

Griselda & Gary

Griselda is a gorgeous miniature house panther with a full-size rumbly purr, while her brother Gary has the kind of blue eyes and color points that come with Siamese genes in the family tree. These siblings are very bonded and make a stunning pair.

But these two have much more to offer than just superficial beauty! They are loving, confident, and easygoing. They have excellent house manners and get along very well with the sometimes-cranky older cats and big mellow dog who share their foster home.



Born in May, Griselda and Gary have plenty of typical teenage energy. They love toys and games, chasing each other around the house, and watching cat TV from the cozy perch by the window when they get tired. They are very affectionate and will expect to sleep on the bed with their people.

All of our cats and kittens have been spayed/neutered, are up-to-date on vaccines, and have tested negative for

FelV/FIV. The adoption fee is \$150 for a pair of kittens. To learn more about any of our cats available for adoption, please call 503-402-8692, email arcf@pdx-petadoption.org, or visit www.pdx-petadoption.org.

Evy

This beautiful girl with the sweet smile is Evy. She spent some time roaming a rural area on her own, until the expert team from Waggin' Tails Search & Rescue safely captured her, with help from community members who kept track of her movements and reported sightings. She had no tag or microchip, so after the requisite hold time at the local public shelter, Evy was transferred to My Way Home Dog Rescue after no owner stepped up to claim her. After time to rest and recover, Evy is now ready to meet her forever family.

Evy is eager to please and arrived already knowing what to do when somebody says "sit" or "shake." She's pretty good about coming when called, but she is still learning her new name—the old one will always remain her own secret. She gets along well with any size dog and with humans over the size of about an 8-year-old. Evy is shy at first, but quickly warms up and then is a champion cuddler. She hasn't been tested with cats. Her perfect home will include a secure yard for her outside time.

We estimate Evy is one to two years old, and appears to be a Husky/German Shepherd mix. She weighs 45 pounds and is leash-, crate-, and house-trained.

Evy is spayed, vaccinated, heartworm-negative, microchipped, dewormed, and is current on flea control. The adoption fee is \$400. If you are interested in knowing more about Patty, please visit mywayhomedogrescue.org and complete the adoption application online.



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Football is flying, young scholars are back at their desks, and pumpkins, skeletons, and black cats are appearing everywhere. We keep waiting for “kitten season” to be over, but apparently there is no season anymore—one wave just rolls right into the next. And this summer has brought us a few more surprises than usual.

In July, a young man with too many cats and kittens asked if we could take some into our rescue. We had space for his two momcats with nursing kittens, and offered to help with spay/neuter services and ongoing food support for the other cats and older kittens. He gratefully agreed, but then didn't respond to several of our calls attempting to arrange delivery, so imagine the surprise of our volunteer when he showed up unannounced, with not two, but five momcats and 14 kittens! He lives in a county with zero services for cats so there were no other options, and he refused to take any of them back home. We scrambled our troops and managed to find a safe place for all 19 cats and kittens, including **Max** and **Miles**, and new mom **Jewel**, with her three babies, Jordan, Jasmine, and Jarvis.

Our mission also includes trap-neuter-return (TNR) of community cats who aren't socialized to be indoor pets, but have committed caregivers who provide food, water, and shelter for the cats on their property. Often the caregivers need help with trapping and transportation to a spay/neuter clinic, and we can provide that service.

On one such mission, our volunteer Lori assisted a caregiver who noticed new cats joining the colony of already-altered cats living on her property. The new cats were safely trapped the day prior to their surgery date, but one of the females gave birth to five kittens during the night. Fortunately, this doesn't happen often, but when it does, we keep the mom and babies in a foster home until the kittens are weaned. Then momcat is spayed and returned, and the kittens stay with us until they are adopted into their permanent homes.

But this time something wasn't right. Lori noticed that mom was not caring for the kittens and didn't attempt to clean or nurse them. She also had some odd-looking lumps on her upper body. We quickly transferred the newborns to an experienced neonate kitten foster volunteer, and arranged a vet visit for mom, who was clearly not feeling well. Exam revealed that

the lumps were deeply abscessed wounds, most likely from an animal bite. She went immediately into surgery, and emerged with drains and a cone in place, and antibiotics to be administered daily. We named her **Orla**, and although she

had probably never been handled before, Lori managed to give the meds, and get her back and forth to the vet for follow-up visits. After several weeks, Orla's wounds were healed, she was spayed, and very happy to be returned to her home.

