

## Kittens!

You want kittens? We got ‘em! We chose Acorn, Anthony, and Archie as spokeskittens for this newsletter, but we have all sizes, shapes, colors, and ages available for adoption.

Our goal is to make the best match for every cat and every adopter or family, and sometimes that means babies aren’t necessarily the best fit, even when adopters have kittens in mind. Those who haven’t recently lived with kittens may not remember the rocket-powered energy, constant litter box mess, unceasing appetite, sharp teeth, needlelike claws needing frequent trims, and—most important—potential 20-year commitment.

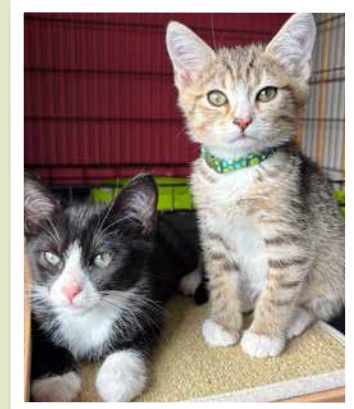


ACORN

Kittens can be irresistibly adorable, but they can also climb, crawl, and claw their way onto everything in the house, and they seem always to be underfoot just when it’s least convenient. Don’t be offended if we remind you about these “standard features” included with each kitten, as it’s easy to get carried away by cuteness and we want to help everyone find their happily ever after.

We adopt our kittens in pairs, unless there’s already another kitten or young cat in the family who can be a playmate. Having a pal helps kittens develop good social skills and burn up all that excess mental and physical energy. A kitten left alone all day is likely to spend the day resting and keep everyone awake all night with all that extra energy. A bonded pair that keeps each other busy and engaged makes life easier for everyone.

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](mailto:arcf@pdx-petadoption.org), or visit [www.pdx-petadoption.org](http://www.pdx-petadoption.org).



ANTHONY (LEFT) & ARCHIE

## Patricia

This adorable face belongs to Patricia, a sweet, shy girl who is looking for a person (or two) who share her calm and quiet approach to life. Although her government name is Patricia, her good friends call her Patty, and her *very* good friends may call her Peppermint Patty.



Patty has excellent house manners, walks politely on leash, and is crate-trained. She enjoys sunbathing on the deck and her ideal home has a fenced backyard where she can safely spend warm days. She enjoys playing with dogs her own size, but bigger dogs intimidate her. She could also be happy as the only dog in her family. Patty is good with kids eight years and older but has not been cat-tested.

With her low energy level and easygoing personality, Patty is the perfect companion for a family who enjoys hanging out together at home. She is a mix of breeds, about two years old, and weighs 24 pounds.

Patty 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](http://mywayhomedogrescue.org) and complete the adoption application online.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Happy Birthday to us! Although we don't look a day over 35, ARCF is 50 years old this year. There are conflicting stories about when the group was actually founded, but the official letter we received from the IRS confirming our 501(c)(3) status is dated June 17, 1975. We have detailed, handwritten financial records from that first year—most of the \$3915.34 in donations received came from the founders, but the group also made \$643.55 from three garage sales. Then as now the primary expenses were for vet care, food, and supplies. We're not planning a big party, but if you'd like to help us carry on for another 50 years with a donation of \$50 (or any amount), we'd be very grateful!

Recently we were asked to help a young man who mistakenly believed that allowing his cat to have kittens would result in a cash windfall from selling them. He quickly learned how many unwanted "free" kittens are already in the world, and realized that feeding six hungry kittens was going to break his already tight budget. They became our "E" kittens including **Ernie** and **Elliott**. We took care of getting his momma cat spayed so that kitten factory is now closed.

But soon more kittens appeared in the same place, these apparently left by a visiting friend. Once again, we gathered up the kittens (this time only two), gave them the incoming kitten treatment of vaccines, flea control, dewormer, and nail trims, and settled them into a foster home. **Hazel** and **Hugo** will be available for adoption around the first of July.

