



MEOW CAT RESCUE & ADOPTION

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF RESCUE
AND OVER 20,000 PRECIOUS LIVES SAVED

Holidays 2016

2017 ~ HAPPY 20TH ANNIVERSARY TO MEOW!

"We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way."

~ Francis of Assisi

Back in 1997, more than 20 million homeless cats and dogs were euthanized in shelters each year across the United States. Here in the Pacific Northwest, crowded shelters were doing their best to save the most adoptable animals, but the sheer numbers were overwhelming. Most vulnerable were the old dogs and cats, the very young puppies and kittens, animals sick with simple illnesses and those with longstanding special needs, the ones huddling terrified in their small cages, those who would react to the noise and confusion by lashing out, those who were lost, abandoned or somehow homeless. Their lives were in immediate danger.

From this need was born Mercer Island Eastside Orphans & Waifs. MEOW. In a little store called Mercer Island Pet Grocery, in a tiny back room no bigger than a closet, a small group of passionate friends went to work saving animals, putting one foot in front of the other, each and every day after each and every day.

And you joined us. You fell in step beside us. When the animals needed you, you were there with us, for them. You volunteered your help, in your own ways - your time, your talents, your knowledge. You offered your unfailing love for the animals. You fostered kittens and puppies, moms nursing their little ones, geriatric and special needs cats and dogs. In extensive and expensive medical emergencies, you gave from the richness of your hearts. You adopted, giving so many the second chance they deserved. You stayed with us, each and every year after each and every year, for twenty years and more than twenty thousand adoptions.

Please join us in this next year of our incredible journey, continuing to believe in miracles and happy endings, in new beginnings and joyous reunions, and in love at first sight.



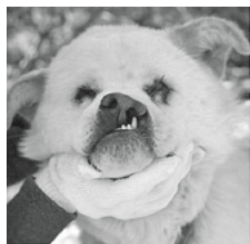
Looking back ~ Bonnie 1997



Looking forward ~ Baby 2017



DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?



Oliver Twist

Time was running out for hundreds of dogs at a shelter in Goyang, Korea. Rescuers there spread the word internationally in hopes of saving as many of them as possible. Some of the dogs were perfect, they said. Sadly, others would probably not be saved. And then there was also the "meat trade". Although it's an expensive and complicated process to transfer dogs from

the other side of the world, when we saw the photos we knew what we must do. We made a promise and a plan and you donated. As a result, we were able to take several of the most difficult to place dogs. Among them was Oliver Twist, whose funny face captured our hearts.

Oliver Twist is a Chow - Jindo mix, a thirty-pound youngster with a thick, long, creamy coat and a big black leathery nose. He was born with severe facial deformities including a cleft palate. If this was not enough, the twists in Oliver's facial structure had prevented his eyes from forming, leaving him sightless. In addition to his visible challenges, he arrived here with severe heartworm.

His crooked smile gives away his joyful spirit, his zest for life. Never having had the ability to see, he makes up for it with his other senses. He has been known to catch a bee in flight. He likes to swim. He loves other animals. Because he's not so sure about men, we'd like to place him in a home with women only, with someone who is an experienced dog owner.

Blissfully unaware of the challenges he faces each day, he lives in the moment, every moment. Clearly, Oliver Twist has perfect vision – from deep within his happy heart.

PUSSYCAT PANTRY HELP STOCK THE SHELTER SHELVES

Canned Kitten and Cat Foods
Royal Canin Mother and Baby Cat Kibble
Royal Canin Special 33
Unscented Clumping Clay Litter
Liquid Laundry Detergent HE
Kitchen Garbage Bags
Bleach
Postage Stamps
Paper Towels
Hand Sanitizer
Costco Gift Cards
Target Gift Cards



KIRKLAND OKTOBERFEST DANKE SCHOEN & SAVE THE DATE

In Kirkland's 2016 Oktoberfest, MEOW was honored to be a charitable partner. The event and the organizers are all about volunteerism and the community. MEOW provided more than 50 volunteers who enjoyed pouring beer, selling merchandise, organizing the wiener dog races, and more. We are thrilled and so grateful that, as a result of the event's success, \$17,000 was shared with local non-profits, MEOW being one of the major beneficiaries. We will once again be a partner in 2017. Mark your calendars for Sept 22 – 24. Please plan to volunteer or attend. It promises to be super fun and it's a great way to help MEOW and our community.

YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING CAN HELP MEOW RETAIL & EMAIL PARTNERSHIPS

This holiday season, and all year long, your purchases can help bring prosperity to the pussycats! Linking your Fred Meyer rewards card to MEOW Cat Rescue, Organization 80427, will benefit MEOW every time you shop there. If you're shopping on-line, www.smileamazon.com, www.igive.com, and www.bissell.com/partnersforpets will all make donations to MEOW based on your purchases. It costs you absolutely nothing to register or use these sites. Thank you for allowing MEOW to share in your holiday giving.

GIVING TUESDAY ~ NOV 29TH

This year MEOW will be working to raise \$7,000 for our Public Spay/Neuter Voucher Program, exceeding last year's generous results of \$6730! Since 2011, we have secured \$50,000 in grant funds to alter more than 2500 pets whose owners needed help to #DoTheRightThing. MEOW has contributed an additional \$30,000 to keep the voucher program running between grants. Raising \$7,000 on #GivingTuesday will provide another 350 spays and neuters. How many litters will that prevent? We're not exactly sure, but we know this: it's the best gift we can give to those 350 cats. Join us on November 29th for #GivingTuesday and #BeTheChange. An on-line donation link will be available on our website and on our Facebook page.

12TH ANNUAL FINE WINES & FELINES AUCTION FUNDRAISER SAVE THE DATE – SATURDAY JUNE 17TH, 2017

The bar was set high by this year's auction, but in celebration of MEOW's 20th anniversary in 2017, we're planning for our most successful and fun event ever. Our Fine Wines & Felines Auction is our major fundraising event each year, providing critical funds for the animals. Please mark your calendar now and join us again at the HUB Ballroom!

SHOULD AULD ACQUAINTANCE BE FORGOT?

At this time of year, we often find ourselves smiling as we think back on precious memories. Surely many of our nostalgic thoughts include pets who have been a big part of our lives. They have brought a laugh with their funny antics. They have soothed our hearts when we've felt broken. They have made us feel cherished.

Certainly when one adopts a pet they must believe this furry family member will be with them forever. But sometimes life can take an unexpected turn. This is where our promise comes in. We're here with arms wide open to offer our cats a soft place to land. As we work to reassemble their shattered hearts, we fall in love with each one. We'd like to introduce you to a few of these honored guests here in their temporary home.

Maddie, at 11 years old, is vocal, curious, affectionate and playful. After playtime she enjoys a warm lap. Maddie is a Leader of the Band and would love her band to consist of a human family. Older children would be fine, especially if they enjoy playing with wand toys!

Nelly, 13, and Sherman, 11, are a bit shy. Nellie warms up quickly, especially if the introduction includes catnip. When her cheeks and ears are rubbed she chirps a happy meow. Brother Sherman looks to Nelly for comfort and security. He loves to watch the outside world from the windowsill. They will do best in a quiet home with someone who will give them all the time they need to learn to love and trust again.



Lovely Hsiu Mei

Hannah and Hsiu Mei started life as bottle-fed orphan kittens. Nine years later their lifetime human companion has become homeless. They would each like a home of their own instead of together. Hannah enjoys being petted and happily makes biscuits during tummy rubs. Hannah

loves cuddling on a lap, and she hopes that lap is sturdy as she's trying to lose a few pounds to get back to her ideal weight. Hsiu Mei is sweet, gentle, soft as a snowflake, and her bi-colored eyes are captivating. She enjoys attention but can entertain herself when you're busy. Your lap would be great for cuddles - and maybe a couple of toy mice when she's feeling frisky.

