



# MEOW CAT RESCUE & ADOPTION

CELEBRATING 19 YEARS OF RESCUE  
AND OVER 20,000 PRECIOUS LIVES SAVED

Spring 2016

*"Where do all of these cats come from?" It's a common question from new visitors. There is a story for every cat and kitten. Some bring a tear to the eye, others make us smile. But, no matter how the story begins, its ending, like each cat, is precious.*

## SPECIAL DELIVERY



Uber

A young man rushed into the shelter with a large longhaired black and white cat spilling out of his arms. As someone ran for a carrier to contain the cat, he began to explain that he needed to find a shelter for this cat today. He had no carrier because this was not his cat – nor was the other one. He gestured toward the door. Looking out the

window we could see a car with an open hatchback and a man nervously waving his hand in a "stop" gesture toward what appeared to be a piece of luggage. We descended upon him en mass, asking him to please zip the cat inside the suitcase so he would not escape into the parking lot before we could safely bring him into the shelter.

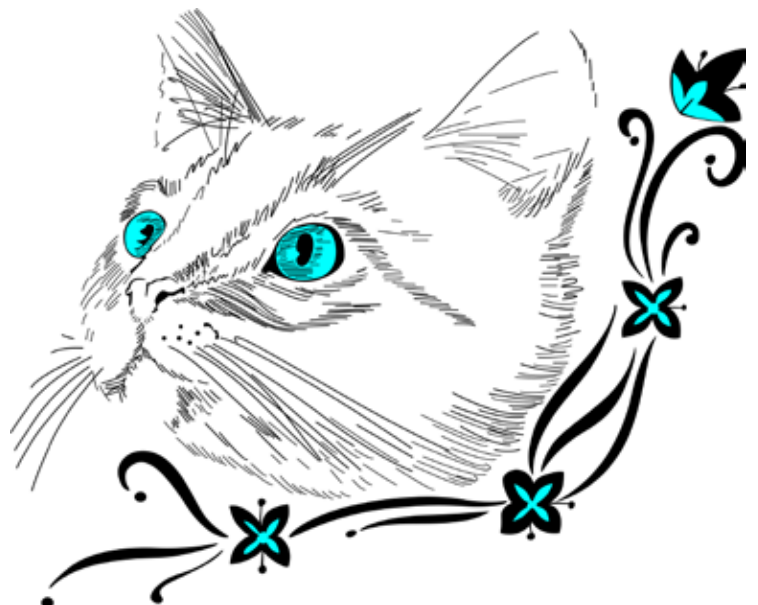
After both cats were settled into carriers, it was time to learn their complicated story. The two big friendly tuxedo cats had been seen for some time running loose in Ravenna, with no visible means of care, and dangerously close to traffic. The man felt he must do something. Luckily, one of the cats had been wearing a collar. He thought he'd just return them home and all would be well. But no such luck. His heart sank when the owner said thanks, but she really didn't want the cats back. Now what? The man told us the cats had already been turned down by two other shelters. And he was on the clock. Because he drives a motorcycle, he hired a driver, but this rescue mission had become much more difficult than expected.

At this point, the hired driver was clearly annoyed, the young man was quite desperate, and the cats were confused, but handling the chaos like gentlemen – in tuxedos, no less. We had no choice but to accept this very special delivery.

Less than twenty-four hours later, two new lives had begun. The brothers, now called Uber and Satchel, returned from the spay/neuter clinic hungry and happy to have soft, warm beds. After cleaning their plates twice, they settled in for the night, to sleep, perchance to dream of a home where they will be cherished as the precious gentleman cats they are. Sometimes life travels include short layovers. Just one week after their arrival at MEOW Uber and Satchel took another trip together, this time into their new forever lives.



Satchel



## NINJA ~ POSITIVELY PRECIOUS



Ninja

On an all too regular basis MEOW is faced with what appear to be impossible challenges and yet, each time, we somehow find the strength and the resources to keep our commitment to every single life entrusted to our care.