The "G" babies came to us from a fellow rescuer who, as always, worked diligently to locate their mom before removing the kittens from a precarious situation. Because they were so malnourished and had wandered away from the nest in search of food, it's likely their mom was no longer around to care for them. **George**, Gary, Greta, and Griselda are safe in a foster home and if their mom returns, we will make sure she is also captured and spayed.

**Marshmallow** and her brother **Macaroni** were adopted as kittens in 2022. Recently Marshmallow was returned to us for unspecified behavior issues, which had apparently been going on for the three years since adoption.

We never argue or refuse when adopters ask to return cats, but problems can often be solved with prompt intervention and we are always available to help. Marshmallow has been back with us for almost 3 months and we haven't seen any issues. She's smart, athletic, and curious—Marshmallow would love to find a home with a catio and a lot of room to run.

If you've been thinking about adding a catio to your home, and you're in the Portland area, we recommend you take the Catio Tour, presented by Cats Safe at Home™. Catio's are enclosed outdoor spaces designed to give your cats outside time, while keeping them and the local bird population safe. There are usually 10-15 catios on the tour, which you can visit and learn how to create your own cool catio. The tour will be September 6, 2025. All details, including videos and lists of excellent resources can be found at [catssafeathome.org](https://catssafeathome.org).

The fireworks around Independence Day celebrations are coming soon and it's the worst day of the year for our animal friends. Terrified wildlife and pets can panic, bolt from their homes, and just keep running. The days following July 4 are the most difficult for already overloaded shelters and rescues, because of the sheer volume of animals running loose, trying to escape the explosions. If your pets suffer anxiety from the fireworks noise, please see your vet immediately about prescribing medications that may help keep them calm. Don't wait until July 3! We ask for kindness and consideration of all humans and animals who suffer through this holiday. Please make it a peaceful one, if you can.

And one more reminder: please leave out water during the summer months for all the passing critters who need it—shallow bowls for bees, baths for birds and squirrels, and big, deep bowls for all the others. Water is life-saving, and they will be grateful.

As always, thank you for reading our newsletter, and we ask you to adopt, volunteer, and donate if you can.

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

Happy Summer!

—Carma Crimins, President



FROM TOP: GEORGE; MARSHMALLOW;  
ERNIE & ELLIOT; HAZEL & HUGO

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](http://mywayhomedogrescue.org)

503-974-4944

## MY WAY HOME DOG RESCUE

### Dexter

It was a surprise for animal rescue volunteers to find a French Bulldog running with a group of stray and abandoned dogs in a semi-rural area of California. He was very friendly but unneutered and had some other issues needing immediate medical attention. Without identification and unclaimed by a previous owner, he got a new lease on life and came to My Way Home Dog Rescue, where he was given medical treatment and a new name—Dexter.



**DRIVER'S LICENSE PHOTO**

Frenchies are one of the most popular dog breeds and very much in demand. They are cute, playful, and small enough to live happily in city apartments. They are also prone to conditions that require extra attention to grooming and diet, as well as potentially expensive vet care over their lifetime. When it came time to find Dexter's forever family, Cheryl at My Way Home knew his best chance at a good life would be with an experienced Frenchie family.



**FOSTER BROTHER MILLIE (LEFT) & DEXTER**

Jeremy and Dedee had always been a three-dog family, including many rescued bully breeds. Canine family members included one elderly pit bull (Skylar) and one Frenchie (Auggie) about the same age as Dexter, since recently losing another elderly dog from their pack. Though not "officially" looking for their next pup, Dedee kept a casual eye on Petfinder.com and when Dexter appeared, they applied immediately.

As it happens, Jeremy and Dedee's family makeup was nearly identical to Dexter's foster family, where Dexter fit in

very well. All signs pointed to a good match, so a meet-up was arranged. It went very well, and Dexter soon joined his new family.



**NEW FAMILY!**

"We have adopted many rescued dogs," says Jeremy, "and this adjustment was the easiest ever. He fit in immediately and we all love him already."

