekly meal of fresh cooked salmon.

Daijha and Mason feel their family is complete again, and Koda is a very happy Husky.

My Way Home Dog Rescue specializes in saving senior dogs from high-kill shelters, providing all necessary medical care, including heartworm tests for each incoming dog, and fostering all dogs in loving homes until their permanent

forever families find them. Senior dogs naturally have more health and medical challenges. Those that end up in open-intake public shelters often have chronic conditions that were neglected for years. Bringing these dogs back to

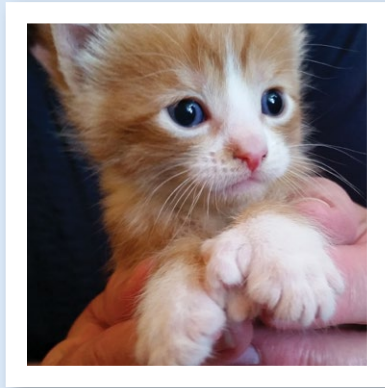
good health takes time and money, and a commitment to providing as much care as each one needs. If you'd like to foster, adopt, or donate towards the care of a senior dog, please contact mywayhomedogrescue@gmail.com.

**The “P” Kittens
(and Raven)**

Last fall we took in a momcat with five 3-week-old kittens from our friends at Cat Utopia in Pendleton when their shelter was short on space. They became the “P” litter—Paddy, Paloma, Poppy, Pluto, and Priscilla. They were beautiful and sweet—but soon the whole family came down with a virulent eye infection. Mom recovered quickly but the kittens were so tiny that it took weeks of dedicated care to bring them through it. We were afraid Poppy would lose one eye to the virus, but in the end it was saved. It doesn’t look quite right but she doesn’t care and neither did we.

Raven had come to us earlier, also with a litter of five. She was a tiny thing with lots of spunk. Her littermates were quickly adopted but she needed more time to grow, so she hung out with the “P” kittens and chose Paddy as her special friend.

Eventually all six kittens were healthy, strong, and ready to meet the world. Their new families shared updates recently:



BABY COLBY

Colby) and I was smitten. I had completed the adoption application, so all I could do was hope and pray that I would be chosen to be their mom.

I was so relieved when I got the good news. They are fearless, fun, energetic, hysterical, and loving—and our 19-year-old kitty, Laddie, has not had one negative response to these two new kids in the house. I brought them home around noon and stayed with them for most of the afternoon in a bedroom downstairs. The next morning I brought them upstairs to let them explore a bit. By that evening while my husband David was watching the Super Bowl, Colby was sleeping on his chest, and Laddie was quietly sleeping on his lap.

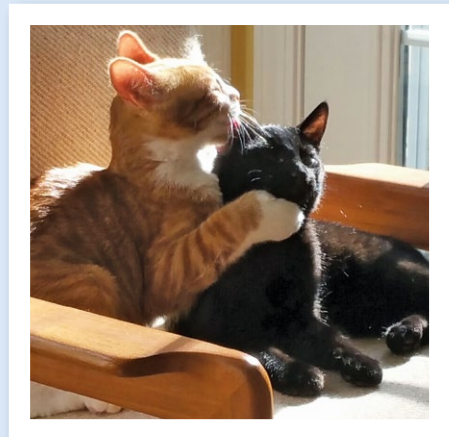
They are precious gifts to us and the care they had received through ARCF was thoroughly healthy and loving, and as a result they wake up fearlessly embracing each day. Pure JOY!

— Sharon Korter

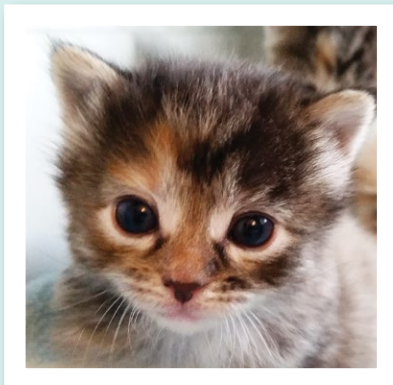
Raven & Colby (formerly Paddy)

I was referred by my friend and former ARCF volunteer, Erin Bergstrom. I saw her Facebook post about two darling kittens at an outreach event. I called Erin to find out more about the organization, drove to the event, and walked in to the most adorable sight of these two darling kitties snuggled up together.