In the summer of 2014, a group of kittens transferred from another shelter included Ninja, a kitten who tested

positive for feline leukemia, FeLV, a viral disease that suppresses the immune system. She arrived with a persistent upper respiratory infection and stubborn gastric parasites. In spite of these things, Ninja remained an energetic, vibrant, bright-eyed, shiny-coated little purring bundle of love during her long stay in our Isolation ward. When finally well, Ninja went to live in a special foster home, remaining on our adoptable list in hopes that right family might fall for her.

Because of her FeLV+ status, she would require a certain kind of home, as an only cat or with other cats who are also FeLV+. Like all MEOW kitties, she would need to be protected from random illnesses and wounds by being kept strictly indoors. A nutritious diet would help keep her immune system strong. Feline Leukemia cannot be contracted by humans or dogs. It is possible that Ninja would have a shortened life, but it is also possible that she would remain healthy well into her teens. Ninja was safe with us, as are all of the special needs animals in our care.

Yes, it does take longer and is usually more expensive to find forever homes for the special ones, but we are committed to each and every one of them. We want you to be so proud to support MEOW. We're in it for the long haul. Our commitment is steadfast. Our promise is profound.

Now approaching her second birthday, Ninja has been blessed. MEOW has been blessed. Ninja has been chosen by her forever family and she's getting daily doses of unconditional love from her mom and dad.

So many times throughout the year, MEOW is faced with the impossible and each and every day we recommit ourselves to something we truly believe in, the motto we adopted at our inception ....all nine lives are precious. Ninja's life is precious indeed.

## FINE WINES & FELINES AUCTION FUNDRAISER SAVE THE DATE ~ SATURDAY JUNE 18TH NEW START TIME ~ 5:30 PM



Mark your calendar, and note our earlier start time, for our 11th annual Fine Wines & Felines ~ MEOW Luau! We have a lot of fun things planned so you won't want to miss this one. The HUB Ballroom on the UW Campus will be our "island" locale for the evening. In case of a tropical rain storm, or if you just prefer to be delivered in style, you'll be comfortably shuttled in covered golf carts from the parking lot to the HUB.

For your bidding pleasure there will be more than 200 items in our silent and live auctions. We'll be hosting a scrumptious vegetarian buffet style dinner, and offering wine, beer and a signature cocktail, as well. Have a good time with friends and hopefully win some great auction items while supporting the cats and dogs whose health and happiness depends on all of us.

Watch our website and your mailbox later this spring for registration details and more information. Event sponsorships are still available to businesses and individuals from \$250 to \$1000. If you'd like to donate, we'd love a bottle or two of wine or craft beer, a gift card to a local restaurant, coffee shop, retail store, or something from our Amazon.com 2016 Auction Wish list.

Other ideas? Questions? Email us at [meowauction@gmail.com](mailto:meowauction@gmail.com). See you there! Aloha!



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](mailto:Info@meowcatrescue.org)  
[Newsletter@meowcatrescue.org](mailto:Newsletter@meowcatrescue.org)  
[www.meowcatrescue.org](http://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

## OLIVE ~ NO COMING BACK



Olive

Olive came to MEOW in 2010 at the age of five. Her family felt she was at a disadvantage as she had been declawed but their other cats had not. Her people had not realized that declawing is amputation at the last knuckle. In addition to removing the cat's first line of defense, the procedure can result

in post-surgical infection, pain, arthritis, and sometimes permanent lameness. Olive seemed to display no negative effects from the surgery other than a tiny "tortitude", the fussy personality for which tortoiseshell cats are sometimes known. She was adopted by someone who would understand a spirited cat.

Things went fairly well in Olive's home for the next few years. However, as time went on, something changed. She might accept petting for a short time but then would give a swat or even a bite. Last May her family felt her behavior had become risky around their child. She would be coming back.

During her first few weeks at the shelter, Olive screamed and hissed when anyone came near. She refused food. Even warm spoonfuls of baby food were swatted away with all her feline might. She was moved into the back office area to limit her interaction with volunteers. Still, she delivered some pretty impressive bite wounds. Behaviors such as these are not unusual for declawed cats, who may be experiencing the phenomena called "phantom pain" in their paws. We followed a plan devised by our behavioral veterinarian, which included specific ways of interacting with Olive along with anti-anxiety medication and pain management.