There have been a few hiccups: Dexter had a brief relapse of his medical condition but recovered quickly. Once in a while he has a potty-related incident in the house, but Jeremy and Dedee knew to expect these issues and how to work through them. Dexter also showed his athletic ability by jumping from a dead stop to balance on top of a fence that was one inch wide and four feet tall. The fence situation has since been remedied and he's happily running around his half-acre yard with no more escapes.

"Dexter's foster family was amazing. We had excellent communication through the whole process and Bonnie gave us really helpful tips on what to look for and how to manage potential problems," says Jeremy. "Dexter is the perfect match for us. He's just adorable, and he's elevated our other dogs with his goofy energy."

Jeremy also recognized the dedication and conscientious attention to detail and transparency from My Way Home during the adoption process. "I'm so impressed with this organization. We couldn't be happier, and we will continue to support them in every way we can."



**SKYLAR (LEFT), AUGGIE, & DEXTER**

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](mailto:mywayhomedogrescue@gmail.com).

## ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

March-April-May: We rescued and cared for 34 cats and kittens, including veterinary exams, hospital care, vaccines, spay/neuter surgery, microchipping and more. We placed 8 cats and kittens in loving, responsible homes.

Major expenses for the quarter were:

**Veterinary:** \$2,959.97

**Food/Supplies:** \$3,649.02

**Newsletter:** \$2,812.38

## 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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Carma Crimins

### GRAPHICS/LAYOUT

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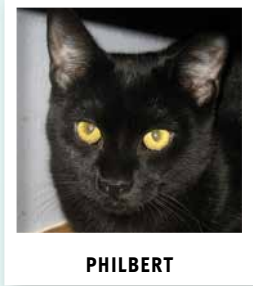
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[arcf@pdx-petadoption.org](mailto:arcf@pdx-petadoption.org)

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.

Wilma and Lou Perez-Leon recently lost their sleek house panther **Philbert**. He came to ARCF with his siblings in 2021. The others were quickly adopted but Philbert chose to maintain strict boundaries between humans and himself. He went to live with Wilma and Lou, who understand cats like Philbert and, although he loved other cats and kittens, it was only in the last few years of his life when he let down his guard and began to take comfort in a warm lap. In addition to Wilma and Lou, Philbert's calm and gentle presence is missed by feline family members Dana, Scudder, and especially his best pal, Kunupin.



**PHILBERT**

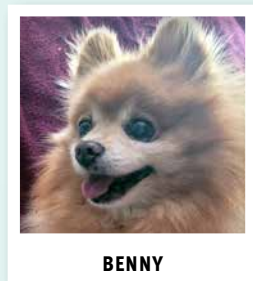


**BIB**

About 17 years ago, Roger Faires came to us for help capturing two cats who had come to live in his yard. He borrowed traps, listened to our instructions, and soon **Bib** and Switch were trapped, spayed, and returned to their home base. They settled in and became Roger's constant companions. Switch passed away earlier, and recently Bib came to the end of her long life.

"Bib was without a doubt the closest I have ever felt to a furry friend. She was the last of my two Woodstock feral kids. Bib was one of a kind—she was not quite a cat and she wasn't a dog. A unique hybrid who broke all the rules. I will miss her beyond measure."

When **Benny** the Pomeranian came to My Way Home Dog Rescue in 2022, he was already at least 10 years old. Benny was the sweetest little ball of fluff, but had many health challenges as a result of his life on the streets in a harsh place. After a few minutes of fostering him, Gerry Taylor decided that Benny fit perfectly into her family and that is where he spent the best golden years a dog could hope for.



**BENNY**

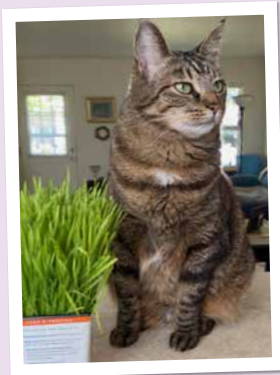


**CINDY**

In 2021, **Cindy** lost her home when her senior lady passed away and nobody in the family cared to take her in. She was left alone in the house for several months with only a daily visit from a family member, when the house was sold and Cindy had to go. At 14 years old and after so much time on her own, she had become understandably wary of humans. Marcia Petty opened her home to Cindy, learned to understand and respect her quirks, and cared for her through the usual maladies of senior kitties.