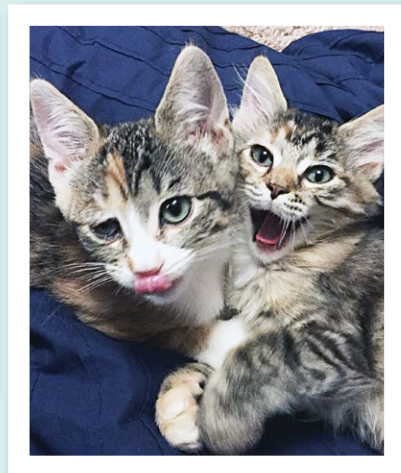
I had lost my 13-year-old precious Aby last summer, and shortly after that his sister. My heart was broken, and I thought I just couldn’t let another kitty into my life. But then I saw Raven and Paddy (whom we have renamed



COLBY & RAVEN



BABY PALOMA



POPPY (LEFT) & PALOMA

Poppy & Paloma

Poppy and Paloma have settled into our home amazingly well! They are so playful and ridiculously cute. We love our special snowflake Poppy because she makes us laugh at every turn, especially when she growls to protect her toys. Paloma is the sweetest dumpling ever and quite enjoys sleeping on a backpack and giving kisses. It is especially amusing to watch them wrestle with each other. These kitty girls have changed our lives forever and we love them with all our heart.

— Violet (age 12), for the Cole family



Leo & Poppy (formerly Pluto & Priscilla)

Our current House Queen is 18 years old. She comes out to get brushed in the morning, to eat in the evening, and sleeps in her heated enclosure pretty much the rest of the time. We realized that our kids were not getting the full experience of fun, frolic, feeding, and responsibility (read “cleaning the litter box daily”) and decided to look into adopting a bonded pair of rescued kittens. I found Adoptapet.org, which led me to Animal Rescue & Care Fund. We completed an application and learned about a pair of kitten siblings who would soon be available.

The timing was perfect. We went to the foster mom’s home with the intent to adopt and came home with two really cute tabby kittens, Pluto and Priscilla, who were soon given full names of Leopold Sebastian von Bootzen (Leo for short) and Poppy Cecilia (Poppy). Their extreme cuteness accelerated the bonding process, and the kittens have been held, petted, carried and given oodles of toys (the toys being from me) from day one.

Leo likes to dive under bed covers, goes after anything that moves, is often found attacking the stairs between the first and second floor. He is very chummy and likes to sit near or on you. He would almost rather play than eat, and is very easygoing.

Poppy likes to jump up a series of shelves and cabinets in order to reach a bed that is about 6 feet off the ground, then come back down the ladder. She gets on the kitchen counter when no one is looking, gets on the kitchen counter even when people ARE looking, but won’t move until you get about 5 feet away and she knows she’s in trouble. She is much more independent and very intelligent. She can tell when there is the slightest hint of getting a bit of turkey sandwich meat or cheese and is right there.

Their antics have brought a lot of laughter to our house.

— Gordon and Cendrine Hosoda

Claire & Gwyn

In our winter issue, we told the story of Gwyn and Gary, an adorable pair of tabby kittens adopted by Molly Houge. As a first time cat adopter, Molly wasn’t sure what to expect but she fell madly in love with her new family members. We were devastated to learn two months later that Gary had fallen ill with Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP), the disease we hate the most. The cause of FIP is unclear, there is no vaccine, no treatment, and it’s always fatal. Gary’s new family was heartbroken and we shared their grief. Soon it was clear that Gwyn was ready for a new playmate and Molly asked if we had a kitten who might want to be her friend. We had recently rescued a lovely young lady named Claire, who seemed to have a calm and easygoing spirit. We invited Molly to come meet her.

Claire is a gentle gal with a precious heart. She’s a great cuddler and “biscuit



GWYN (LEFT) & CLAIRE

maker.” I can always count on her to keep me warm at night—her favorite place is under the covers.

Gwyn’s free spirit has put both of them into dicey situations. As they’ve recently learned, the curtain rod does have a weight limit. I’m certain Gwyn would be the teenager that parents forbid you to spend time with in your youth. Thankfully she’s a cat and a very funny one at that! I thoroughly enjoy

her adventurous zest for life.

It’s been a pleasure watching two vastly different cat personalities develop into a beautiful friendship. They spend a great deal of time stalking, wrestling and enjoying each other’s company.

Claire has restored our hearts in the perfect way.

— Molly Houge

Rene & Rose

(formerly Ulli & Ursula)

Rene and Rose were rescued at just a few weeks of age by a Good Samaritan who was told the mother cat was deceased. She cared for them until they were eating well on their own and ready for our kitten boot camp. They graduated very quickly and we soon had multiple adoption applications, including one from the Davisons.



We were searching for a cat to adopt and found ARCF through Petfinder. We thought we wanted just one cat, but couldn't resist when we saw Rene and Rose together. We were also impressed with how ARCF prepares cats for adoption. We met Rene and Rose less than 24 hours after they arrived at their foster home and after half an hour, decided to take them home. Within minutes of arriving, both of them were on my daughter's lap. We have never had two cats the same age before (and sisters!). When we aren't interacting with them, they keep themselves entertained and are lots of fun to watch chasing each other and turning almost everything into a toy. They are an absolute joy to have around and are spoiled rotten. They recently received another glowing report from our vet. Thank you for everything you do for these and other cats!

