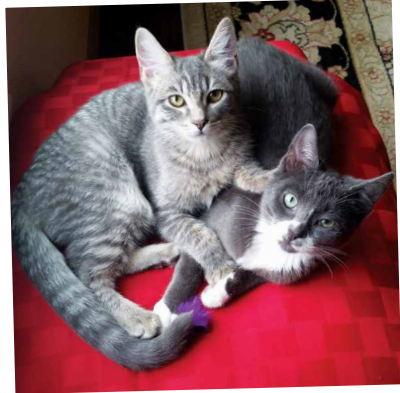


FEATURED CATS Harriet & Harpo



Harriet and Harpo could be the kittens chosen to illustrate the dictionary entry under “cuddly lap cats.” We don’t know how they became homeless, but somebody clearly cared for them along

the way, because they just love people. This brother and sister also love each other very much and will be adopted together into their forever family.

Harriet is a soft gray tabby, a little bigger and more assertive than her brother. Like any bossy big sister, she decides what games shall be played—and who shall win. Harriet gets first dibs on all the new toys, but then she’s happy to share with Harpo. She can be a bit rude to other kitties at first meeting, but once the social order is established (with her at the top), congeniality returns.

Harpo is the most loving and adorable gray and white tuxedo, with the teensiest gray mustache. He dotes on his big sister and even though she bops him on the head from time to time, they can always be found curled up together at nap time.

If an empty lap is available anywhere, these two will claim the space as their own, purring loud enough to let everyone know that all is well in their world. They have met children and enjoyed their company. They have minimal experience with dogs, but we expect that they could live happily with a respectful dog, given a proper introduction. This pair is irresistibly sweet enough to warm up even the coldest heart.

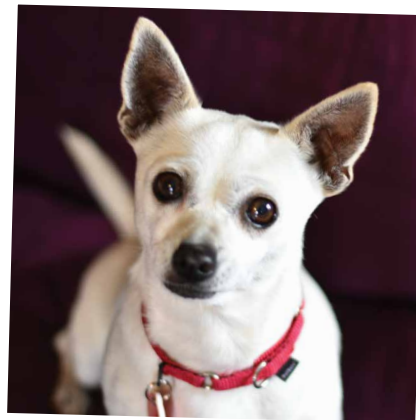
Harriet and Harpo have been spayed/neutered, are up-to-date on vaccines, and have tested negative for FeLV/FIV. Their adoption fee is \$150. To learn more about Harriet and Harpo or any of our cats available for adoption, please call 503-402-8692, email arcf@pdx-petadoption.org, or visit www.pdx-petadoption.org.

FEATURED DOG Ember

Last summer saw California devastated by over 1 million acres of wildfires. Already overloaded public animal shelters faced even more pressure from forced evacuations and animals left homeless by the fires. Ember was in such a shelter when fires came close and the building had to be evacuated.

My Way Home Dog Rescue was asked to help, and Ember made the trip to safety in Oregon. She needed a little time to rest and recover from all that stress, but she quickly made herself cozy in her foster home, where she now loves cuddling up with her people, dreaming of the forever family that will be lucky enough to find her.

Ember learned good manners somewhere along the way. She is potty trained and stays happily in her crate when required. Ember is very food motivated and is learning to come when called. Among her



skills: dancing for treats and giving high fives. She loves all dogs big and small, but prefers them to be calm and quiet—too many dogs and too much noise are overwhelming to her.

This sweet and cheerful

Chihuahua is about 3 or 4 years old, and weighs 10 lbs. She’s stocky and low to the ground, convenient for sniffing all the interesting smells around the yard and on walks through the neighborhood.

