

Queenie

This regal feline has no doubt of her place in the world—she rules it! Queenie was once a girl of the streets, surviving by her wits and raising her kids on her own. One day she was lucky enough to meet someone who knew she deserved better, and we were happy to welcome her to our rescue.

Queenie adjusted quickly to the comforts of indoor life, including having her plushy bed properly fluffed, high-quality and nutritious meals served on a regular schedule, and a wide variety of toys for her amusement. She also made it clear that she has spent enough time with other felines in her life—her perfect home will include only humans who will recognize her majesty and treat her accordingly. If they spend most of their time at home, that would please



her too. Queenie can be chatty, like many Siamese-type cats, but only if there's something to say—she's not a non-stop talker.

Although she's not revealing her exact age, we estimate that Queenie is about five years old. She is in excellent health—doesn't look a day over three—and is agreeable to having mani-pedi and grooming services provided by her people. Like all cats, she thrives on high-quality food, but she eats only as much as she needs to maintain her girlish figure.

Queenie has been spayed, is up-to-date on vaccines, and has tested negative for FeLV/FIV. The adoption fee is \$100. To learn more about Queenie or any of our cats available for adoption, please

call 503-402-8692, email arcf@pdx-petadoption.org, or visit www.pdx-petadoption.org.

Lena



Lena is a gorgeous girl who, through no fault of her own, found herself at a public shelter in Southern California, with far too many other unclaimed and unadopted large dogs. With help from local staff and volunteers, Lena came to Oregon and the safety of My Way Home Dog Rescue.

It appears that Lena had multiple litters of pups, although she is only about three years old. At 85 lbs. she's larger than most female German Shepherd Dogs. She is house- and crate-trained and learned quickly how to walk on leash.

Lena is a happy-go-lucky girl who loves to meet people. She is playful with other dogs, but a bit

too interested in cats, so no felines in the home, please. She likes kids but would be best in a home without little ones—children should be big enough that Lena can't knock them over. Her ideal family would love to take Lena on walks every day and hang out with her at home. In return, as with all ambassadors of this breed, she will give her undying love and loyalty.

Lena has been spayed and microchipped, is current on vaccines and flea control, and tested negative for heartworm. The adoption fee is \$350. If you are interested in meeting Lena, call 503-974-4944 or email mywayhomedogrescue@gmail.com.

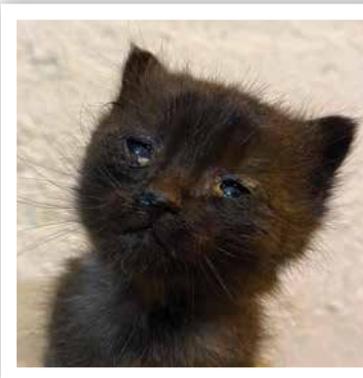
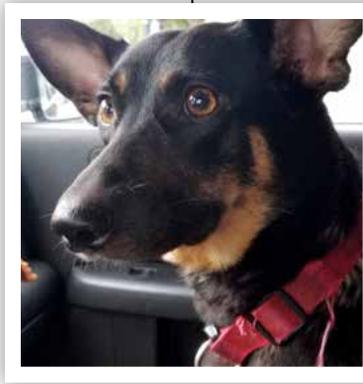
FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Just when it seemed like 2020 had given us its best shot, the winds literally changed, and wildfires came to our state, requiring evacuation of thousands of people and animals and leaving a path of destruction. All our volunteers and animals are safe, but many of our friends in outlying areas were faced with the task of finding a safe place to go, packing up family members, pets, livestock, and valuable items, on very short notice.

Many groups and individuals sprang into action, offering assistance of every kind to those in need. By the time this newsletter reaches our readers, we expect the worst of the crisis will be past, and we owe a deep gratitude to all who contributed to the rescue efforts. Now is a good time for all of us to learn from this experience, and make a plan for the next disaster—because we know the next one is coming. There are many sources of emergency preparedness information and we encourage everyone to do some research now when you have the luxury of time.

One thing you can do immediately is make sure your pets are microchipped and confirm that the chip company has your current phone number, address, and a second (and third!) contact name and number as backup in case you can't be reached. Test this now: call the chip company and make sure your contact information is up to date. If your pets are not chipped yet, or you don't have a record of it, please visit your vet to have this done right away. It is so heartbreaking to rescue a lost pet with a microchip, call the owner's number, and hear that it's no longer in service.

