



MEOW CAT RESCUE & ADOPTION

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF RESCUE
AND OVER 17,000 PRECIOUS LIVES SAVED

Summer 2012

RAMSES, PRINCE OF EGYPT

About a year ago, Ramses made a smart decision that probably saved his life. He took up residence in the Seattle yard of a cat lover and MEOOW volunteer. He introduced himself and let it be known that he desperately needed help. She brought him to the shelter.



Ramses

Ramses is a handsome blue Abyssinian, a beautiful cat whose ancestors came from Ancient Egypt. Abyssinians are described as extroverted, extremely active, playful, willful and intelligent. They are often too preoccupied with exploring and playing to be called "lap cats". They have quiet, engaging voices. "Abys", as they are affectionately referred to by their fans, need a great deal of love and interaction with

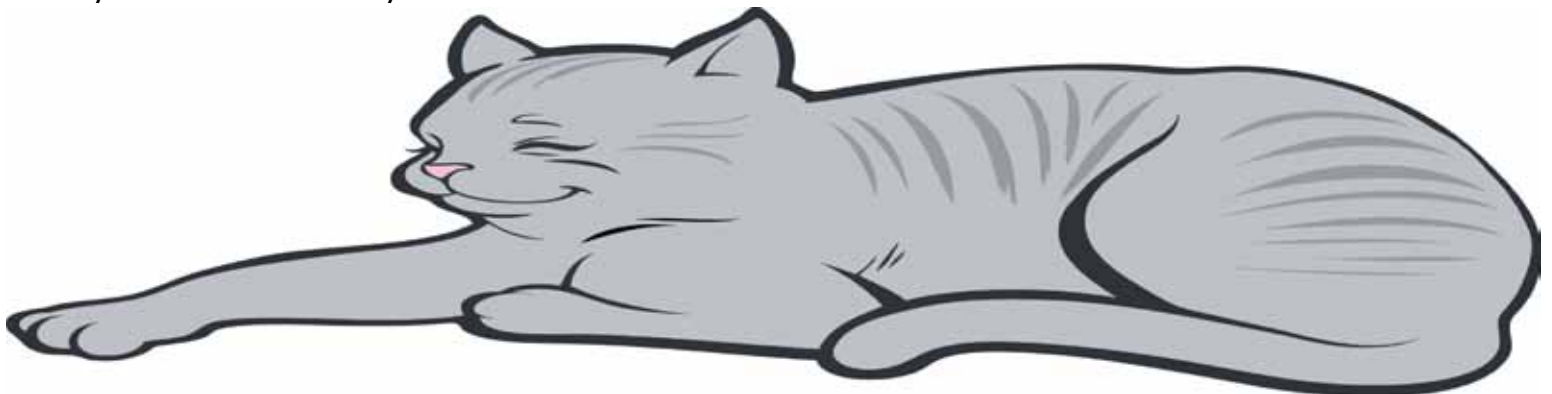
the family to keep them happy. They are known for their curiosity and enjoy exploring their surroundings, including heights. They are sensible cats that do not take unnecessary risks. They adore toys and will play for hours with a favorite ball. Some will even play fetch.

Surely someone was looking for this exquisite cat but our best efforts to find his owner failed. Ramses certainly lives up to his breed's description. He has such zest for life. He can get excited about little things, like a Q-tip, but a fast-flying wand toy can make him absolutely giddy. He'll play as long as you will, and when you talk to him he'll happily chirp back. But his very favorite thing is being held in your arms like a baby, when he will nuzzle under your chin and reward you with the sweetest kisses.

When he arrived at MEOOW, he was bone thin, weighing in at less than five pounds, in spite of his good appetite. Food seemed to go right through him. His medical work-up began with blood work, fecals and radiographs. All were normal, nothing remarkable. Over the next several months Ramses' medical records grew longer and longer. Test after test, medication after medication, and still no improvement. Finally, ultrasound revealed irritable bowel disease, IBD.

In addition to his digestive woes, Ramses had developed a serious eye issue which required a surgery called Keratectomy. His list of medications and procedures continued to grow. Ramses endured weeks of healing. But, through it all, he continued to appreciate the little things; the games of chase and the snuggles afterward. At last, his bright eyes are well again.

Ramses is not a quitter. Through each new food trial, each new medication, each new challenge, he has persevered. Finally, persistence has paid off. We have found a new food that Ramses not only likes, but has a positive effect on his digestive tract. Ramses has begun to gain weight and currently boasts nearly seven pounds, perhaps the most he has ever weighed. He looks stunningly handsome and healthy. Now he's ready for a home of his own. Although he has been living in a foster home with several other cats, he'd love nothing more than to have you all to himself. If you think games of chase, snuggles and kisses are the best, please contact us and arrange to meet this Prince of Princes.



