



MEOW CAT RESCUE & ADOPTION

CELEBRATING 16 YEARS OF RESCUE
AND OVER 18,000 PRECIOUS LIVES SAVED

Holidays 2013

ALL NINE LIVES ARE PRECIOUS

In this issue we would like you to meet some of our very special cats and kittens. Each of them has had challenges to endure and overcome. All of them are worthy of our commitment and our care. Their stories serve to remind us all that we are indeed still committed to and resolved in our motto that inspired us so many years ago. We live it every day and we want to share a little bit of it with you, our MEOW friends and family. Thank you for supporting our work and the belief that anchors and guides us today and every day that all nine lives are precious.

LUCCA HAS IT ALL

The woman on the phone sounded stressed. "We have some barn kittens that need homes. I can keep the mama cat because she's not very friendly, but I haven't been able to find homes for the last three kittens." Then she said, almost apologetically, "One of them is missing part of one leg."

This type of challenge is usually no challenge at all for active little kittens. Lucca was no exception. He spent the days in his foster home rolling around with his two sisters and he could run as fast on three legs as they did on four. But then one day he just wasn't himself. He growled and bit at his short left hind leg. He didn't want to be held. He was in pain.



Lucca's initial radiographs had revealed a twisted, malformed bone from hip to tip on that short leg. There was no foot pad, making it vulnerable to injury from something as simple as putting weight on it. It was quickly clear that he had developed an infection in the soft tissue and possibly the bone.

As soon as the infection was under control, Lucca had surgery to remove the leg that he didn't need. These days he's racing around again, a bit lighter and maybe even a bit faster. It wouldn't make sense to use the word "disability" around Lucca, or the phrase "special needs". Every day, in his own way, he tells us he isn't missing a thing!

AN ACT OF MERCY ~ HEAVEN SMILES ON HAZEL



On a foggy Saturday morning, a Woodinville couple could not have imagined being called upon to intervene in a struggle between life and death.

About an hour into a road trip, Jamie saw what he thought was road kill as he zipped by at 75mph. Did it move? He knew he wouldn't sleep that night if he didn't make sure. He pulled over about a half mile past and walked back.

He discovered a little kitten with a bloody face and foot, but alive. Jamie rushed her back to the car. Arriving at MEOW, she was sent immediately to Animal Emergency Services – East.

Her brain was swollen from severe head trauma. The impact had pushed air from her lungs into her chest cavity. She had lacerations on her face and foot. Her eyes were swollen shut. Her prognosis was guarded, at best. The emergency veterinarian reviewed the treatment options with us – including the possibility of euthanasia due to her multiple serious injuries. For us, there was no choice. We had to try to save this precious life. For the next day or two we would watch and wait. And hope.

On the first day of her hospitalization, the little tabby kitten named Hazel by rescuers Jamie and Amy, was in an oxygen chamber. She received IV fluids with pain medication and antibiotics. She moved almost not at all. But on the second day, there was a glimmer of life and hope. She stood up. She ate. On the third day she was strong enough to be transferred to a well-qualified foster home where she could continue to heal, to rest, to grow strong again.

Hazel owes her life to the mercy of kind humans: to Jamie and Amy, to the emergency vets at AES-E, and to those who support MEOW's Mercy Fund, which provides for the extraordinary expenses to give lifesaving care to our most fragile.

PLUSHA – NEVER AGAIN IN NEED

At seven years old, Plusha was living with his dad in a car. The conditions were less than ideal. When the man realized that he could no longer afford to even feed his cat, he brought Plusha to shelter after shelter, in hopes of finding a safe place for him. All were full and Plusha was turned away. MEOW was full too, but things magically came together that day, as they sometimes do. On receiving the news that Plusha would be staying, the tearful man went to his car, searched for loose change, and dropped what he found into the donation box on the counter.



Plusha has some previously undiagnosed health challenges which are now being monitored and treated while he lives in a long term foster home. Plusha's former dad has visited him and his foster mom on several occasions and will continue to do so.

Plusha's health is improving and the gentleman is very grateful. We have offered information about resources to help him get back on his feet. We're thankful that this kind man did the right thing for his beloved cat and hopeful that his fortune will soon improve.

In the meantime, Plusha is doing well. He is eating better, his sparse fur is beginning to thicken, and he purrs and flirts, often with his little pink tongue peeking out. Time will tell how the next chapter in Plusha's life will play out, but in the meantime, he will have everything he needs – and more.