**Wanda & Willow**

Wanda and Willow came to us as kittens with the rest of their family in 2018 from a dire Willamette Valley situation. They were adopted by Kent Hohlfield and for several years, everything was swell. Then one day, for reasons unknowable by any human, Willow turned on her sister, apparently with intent to kill. Nothing changed in their environment, except some raccoons had been visiting the deck outside their window. That seemed to bother Willow so much that she redirected her anger towards Wanda, an innocent bystander.



**WILLOW**

Kent contacted us for advice, and we worked through numerous recommended solutions from professionals, amateurs, and, of course, the internet. Nothing resolved Willow's hard feelings—in fact, they only got more intense. Eventually we all agreed that the best thing for everyone's



**WANDA**

mental and physical health was to remove Willow from Kent's home and find her a home with no other cats.

Meanwhile, Barbara was retired and contacted us about fostering a single adult cat. We were hopeful that Willow would be content with that arrangement. Barbara was patient and Willow soon settled in as the queen of her new domain. It was a very good match and Barbara decided to make it permanent—a very quick “foster failure.”



**JUST BABIES**

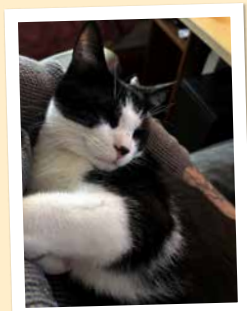
Wanda was relieved to not be under attack every day and soon came out of her shell, making friends with the small dog sharing their home. Unfortunately, after a powerful winter storm hit Portland in January 2024, a huge fir tree came down and took out half of their house. Wanda bolted from the area under the tree and disappeared.

Kent searched everywhere but no Wanda. He came back to the destroyed house every day to leave food and water, and on the third day noticed a lump under the comforter. Wanda was safe and uninjured, and joined Kent in their temporary housing. She hid for a few days, but soon adjusted to their new quarters.

Since then, Wanda has remained terrified of other cats, including during a brief visit with one tiny kitten, but immediately cuddled up with a frightened German Shepherd that Kent found cowering alone at a highway overlook on the Oregon coast. The traumatized dog will be cared for until his family is found, but in the meantime, Wanda is his emotional support cat.

**Yogi & Yuzu**

Brothers Yogi and Yuzu, sister Yoko, and mom Yasmine came to us from a kind person who found them abandoned at his apartment building during a very cold spell in January. The brothers were very bonded; Yuzu was particularly dependent on Yogi and never wanted to be out of his sight.



**YOGI**



**YUZU**

family members. We thought the “Y” boys would be a good fit, and recently got this update:

Yogi and Yuzu are doing really great! They are filling out nicely (Yogi is getting especially fluffy and Yuzu isn't so slight



**JUST BABIES**

anymore!) Yuzu has really warmed up and is no longer glued to Yogi, and even when new people stop by, they are both excited to come check them out! I couldn't have asked for better boys honestly.

**—Jeremy Jones**

**Tippy & Tinker**

*This story started last summer with a request for help from a young woman whose 7-week-old kitten had a broken leg. She knew he needed immediate help but had no resources for an exam, let alone surgery and follow-up care. We rushed to get the kitten, named him Tippy, and took him to an emergency vet for evaluation. Not only did he have a badly broken leg, he was also severely anemic from flea infestation, and would need a blood transfusion before any surgery could be done.*