Recently an ARCF volunteer encountered a young person with a box of kittens in front of a grocery store, offering them free to passersby. Our foster homes were full to bursting, adoption numbers are abysmally low, and expenses for food, litter, and vet care are crushingly high. But we know the chances of a “free” kitten receiving the care it requires, not to mention a potential 20-year commitment, from a random impulse shopper are very low. We offered to take the kittens, and finance the spay surgery of their momcat back at home. They gladly relinquished the kittens, which became the “H” litter, including **Henrietta** and **Hudson** but weren't eager to get mom fixed. We provided our contact information with lots of encouraging words, and left the offer open.

When adoption numbers are low, cats and kittens stay much longer in our care. That means higher costs for food, vet care, and other supplies—kitties are staying on our payroll way too long! So more than ever, we ask you to adopt, volunteer, and donate if you can. And please read the article on page 7—yes, we're reminding you again to make plans for your pets when you're not able to care for them anymore. They are counting on you.

Administrative note: We have a new mailing address, which you can find in the box on page 4 and at the bottom of the odd-numbered pages. We switched to a more accessible post office box.

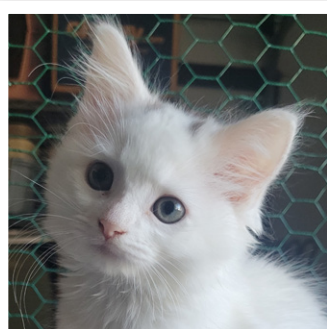
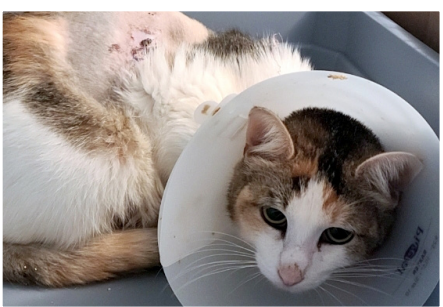
Everything else remains the same.

Thank you for reading our newsletter.

Be careful, be well, and please be kind to all creatures.

Happy Fall!

—Carma Crimins, President



FROM TOP: ORLA; HENRIETTA;
JEWEL; HUDSON

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 MEETS THE FAMILY

Koda was first seen literally standing in the middle of a rural county road in the Willamette Valley. Sadly, this area is a frequent drop-off spot for unwanted animals, including a box of baby parrots once—safely rescued and in good hands.

A passerby took a photo of Koda and shared it with a community social media group, hoping someone would recognize their dog and come get him. No one responded immediately, but one community member knew help was needed.



KODA MEETS MIKE

Mike had recently adopted a dog of his own from My Way Home Dog Rescue so he knew where to start the process of getting Koda to safety. As a rural route mail carrier, he was also very familiar with the area, and soon learned that Koda had made his way to Rochelle's home, where he immediately made himself comfortable. He played well with the kids (see photo!) and stayed for hours.

Rochelle offered to keep Koda for the required 30-day stray hold or until his original owner was found. He was posted as found at the public shelter in their county, and in surrounding county shelters as well, to make sure anyone searching for their lost dog could find him. In the meantime, Mike took Koda to a vet, where it was determined he had no microchip and was not neutered, so he contacted Cheryl at My Way Home for advice on the next steps in Koda's rescue.

Rochelle and her family, including their 10-year-old red heeler Rocky, were becoming quite attached to Koda. They knew that Huskies have some challenging qualities and aren't a good fit for every family. Rochelle determined to learn everything she could about the breed, and dog behavior in general. She consulted with Cheryl, who has many years of hands-on experience with Huskies. Cheryl's guidance was invaluable in caring for Koda and integrating him into the family. They decided to officially adopt Koda when the stray hold period ended up, and all necessary vet work was completed by My Way Home.

"Cheryl told us about the 'three days, three weeks, three months'



KODA AND ROCKY

rule, and that was so accurate. After three weeks we could see Koda learning to trust us and our routine. We are learning to be patient

with the process," says Rochelle.