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 Ember, email mywayhomedogrescue@gmail.com or call 503-974-4944.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As the year winds down here at ARCF World HQ, we have been reminiscing about the time when there was actually a “kitten season”—it kicked off with a bang in spring, slowed down through summer and fall, and by winter it was over. We looked forward to the winter break as a chance to rest up and recharge for the next spring. But for the last few years we haven't had a single kitten-free day, let alone a week or a month. In spite of our best efforts to spay or neuter every cat we get our hands on, and encouraging everyone else do the same, there are still too many kittens being born homeless and unwanted. We are fortunate to have excellent resources in our area providing low- or no-cost spay/neuter services, so there's really no excuse! If you know of a cat (or cat owner) needing help with logistics or financing to get this accomplished, please contact us—we will help!

Other areas of our state don't have such good resources so we try to help rescuers in those areas whenever possible. **Kelsey** and her siblings came to us from our friend Wilma Perez-Leon who is tireless in her work for the cats of Yamhill County. The K kittens weren't used to being around people, but after a couple weeks in our kitten boot camp they are now ready for adoption to loving, indoor-only homes. (Yes, Kelsey has one blue and one brown eye!)

We also take cats from Cat Utopia in Pendleton, Oregon, including **Melba and her seven babies**, who arrived recently and will be available for adoption in early January. Melba is just a tiny cat herself and she's been doing her best to be a good momma, but she and her babies will need a lot of nutritious food, veterinary care, and TLC. This little family brings us to over 200 kittens rescued this year, and we're not done yet!

Another rescue partner is Jody Harmon, who has devoted her life to helping homeless cats in and around the Willamette Valley. This year we were able to take about 50 kittens from Jody's rescue projects, including **Wendell and Wyatt**.

Kittens under about 12 weeks can be quickly socialized for placement as indoor pets, but for older cats who have never lived with humans in a home, sometimes the best thing we can do is trap-neuter-return (TNR). With a committed caregiver to provide food, water, and shelter, community cats can live well

and thrive. **Luna** is one of those who benefitted from this part of our program. She delivered her three very sickly kittens to the front porch of a kind family who contacted us for help. All four were quickly trapped, the kittens went to boot camp and Luna was spayed and returned to her home base, with a cozy new shelter stuffed with straw to keep her warm and dry this winter. If you know of cats who could benefit from our shelters, please send them our way. We also provide food assistance to caregivers who are feeding colonies of community cats, especially in the winter when outdoor-living cats need more and better quality food to stay healthy.

Turning the calendar to a new year is a good time to review and update microchip records for your pets. Dig out the paperwork, find the name and number of the chip company, and call them to confirm your pet is registered and all your contact information is up to date. Or you can take your pet to any vet clinic and ask them to scan the chip. It just takes a minute and they can give you the number to contact for registration. It is astonishing and heartbreaking that so many lost animals have microchips, but can't be returned to their owners immediately because the phone number on the registration is disconnected and the email address goes nowhere.

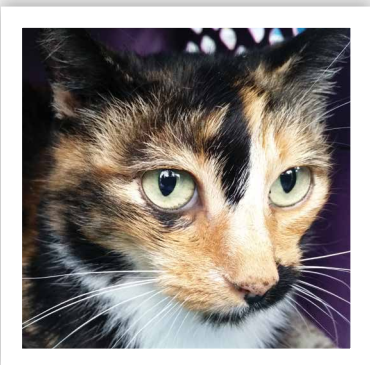
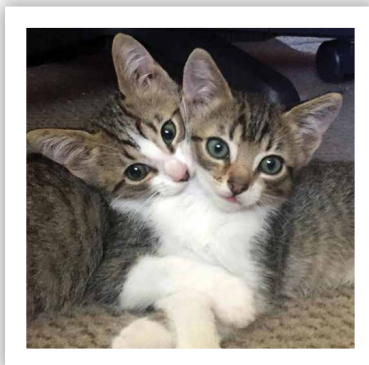
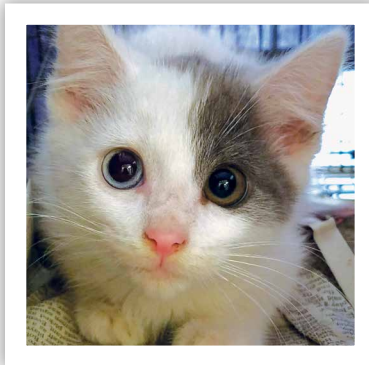
We are able to help all these animals only because of the generous people who support our work. 100% of our funding comes from private donors and we work hard to get the most from every dollar entrusted to us. If you have a beloved companion, whether adopted from us or elsewhere, please consider making a contribution this year in honor of your pet, so we can continue helping the homeless animals who have no one else. Every one of them deserves to be safe and loved in a home as wonderful as yours.