Sometimes, during the Winter of their lives, pets find themselves having to begin again, to come into a strange space, to learn to trust new people, to try to make a good impression as strangers come and go, come and go. Today let us remember our dear old friends and offer up our wish that they'll each soon have a family and a home to call their own.

PHOTOS WITH SANTA

Commemorate this holiday season and support the animals of MEOW with a picture of your pet, your children, (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 accepting pet food donations for the shelter and our Animeals Food Drive which benefits the pets of families in need via Hopelink.

Date	Time	Location
11/25	4 - 8	Broadway@Pike Mud Bay
11/26	10 - 2	Canyon Park Mud Bay
11/27	10 - 2	Redmond Mud Bay
12/2	4 - 8	Issaquah Mud Bay
12/4	12 - 4	Sammamish Mud Bay
12/9	4 - 8	Overlake Mud Bay
12/10	10 - 2	Ballard Mud Bay
12/11	10 - 2	Greenwood Mud Bay
12/16	4 - 7	Urban Feed & Garden
12/17	10 - 2	Uptown Mud Bay
12/18	10 - 2	Shoreline Mud Bay



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.

MEOW Cat Rescue
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

THE GREATEST GIFT OF ALL

Sweet Pea arrived at MEOW two years ago with life-altering spinal injuries from a car accident. As she healed and revealed herself, she became our beloved office cat. Now we have just one wish for her, just one hope, for just one gift - a home of her very own.

To know her is to love her. We're pretty sure if she was human she'd be a comedian, perhaps a physical comic like Lucille Ball. She cracks us up every day! We'd like to share some of the things we love about Sweet Pea, as well as some of the things that Miss Pea loves!

🐾 It's a bird, it's a plane ~ It's Sweet Pea! Her athleticism constantly impresses us!

🐾 She's never met a stranger. ~ Great with cats, dogs, kids, and anyone she meets.

🐾 The life of the party ~ She's social, talkative, and very, very smart.

🐾 A majorly motivated foodie! ~ She's completely indiscriminate when it comes to food and treats. She likes them ALL!

🐾 Good kitty manners ~ Pea wants to be friends with every cat she meets, but if they're not in the mood she'll be respectful and mind her manners.

🐾 She's cooperative and grateful ~ When having her bladder expressed or other aspect of care, she's appreciative and will often purr or chirp throughout!

🐾 Fastest runner in the shelter! ~ On the occasions she is able to open the door to her room, she sprints a lap around the shelter faster than anyone!

As a result of her injuries, Sweet Pea will always need to have her bladder expressed 2-3 times each day, but she is cooperative and easy to handle. After each bladder expression she runs off to do something silly, letting you know how happy you've made her. Sweet Pea promises to provide wonderful companionship and endless laughter with her goofy antics.

Though her body has been damaged, Sweet Pea is just perfect. In this holiday season, we are reminded that the Greatest Gift we can offer another living being is that of unconditional love. Sweet Pea has that gift all wrapped up and ready to give.



CALLING ALL ANGELS



Michael

Last July, downtown Bothell suffered a devastating fire. Near the blaze a young cat lay on the side of the road, hit by a car, alert but unable to move. His miracle began when a kind person found him, brought him to an emergency hospital, and posted his photo on social media in hopes of finding

his owner. She called him Michael, like the angel. Soon people began donating to the hospital for his care. When over the next three days an owner did not come forward, MEOW did. Michael needed an angel.

Michael's complicated surgery included several screws to repair a serious pelvic fracture, manual manipulation of a spinal subluxation, and of course, his neuter. The subluxation caused him difficulty when trying to stand. In addition, he was dangerously anemic due to internal blood loss. As the costs multiplied, donations kept coming.