I DON'T REALLY LIKE CATS

Peeking over the gate of an Everett home where she had done TNR (trap/neuter/return) of feral cats a couple of years ago, MEOW trapper Kim was happy to see two food dishes, fresh water, and, snuggled under a bush, two eartipped cats whom she recognized. Just then an elderly man came out of the house. She asked whether he had seen any new “untouchables” around, any pregnant or kittens. He had not. Kim nodded at the dishes and asked “So you feed the kitties?” to which he replied “Yes, but I don’t really like cats.”



Sweet pea

“That calico one there”, he said, pointing at a red and white tabby *male*, “Her name is Sweet Pea.” Kim said “Oh, *she’s* so cute!” He proudly stated, “Yes, she lets me pet her but no one else can.” Kim stifled a smile as he repeated, “But I really don’t like cats.”

“They’re all really fat and healthy. I only feed them food with no byproducts. And always fresh water. I’ve been feeding cats for six years now. What else could I do? I couldn’t let them starve to death.”

He told her about an injured shy cat that appeared several years back. He had paid for an exam and then on the vet’s advice, relinquished the cat to the local shelter. He confessed that he had cried. He went back the next day to adopt the cat but it was too late. The cat had been euthanized. His eyes filled with tears, remembering.

During their conversation, the gentleman repeated at least half a dozen times “I don’t really like cats.” He said he didn’t know what he would do if one of the untouchable cats gets hurt. Kim told him to call her. He seemed relieved and said, “I’ll email you pictures of the cats over the years!” He then showed her where they sleep on his back deck on the hot tub cover and in a cute little area where he has made them a clean straw bed.

As Kim said goodbye, she couldn’t help thinking how wonderful our world would be if there were more people like this amazing gentleman who “didn’t really like cats!”

TOOTSIE LU ~ A SWEET TREAT!

Tootsie Lu had a loving family for nearly six years, but when they discovered that she needed expensive surgery to correct her wobbly painful knees, surgery they couldn’t possibly afford, they did the most difficult, but the kindest thing they could do for her. They said goodbye.



Toot toot Tootsie

MEOW’s Canine Division, the only Chinese Shar Pei rescue in the Greater Northwest, welcomed Tootsie with open arms and within days she had orthopedic surgery on both hind legs at the same time. Her steady and speedy recovery surprised everyone, even her surgeon, Dr. Engen. She never complained and she was such a good patient.

During her rehab we discovered Tootsie has a gift; a talent to work with children with special needs. She is so gentle and full of love. Our hope is that she might one day be a therapy dog or live with a child who needs a best friend. She requires no other vet care for her knees but will never be a high exercise dog. Light to moderate exercise will be best to keep her legs healthy. She gets along with other dogs and people of all ages, she is great in the car and in her crate. She is house trained and will be an excellent addition to any family.

If you can help with the extraordinary cost of Tootsie Lu’s surgeries, please mark your donation “Tootsie’s Knees”. For more information on donations or adoption, please email dogs@meowcatrescue.org.

THE CAT WALK

There are only 3 animals that walk by stepping with both legs of the same side at the same time (both right legs step, then both left legs step)... the camel, the giraffe, and the cat.



HOPE AND CHANCE BRIGHT EYED AND BUSHY TAILED

It's been more than a year since they arrived at the animal emergency clinic. They were so thin and frail, shivering and dangerously weak. The effort of holding their heads up was almost too much for their tired little bodies. If all of this wasn't enough, their eyes were badly infected and sealed closed—they had to be gently massaged with a warm, soft cloth in order to get them open. They would require intensive round the clock care. Were we up for the challenge? You bet we were!



Grown up Chance

Treatment began immediately. Because they had gone days without food, they were very weak, but soon they latched onto the bottle and drank deeply and hungrily. It didn't take long for us to realize there was something else going on with their eyes. They didn't completely close, even when they were asleep. Dr. Jones of Northwest Animal

Eye Specialist examined them and diagnosed them with a congenital deformity called eyelid agenesis, meaning that the upper eyelids failed to completely develop. They had corneal damage from exposure and irritation from facial hairs. They would need several surgeries; but they were too weak. This delicate surgery would have to wait. The kittens had a very long road ahead of them.

The next six months were spent fattening up and strengthening the kittens and keeping their eyes as comfortable as possible with ointment. For their part, they played, tumbled, snuggled, purred and were normal kittens. Once strong enough, each kitten endured two delicate eye surgeries to remove the irritating facial hairs with a procedure called cryosurgery. They wore e-collars for weeks after each surgery and were such good sports about it. Finally, they were given a 'clean bill of health' and were ready to leave the nest and create a new life in a forever home.