On behalf of the animals who would thank you if they could, please accept our sincere gratitude.

We wish you tranquility and contentment in the company of your loved ones for the holiday season and the coming year.

Happy Winter!

— **Carma Crimins**
PRESIDENT



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: **KELSEY;**
M KITTENS; LUNA; WENDELL AND WYATT

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.

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

MY WAY HOME DOG RESCUE

Tammy Dee

(formerly Tammy)

To tell the adoption story of Tammy Dee, I have to tell you about Dixie. I adopted her three and a half years ago from My Way Home Dog Rescue. She was an older Chihuahua with some health issues. I was actually looking for a terrier mix but Cheryl at My Way Home encouraged me to meet Dixie and of course I fell in love with her. She quickly became my best friend, and I was crushed when Dixie passed away in October. I reached out to My Way Home to thank them for all they do for dogs, and to let them know about Dixie.

I had been thinking about adopting another dog, but I wasn't sure I was ready. Then I saw Tammy's photo and her sweet, sincere eyes and crooked ear caught my attention. I contacted MWH to ask about Tammy and was put in touch with her foster mom, Keelie. I learned that Tammy had been found as a very pregnant stray in a vacant field where unwanted dogs are frequently abandoned. Some kind people monitor the area and were able to quickly capture Tammy and bring her to a foster home, where she soon had four pups.

They were quickly adopted, but I was the first person to express interest in Tammy.

I was warned that Tammy was shy and might not come to me right away. When I walked in, she was interested but cautious. I sat on the couch, and she came up and sniffed my face. I had brought treats and that definitely helped! I picked her up and she sat in my lap for a while. Keelie said it was the longest she'd seen Tammy sit with a stranger. I said, "Well, I'd like to adopt her!" Keelie said, "Tam, did you hear that?" Tammy turned her head from Keelie back to me in very slow motion



and looked up at me. I wasn't sure if that was a yes, but we were going to do it!

I was nervous and excited the day Tammy was brought to my house. She had such a strong bond with Keelie and for the first few hours alone with me, Tammy howled and paced. I finally sat her down for a heart-to-heart. I told her that she hadn't been given away because no one loved her, but that she had a permanent home now and she needed pull it together because she'd been through much worse than this. To my surprise, she sat up and looked at me as though she understood. She stopped howling and she even settled

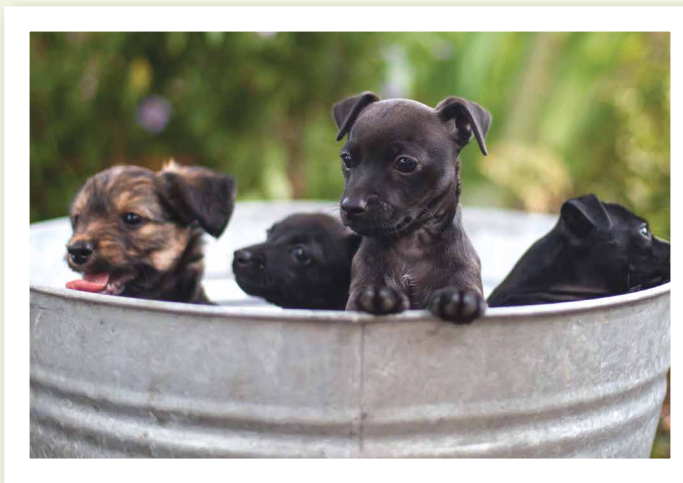
in for a nap a few minutes after our talk.