Michael seemed to possess a quiet strength. Barely conscious, he would reach a paw past the tubes and wires to touch the hand of a visitor as if to say, "Everything's going to be alright." Slowly he began to come back to life. When stable enough, he was released to a foster home capable of giving him the intensive care he would need, with a daunting list of medications. In mid-August at his follow-up, his knees still bowed out, but his progress was great. He graduated to an increased physical therapy schedule. He agreed to do his exercises in exchange for freeze dried chicken. Michael had certain powers of persuasion. For more than four months, Michael has been building new bone between the fragments, building strength in his muscles, building confidence in his abilities.

Michael's name, like the angel, was no accident. Angels have surrounded him since the day his precious life was spared. An angel on the street brought him to the hospital. Angels at the hospital reassembled his broken body, monitored, medicated, fed him and kept him clean. Angels gave generously to meet the more than \$4000 cost of his emergency care. Today his foster angels are preparing themselves for the inevitable day when their angel Michael will be ready to spread his wings and fly to his new life. Surely Michael's forever angel is hovering nearby, ready and eager for that heavenly moment.



TO HONOR & REMEMBER

Love my Buddy and Sweetheart,
two years this month.
Penelope Clemons

In celebration of Jeff Keller's birthday!
Richard Butler

For Elsie and Trigger, Amy's fine cats.
Daniel Carey

In memory of Bretagne, last of the September 11
Search and Rescue dogs.
Judy Anderson

In loving memory of Thomas and Annabelle.
Heidi Langley

In memory of Chloe, beloved by the
neighborhood.
Phyllis Van Winkle

To honor the life and memory of Penguin.
I'm sorry I never met you.
Ruth Laitila

In memory of Margie Squifflet.
Edmond Squifflet

In memory of Harley, loved and missed
by Rebecca and Jim.
Sally Verrinder

In memory of Hugo.
He was the most charming fellow of the
neighborhood. He will be truly missed by all who
were touched by his presence.
Joyce Legaz

In memory of my husband, Mark.
Vicki Russell

In memory of Kitty.
Celina

In memory of Chloe.
In memory of Sam, '03-'15, missed by Fran Hogg.
In memory of Olivia, loved by Heidi Bowers.
City Kitty

In honor of Mirabelle and Matteo, adopted
from MEOW in 2009 (aka Lizzie and Jack).
In memory of Camille, Moka and LuLu.
Brice & Tania Poplawski

In honor of Kinky (14 years young!)
and in memory of his littermate, Tobey.
Amy Petri

In memory of Jeanne, she loved it warm!
Gina Fisette

To remember Lucy, 4/15/01 ~ 6/24/16.
Jim and Vicki Morrison

In honor of our daughter, Jennifer,
who is one of your volunteer workers and has
spoken often and well of the fine
services you provide.
Robert Swift

We miss our sweet girl, Honey, so much.
She will always be in our hearts.
Wanda Hughes

In memory of Christian,
beloved cat of Lora and Nora.
Jill Keeney

In loving memory of Baker,
a beautiful boy who will never be forgotten
and in gratitude to Amy and Mike Spino,
two of the best cat parents we know.
Friends of Baker

From our kids, Rowan and Nora,
via a portion of their saved-up allowances.
George Perantatos

In memory of Louise Vuitton, who left her mom
(and my friend Kay) much too soon.
I hope Kay will some day adopt
another rescue cat.
Barbara Lui

In memory of my daughter, Val Vallejos.
*Soderquist family, Vallejos family
and Clements family*

In memory of Val Vallejos.
*Cindy Zimmerman, Tamara Geise,
Joan Soderquist, Donna-Marie Cahil,
and Carol Melton*

In loving memory of Mr. Pi (April 2016)
and Pope (August 2016).
Sally Simpson

In loving memory of Alice Roddis.
At Home Elder Care

In honor of Chester (previously Redford)
our big orange wonder cat,
adopted from MEOW in October 2008
Nancy Jackson



In loving memory of our beloved Willie.
Bruce & Marilyn Ries

In memory of Hazel, who we adopted 2005.
She passed away in October 2014 of cancer.
A tortie beauty with an attitude to match,
we are grateful for how she touched our lives.
Melanie Renk