— Paul, Brenda, Megan, and Katelyn Davison



**Lorraine Jones
(1922-2016)**

The world lost a true friend to animals when Lorraine Jones passed away at age 94 on New Year's Eve of 2016. Lorraine was a founder of ARCF in 1975 and she served the organization in every capacity until her retirement from "active duty" in 2010. Lorraine was tireless in her dedication to animals in need, and we can't begin to guess how many cats she fostered and cared for. Many ARCF adopters will remember visiting Lorraine's lovely old Portland home to meet their future family members. In addition to her official capacities as a board member, Lorraine was a meticulous record keeper and historian; every rescue, adoption, donation, and volunteer was recorded in her system of index cards, notebooks, and file folders. Hundreds of thank you notes were composed in her traditionally elegant handwriting.

Lena Lorraine Jones was born December 11, 1922 in Lincoln County, Oregon to a very prominent family. They moved to Portland where Lorraine attended Jefferson High School and Reed College. She went to work for Pacific Northwest Bell, retiring in 1982. Lorraine's home was full of books and music, including a grand piano. She was

an accomplished pianist and loved opera and symphony. She was creative, curious, and dignified. Lorraine did not suffer fools gladly, but she was unfailingly generous with her friends and her love of animals was truly boundless.

In addition to her devoted friends, Lorraine is survived by her five cats, whom she left in the care of a trusted friend. Ichabod and Samantha are both about 20 years old, and were adopted by her friend, who will care for them through their golden years. Roxy, the 10-year-old tuxedo girl, was adopted by another acquaintance.

That leaves Bobby and Sissy, who are still waiting for their new families to find them. Both are about 10 years old, and have had recent checkups and vaccinations. They are in excellent health. Although Bobby and Sissy are siblings, they are not particularly bonded; in fact each seems to be more content when they are separated.

Sissy is a gorgeous Siamese/ tabby mix with a sweet nature and the playfulness of a kitten. She loves to

sit by a window watching the world go by, and she could often be found snoozing at the very top of the cat tree.

Bobby is a beautiful buff tabby boy who needs a true "cat whisperer" to make his life complete. Although he has excellent house manners and enjoys being in the company of people he knows and trusts, he's very shy and does not enjoy being handled. Now his world has been turned upside down and he needs a

home with patient people who will keep him safe and allow him to exist in his own comfort zone.

We wish to honor Lorraine's memory and her service to animals by helping her beloved pets find the loving permanent homes they deserve. If you are interested in knowing more about Bobby and Sissy, please email or call us.



SISSY (TOP) & BOBBY

IN MEMORIAM

Silver, adopted by Kate Davenport in 1998 from ARCF, was between 20 and 22 years old. In spite of cataracts and arthritis, she was feisty and opinionated to the very end. She spent her later years enjoying sunny windows, patrolling her house for potential miscreants, and killing toy rodents to stay in shape.



SILVER



OBSIDIAN

Melanie and Matt Klym lost their beautiful Obsidian, adopted by Melanie from a shelter in Columbus, Ohio almost 10 years ago. He won her over by fetching his fish toy and being smart enough to escape his crate in the cattery. Obsidian is deeply missed by Melanie and Matt, and his feline siblings Arkose, Onyx, Garnet, and Jet.

Antonia Garland's family recently lost KitKat, "the best cat we ever had." KitKat was rescued by ARCF in 2010, when she was already a senior citizen, and adopted by the Garlands in 2012. KitKat was a sweet girl with a spicy streak, who was lucky enough to find just the right family to appreciate her special charms.



KITKAT



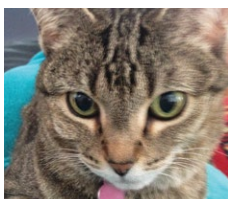
CRYPTIC

Jackie Morrow's cat Cryptic exemplified the finest feline qualities: elegance, refined manners, and welcoming to guests (except for cats). Cryptic never hogged the bed, always sleeping neatly contained on her own pillow. She adored her Golden Retriever Tulip (RIP), and loved to nibble on her toes, causing poor Tulip to cringe in terror. Cryptic provided a stabilizing force through good times and bad, and Jackie was heartbroken to lose her to cancer at the young age of 11 years.

Glenda Hughes and Bill Gollhofer suffered the loss of two beloved cats in a devastating 15 day period. Abbi and Ava were both rescued street cats who came to love each other and their life as Glenda's pampered darlings. Abbi succumbed to a heart condition that took a sudden bad turn. Ava was in good health but a few days after Abbi's passing, she suddenly and mysteriously became ill and, in spite of extensive efforts to diagnose and treat her, Ava did not survive.