I've had her a month now and she's really coming out of her shell. She was terrified of walks at first but now we walk almost daily and she holds her tail high as she sniffs her way through the neighborhood! She even knows when we are close to the house and leads me to the correct driveway.

Tammy Dee is the most loving and affectionate dog I've ever had. I can't imagine life without a wet

nose--the loss of my little Dixie was difficult but coming home to an empty house was even worse for me. I decided to add "Dee" to Tammy's name in honor of her Aunt Dixie. She has added so much joy and laughter to my life and it has greatly helped me with my grief. I feel she was meant to be my dog. We are still getting to know each other but our bond grows each day we are together.

— Alecia Hansen



TOP: ALECIA & TAMMY DEE
BOTTOM: TAMMY'S PUPS

ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

September-October-November: We rescued and cared for 41 cats and kittens, including veterinary exams, hospital care, vaccines, spay/neuter surgery, microchipping and more. We placed 15 cats and kittens in loving, responsible homes.

Major expenses for the quarter were:

Veterinary: \$5,728.39

Food/Supplies: \$1,713.93

Newsletter: \$2,422.00

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

Sarah Cadwell, www.sarahcadwell.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.

Folly

Folly came to us in early 2016 with her mom and five siblings, all born in a barn in Eastern Oregon. She was adopted with her sister Felicity as a kitten. Over a year later we heard from their adopter that Folly was no longer welcome because of an unfortunate instance of eliminating somewhere other than the litter box. This was very much out of character for Folly, but the family was not interested in solving the issue, so Folly came back to us.

A foster home was not immediately available, so Folly spent some time boarding at our vet, where the staff agreed she was the most affectionate cat they had ever cared for. Once in her foster home, she was a bit nervous about the other cats

and kittens, but very loving with her people. There were no litter box problems at all, so we surmised that something unusual had occurred to trigger that incident and it wasn't likely to happen again.

Bethany and Phillip were looking for a companion for their mellow buff tabby cat Snoop, adopted from ARCF two years ago. We told them about Folly, and explained the reason

she was returned. They came to meet her, and we all agreed a foster-to-adopt arrangement could work well for everyone.

Proper introductions are critical to successfully integrating a new cat into a household where a resident pet claims the territory. It wasn't love at

first sight for Snoop and Folly but her new family was patient while she settled in and got her bearings. We recently did the paperwork to make the adoption official and received this update:

We called her Little One for the longest time and it stuck so much that we searched for a name that had the same sentiment. We settled on Misha, which very loosely translated is "little bear." Although recently I've

taken to calling her Monkey because she climbs on everything! When it got cold and we started using our fireplace again, Misha was in heaven. She likes to curl up with her new brother Snoop, or a stuffed animal, and nap for hours. She is the most loving girl, and we couldn't be happier that we get to be her forever home.

— Bethany Katter



**TOP: FOLLY & NEW FRIEND
BOTTOM: BABY FOLLY**



Boris & Brooklyn

In our last issue, we told you about a family in Southeast Portland who contacted us when their next-door neighbors suddenly had to move out of their home. They noticed cats, kittens, and a dog seemingly left on their own. Animal Control was contacted, but because the animals appeared to have water, food, and shelter, officers could not take further action.

We made contact with the departed tenants, who were distraught and without resources after losing their home. They loved their animals and came to feed them daily at the empty house, but couldn't realistically care for so many. Our offer of help was accepted, and one of the families we rescued included Beatrice and her four babies, just two days old at the time.

They grew to be robust and roly-poly kittens, and by the end of October they were ready to meet their forever families. Michele and Bill came to meet them and soon their hearts were stolen by Boris and Brooklyn. Here is a recent update:

The Bs are doing so great! Wasabi has adjusted to them well and stopped being sad and needy, which she had been since we had to let our senior guy, Penguin, go to kitty heaven. Brooklyn has conquered the tall bookcase. Boris is amazed by this and whines pitifully when



**LEFT: BORIS (LEFT) & BROOKLYN
RIGHT: B KITTENS AS BABIES**

she jumps up there, but hasn't worked up the nerve to try it. She is also a dedicated retriever and will bring her two favorite toys back to me almost endlessly. She's curled up underneath my chin at the moment, watching letters appear on the screen as I type and trying to catch them.