Today Olive's neurological pain is well managed. She happily accepts visitors in the Summer Suite and enjoys the occasional play date with long term shelter resident Sweet Pea. If you know anyone who believes declawing is a good solution, please invite them to view "The Paw Project" movie, available on demand on iTunes, or to borrow our copy on DVD. If Olive could speak on her own behalf, surely she would plead that no other cats should have to endure what she has. There is no coming back from this life-changing mutilation. Twice she has lost her home due to having been declawed. We hope with all of our hearts that when she bids us farewell a third time there will be, in a good way, no coming back.

## THREE MEANT TO BE

Chrissy and Chloe started their lives in a home with way too many cats, definitely a hoarding situation. Ginger, young and pregnant, was found in a field in Granite Falls. Although they didn't all start their lives together, their paths merged at MEOW, and these three young adult kitties would love to be adopted together. When you visit them in the community room at the shelter, you can see just how bonded they are. They look to each other for snuggles, comfort, dining companionship and even baths. Chloe and Chrissy thought they had a forever home late last year, but it just wasn't quite right. When they came back, we could tell Ginger was beyond ecstatic. Maybe that home wasn't right because they were all meant to be together. That's what we think anyway.

None of these girls will require your undivided attention. You may not even notice them at times as they are a bit shy and more into each other than humans. But, they're young, love toys and as they get comfortable with you, will love you as well. If you have room in your heart and home for three cats who won't be in your face, and will be each others' best friends, please come meet them. We're hoping there is someone out there with enough love in their heart, and a big enough bed for all three of these wonderful girls.



Chloe, Ginger & Chrissy



To our friends at Feral Cat Spay Neuter Project ~ Congratulations on your 100,000th spay/neuter surgery!! Thank you for changing so many lives.



# TO HONOR & REMEMBER

In remembrance of my cat Zoe, who passed away on October 2 at 18 years of age.

*Aileen Murphy*

In honor of Jasper, who became a member of our family thanks to MEOW.  
*Lauren Gaddy*

In honor of Symba and Tiger.  
*Kat Lee*

Picard, rest in peace my angel.  
*Pat Baxter*

In memory of our friend's cats, Baja and Boots.  
*Richard & Mary Anderson*

In memory of Debbie Chilcott, a wonderful mom, daughter, sister, cousin, friend and devoted animal lover. We will miss you so much!  
*Stephanie Day*

In memory of Lil Bit, our sweet kitty with the beautiful eyes. We miss her.  
*Richard & Eunice Grubb*

In honor of all the hard work, love and dedication Marnie Annin does for MEOW!  
*Susan Zehnder*

Honoring our precious cat, Penelope, who gave us nearly 20 years of joy. We miss her.  
*Bonnie & Jay Blish*

In honor of our Sandycat.  
*Jan & John Bloomquist*

In honor of Indie.  
*Carol Ross*

In memory of Lisa Breiwick.  
*Trez Buckland*

In memory of our wonderful cats Runt and Missy and in honor of our cat Savannah, "The Big Dog".  
*Gerry & Mary Marsh*

In memory of Margie Squifflet.  
*Edmond Squifflet*

In memory of my husband, Mark.  
*Vickie Russell*

In honor of Norman, a blind kitty adopted from MEOW by Linda Crook more than 14 years ago. Norman recently passed away after a long and happy life in his new home.

Thank you for all that you do.  
*Heidi Nance*

In honor of our departed boys, Milo and Bon-Bons (who joined him this year). We miss you.  
*Audian*

In memory of my beloved cat, Sam.  
*Susim Chen*

In honor of Super Cat. Even though it's been 65 years, I still remember you.  
*Phyllis Albrecht*

In honor of Pixie, who brought years of joy and laughter to my mother, brother and sister in law. We miss you sweet kitty.  
*Debra Prentice*

In honor of Dimitri.  
*Edward Mack*

Taking another trip around the sun with 8 year old brothers, Boo and Atticus. Thank you MEOW!  
*Marti MacPhee*