Our rescue work focuses on cats because that's what we know, but we call on our network of excellent rescue partners when needed. While doing a cat rescue, we met the lovely **Lettie**, who was in need of some immediate medical attention and a new family. She was loved by someone who just had too many animals to properly care for them all and asked for our help. Thanks to My Way Home Dog Rescue, Lettie is now happy and healthy in her new home.



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM:
LETTIE; VELVET;
ZAG; TAI

We are often called to help when an unknown cat shows up at a home or business with kittens in tow. If mom doesn't let anyone come close to her or the kittens, it's hard to keep them safe and start socializing the young ones for eventual adoption. **Velvet** and her mom and three siblings are one of the little families we have helped. All five were captured, mom was spayed and returned to her home, and the kittens went straight to our "boot camp," where they have made excellent progress and will soon be available for adoption.

Recently we rescued two young momma cats with their babies from a backyard in SE Portland, all in need of immediate attention for eye infections and severe flea infestation. **Zag** is one of those babies, along with her mom Zelda and brother Zig.

And of course there are always roaming tomcats, looking for food and girlfriends, and following their scent, sometimes for miles. **Tai** is one of those lost boys, currently hanging around a local food cart pod, living on handouts. This handsome boy was once someone's adorable kitten, but he was allowed to roam unneutered and now he depends on the kindness of strangers. We'll soon have him captured and properly cared for, and his street roaming days will be done.

We have never paused in our mission to help as many animals as we can, in spite of the challenges in scheduling vet care, arranging adoptions, and just physically doing the work of rescue. We are so grateful for our generous supporters, who make it possible for us to carry on our important work, and to our dedicated volunteers who make it happen.

Take of yourselves, and take care of others.

Happy Fall!

—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.

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

MY WAY HOME DOG RESCUE

Chester

There are a few silver linings in this dark cloud of a pandemic. One of these is the dramatic increase in the number of animal adoptions, especially dogs. Perfect little dogs have always been in high demand, according to Cheryl at My Way Home Dog Rescue, but with so many people spending their days and nights at home, each dog coming into their rescue receives multiple applications for adoption. Even big dogs, seniors, and those with special needs can provide excellent companionship, and there's nothing like working from home to create the perfect opportunity for bonding with a new pet—especially one in need of a little extra care and attention.

Last month we introduced Chester, an adorable, shaggy little guy with some neurological issues. He was rescued from a public shelter where he was taken as a stray, so his history is unknown. His current veterinarian thought his balance issues might be due to a ruptured eardrum, caused by foxtails she found buried in his ear.



ADVENTURE IN THE KAYAK

With that problem resolved, Chester felt much better but he was still a bit wobbly and had occasional bouts of irregular breathing.

Patty and Carrie had spent about six weeks looking for a new family member when Chester's sweet face and story captured their attention. A meeting was soon arranged, and they agreed to

foster Chester while his medical issues were resolved. Once he'd settled in, the vet determined that his condition is permanent. Chester always looks on the bright side of life and does not let these minor issues bother him at all. Patty and Carrie agreed, and made the adoption official.

Since joining their family, Chester has earned the name "Chester the Adventurer." He loves playing in the park, running on the beach, and hiking the trails, and recently added kayaking to his resumé! He has made friends with Mars, the 9-year-old tabby cat in the family. In fact, Chester is much like a cat himself—small bursts of energy between long, restorative naps.

"He absolutely loves going on adventures with us," says Carrie. "To see him racing around the park or jumping over rocks on the trail, you would never know there is anything wrong with him. He is so quirky and funny and we love him."



CHESTER, CARRIE (LEFT) AND PATTY



ADVENTURE AT THE BEACH

ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

June-July-August: We rescued and cared for 44 cats and kittens, including veterinary exams, hospital care, vaccines, spay/neuter surgery, microchipping and more. We placed 23 cats and kittens in loving, responsible homes.