In honor of Orcas, our beautiful little girl
we adopted from MEOW nine years ago.
James Waletzky

To thank Janet Calloway and Jim Peterson
for taking such good care of Smudge, my cat.
Hana Lima Hand Dyes

In memory of Tommy
June 3, 2004 ~ August 8, 2016.
Christine Grossman

In honor of Wendy,
who rescued an elderly abandoned dog
at Carillon Point, Friday, September 28.
Thank you, Wendy for taking time out of your day.
Jeff Dodson

In honor of Rhoda Besecker and Barb Baugh.
Jeanann O'Brien

In memory of beautiful Sophia,
who provided us all an introduction to John Bay.
Ruth Laitila

In honor of Mulligan, Oscar and Chrissy.
Laura Pederson

In honor of the October birthdays
of Joyce Ramee and Rodger Burnett.
Joan Schwartzman

In loving memory of Taj ~ a regal,
fluffy and cherished family member.
Michelle Stevens

In memory of Alice Roddis.
E. Gaye & William McGovern

In honor of a dear friend, Christina.
Karen Griffin

Our adopted male black cat,
Ron continues to bring so much joy to our lives.
Thank you MEOW Cat Rescue!
Kevin Hathaway

In memory of shy Solana (aka Schooner),
constant companion of and sorely missed
by her sister Gracie.
Jean Bell

STOCKING STUFFER IDEAS

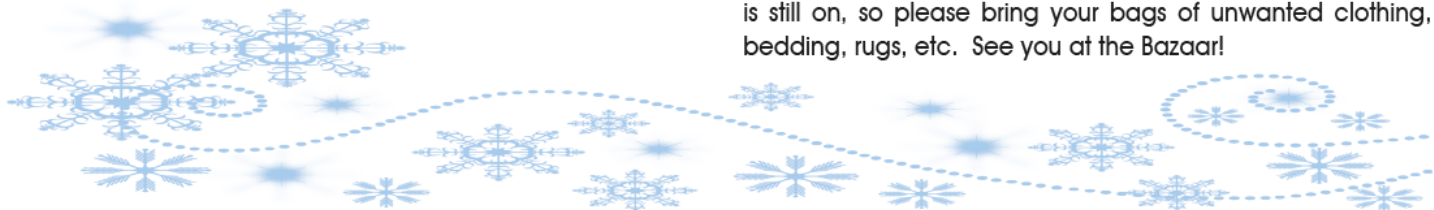
GIVE THE GIFT OF MEOW

Our logo says it all, "all nine lives are precious". This holiday season, give the gift of MEOW with the purchase of any of our great MEOW merchandise. Your friends and family will love our commemorative playing card deck, 2017 wall calendar, tasteful car magnet, window cling, t-shirts, hoodies, $\frac{3}{4}$ zip sweatshirts (each in a variety of colors and sizes), license plate frames, travel cups, messenger bags and more. Many of these items will be available for sale at our Holiday Bazaar on Dec 3th at the Unitarian Universalist Church on 4th Ave S and State Street in Kirkland. Or, stop by the shelter anytime and pick up the perfect items to stuff those stockings and support MEOW.

MEOW'S HOLIDAY BAZAAR & OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3TH FROM 12 PM - 5 PM

You won't want to miss this! Our annual Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale will once again be in the Chapel at the Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church, located about 3 blocks northwest of the shelter, at 308 4th Ave S, just off State Street in Kirkland. As always, we'll have beautiful handcrafted items and delicious baked goods for sale, generously donated by our volunteers and supporters. There will also be MEOW logo merchandise available and fun raffle drawings. Come on by, do some holiday shopping and then head over to the shelter to enjoy refreshments and conversation with volunteers, adopters and MEOW feline residents. Your donation of pet food will help support our Animeals food drive for families in need, distributed by Hopelink. MEOW Canine Division's donation drive is still on, so please bring your bags of unwanted clothing, bedding, rugs, etc. See you at the Bazaar!



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