The 3-3-3 rule is a guideline for adopting a rescue dog, suggesting a three-phase adjustment period: 3 days to decompress, 3 weeks to learn routines and start bonding, and 3 months to feel secure, show their true personality, and fully integrate into the home.

"We also learned so much about how to be better people for both our dogs," continues Rochelle. "Stability and routine are so important, as well as plenty of praise and affection. Koda has been a blessing to our family and we are grateful to have him."



KODA IN THE CONE

My Way Home Dog Rescue saves dogs from high-kill shelters, providing all necessary medical care and home-based fostering. These dogs often have long-neglected chronic conditions. Returning them to good health takes a commitment to providing as much care as each animal needs. If you'd like to foster, adopt, or donate towards the care of a rescued dog, please contact mywayhomedogrescue@gmail.com.

ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

June-July-August: We rescued and cared for 28 cats and kittens, including veterinary exams, hospital care, vaccines, spay/neuter surgery, microchipping and more. We placed 16 cats and kittens in loving, responsible homes.

Major expenses for the quarter were:

Veterinary: \$9,183.79

Food/Supplies: \$4,337.10

Newsletter: \$3,830.45

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.

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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.

Last spring we were contacted by a young woman feeling overwhelmed by financial and health challenges, including job loss and a new baby. One of her four cats had just given birth to eight babies and the other three were also unaltered, all living together in a very small space, so her situation was growing desperate. We offered to take the new mom and her eight babies and another "auntie cat" into our rescue. The new mom became Ariel and we named the auntie cat Amelia.

We also arranged spay/neuter procedures, vaccines, and microchips for Daisy and Pooch, the two cats who stayed in their home. Transportation was a challenge, so Daisy and Pooch even got to spend an extra night at an ARCF foster home prior to their surgeries.

Imagine our surprise the next morning as we gathered up the cats for their trip to the vet to find that Daisy had given birth overnight! With only two babies, it wasn't completely

shocking no one had noticed her pregnancy. Fortunately, our foster volunteers were up to the challenge of caring for one more little family.



ARIEL

Daisy's two kittens became Declan and Dillon, and because they had all lived together previously, that little family was fostered together with momma Ariel and her eight kittens: Autumn, Audrey, Acorn, Apple, Anthony, Azalea, Archie, and Almond. They grew into a tribe of ten healthy, happy kitten cousins, and soon all were adopted. Daisy was returned to her home once her kittens were weaned. Ariel and Amelia are still available for adoption. Here are updates from a few of the kittens' new families:



**DILLON (LEFT)
& APPLE**

Apple & Dillon

The cats are doing great! They're growing fast, still inseparable, and starting to calm down a bit. They got their vaccines soon after I adopted them and are healthy. I noticed that their teeth are changing now to permanent ones. Dillon is still the more reserved one, and Apple is super curious. They're both affectionate, playful, and fun to have around. They bring me a lot of joy.

—Dmitrii Khokhriakov



**DILLON (LEFT)
& APPLE**

SUCCESS STORIES

Adolin & Ahsoka

(formerly Acorn & Azalea)



ADOLIN & AHSOKA & FRIEND

The kittens are doing great! We're still working through introducing them to one of our older cats, who is not a fan of sharing her humans or her home, but the kittens are the best!



ADOLIN (LEFT) & AHSOKA

Adolin is the biggest lovebug and is almost always game to cuddle with anyone available. He is a huge fan of playing fetch with plastic mice as well. Ahsoka is small but mighty. A mischievous soul, she is always on the hunt for some trouble to get into, whether it's something she shouldn't be chewing or a small space she shouldn't be exploring. We love them so much!!

—Carly Hamilton

Archie & Ricky

(formerly Almond)

We are so happy to say that Archie and Ricky settled into our home quickly. They will forever be prized members of our family. Their daily routine involves breakfast followed by zoomies, nap time, lounging on their cat tree in the sun, interrupting human remote work, more zoomies, dinner, then bedtime (in our bed of course).



ARCHIE & FRIEND

The girls do a great job of cleaning the litter box and serving meals.

Thank you so much for allowing us the opportunity to adopt Archie and Ricky! It is clear they were well cared for in their foster home.