Remember Boris's favorite toy mouse? We have at least half a dozen of them but that particular one is still HIS. It's just a shred now—no ears, eyes, tail, or stuffing—but he regularly walks around the house with it in his mouth, growling and huffing at no one in particular. Other than protecting HIS mouse, in general, he's the mellow of the two, but they're both very affectionate, cuddly, and fiercely playful, especially with the fishing wand. They adore the cat castle we built for Wasabi—they immediately claimed the crow's nest as their favorite napping spot. They won't fit in there together much longer though!

— Michele Miner & Bill Cepurna

Loki & Luna

(formerly Basil & Betty)

Not long after Boris and Brooklyn went to their new home, we heard from Susie and Jerry who were looking for a pair of kittens to fill the empty spot in their family left by their last two cats who died at age 17 and 19. They came to meet Betty and Basil and in a matter of minutes, their search was over.

The kitties are doing great! We've renamed them Loki and Luna. They're so full of energy and we watch them play for hours. We have a two-story house and once they discovered the stairs they run up and down repeatedly, so they're getting plenty of exercise. We brought them to our vet last Saturday for their booster shots and a quick once-over by our vet. She said they appear very healthy and just the right weight for their size.

They play a lot and when they're tired will usually nap together on one of our laps, then after a while they jump down and come up and sit on the other lap. I guess they don't want either of us to feel left out. They both like to have their hair brushed and boy, can they purr!

Thank you again for giving us the opportunity to share our lives with them. Even though it's been less than two weeks, we are so attached to them!

— Susie Bjordahl & Jerry Ylonen



LOKI (LEFT) & LUNA



RUMPLE

With heavy hearts we report the loss of dear Rumples, beloved cat of Josee and Pete Peterson. Rumples was an amazing feline, full of personality and character and he will be terribly missed by the Peterson family.

Rumples came to ARCF in 2010 from our local public shelter. He was taken there as an unwanted stray but wasn't doing well in that stressful environment. We brought him to a foster home and settled him in his own private space to learn more about his personality before introducing him to the general population. The next morning we were mildly panicked to find Rumples's door open and no Rumples anywhere. He had obviously found the cat door exit from the garage and scarpered! A foot search of the area quickly paid off—Rumples was found strolling down the sidewalk about a block away. A polite discussion ensued and our boy was back in custody. We checked and rechecked security when tucking Rumples in the next night.

The next morning we were again greeted by an empty cage! This time the search did not turn up our culprit, so the mild panic grew a bit stronger. Later that day a call came from the shelter. Rumples had made his way about 10 blocks due west, wandered

through an open back door and curled up in a bathroom sink, where he gave quite a fright to the homeowner when she stepped in to freshen up. Not being comfortable with cats, she chose not to approach him, but he still wore his collar and ID from the shelter. We quickly retrieved our escaped prisoner, who came along peaceably. Since Rumples obviously understood the engineering of latches, we moved him to the more secure foster room, where his new roommate was a Siamese

beauty named Raisin.

Raisin and Rumples hit it off and quickly became a very fetching bonded pair. They were many applications to adopt them, and we chose the one we thought most suitable.

We soon heard that all was not well: Raisin was not using the litter box appropriately in her new home and the adopter's description of the circumstances indicated Raisin's behavior was intended to make a point. The adopter wanted to keep Rumples and return Raisin but we said both must be returned—they would not be separated. We made arrangements to pick them up the next day, so were very shocked to arrive home from work on that hot summer day and find a carrier on the front step containing Raisin and Rumples standing in a puddle of water!

Fortunately, they hadn't been there long and didn't suffer any ill effects other than being slightly soggy. The adopter later explained that she couldn't wait another day to return them and poured the water inside the carrier in case they got thirsty while waiting for someone to come home and find them.

