



# MEOW CAT RESCUE & ADOPTION

CELEBRATING 21 YEARS OF RESCUE  
AND OVER 22,000 PRECIOUS LIVES SAVED

Spring 2018

## HELPING WILLIE HEAL



Willie

Lyrics from a 1970's song say, "Bless the beasts and the children, for in this world they have no voice, they have no choice." So it was for Willie, a cat who became collateral damage in the human drama that unfolded around him.

In the early morning hours of a November day, the world was too much for the man who had once cared for Willie and his sister. He texted a neighbor, threatening to commit suicide. He holed up in his garage with a weapon. When smoke was seen coming from the house, fire crews arrived to the sound of explosives or gunshots. How the last minutes or hours unfolded is unknown, but the man did take his own life.

One of the two cats living at the home was humanely trapped several days later and taken to a nearby shelter. His microchip identified him as Willie, who had been adopted from MEOW as a kitten about 9 years ago. But this cat presented as feral, hissing, lunging, and threatening anyone who dared to approach his cage. His behavior was evidence of the terrible trauma he had witnessed and endured.

Willie was transferred to MEOW, where, for the next few weeks, he continued to protect himself and refuse every offer of comfort. With hope for a good outcome, another cat was introduced into Willie's suite. A natural therapist, Rebel rushed to Willie, purring and giving soft head bunks. Willie's soul began to heal that day. The tentative hissing stopped. He timidly welcomed the touch of loving hands.

Willie is a survivor. He continues to find his voice, to claim his blessings with the aid of loving humans and open-hearted cat companions. We are thrilled that in late February, Willie found his forever home with the perfect family who understands his traumatic past, where he'll be safe and loved, where he can speak his love in return.

## ATTICUS DESERVES A CHANCE

Atticus appeared to be the picture of health at 8 years old. But he had been straining in his litter box, vomiting, and his back legs had suddenly become weak. At the vet, he howled as his extremely full bladder was palpated. Struvite crystals were causing a life-threatening urinary blockage. Unfortunately, when IV fluids were administered to flush his bladder, Atticus went into congestive heart failure. The estimated cost of hospitalization to attempt to save Atticus would run into the thousands of dollars, with no guarantee of a positive outcome. Other options were euthanasia or relinquishment to MEOW. Thankfully, his owners opted for the latter.



Atticus

Perhaps Atticus had been struggling with painful urination for some time. Subtle changes in activity, appetite, and elimination habits may not be observed in indoor/outdoor cats until health issues become significant and possibly life-threatening. Feline Lower Urinary Tract Disease, FLUTD, can often be controlled by a prescribed diet, but once a cat has had a blockage, they are more prone to a recurrence

and should be watched carefully.

As for Atticus' heart condition, it had never been noted before, likely because he had not seen a vet since his kitten exam several years ago. Annual exams often catch disease processes in their beginning stages, and early intervention may provide a much better prognosis. For this late discovery, a veterinary cardiologist has prescribed several medications and Atticus' prognosis is fair to guarded. However, if he responds well to his new medications, he could have a significantly better outcome. Only time will tell.

For now, Atticus is getting multiple daily doses of loving attention from his Ninth Life Division fosters, who have fallen in love with this sweet boy. All nine of Atticus' lives are precious to us. We're proud and grateful that we can be there for him to offer him the very best second chance.



## NINETEEN CATS AND COUNTING



Halo Chiffon

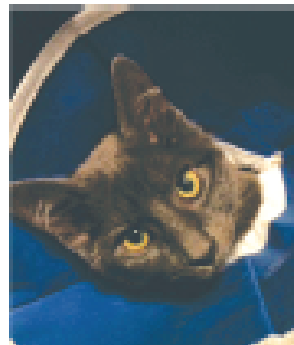
If you ever doubted that cats, left to their own devices, reproduce at a remarkable rate, please consider this case in point. Recently we were asked to help an elderly woman whose cat population was "getting out of hand". A little over two years ago a well-meaning relative had purchased a female kitten on Craigslist and given it to the woman to keep her company. The kitten, whom she named Lilly, was not spayed.

Kittens can reach reproductive age as early as four months. Lilly had her first litter of five when scarcely more than a kitten herself. Soon after, her kittens began having kittens. The woman would give a kitten to anyone who would take one, but she was unable to keep up with the increasing numbers. She realized she needed help when she noticed that Lilly's daughter, Skinny, seemed unable to care for her four-week-old litter and that one of her kittens had died. When our rescue team arrived that same day, the tiny kitten was ice cold and motionless. However, she was still alive – barely. Mama Skinny and her babies were thin. Some of the babies were slightly less than the expected weight of one pound, but the fragile wee one was only four ounces, approximately the weight of a healthy newborn kitten. Tiny Halo, also suffering with a badly infected eye, was immediately sent to a specialized foster home where she could receive round the clock intensive care. Halo is growing but will soon be facing yet another challenge, surgery for pectus excavatum, a deformity of the chest wall.