Major expenses for the quarter were:

Veterinary: \$3,998.58

Food/Supplies: \$2832.29

Newsletter: \$1,693.47

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

PO Box 14956, Portland, OR 97293

503-402-8692

www.pdx-petadoption.org

arcf@pdx-petadoption.org

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Sweet angel **O'Malley** came to us with his mom and two brothers in early June. During our usual medical screening, the whole family tested positive for Feline Leukemia virus, but was otherwise healthy—except for little O'Malley, who just never grew and thrived like the others, in spite of the dedicated care of his foster mom. One night he went to sleep and didn't wake up. Fostering kittens can bring sorrow along with great rewards, and we are grateful for our volunteers who stay the course even through those hard times.



O'MALLEY



SADIE

Beautiful **Sadie** started life as a feral kitten, adopted by a neighbor of our volunteer Chrisi Badrick. She came to visit Chrisi often, and enjoyed sitting on her porch to observe the street action and greet residents and guests at the door. When Sadie's person was diagnosed with brain cancer at age 30 and it came time to wrap up her affairs, she asked Chrisi to take Sadie. Sadie was Chrisi's loyal and loving companion until she also passed away from cancer at age 19.

Erin Bergstrom was heartbroken to lose her beloved cat **Ruby**, rescued by Erin as an ARCF volunteer in 2003, when Ruby was just nine days old. She was remembered with love and a memorial donation by Erin's dear friends Chris, David, and Fritz. In addition to Erin, Ruby is missed by her feline brother Jacques.



RUBY



MAC

Our friend Jim Sutherland shared the sad news that his devoted companion and traveling buddy, **Mac**, succumbed to the cancer he had been fighting for two years.

"Our eight-month, 6,700-mile RV trip together through the Southwest USA is worthy of its own story. I learned just what a remarkable cat he was, once we were on the road.

He adapted much better than I expected.

Having him with me made the experience so much better and more memorable.

His presence is now imprinted on every inch of the RV, which is now my home. There is nowhere I can look without seeing the beautiful face of my remarkable fat orange and white cat. I'll know when my mourning for Mac has ended. It will be when I am able to smile or laugh about memories I have of him. That will be when he begins his ascension into cat sainthood: Mac, the cat who was perfect in every way."

SUCCESS STORIES



"H" KITTENS ON RESCUE DAY



HANK AKA FORD PREFECT

Hildy, Hans, & Hank

We help our friends at Cat Utopia in Pendleton by taking cats and kittens whenever we have space available in our foster homes. In mid-March, we were able to take three litters, including the "H" kittens. They needed some TLC and were lucky to land with foster mom Bonnie, who knew just what to do. She also happened to have friends who were looking for kittens to adopt, so once all the necessary vet work was done, we arranged meetings and matches were made!

Hank is doing so well, growing like a weed. We've rechristened him Ford Prefect because we had a nerdy theme going on over here. He still gets called Hank sometimes even so. He's almost as big as our adult cats already and SO FLOOFY! He's starting to cuddle more and will sometimes come up and pet US when he wants attention.

—Shawn Wood & Tobin Cox



"J" KITTENS ON RESCUE DAY

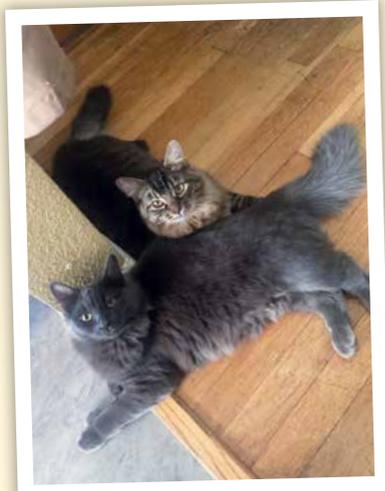
Oliver & Teddy

(formerly Junior & Jeffrey)

The "J" litter arrived on the same kitty transport as the "H" kittens, including momma Jolene, and her five kids. We heard from Elizabeth and her teenage son Robbie, who were both spending all their time at home, and were ready to add a pair of kittens to their family.

The kittens are doing great. They are growing quickly and are good siblings. Oliver is the most curious, vocal cat I've ever met. He's constantly problem solving and plays for hours by taking toys and putting them on shelves, in boxes, under chairs. He instigates most of the playing with his brother (and can be a bit rough at times). Teddy is a sweet, mellow lad who loves to cuddle. He's got the silliest little high pitched kitten meow. We couldn't be happier with them! Thank you again for the smooth process!