Hope relaxing

Almost ten months to the day after being rescued, the perfect and most wonderful family adopted Hope and Chance! Saying goodbye wasn't easy, but knowing that they would be wrapped in love and live a happy and normal life filled our hearts with gratitude. They are the delight of the family who adopted them. There is never a dull moment in this household as the two boys, ages 9 and 11, build forts out of pillows and Tupperware containers, play with the cat fishing pole toys and create structures and beds out of boxes. Hope and Chance still get eye ointment in their eyes each night before bed – along with a little treat of course! Another happy ending for two very beautiful, and oh so very fluffy cats!

PUSSYCAT PANTRY HELP STOCK THE SHELTER SHELVES

Thank you so much for helping us keep our Pussycat Pantry stocked all year long. Today we come to you with just one wish. We're running low on canned food. Canned food is a staple at MEOW. Every day we open dozens and dozens of cans. Every resident gets canned food at least once a day and some of our cats are fed canned food exclusively. It's vital for helping to introduce 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 those who are recovering from dental procedures, and canned food is the best diet for overweight and diabetic cats. If you're able to help us restock our shelves by donating a case of food, or even a can or two, any brand, any flavor, the cats at the shelter would be ever so grateful. Thank you!

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.

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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

SPECIAL VOLUNTEERS ~ SPECIAL CATS CELEBRATING SOME VERY SPECIAL ADOPTIONS

All animals need special care and love. However, some animals who come into our care are Special Needs pets who require a very special commitment. Special Needs could mean a significant short term medical issue requiring round the clock care and monitoring. Perhaps it's a cat with a long term medical issue such as seizures, cerebellar hypoplasia, an amputation, or a genetic or behavioral disorder requiring special handling and home management. Senior cats with arthritis, kidney disease, or hyperthyroidism may require regular medication and extra understanding. Sometimes the term Special Needs means perfectly healthy cats who can be unpredictable or temperamental biters, so shy they live under the bed, or have a history of inappropriate urination. Very often, with the right person, patience and love, they are able to overcome those issues.

At MEOW we've never turned away from Special Needs animals and it is because of many of our caring volunteers that we've been able to save the lives of many who would have had no chance elsewhere. In fact, over the past year or so we've been delighted that several Special Needs cats have found their forever homes with MEOW volunteers.

Ariel ~ Patricia
Banjo ~ Jackie
Carmine ~ Lisa & Clark
Fiona ~ Kelly
Gizmo ~ Kathy
Herbie - Judy
Jiminy ~ Andee & Marc
Poko ~ Dee & Peter
Sherman & MacArthur ~ Claire
Smokey Joe ~ Chelsea
Storm ~ Tiffany & David
Terra ~ Cathy
Tootie ~ Petrina
Taz ~ Nancy
Xabu ~ Carol
Mr Wiggles & Cricket ~ Andee & Marc



Terra

We know that MEOW has the very best volunteers around - ones who give so much to ensure our cats are well cared for and placed into the most appropriate homes. Although choosing a Special Needs pet may require something extra, we're sure these special volunteers would tell you that the rewards for doing so are special indeed.

BIG BUCK CHUCK

Chuck, a muscular two year old Snowshoe Siamese mix, could not open his eyes. His lids were so swollen, his face so puffy. Chuck had been one of three unaltered cats living in a car with their homeless owner. Unable to care for them, the woman relinquished them to our care.



Handsome Chuck

She had tried to treat Chuck's eyes by washing them with baby shampoo. Her good intentions had done nothing to improve his situation and may have made matters even worse. What was bothering Chuck could not be helped by washing, or even by ointments or eye drops. Chuck had lived his whole life with a condition called Entropion Eyelids, which means that his eyelids turn in toward his eyes, causing his lashes to scratch the surface of his eyes with each blink and each movement of the eye under the swollen lid. He was in pain.

Upon examination at Northwest Animal Eye Specialists, Chuck was rushed into surgery. Both of his eyelids had to be rolled outward and tacked into place to prevent further damage and give his eyes a chance to heal. Entropion surgery is neither easy nor inexpensive, but MEOW's Mercy Fund exists for situations just like this; the extraordinary and necessary treatments and procedures which make the difference between comfort and pain, between illness and health, sometimes between life and death. When we learned of Chuck's condition, there was no decision to be made about whether he would have the surgery to correct his eyelids. Our response was simply and literally, "Let's roll." Let's roll those eyelids back and secure them in place. Let's roll an e-collar around Chuck's neck so his post-surgery recovery is as easy as possible. Let's roll out the checkbook because Chuck needs us.