ABBI & AVA



SAFFRON

Saffron was rescued by ARCF in 2005 with her two kittens. The kittens were soon adopted, but Saffron was not as genial in her social interactions. After several failed interviews with potential adopters, foster mom Chrisi Badrick chose to adopt Saffy and accept her "quirky" personality traits. She ruled the house for the next 12 years, until the cancer she had defeated once came back to claim her. Her loss is deeply felt by Chrisi, but Saffron's feline housemate Sadie could not hide her feelings of delight at claiming the best bed and eating spot, at last.

ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

December-January-February: We placed 14 cats in loving, responsible homes. Major expenses were:

Veterinary \$7,148.67

Food/Supplies \$1,134.29

Fundraising \$1,236.61

Education/Outreach \$1,284.22

(Education/Outreach and Fundraising categories include newsletter expenses.)

AnimalTalk

ANIMAL TALK is a quarterly newsletter published by Animal Rescue & Care Fund.

Our Mission: To rescue, shelter, and care for homeless animals and place them in permanent, responsible homes; to promote and support spay/neuter for all companion animals.

EDITOR

Carma Crimins

GRAPHICS/LAYOUT

Molly Henty, www.mollyhenty.com

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Animal Rescue & Care Fund is a private, non-profit, tax-exempt corporation funded solely by private donations. We are a 501(c)(3) organization so all donations are tax deductible. Our tax ID is 51-0137768. A board of directors makes decisions on policy and activities. All funds are used to support our programs, including publishing this quarterly newsletter.

Patsy Montana, a Cowgirl Cat

We lost an important staff member at ARCF World HQ.

I started helping feral cats in 2001, trapping for other caregivers and their cats. Patsy Montana was the first “stray” in my own neighborhood. It took several months to catch her—she knew many places to grab a meal and was never hungry enough to go into my trap, even when I offered extra delicious food.

She accepted food from me but only if I left it outside the garage and went back into the house, closing both the garage door and the house door behind me. She never felt safe enough without those two barriers between us. If I tried to sneak a peek, she was instantly gone, over the fence and into the thicket behind my neighbor’s garden shed.

In the dog days of summer in 2003 the situation became more urgent as she was obviously not spayed and the population was going to multiply quickly if I didn’t catch her. At last she was hungry enough, and I was so happy to see her little face when I lifted the trap cover that night! After her trip to the FCCO clinic, I set up shelters in the yard and she got comfortable enough to use them, but it took months before she would stay in the yard when I stepped outside, even with twice a day regular meals.

We coexisted like that for about a year. Then one day I set down her dish in the usual place and stood up to go. I accidentally came nose to nose with her sitting on the fence. We

both froze. I stuck out my hand and she gave me a head butt and a purr, and that was that. From then on, Patsy ruled the garage and the yard and happily greeted all visitors.

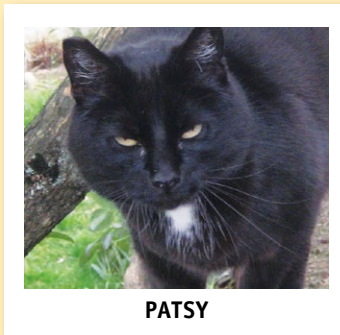
She welcomed other strays who showed up and let them know it was ok to go into the trap. Most were tomcats who didn’t stick around after their “tutoring.” But she allowed Vince, Tony, Paint, and Monsieur Le Kitteh to stay, after she taught them good manners. She was the smallest and the only girl, but there was no doubt who was boss.

Patsy was a gracious hostess to the many feral cats who spent the night in our garage. Many times I would go out in the morning to find her sleeping on top of the traps, sharing her calm confidence with the scared ones.

She would never set a toe inside the house no matter how much I coaxed her, but she had cool shelter in the summer and a heated bed in the winter. In the last year she developed a very painful condition in her mouth which we controlled with medication until it didn’t help anymore. She was a cowgirl to the very end, never once complaining and always ready to share purrs and head butts.

Patsy leaves behind her garage companion Monsieur Le Kitteh, and many, many friends who knew her as my Special Assistant for Kitty Rescue Affairs. Vince, Tony, and Paint have gone on ahead.

— Carma Crimins



PATSY

YES! I want to help

Animal Rescue & Care Fund depends entirely on your donations. Our work includes rescue, medical aid, food and shelter, humane education, neutering/spaying, and more. Your contribution goes directly to help the animals. All contributions are tax-deductible.

Make a secure online donation using a credit card, debit card, or PayPal account. Save time and postage!

Visit our website for more details: www.pdx-petadoption.org.

I enclose _____ for humane work. (\$35 sponsors an animal, but we appreciate any amount.)

Sponsors can check here to receive a story and a photo about the animal being fostered.

I’m interested in being a volunteer. Please contact me at _____.

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