—Elizabeth Newell
(and Robbie!)



HANS (TOP) & HILDY

Hans & Hildy

Hans & Hildy are settled in their new home and growing big and strong. They love their new humans and are having fun playing with their cat friend Chou Chou.

—Annie Bosworth Foley



AZULA (LEFT) & ZUKO

Zuko & Azula

(formerly Jackson & Jade)

Lynell and her family of two human sons and a Russian tortoise named Marceline were also working and schooling from home, and felt the time was finally right to add two feline members to their family.

Jackson and Jade are now called Zuko and Azula. They are thriving here with our family! Zuko is a rowdy little ball of sunshine, and Azula is cool, a bit aloof, but incredibly sweet. We are so happy they found us!

—Lynell Spencer



OLIVER

TEDDY



WINNIE

Winnie

It's rewarding to rescue and nurture kittens, then send them off to their new families, but there's nothing that compares to the feeling of helping a homeless senior animal find a soft landing in a forever home.

In April we received a call from a local vet clinic, asking if we had any foster homes available for a 16-year-old cat. Winnie had been a patient of the clinic for many years, but sadly her person had passed away. The very next day a family member brought Winnie to the clinic and asked that she be euthanized. The vet was very reluctant to carry out the request, since despite her advanced years, Winnie is a very agreeable cat and basically in good health. She had recently been diagnosed with hyperthyroidism—not uncommon in elderly kitties, and easily treatable.

There are very few potential adopters for senior cats and our foster homes were full, as always. But in a fortuitous coincidence, our recently retired (and newly cat-free) friend Wendy contacted us because she was interested in fostering a senior cat. After hearing the story, Wendy offered to share her home with Winnie. Arrangements were made and Winnie was soon safely cocooned in Wendy's cozy apartment.

After getting medications prescribed and vet work completed, Winnie was looking and feeling great, and Wendy decided to make it a permanent arrangement.

Shortly after the pandemic quarantine measures started, I lost my sweet 17-year-old Nova cat. I knew that I would need a kitty with me to shelter in place. I had to act quickly—most adoption agencies were already closing.

We are quite well-matched—a couple of old dames taking retirement easy. She likes to watch me dangle her feather toy so she can take a swipe at it now and then. She also enjoys regular grooming sessions and watching YouTube videos of birds.

Thank you ARCF for rescuing Winnie to rescue me!

—Wendy Street

Woody (formerly Lion)

Woody (then known as Lion) came to ARCF in March, just as most vets were forced to cancel all elective surgeries in order to preserve supplies needed for hospitals treating human patients. He showed up at a colony of feral cats in the Willamette Valley. He was timid, the other cats bullied him, and he seemed to have a painful mouth. After several months of daily visits, Woody was gathered up by a local rescuer and taken to a spay/neuter clinic. The vet estimated his age at five years and noted severe dental disease requiring immediate treatment. Since his ability to eat was affected, this normally elective procedure had become urgent, and our vet was able to take care of him quickly.

There were a few complications on the road to recovery, but after several weeks Woody was healed and ready to meet his forever family. Woody turned



**TOP: WOODY AT HIS BEACH HOUSE
BOTTOM: WOODY DECIDES ON DINNER**



out to be a complete charmer, and we were very glad when our friend Nena connected us with her friends Thomas and Stephen, who were looking for a sweet, mellow cat to add to their family.

The guidelines in place to protect public health have made it challenging to arrange in-person adoption meetings, but with a few adjustments and flexibility on all sides, Woody was able to join his new family, which also includes Ruby the cat and Henry the dog.

We are LOVING our new little boy, now called Woody. He is very sweet and loves to be held. He has worked his way right into our hearts and home. He gets along with our kitty Ruby perfectly. As for the dog—well, it's still an adjustment.

Thank you for sharing your time and love to create new family bonds.

**—Stephen Oringdulph
& Thomas Morgan**



The Feline Good Life: Safe Indoors with a Catio!

“But all cats need to enjoy the great outdoors! Why do you want them to be stuck in indoor-only homes?”