They were very happy to return to their familiar foster room. We hit the reset button and for the next several months, Raisin was 100% litter box compliant. It became clear that Raisin hadn't approved of the first home and communicated her concern in the only way she knew how. She was obviously correct in her judgment.

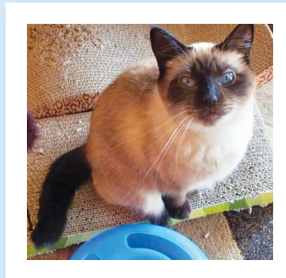
Eventually we were ready to try again, and this time we got it right. Josee and Pete came to meet Raisin and Rumples and off they went to the best home a cat could ever imagine.

Raisin was never in the best of health and sadly she passed away in 2012. Rumples remained a single guy for the rest of his days, a loving and treasured companion to his family.

We received this note from Josee and Pete:

On behalf of Rumples we want to donate to your organization the money

we would normally spend on Christmas presents for our family. We also advised them to donate to their favorite animal shelter in Rumples's memory and not spend their money on presents for us. We feel that by doing this we are keeping Rumples's



RAISIN

memory alive and helping all the homeless animals out there.

When the time comes to help our ill and elderly pets leave the world without pain, it may bring comfort for you and your pet to have humane euthanasia administered at home by veterinarians who make house calls for this purpose. Here are some Portland area vets who provide this service:

Compassionate Care,
Dr. Lori Gibson 503-880-1172,
drlorigibson.com

Vet to Pet, Dr. Laura Chang,
503-757-6124, vettopet.net

At Home Veterinary Services,
Dr. Louise Mesher, 503-281-1631,
pdxhomevet.com

THINGS WE LIKE

We hear it so often that it's become a cliché, but in our world it really does take a village to make it all work. Nobody can do everything, but everybody can do something! Our numbers are small, but our volunteers' contributions are huge.

Anne Malinowski started fostering cats and kittens for us in 2010 when she took in a big orange cat named The Bulldozer who wasn't doing well at our local public shelter. We have no idea how many hundreds have passed through her kitten room since then but we'd be lost without her expertise and willingness to care for, cuddle, and clean up after all those little feline families.

Jen Hansen and **Roger Anderson** also have a kitten room that has barely had a quiet moment since the first litter they fostered over four years ago. One of their first clients was a sickly little guy named Elliott who captured their hearts. He stayed to join their family and turned out to be an excellent foster assistant. All the babies adore "Uncle Elliott" and he loves guiding them in the secret ways of the cat.

Most of our time and resources are spent helping cats in the community who have no other options, and that requires a team of resourceful cat wranglers and kitten tamers. Sometimes the trickiest part of helping stray cats is catching them, and we are lucky to have **Lori Sharp**, **Val Walker**, and **Courtney Argo** as our "have traps, will travel" experts. We also count on these three to run our feral kitten boot camps. Our furry little recruits go in feisty and come out finely tuned and ready for their future positions as pampered indoor pets.

More good luck came our way this year when **Bonnie Williams** moved to Portland from Brooklyn, NY and brought her considerable skills in trap-neuter-return (TNR), community cat management, and kitten taming. We're delighted to welcome her to our team of cat wranglers.

Some of the feral cats we trap and neuter can't be returned to their homes for various reasons. **Wilma Perez-Leon** helps

us by caring for those cats while we work on finding safe homes where they can live out their lives.

And let us not forget the partners! To **Don**, **Paul**, **Bryce**, **Drew**, and **Lou**—thanks for your unending support of our volunteers who happen to share your home. We know they couldn't do it without you.

We're also grateful to **Tracee Larson**, **Amanda Ferguson**, and **Denise Stidmon** who opened their homes to foster when we really needed some extra help. **Glenda Hughes** and **Bill**

Gollhofer continue to demonstrate incredible flexibility and patience in providing a foster home-office for Milton the Freeway Cat, affectionately known as Mitty, and more recently as the Mayor of 2nd Avenue.