—Kindra Kopra



RICKY & FRIEND

We have trained them to sit, beg, spin, and roll over with the help of Churu treats. Archie and Ricky clearly have quite the bond as they are usually together in whatever they're doing. Our daughters, both 10 years old, love Archie and Ricky.



ARCHIE (LEFT) & RICKY

“Once in a while, someone amazing comes along and here I am.”

—Tigger (A.A. Milne)

Cassie

(formerly Helen)

In May of 2018, our friends at Cat Utopia in Pendleton asked if we had room for a sweet momma cat and four babies who were left homeless in a neighboring small town. Kitten season was already in full swing, but we managed to find a little more room at the inn.

We called this momcat Helen and her kittens were Haley, Hooper, Herbie, and Hugo. Helen was famished and exhausted but she was so good-natured and agreeable that we were determined to find her a very special home once her kids were raised and no longer in need of her maternal care.

We don't usually adopt our kitties out to homes beyond our immediate area because we like to be available to assist if problems arise. But in this case, we knew of a very good home with a cat-sized empty space not far from where Helen and her family came from in Eastern Oregon. This home is well-known to our ARCF World HQ staff, so we made the decision to approve this out-of-area adoption. Helen made her way to her new home where she filled the cat-sized hole and became "Cassie"—a new name for a new life!

They had seven wonderful years together, until her adoring person passed away earlier this summer. Although family members would have gladly taken her in,



CASSIE AS A NEW MOM IN 2018

Cassie made it very clear she would never tolerate a dog in her home, even for a visit, and to this critter-loving family, a home without a dog (or two) is just not a home. All ARCF kitties are welcomed back if ever they need us, but our foster homes were all overflowing with kittens and we weren't sure how Cassie would feel about sharing space after being the center of attention for seven whole years. We mentioned our predicament to a friend . . . who had a friend . . . who had another friend . . . who said she might be willing to foster a nice older cat for a while. Connections were made, the timing fell into place, and Cassie was soon running the show at her new home with Cynthia.

After losing my very beloved kitty in a very traumatic way, I didn't want ever to go through such a thing again and chose to stay cat-less for the next 13 years.



CASSIE AS A MEAT LOAF IN 2025

Then one day I happened to hear through a friend of a friend that a kitty needed a temporary home until a permanent cat parent could be found. With no decision process whatsoever I volunteered, and Cassie landed in my lap. Literally. It took about 15 minutes until I decided for sure she was MY cat, come what may. A huge bonus: she came fully equipped with food and all cat needs, as well as vet care to make sure she was healthy before I formally adopted her. It feels like I have a new friend in Carma for cat advice and support if I need it. I'd never heard of such a careful, generous, and supportive way to gain a pet.

What an idiot I was the last 13 years! Cassie is the best thing that has happened to this one-person home since my last kitty companion died. She is so affectionate and companionable. When it is meal time, she sits by her dish and silently locks eyes with me until I move to feed her. If I've been gone, she greets me at the door. We have so many cuddle sessions that my endless to-do list gets neglected. It's my mental health time. What the heck! I've been retired for 19 years and figure it's time again for cat petting.

—Cynthia Bauer



CASSIE (LEFT) WITH HER NEW MOM

Making Plans for your Pets After You're Gone

It's hard enough to face losing our pets during our lifetime, but at least we as humans understand the circle of life and the process of grief and recovery. Imagine your pet's confusion and anxiety if you were to disappear suddenly.

Even for young and healthy folks, there is no guarantee of tomorrow. Sadly, an estimated 500,000 pets are euthanized each year simply because their owners pass away or are otherwise incapable of caring for them and made no arrangements for their care.

While painful to think about, making time now to arrange for someone to care for your pets in case you can't is worth it. Here are steps you can take now to ensure your beloved family members will never be left to the mercy of someone who does not know and love them as you do. If you have a friend or loved one who might need help with this process, it would be a great kindness to offer support to someone who may not have access to this information.