This is something we often hear from potential adopters. It’s true that some cats live their entire lives outside, but here at ARCF we have seen enough suffering to establish an indoor-only policy for all our adoptions. Once we rescue a cat or kitten, we bring them inside and the door is closed. We’ve already poured our heart and soul (and resources) into rescuing them once—and once is enough.

Why It’s Important to Keep Cats Safe Indoors

While cats are naturally predatory, their hunting and defensive skills are not designed for today’s world:

- Cars and other vehicles pose a huge risk to suburban and urban cats—we’ve all seen their little bodies by the side of the road, waiting for an owner to find them.
- Cats can fall prey to other animals, including dogs, coyotes, hawks, owls, and humans with bad intentions.
- Cats are territorial by nature, and a roaming cat interested in your cat’s space may initiate a cat duel, resulting in your pet’s pain and

suffering, and quite possibly an expensive trip to the vet.

- Nobody worries much if cats catch and kill rodents, but if the rodents have ingested poison, it travels up the food chain and can kill the cat as well.

Although you adore your feline darlings, your neighbors may not welcome their garden beds being used as litter boxes. Even neutered males and females sometimes spray to mark territory, and nobody ever wins a spraying war. Again, your neighbors may not appreciate having siding, doors, plants, fences, and furniture left smelly and corroded by cat spray.

How to Enhance Your Cat’s Indoor Lifestyle with a Catio

One way to enrich your cat’s indoor life is by creating a “catio”—an enclosed outdoor area where your cat can get fresh air and play outside safely. In addition to providing safe access to the outdoors, many catio owners report that having the extra space and opportunity for stimulation reduces personality conflicts and behavior problems among feline family

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: CATIO REPLACES OLD DECK; INSIDE VIEW; LITTLE FREE LIBRARY HAS ITS OWN MATCHING CATIO

members. Sometimes what we all need is a nice snooze outside in the sun to just get along better.

A catio can be as simple as a mesh extension built off of a window; an enclosed deck, balcony, or porch; or as elaborate as a series of walkways and tunnels leading to free-standing enclosures separate from the house. A quick internet search for catio ideas will provide a dazzling array of designs.

Two of our current foster home volunteers have created catios at their homes that we think you will find interesting and inspiring.

John and Lauren began thinking about replacing their old deck with a concrete pad and catio after attending the 2016 Catio Tour, presented by Cats Safe at Home™ in Portland. Sadly, their two senior cats didn’t have much time to enjoy their new catio before they passed away, but John and Lauren chose to begin fostering cats for rescue organizations and now some ARCF cats are lucky enough to

THINGS WE LIKE



enjoy these deluxe digs! (Including Queenie—see page 1).

John had the skills and tools to build the catio to his own specifications, and he continues to make improvements, based on observations of the cats and how they use the space. His pro tip: make climbing shelves deep enough for cats to turn around safely, in case of traffic jams. John is considering going into the catio building business—contact him at john.miskey@gmail.com if you'd like to know more.

Lori and Paul Sharp have been fostering kittens for ARCF for about 10 years and they've been thinking about adding a catio to their home since the first Catio Tour in 2012. They had specific needs for their situation: two indoor cats needed access from the house, and two semi-feral cats needed

access from the garage. But the two pairs also needed to be kept separate because they don't all play well together. Lori also wanted a shingled roof to match the house, and plenty of ramps and shelves. And the wire mesh had to be small enough to keep foster kittens safely confined during their supervised play time. Each section also needed a walk-in door for people and access flaps for cats, to be closed as needed.

Lori and Paul hired a local contractor, Steve Archie, to build a fence and gate at their home. He hadn't built a catio before but he was willing to give it a try. Combining Lori's requirements and Steve's creative solutions, the finished product is rated 10 out of 10 by the cats, and deeply envied by the rest

of us catio-less cat owners. Contact Steve at archiesfarm@hotmail.com or 503-318-8086.

The Catio Tour has gone virtual this year and will be available to view online starting September 13. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit catsafeathome.org.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: OUTSIDE VIEW, 2 SECTIONS; JASMINE (LEFT) & SOPHIE IN THEIR OUTDOOR SUITE; CAT ACCESS FROM KITCHEN

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.

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