**TINY TIPPY, POST-OP**

*Because Tippy was so small (barely one pound) and the break was so bad, an orthopedic specialist was required to surgically repair his leg, followed by a long recovery, and of course an extra-large vet bill. We consulted several vets and decided that amputation was a better option in this case; the bones were already starting to heal badly and at his age, Tippy would recover quickly and adapt easily to being a tri-pod. Once he was stabilized, the surgery was done, and two weeks later, Tippy's wound was healed, his weight doubled, and he had no problem keeping up with the antics of his siblings, Tinker, Tully, and Tallulah.*

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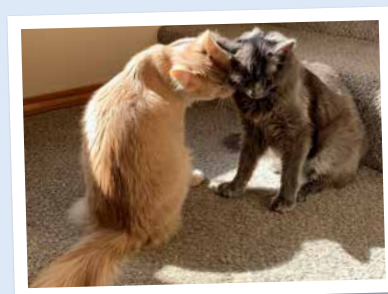
*Heather's family had recently lost their beloved cat Missy and wanted to fill the empty space in their home and hearts with a pair of kittens. We introduced them to Tippy and his brother Tinker, and soon they were off to their new home.*



**TINY TINKER**

*Tippy had a really rough start in life, and he continues to have some health challenges but his family love him and are committed to giving Tippy and Tinker the best life possible.*

*The kids really love having the kitties as part of the family. Most nights Tippy sleeps in my daughter's room and Tinker sleeps in my son's room. Since we don't know the exact date they were born in July, we are choosing July 10th as their birthday. That was the birthday of our cat Missy who died back in November, so we feel like it will be a special way to honor her memory.*



**HANDSOME, GROWN UP BOYS**

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**—Heather Coon**

**Harlie**

*Harlie came to us as the only kitten with her mom Hannah in 2022. She was already a bit spoiled (check the attitude in that baby photo!) and didn't want to play nicely (or at all) with the other kittens in her foster home. When Hannah was adopted, Harlie became a teenage diva and refused to make friends with anyone except her foster mom, who was very busy tending to the other cats and kittens in her care.*



**HARLIE AND BROTHER MOMO**

*We decided Harlie needed a change of scene to a foster home with different humans and no other cats. Although she didn't immediately become a social butterfly, Harlie clearly showed she was happier being the only feline in her world, and she was very affectionate with her new foster family. Harlie had made her wishes clear, and it was our job to fill them.*

*Amanda's family includes two small dogs and we suspected that, like many cats who don't care for other cats, Harlie might be agreeable to living with dog siblings.*

Continued on page 7

## SUCCESS STORIES

*Amanda understood that Harlie would take time and patience to get comfortable in her new home, so we set up a meeting. Here is a recent update:*

This sweet girl took her time to adjust, but she was worth the wait! As she's gotten used to her new home, her sweet and playful side have come out so much more. The best thing has been when she gets zoomies at night! She now coexists alongside her dog brothers who



GRADUATION PHOTO

approach her with curiosity but respect her space.

She is beautiful and we are excited to watch her bloom even more in the weeks and months to come.

—Amanda George



TINY HARLIE WITH MOM

“

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

—Tigger  
(A.A. Milne)

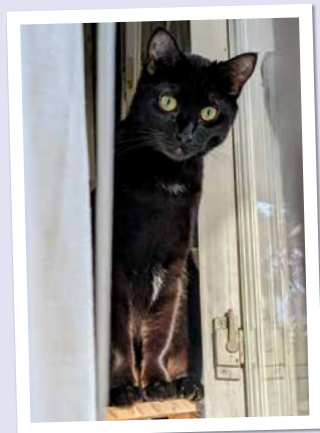
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## Agatha & Higgins

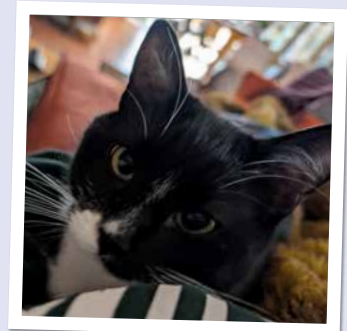
(formerly Kinsey & Kipper)