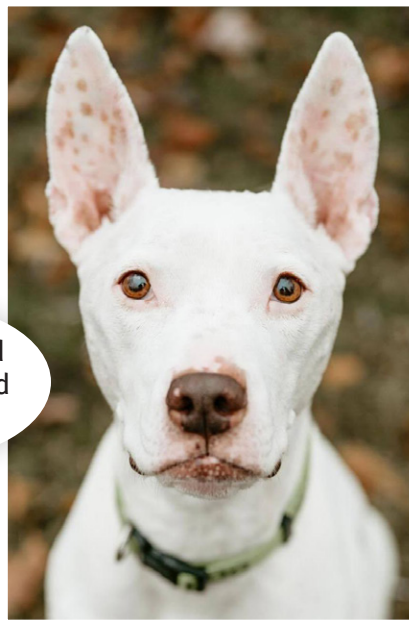
FIND YOUR PEOPLE

If you don't identify a caregiver for pets who outlive you, a stranger may determine if and how your pets will continue to receive care.

If you adopted your pets from a shelter or rescue, don't assume that organization will automatically take them back—get that commitment in writing and make sure you clarify whether a donation is expected or required if your pet is returned. ARCF cats are always welcomed back if they need us, so keep your copy of our adoption agreement with other important papers.



I will never allow another cat in my house



I am deaf and only understand hand signs



I plan to live another 50 years

Let your friends and family members know you adopted from ARCF, and how to contact us if necessary.

If this option is not available, identify someone you know who is willing and able to care for your pets in the days, weeks, and months after an emergency, as well as those who would be willing to adopt your pets if long-term care is required. It's important to have someone who can step in immediately; though this person doesn't necessarily have to be the one to take permanent ownership of your pets, they should be able to step in immediately and make decisions for short-and long-term care.

Check with friends, relatives, and neighbors who could be potential caregivers. Local pet-sitters or members of animal rescue groups may also be able to help. Have a real discussion with your designated caregiver about what you hope for your pets' lives after you're gone. Pet care takes time, space, and money. Does your dog need a yard? Does your cat need a special diet? Is your bird likely to live for 50 more years? They are counting on you to make sure their needs will always be met.

Then go through the same process to find a second person to back up your designated representative. Yes, it's a lot of trouble, but you are the only one who can do this for your pets.

Do not assume that your friends or family will step in when the time comes! We have seen the sad results of this assumption far too many times and taken in hundreds of animals who were left in dire straits when their owners could no longer care for them.

Continued on page 8

THINGS WE LIKE

PUT IT IN WRITING

If no one knows there's a plan in place, your pets may be relinquished to a shelter.



I can only eat
one kind of food
& I hate vets

Once you have your backup caregivers, prepare written instructions outlining exactly what you expect. Include contact information for everyone. Make copies and give

them to your immediate family members, close friends and neighbors, and your veterinarian.

Document instructions for the care of your pets. What kind of special care do your pets require? Do you want your pets to stay together? To make sure your wishes are followed, write everything down and let others know where the instructions are located.

If your pet is microchipped (which we highly recommend!), contact your chip company to confirm all contact information is updated and provide your backup person as an alternate contact with a current phone number. Shelter data shows that 60% of microchips are never registered to owners, or have outdated contact information. Don't let this be you! If your pets aren't microchipped yet, get that done immediately.

Take photos of your pets and write a bio for each one. Describe personality, habits, daily diet, medical conditions, bonds to other pets, and anything else a future caregiver

should know. Include the name and location of your veterinarian. If you have a return agreement with the breeder or shelter where you adopted your pet, include that as well.

MAKE IT LEGAL AND LEAVE SOME MONEY

You pay for food, supplies, and medical care for your pets. Even if anything happens to you, these expenses will still need to be covered.

Take into consideration the amount you spend each year on your pets as well as their life expectancy. You can't leave money or other kinds of property to your pet—the law says animals are property, and one piece of property can't own another piece of property. Use your estate plan to make sure that your pet goes to a caring person or organization, and the new caregiver has the resources to provide good care. You may want to leave cash, life insurance, or other assets designated for the care of your pets. We recommend you ask an attorney or other qualified professional about the best way to ensure your pet's future, based on your personal circumstances and financial situation.

For more information and resources to help you plan for your pet's lifetime care, please contact 2nd Chance for Pets, an organization whose mission is to reduce the number of pets that are euthanized in the United States due to the death or incapacitation of their human companions. They have an online library of extremely helpful tools, documents, and general information. 2ndchance4pets.org, or email info@2ndchanceforpets.org.

We can never be
separated



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.)

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

Name _____

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