In memory of Monty Love, April and Mary Jane.  
*Patti Kibbe*

In memory of Hermione and MacGregor.  
*Megan Moholt*

In lieu of Christmas gifts, please accept this for all the work you do to help the cats and in honor of Angie and Bruce, true cat friends and supporters.  
*Patricia Miller*

In loving memory of Scooter, adopted from MEOW in 2003 and our little buddy for ten years.  
*Rod & Karen Williams*

In loving memory of BiBi.  
*Anita Thompson*

In memory of Tofu and Tiki.  
*Minna Levitt*

In memory of our beloved Lily.  
*Kori Barnum*

In honor of our MEOW cat, Nelle, 7 years.  
*Joan Hutto*

I miss and love you so much Bowie!  
*Charis Kubrin*

We honor and love our MEOW kitty, Snowflake.  
*Penny Crowe*

In remembrance of Calvin & Hobbs, adopted in 1995. Barn cats for 15 years, house cats for five.  
*Andrea Lorig*

In honor of our daughters, Tiffany Bygd and Angela McBride.  
*Bryan & Priscilla McCarty*

To my brilliant Teacup, so wild, brave and true. How we miss you. Love you forever.  
*Barbara Kajiya*

In honor of my mother, Rhoda.  
*Michele Lechner*

In memory of "Late Wednesday Afternoon Lower Salmon River" aka Sam ~ dainty, delightful, affectionate and improbable little siamese. Greatly missed.  
*Joanna Buehler*

In honor of Boo ~ so grateful for all your company and love. You're with me always!  
*Leslie Butler*

In honor of Shirley Kanda.  
*Roger Fukai*

In honor of Dewey ~ 14 years of antics!  
*Bridget Dacres*

In memory of Gracie Bingham ~ a young, beautiful Maine Coon who passed away long before she should have.  
*Suzanne Bingham*

In honor of Katrina, she found her forever home with me.  
*Patt Ayers*

For my dear friend and cat lover, Jolie Scheibe.  
*Lori Hendry*

In honor of my Oma.  
*Susan Vossler*

In honor of Chloe Eads-Price, "Our little girl".  
*Ray & Nancy Eads*

In memory of my Bailey Blue Eyes. When I eat popcorn or roast chicken, I can hear you beside me begging for some and of course I spoiled you. I miss you, Bailey.  
*Donna Lee Suelzle*

In memory of Marianne Reynolds.  
*Petra Ritchie*

Our beloved kitty, Chuck was a beneficiary of your Mercy Fund for his entropion surgery. He has brought us so much love, laughter and happiness that we wanted other kitties and their future families to benefit too.  
*Delia Snyder-Haymond*

In honor of my great co-workers at Parker Smith & Feek, who allow me to volunteer with this fabulous organization.  
*Jolie Scheibe*

In honor of Sara, our dearly departed world's best cat.  
*Jessica Greenway & Ken Nelson*

In memory of Neko-Chan Konichiwa. Gone from us too soon and Fender's keeper for 21 years ~ never forgotten, always loved.  
*Sue Schankel*

In honor of Judith Lipton and David Barash.  
*Anita Shaffer*

In remembrance of Orangle, a MEOW cat, beautiful and much loved.  
*The Jessens*

In memory of Egypt and in honor of her sister Sundae ~ our beloved MEOW kitties.  
*Christy Reynolds*

In gratitude to Janis Newman for enriching my life with Hissy and Zorro. Always with me.  
*Stephen Lamphear*

In memory of our loving cat Ben, who fought a valiant fight with lymphoma.  
*Janet Mills*

In honor of Lauren Kanda.  
*Roger Fukai*

In honor of my niece, Katy Rosenlund, one of your fine volunteers and supporters.  
*Ruth Matthews*

In loving memory of Tiger Lily.  
*Norma Hobbs*

In loving memory of Moppel. He was adopted in the fall of 2003 and was the most wonderful cat and companion, he will be missed.  
*Monika Senf*

In memory of my cat, Levi.  
*Shane Cozwith*

To honor my lifelong friend Joann on her birthday.  
*Zita Petkus*

In memory of my mom.  
*Christine Grossman*

In memory of Eloise Helbert, a cat lover to the end of her life.  
*Meredith Munk*