A CHRISTMAS POEM

If under the Christmas Tree you see
A poorly wrapped package from Me
Remember that I have a cat
and upon your box he sat

If the ribbon on you package is tattered
and the rest looks a little splattered
Remember that I have a cat
Who wore the bow on his head like a hat

If the paper on your package is shredded
and the gifts inside are now dreaded
Remember that I have a cat
and let's just leave it at that

~ Margaret Fine

MEOW'S HOLIDAY BAZAAR & OPEN HOUSE ONE DAY ONLY

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH FROM 12 PM ~ 5 PM

It's once again time for our annual bazaar and open house. This year the craft bazaar and bake sale will be in the Chapel at the Northlake Universal Unitarian Church, located at 308 4th Ave S, Kirkland, about three blocks northwest of the shelter.

We'll have handcrafted items and delicious baked goods generously donated by our volunteers and supporters. MEOW logo merchandise will be available plus wonderful raffle drawings. Volunteers will be available to do your gift wrapping for a small per package donation of \$1 to \$3 based on size (buy your gifts here or bring them from home). After shopping come visit us and enjoy some refreshments at the shelter. We will be collecting donations of pet food to help support our Hopelink Animeals food drive.

THE PURRRFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT 2014 MEOW CALENDAR

The 2014 MEOW calendars have arrived. Don't miss out on this special calendar dedicated to sixteen years of rescue. These beautiful 2014 calendars may be purchased at the shelter for \$10 or ordered by phone (425-822-6369), or through PayPal on our web site. Please add \$2 for shipping. They make wonderful and practical holiday gifts.



With respect and compassion for all animal life, MEOW promotes lifelong relationships between people and companion animals, providing shelter and care for each precious life until adopted into a forever home.

10600 NE 68th St., Suite F
Kirkland WA 98033
425 822-MEOW (6369)

Info@meowcatrescue.org
Newsletter@meowcatrescue.org
www.meowcatrescue.org

Hours:
Tues., Wed. 12PM - 5PM
Thurs. 3PM - 7PM
Fri. 12PM - 7PM
Sat. 11AM - 5PM
Sun. 12PM - 5PM
Closed Mondays and
Major Holidays

EVIE AND FAMILY, POSITIVELY PRECIOUS

Evie, the tall thin tabby, had only one concern when she and her kittens arrived at MEOW. She kept a watchful eye on her little ones as they cautiously explored their new surroundings or peeked



Precious Evie

out from under their bedding. The babies hissed occasionally and Evie looked suspiciously at the humans outside their cage.

Employees at Boeing in Everett had spotted this

feline family and contacted MEOW for help. In spite of her youth, Evie was a natural mother, loving and nurturing, protective in a good way. Now six weeks old, her four kittens were just beginning to learn about human touch. During her intake procedure Evie kept an eye on them. But when the results of her combo test came up, she would have to bid them goodbye. It turns out Evie is FIV positive.

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus, FIV, is passed by bodily fluids. A mother cat can infect her kittens through nursing. Because Evie's kittens were capable of eating from a plate, removing them from their mother was necessary. Although all four of the kittens also test positive for FIV antibodies at this time, according to Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, "few of these kittens actually are or will become infected. To clarify their infection status, kittens younger than six months of age receiving positive results should be retested at 60-day intervals until they are at least six months old." That's our plan.

FIV infects up to 25% of the global domestic cat population. Unfortunately, some shelters in the United States still routinely euthanize cats which test positive for FIV. Although there is no cure, most indoor-only FIV+ cats live normal life spans. At MEOW, we have the privilege of rescuing and finding wonderful homes for several such cats each year. If you are willing to consider adopting an FIV+ kitty, here are some things you should know.

 FIV is not contagious to humans or any other species.

 FIV's main route of transmission is through bites, not through casual contact. In fact, cats may cohabitate for years without transmitting the disease. FIV is not very durable in the environment and individually housed infected cats pose no threat to other cats in a shelter environment.

(Evie continued)

 Cats with FIV can live for many years without symptoms, particularly when kept indoors, reducing exposure to illness and infections. In general, treatment consists of good nourishment, a low-stress environment and regular well-cat veterinary care.