In total, our MEOW team removed a total of 19 cats and kittens from the home. We dubbed this extended family "the Chiffons", for their amazingly silky fur. Skinny and her larger kittens went to a foster home to continue to grow. Several young adults prepared for new lives – Aldo, Tavi, Donatella, Sofia, Margherita, Carlotta, Viola, Francesca, and on and on. And Grandma Lilly, who is less than three years old, is spending her last pregnancy in foster care.

This is where the counting ends. It'll be happily ever after for the Chiffons.

## HAVE MERCY



Puck

It was late on a Thursday evening when a kind woman asked us to help a kitten she had found in her yard. He was cold, wet, and dragging one of his hind legs. Immediately, he was transported to Eastside Veterinary Associates for radiographs, which revealed a badly broken and displaced femur. The two bone ends were not in line with one another, leaving the leg dangling and unable to bear any weight whatsoever. Within an hour we had a decision to make.

The leg could be amputated. This would be the most economical choice and the kitten, now named Puck, would heal quickly. Kittens, and even adult cats, can do very well with an amputated limb.

The other option was orthopedic surgery. The bone ends could be lined up and secured with a metal plate. Post op, he would need pain management, weeks of cage confinement, as well as daily physical therapy. This would be a lengthy and very expensive choice, but we could save his leg. Now we had to hurry.

The next morning Puck was admitted to the ER at Seattle Veterinary Specialists in Kirkland. That afternoon, Dr. Vince used a tiny plate with seven screws to reconnect and stabilize Puck's left femur. By evening, Puck was sitting up and taking nourishment. He was an ideal patient for this surgery. Broken kitten bones heal well when addressed in a timely manner.

We are so thankful for MEOW's Mercy Fund, which was created for just such medical emergencies, and so very grateful to our donors who support us in the choices which affect the futures of the animals in our care. Because of your mercy, Puck will soon be kicking up his heels. All four of them.





## PUSS 'N PINTS AT 2 DOORS DOWN WEDNESDAY MAY 9TH



Please join us and the generous folks at 2 Doors Down on Capitol Hill on giveBIG day, Wednesday, May 9th, for our second annual Puss

'n Pints, a celebration of cats and cat-themed beers! A portion of the evening's sales will be donated to MEOW. We'll be there, hopefully with a few spokeskittens and raffle prizes. It's a great way to celebrate giveBIG day, Seattle Beer Week, and the amazing work and animals of MEOW. Hope to see you there. More information coming soon on our website and in our MEOW MEWS. Learn more about 2 Doors Down at [www.twodoorsseattle.com](http://www.twodoorsseattle.com).

## 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 (any)  
Royal Canin Mother & Baby Cat Kibble  
Royal Canin Sensitive Digestion  
Unscented Clumping Clay Litter  
Liquid Laundry Detergent HE  
Kitchen Drawstring Bags  
Bleach  
Postage Stamps  
Paper Towels  
Hand Sanitizer  
Costco Gift Cards  
Target Gift Cards  
Fred Meyer Gift Cards  
Staples Gift Cards



## 2017 WAS QUITE A YEAR BY THE NUMBERS



Thanks to you, our amazing donors, volunteers, and adopters, we had a lot of successes and happy endings last year. We started 2017 with 116 cats in our care, either at the shelter or in foster homes. Throughout the year we rescued 386 kittens and

354 adult cats (68 strays, 213 owner relinquished, 363 transfers from other agencies or rescuers, and 78 from other sources). Thanks to our dedicated staff and adoption counselors, we placed 387 kittens and 353 adults into forever homes. It took, on average, a little over two months for each cat to find his forever home. Through our public spay/neuter voucher program we financed and facilitated 249 after surgeries for pets of community members needing help to do the right thing. Additionally, we provided financial support to 8 senior citizens for veterinary care, which kept their cats with them, where they belong.

We are so thankful for our amazing in-shelter volunteers, who logged over 30,000 hours during the year. Other than making purrfect matches, they spent their time preparing over 60,000 dinner plates, scooping over 90,000 litter boxes, and washing and drying over 4,000 loads of laundry. Just as amazing, but much harder to quantify, were the hours spent by our foster families, caring for the little ones, the sick ones, and the elderly in their homes, and our outreach and special event volunteers raising awareness and critical funds. MEOW is so fortunate and grateful to be part of such a caring village. Here's to more successes in 2018!

## NEW SPRING SHELTER HOURS

While our shelter population is lower, during March, April and May, the shelter will be closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We are open Mondays and Thursdays from 3 - 7 pm, Fridays from 12 - 7 pm, and Saturdays and Sundays from 12 - 5 pm. As of Memorial Day, we will resume our regular open hours on Wednesdays.