Leah Goodman provides expert editing and proofreading for this newsletter. **Julie Davenport** does logistical mailing support (she stuffs the envelopes). **Susan Phipps**, **Nancy Schroeter**, **Roz Simon**, **Marian Kerr**, and **Sally Needham** help deliver the 1000+ copies that go directly to locations in our community.

Kirk Kiggins and **Erin Atkinson** help with our outreach events. Our friends at **Forever Pets** store and **Healthy Pets NW** (Woodstock location) support us with food drives, donations, and hosting outreach events.

We also depend on **Cat Hospital of Portland**, **Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon**, and **Stark St. Animal Hospital**,

and their excellent veterinarians who support our work.

Gabriel Park Veterinary Clinic has been a placement partner for some of our kitten boot camp graduates.

Our thanks go to all the volunteers, donors, and kind strangers who help us carry out 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.

— **ARCF Board of Directors**



TOP: BULLDOZER
BOTTOM: ELLIOT

SAVE THE DATE!

Whiskers, Wags, and Love

We invite you to a joint celebration and fundraiser for Animal Rescue & Care Fund and our sister organization, My Way Home Dog Rescue. We'll have a silent auction, raffle prizes, plenty of refreshments, and more. Check our website and follow our Facebook page for more details closer to the date!

- February 14, 2018 — 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm
- McMenamins Kennedy School Gymnasium
- 5736 NE 33rd Avenue in Portland

SUCCESS STORIES

Jack

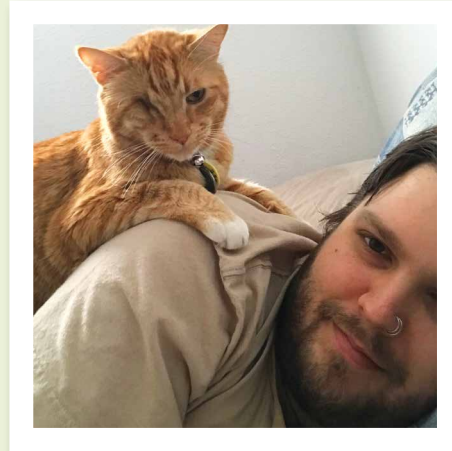
Almost two years ago our former volunteer Lenore Bijan passed away, leaving behind her beloved pets, including Jack (full name: One-Eyed Jack O'Malley). Jack has the easygoing charm typical of orange tabby cats, and was quickly scooped up and taken home by friends of Lenore's who seemed to adore him. Within a few weeks the situation inexplicably went sour and we were asked to find another home for Jack—and quickly. Our friend Amanda had a senior black cat named Mr. Skinny who she suspected might enjoy having another older dude to hang out with, so Jack went to Amanda's house while we looked for his perfect forever family.



AMANDA & JACK

Also living in Amanda's house were two occasionally annoying small dogs and a young man named Anthony. Jack got along fine with Mr. Skinny and tolerated the dogs, but he definitely took a shine to Anthony. Although Amanda was considering adopting Jack herself, Jack seemed to have a different plan in mind.

We arranged for Jack to have a thorough exam including senior blood work. He was in good shape, with a few minor issues common to cats of his age. We discussed those issues with Anthony and he was more than willing to provide whatever extra care Jack might need, now and in the future. We couldn't be happier to have made such a perfect match!



JACK & ANTHONY

I was living with Amanda who was Jack's foster at the time and I immediately fell in love with him. He was so mellow and loving and a big-time snuggler. We got along right from the beginning. He would always come and hang out in my room whenever I was home. So the joke became that it looked like he had already adopted me, ha ha! I kinda knew right from the beginning that he was gonna melt my heart

(and he most certainly did) as he tends to do to most people that have met him along the way. You could say it was just meant to be and now I've got the best companion and fur buddy I could've asked for.

— Anthony Manella

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 _____.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Mail to:

Animal Rescue & Care Fund
PO Box 14956
Portland, OR 97293-0956