Evie is enjoying her new empty nest. She is ready to be adopted, to begin her new and improved life as an indoor cat, to be loved and perhaps even spoiled a bit. The kittens are happily playing and growing in foster care, unaware of the crossed fingers and silent wishes accompanying them each day. We expect a very happy ending.

PINTS FOR PETS MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 23

Please join us at Reuben's Brews in Ballard on Thursday, January 23rd, from 3pm – 8pm. Reuben's is again hosting Pints for Pets and will be donating to MEOW \$1 for every pint poured as part of their Thank You Thursdays. There are generally 12 beers on tap, many of them award winners. Whether you like light and refreshing, hoppy, or a full-bodied-winter warm up, you'll find something to enjoy. A food truck will be on site from 5 pm – 8 pm. The brewery is family and pet friendly. Come by, say hi, and raise a pint for MEOW's cats and dogs. Reuben's Brews is located at 1406 NW 53rd St. #1a, Seattle 98107. Cheers!

SMILE.AMAZON.COM AND IGIVE.COM YOUR ONLINE SHOPPING CAN HELP MEOW

If you enjoy shopping online, now your purchases can help bring prosperity to the pussycats! By using the url Smile.Amazon.com and selecting Mercer Island East-side Orphans and Waifs, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate .5% of qualified purchases to MEOW. When you select an item for purchase, you will see whether it qualifies for an AmazonSmile donation. Also, by registering with iGive.com and shopping through our portal, www.iGive.com/MEOW, from 2% - 26% of your purchase price is donated to MEOW by the participating business. There are over 1300 businesses in iGive.com, including pet supply stores, department stores, travel sites, book-sellers, office supply stores, ebay, etc. The amount of the donation varies by business. It costs you absolutely nothing to register or donate using either of these sites to do your shopping. Check it out. If you like the idea, tell a friend.

SHELTER SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES A GIFT THAT LASTS ~ A GIFT THAT HELPS

Is there a person or animal in your life for whom you'd like to make a lasting tribute which recognizes a special relationship? Your sponsorship will provide necessary funds to help ensure we are able to provide the necessary care to our residents as they await their forever homes. A personalized plaque commemorating your sponsorship will be displayed for the year. At the end of the year you will have the opportunity to renew for another year.

Accommodation Sponsorships

Resident Cages ~ \$500/year
 Meet and Greet Rooms ~ \$750/year
 Suites ~ \$1500/year
 Community Rooms ~ \$3000/year

Other Ways to Help

Monthly Donation ~ \$10/month minimum
 Commemorative Tile ~ \$50 donation
 Newsletter Tribute ~ \$50 minimum donation
 Tree of Life ~ Leaves of Love ~ \$500 donation
 Your Cat on Metro Bus Ad ~ \$1000 donation

For more information about any of these opportunities, please see our website, call the shelter or email us at donations@meowcatrescue.org.

PHOTOS WITH SANTA



Commemorate this holiday season and benefit MEOU with a picture of your pet (and you?) with Santa. For a \$10 donation you will receive a printed photo on site and a digital image via email. For the safety of everyone, please make sure your pet is restrained (either on a leash or in a carrier). We will be accept-

ing pet food donations for the shelter and our Animals Food Drive which benefits the pets of families in need via Hopelink.

Date	Time	Location
12/8	12 - 4	U Village Mud Bay
12/14	12 - 4	Redmond Mud Bay
12/15	12 - 4	Mercer Island Mud Bay
12/21	12 - 4	Bellevue Mud Bay
12/22	12 - 3	Redmond Pet Pros

THE NEW CAT SUITES ARE SWEET

In early October, we welcomed the very first residents into the beautiful suites in our newly expanded shelter. These spacious rooms are furnished in cheerful colors and soft fabrics. It is our hope that these suites, while providing a more comfortable environment for our longer term and less at ease residents, will better showcase these cats and lead to quicker adoptions. So far so good. The first residents settled in quickly and were quickly adopted. We hope each new resident in our suites will soon find their forever homes as well, but until then, they'll have the room to relax and put their very best paw forward.



We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make the expansion a reality, and a dream come true for our residents.