Now healed, Chuck's beautiful blue eyes open and close without pain and he seems to look at us with gratitude. He's a happy guy who thoroughly enjoys his meal-times and his playtimes. He loves attention from his admirers and he gives so much in return; head butts and deep rumbling purrs of contentment. Today Chuck is looking forward to seeing his forever family walk through the shelter doors, and we think his future is looking bright indeed.

TO HONOR & REMEMBER

In loving memory of Leona Fisher.
Samia & Pod Suzette Madson

To Dudley Mann ~ on the 1 year anniversary of his death, we remember our wonderful cat and the 15 years of love.
Kathy Mann

For Dave Linse's birthday to honor his lifelong love of cats (and for Ernie, Harry and Alma who left us over the years).
Carole Linse

In loving memory of Saffy, beloved cat of Valerie Schur and Todd Reidy.
Gayle & Jack Reidy

In memory of Kiska - one cute little Poodle.
Judy Anderson

In memory of a wonderful friend ~ Sammie Loewus, a cat who lived 19 years and provided Susan Loewus with much happiness.
Mary Hackett

For Denise Schoo - the best first mom ever.
Carol Verga

In memory of Babette and her son Pete ~ 11 and 10 years old. Indoor ferals to begin with, but loving and accepted on their own terms. We miss them.
Joanna Olson & Bill Polk

In loving memory of Brandy, Muffy, Alvin and Simon.
Kathy Perry

In memory of Tami and with thanks to John & Seiko.
Susan Sitah

In memory of Harold and Betty McGraw.
Christine Grossman

In memory of Oliver. You are already missed!
Forever ~ Jazz, Nala, Rex and The Neirs

In remembrance of our furry nephew, Butterscotch. You are so very missed.
Linda Calhoun

In memory of Roslyn.
Kathleen Parrish

A gift from my best friend Sidney, who just passed after 19 years. She wants to help Sprite and his buddies.
Frances Fuller

In memory of Lorraine.
D.C. Thurman

In memory of Carol Galloway, who loved all animals.
Theresa & Jeff Gekeler

In honor of all cats and kittens everywhere.
Deanna Berndsen & Michelle Pennington

In memory of Georgie Whitney.
Larry Siegler

In honor of John Bay's 50th birthday.
Ruth Laitila

In the name of Tom and Wendy Milner.
Ryan Seghers

In memory of Mark. The spoiled darlings are going strong.
Vicki Russell

To honor Jim and Cheryl King for loving Sadie.
Thank you from MEOW Staff & Volunteers

In loving memory of Felix, Kittycat, Tabby, Scamper and Squeaky.
LaVita White

In memory of Ella, 1997 - 2012. Loved and cared for by Shonda Loidhamer.
City Kitty, LLC

In loving memory of Neca Newman, precious to Janis and Chirs Newman.
Nancy Bacon

For my brother Kevin, and the cats he loved and cared for.
Daniel Carey

In loving memory of Milton & Frances.
Rachel Allen

In memory of our sweet Meggie Moo. She was a special kitty who we miss very much.
Jan Rowe

To honor Mary Stelton - who loves animals.
Corey Stelton

For Harry ~ beloved kitty.
Donna Stachowicz

In memory of Claire Thompson.
Diane Coblentz

In memory of Lady Day, my friend's beloved kitty.
Donna Doyle

In honor of Louie, a blind little loveable dog and a Katrina survivor.
Judy Anderson

In memory of Gracie Johnson.
George & Sue Kingen

In honor of Atsuko Patzwald for her birthday.
Emily Patzwald

In memory of Cinco, my comeback kitty!
Vera Ramos

In the name of Rachael Rondestvedt and Guillermo Proano.
Jessica Bomball

In memory of Hellen Marie Keller, 91, who passed away June 22, 2012.
Richard and Charlye King

In memory of Runt Kitty.
Kathy Miller Parrish



FINE WINES & FELINES 2012

OUR ANNUAL WINE TASTING & AUCTION FUNDRAISER
SATURDAY AUGUST 25TH AT 6.30 PM

You won't want to miss this one. John Curley, local television and radio celebrity and Auctioneer extraordinaire, promises to make the evening exciting, interesting, and lots of fun. This year our venue is the beautiful Seattle Design Center in Georgetown, a wonderful place for an event; conveniently located off I-5 with plenty of free parking (5701 6th Ave S, Seattle). We'll once again be hosting wine tasting and new this year, there will be beer on tap from Georgetown Brewing. Enjoy abundant hors d'oeuvres while you browse through over 300 items up for bid in our silent and live auctions. Have a good time with friends and get some great deals while supporting the cats and dogs whose health and happiness depends on us.

Watch your mailbox for an invitation, or register online at www.meowcatrescue.org. Registration is required by August 12, so don't delay. Attendees must be at least 21 years of age. Visit our website to view the list of our generous donors. An auction catalog will be available on the website in early August.



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