In remembrance of Mollie.  
*Brad & Loring*



## SAVED BEFORE SNOWFALL

As winter approached, the winds in Eastern Washington began to bite. Ten young cats huddled together for warmth, sometimes under the junipers, or near the garden shed on the property. This place near Pullman was their home but things had changed recently. The elderly couple had to move to town where they would have the help they needed. Their daughter had agreed to go to the property to feed the cats a few times a week as long as the dirt road into the place remained passable. But now it was getting so cold and very soon the snow would come.

As soon as she found out about this family of kitties fending for themselves, a kind woman who identified herself as "really a dog person" began reaching out to rescue resources on the Western side of the state. The cats, mostly red tabbies, were described as a bit nervous and shy but they could be touched, and the patriarch of the group was a pushover. He really liked belly rubs!

Of the ten cats on the property, three found their calling as barn cats, and one was placed with family friends. The other six came over the mountains, all of them together in a large dog crate, with the "dog person" and her husband. Three boys and three girls, once again huddled together for comfort and reassurance. The big boy, now named Major Tom, served as the father figure to the others, remaining calm and demonstrating his trust for each new person he met on arrival at MEOW. The young boys looked to him for guidance. The girls watched too, wide-eyed.

Major Tom, the only one already neutered, was given a cage on the adoption floor when his intake procedures were finished. Soon after, we could tell he was depressed. It was clear this little family needed one another. Days later, all the boys were greeting visitors in the Back Room, romping on the climbers, happily chasing fly toys when offered the opportunity. Their stay was short. All three boys and one of the girls have found their forever homes. We're hopeful that China and Genie won't have to wait long for theirs.

The snow has long since covered the dirt road leading to the empty house outside Pullman. Thanks to the efforts of one "dog person", all these young cats will go on to live each of their precious nine lives.



Major Tom & Ziggy Stardust

## PUSSYCAT PANTRY HELP STOCK THE SHELTER SHELVES

Today the cats' fondest wish is for canned food, a staple at MEOW. 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 those 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 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  
Copy Paper  
Costco Gift Cards  
Target Gift Cards



## HURRAY, IT'S SPRING! BUT BE AWARE OF POTENTIAL HAZARDS

Springtime decorations liven the scene, but some also pose life threatening hazards to pets. Easter lilies and related lily plants, including daffodils, are highly toxic to cats. Stringy things like Easter grass can create a deadly linear foreign body if ingested. Chocolate is hazardous to both dogs and cats. Xylitol, an artificial sweetener, is potentially very toxic to dogs and ferrets. Please keep your pets safe all year round by making wise decorating choices and always keep dangerous foods stored safely out of their reach. Happy Spring!

**GIVEBIG**  
TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE AN IMPACT  
TUESDAY, MAY 3RD



We are once again excited to participate in Seattle Foundation's one day, 24 hour, on-line charitable giving event designed to inspire people in our community to give generously to the nonprofit organizations that make our region a stronger, more vibrant one for all. Again this year, there will be a stretch

pool, making your donations go even farther. Last year, you, our amazing supporters, donated almost \$28,000 to help the precious ones we serve at MEOW! Watch our website and our e-newsletter, MEOW MEWS, in the near future to learn more. Your gift will go even farther and help MEOW even more on Tuesday May 3rd.

**PINTS FOR PETS 2016**  
TWO LOCATIONS ~ TWO GREAT BREWERIES

Wednesday, April 13th from 5pm to 9pm -- Get your taxes done early and celebrate with a beer or two at Postdoc Brewing, located at 17625 NE 65th Street, Suite 100, in Redmond. Postdoc Brewing will be generously donating \$1 to MEOW for every pint poured. There will be fun and games, and a lot of great beer.



Also, mark your calendar for a Halloween themed Pints for Pets, October 27th, at Reuben's Brews in Ballard. Reuben's Brews will be donating \$1 for every pint poured as part of their "Thankyou Thursdays" events. There will be a fun costume contest and again, lots of great beer!