PUSSYCAT PANTRY HELP STOCK THE SHELTER SHELVES

Today the cats' fondest wish is for canned food, a staple at MEOU. Every day we open dozens of cans. Some of our cats are fed canned food exclusively. It's vital for introducing kittens to the plate, it's a symbol of kindness to our frightened newcomers, it's helpful for cats with finicky appetites or fussy stomachs, it's necessary for recovering from dental procedures, and it's the best diet for overweight and diabetic cats. If you can donate a case of food, or even a can or two, any brand, any flavor, the cats at the shelter would be ever so grateful. Other items on our Wish List would be much appreciated as well. Thank you.

Canned Kitten and Cat Foods
 Royal Canin BabyCat
 Royal Canin Special 33
 Liquid Laundry Detergent HE
 Kitchen Garbage Bags

Bleach
 Cat Attract Litter
 Postage Stamps
 Paper Towels
 Hand Sanitizer



Cats always seem so very wise when staring with their half-closed eyes. Can they be thinking, "I'll be nice, and maybe she will feed me twice?"

~ Bette Midler

TO HONOR & REMEMBER

In memory of Ollie, beloved angel of
Dr. Maria Baker and Amy Martin.
Rebecca McQuade

Happy birthday to Kathleen Dunne,
whose caring hands, generous spirit
and huge heart have rescued, saved and found homes
for hundreds of cats and kittens. Thank you my friend.
Judi Sorensen

In memory of Shadow Eldridge.
Karen Eldridge

In honor of my very best friend, Mary Marsh's
64th birthday and her little Savannah.
Marta & Phil Schlegel

In memory of 'Montana'.
Chris Grossman

In loving memory of big, beautiful black cat, Max.
LaVonne Schott

In memory of my beloved husband - a true animal lover!
Lynn Rasmussen

For Amy and her wonderful cats, Elcy and Trigger.
Daniel Carey

In memory of our friend, Jay, a true cat whisperer.
He took care of the ferals for years.
Jan Rowe

In honor of Oliver, Buddy, Jack and Wilson Neir.
Cathy Neir

In memory of Margie Squifflet.
Edmond Squifflet

In honor of Nydia White, human being extraordinaire.
Happy birthday!
Bob & Maggie Baker

In memory of:
Squeakers, 2006 ~ 2013, lovingly cared for by
Ken and Ashley Berthelsen.
Fritz, lovingly cared for by Chrissy Atkins.
Winston, missed by his best friend Ardyth Schaumburg.
Merlin, he will be missed by owner, Helen Knowlton.
In memory of Chelsea, lovingly cared for by Jeanne Mazzoni.
Fozzie, peaceful journey my friend. We will miss you.
City Kitty

Upon the anniversary of my kitting (birthday)
and in thanks of my lovely Amelia,
whom I found through your wonderful organization.
Valerie Soesbee

In honor of my good friend Shannon's birthday,
who absolutely LOVES her kitties (all kitties for that matter)!!
Sandy Kovalak

In memory of MEOW supporter, Annaly McPherson, R.I.P.
Zoe Allen

In honor of Madison Lewis' birthday.
Owen Mercer

In memory of a black cat named Midi.
Mary & Tom Dahlgren

To honor Sparky's life.
Barbara Moe

In memory of Annaly McPherson.
Roberta Jensen

Thank you for your wonderful work
of love and care of our precious animals!
Mary & Tom MacGregor

In honor and memory of Annaly McPherson,
a true friend of cats.
Lisa Havens

In memory of "Auntie Margie" Koenig.
Patty Anderson

In memory of Douglas Dean Zeller.
*Wilma Comer
Kenneth & Robin Theodore
Stephen & Laura Vecchiarelli*

In honor of Karen McHugh.
Jane Rothwell

In memory of Hattie, adopted from MEOW in 1998.
I donated my 1998 vehicle to help MEOW save other animals.
Miss you, Hattie.
Brenna Cooper

In honor of Issabel.
Karyn Corliss

In memory of Mousenik, the smartest cat we ever knew!
David Richman

In memory of our beloved cat, Misty Groves.
Jim & Patty Groves

In honor of Marilyn Hendrickson and all that she does for the
'undercat'. I, too, believe we should save all nine lives.
God bless you for your valuable work.
Tim Bartley

In memory of our two cats, Buddy and Ozzie,
who recently passed.
Mary & Richard Anderson

In memory of my husband, Mark.
Vicki Russell

In memory of our precious Gabbie (aka Dustin).
He enriched our lives for seven wonderful years;
he is still sorely missed.
Marcie & Charlie Stansell