*About a year ago, we were asked to help a momcat and her five kittens living in a parking lot behind a flower shop on a very busy street. We captured the little family and found that mom was not at all interested in being near humans, so once the kittens were weaned, she was spayed and returned to the flower shop. The employees built her a little house in a protected area and were happy to provide food and water for as long as she lives there.*

*Kinsey and Kipper inherited mom's instincts to be wary of humans, and our volunteers worked hard to convince them otherwise. Although they were shy, the kittens were sweet and affectionate with the people they learned to trust. Shy kitties are not the first to get chosen, but we knew eventually their perfect forever families would come along.*



AGATHA



HIGGINS

*Lisa and Anthony were looking for a bonded pair of cats and weren't scared of meeting shy kitties—they were willing to give new family members time to adjust and trust so their personalities could blossom.*

Agatha and Higgins (formerly Kinsey and Kipper) are obsessed with the feather toy and come running the second they hear it jingling. Their favorite spot is a hammock in the front window with a view of pine trees full of crows. They fight over who gets to nap in the hammock, so we've ordered a second one. Agatha is a talented and dedicated fly hunter, chasing them all over and torturing them, and Higgins is a troublemaker who is always knocking something over or exploring somewhere he shouldn't, and then looking sheepish when we catch him. They are fitting in here just fine.

—Lisa Marshall

## SUCCESS STORIES

### Eddie & Gilbert

In January 2024, we rescued Eddie and his family, all members of a colony of community cats. They were each quickly adopted, but shortly after joining his new family, Eddie became very ill. The suspected cause was Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP), which until recently has been a terminal diagnosis. While new experimental treatment has recently become available, it is extensive and expensive and his family chose to return Eddie to ARCF. Joyfully, after nine months of treatment and monitoring, Eddie was declared cured. Thanks to excellent care from Eddie's foster volunteers, he made an amazing recovery and was once again a strapping specimen of gorgeous tuxedo cat.

Gilbert shared Eddie's foster home through that long recovery time, during which they became best buddies and rowdy playmates, so we decided to look for a permanent home where they could stay together.

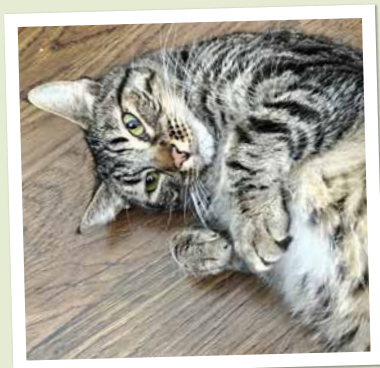
Nancy had a big energetic young cat named Niko and was looking for companions who could hold their own with him. She enjoyed meeting Eddie and Gilbert and we hoped Niko would feel the same.

Unfortunately, he didn't. Even with proper, gradual introductions Niko couldn't accept the new guys. Sometimes the perfect scenario we imagine just doesn't match what the cats have in mind—and we must respect their choices. But that wasn't the end of the story!

Eddie and Gilbert are doing fantastically, although we had a slight change of plans. My cat Niko really struggled with having them around, so to give them all a break they spent some time at my parents' house. My parents fell in love with the boys and they are staying with them now. They have settled in so fast and have been so good for my parents' health.



EDDIE WITH NEW FRIEND



GILBERT INVITES BELLY RUBS

Eddie fell in love with Dad immediately and took over his bed the very first day. My dad has dementia but he remembers and adores the cats. Gilbert was a little shy at first but he adores my mom and snuggles with her for belly rubs. Apparently, they both love rearranging their rugs by zooming around the house. Mom says she finds them in different positions every morning.

Everyone seems much happier in their respective places. I think Niko didn't get to socialize as a kitten so he's a bit more territorial and unclear on what is play and what is attacking. He focused on Eddie as a threat and harassed him constantly. I did all the steps for gradual introductions, but once together, I had to referee constantly. Now I visit with them several days a week, there is no conflict and we are all getting along just fine.

—Nancy Janzig

## 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](http://www.pdx-petadoption.org).**

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