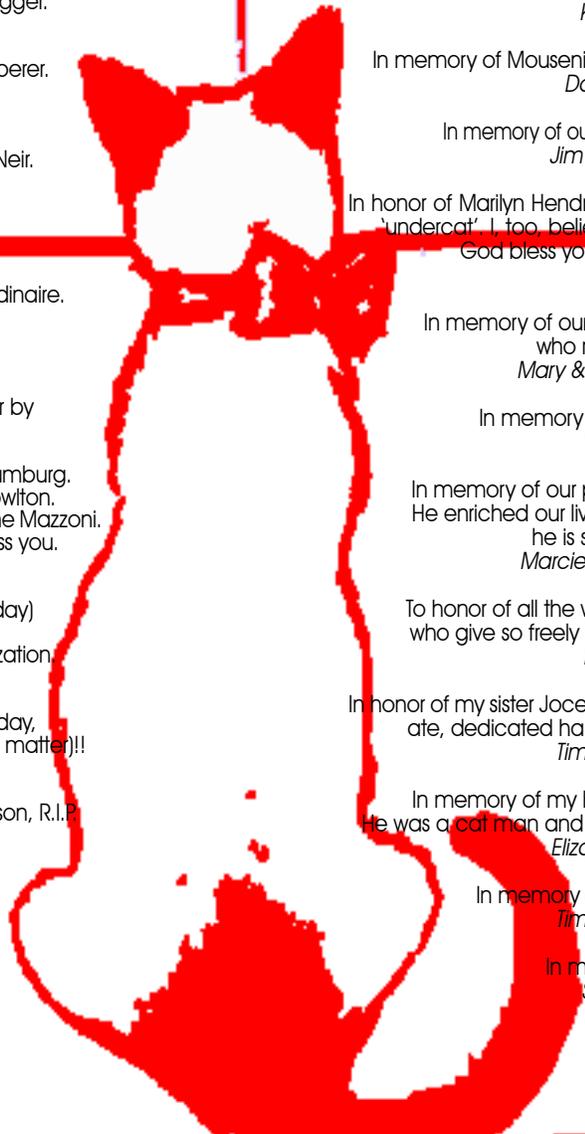
To honor of all the wonderful volunteers of MEOW
who give so freely of their time, caring and love.
MEOW Staff

In honor of my sister Jocelyn Jensen, who is the most passion-
ate, dedicated hard-working and caring person.
Timothy Douglass

In memory of my husband, Wayne A. Landrum.
He was a cat man and that was the reason I married him.
Elizabeth Landrum

In memory of my big guy, Quincy.
Timothy Douglass

In memory of Sam.
Susim Chen





DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES?
 IN HAPPY ENDINGS? IN NEW BEGINNINGS?
 IN JOYOUS ENDINGS? IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT?



On behalf of the many lost, abandoned, neglected, mistreated, injured or otherwise unwanted animals who have been placed by MEOW in loving adoptive homes in this past year, we wish to express a very sincere and heartfelt "Thank you!" To all who have played a part in making these miracles a reality.

A Very Special Thank you to . . .

- 🐾 the individuals, businesses and grantors who have so generously supported the mission of MEOW and contributed financially to keep the work going.
- 🐾 the veterinarians who have performed services at much-reduced rates and dealt with emergencies as well as routine matters.
- 🐾 our amazing shelter volunteers who work so willingly on behalf of the animals, keeping the cages and common areas clean, doing load after load of laundry, answering phones daily and returning messages nightly, interviewing people and completing pet adoptions, participating in raising public awareness concerning the plight of homeless animals.
- 🐾 our fabulous foster homes who have selflessly given their time and energy, their living space, their own resources and sometimes sleepless nights caring for orphaned or ill kitties.
- 🐾 all who have generously contributed cleaning supplies, pet foods, litter, bedding and other materials to help defray the everyday expenses at our shelter.
- 🐾 all the individuals and their families who have adopted shelter pets this year, who have made a commitment to take seriously their pet's health, happiness and safety.
- 🐾 cat and dog owners everywhere who spay or neuter their pets, helping to put an end to the cycle of homeless and unwanted animals that fill the shelters across the country.

WITH ONE VOICE, HUMAN AND ANIMAL TOGETHER
 MEOW WISHES YOU AND YOURS
 A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

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