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:  
Mon. and Thurs. 3 - 7PM  
Fri. 12 - 7PM  
Sat. 12 - 5PM  
Sun. 12 - 5PM  
Closed Tues., Wed., and  
Major Holidays

# TO HONOR & REMEMBER

In honor of Hathaway, adopted from  
MEOW in December 2003.  
*Beverly Taraska*

In memory of Smokey,  
the most amazing cat ever!  
*Laura Kilkelly*

In memory of Bella Rosatto.  
*David Alvar*

In honor of Bonne VeVee, a saint.  
*Judith Lipson*

In honor of Mary Charlton.  
*Joan Marsh*

In memory of Raika. Thank you for nearly  
18 strange and wonderful years,  
and bus buddy Jim Hamett.  
*Karyn & Michael Angulo*

In memory of Mama, who went from a  
feisty foster cat to a loving lap cat.  
*Judy Anderson*

In honor of Mary Stellan  
and in memory of Minnie.  
*Bob Stellan*

In memory of my furbabies in Heaven:  
Max, Sasha, Pea, Mouse, Plum,  
Nancy, Al, Tully and Katie.  
Thank you for your love.  
*Leslye Lewis*

In honor of Chrissy, Muffin and Ginger,  
celebrating two years with us  
from MEOW.  
*Ruth Bishop*

In honor of C.J. and Maxine,  
wonderful companions.  
*Jessica Greenway*

In honor of Carolyn Sherman.  
*Patricia Sherman*

To honor Scout, best kitty ever!  
*Alan & Janan Carter*

Greetings to Mai Mostad and her cats  
Cujo, Mambo, Noodle and Pita.  
*Judi Sorensen*

In memory of the Cervenkas'  
beloved dog, Simcoe.  
*Your friends at MEOW*

In honor of Bella, a continuous source of  
amusement and affection since 2010.  
*Lynn Schnapp*

Can't imagine life without our  
sweet 15 year old Coco Puff!  
*Christian Sorensen*

In honor of Tucker & Zack,  
MEOW brothers adopted 10 years ago.  
*Davis Harling*

In memory of Mishka, Kazi,  
Magik, and Genki.  
*Douglas Tsuji*

Rest in peace, sweet Thomas.  
We love you.  
*Colin*

In loving memory of Thomas and  
Annabelle, MEOW rescues we miss dearly.  
*Heidi Langley*

Thank you to Nancy Faulkner  
for great kittens.  
*Anonymous*

In loving memory of my husband, Mark.  
*Yicki Russell*

In honor of Buddy, Jackson, Wilson,  
Sammy, and Oliver. We miss you!  
*Cathy Neir*

In memory of my sweet kitty, Sugar Plum.  
*Gayle Nelson*

In honor of Celia & Casey, adoptive "staff"  
for Omen, a special kitty.  
*C.A. Tarabulski*

In memory of Dilemma, adopted as an adult  
from MEOW more than 14 years ago.  
*Linda & Dan Elman*

In memory of Zach Jim.  
*The Van Houten family*

In honor and memory of Sue Jordan,  
who loved kittens.  
*Norma Hobbs*

To honor Dewey, rescued  
by MEOW 17 years ago.  
*Bridget Dacres*

In honor of four beautiful  
rescued kittens.  
*Carly Nicefaro*

Remembering Egypt, a larger-than-life  
personality, and honoring Sundae,  
our "kitten", even sweeter than  
her name implies.  
*Christy Reynolds*

In memory of Beulah, Peppy, Fidget, Frowny,  
Harshel, Bippy, Mavis, Maxine, Brewster,  
Harley, Robert Thomas,  
and Billie Jean. In honor of Mitty,  
Chester and El Jefe.  
*Nancy Jackson*

In honor of our goofy, sweet Sherman  
adopted on 12/31/13, for all the  
pleasure he has brought our home.  
*Talley Hudson*

In loving memory of my friend,  
Bella Rosatto.  
*Janet Wren*

In loving memory of Donna's precious,  
pampered Pinky, who knew only  
abundant love for 22 wonderful years!  
*Aunt Lisa*

In honor of Mikiko, who wishes  
all cats had forever homes.  
*Donna Pearl*

In honor of Mikiko Patzwald's  
11th birthday.  
*Grandma & Grandpa Patzwald*

In honor of my cat, Hunter.  
*LaVonne Schott*

In loving memory of Bower, a very special  
friend and companion.  
*Ruth Laila*

In memory of Heidi, Puppens, Sammy &  
Elvis, and honor of Marian Z.  
*Joe & Mar*



# TO HONOR & REMEMBER

To honor and remember Duncan.  
*Vicki & Jim Morrison*

For my childhood cats Tiger and  
Samantha and to honor  
Amber and Josie.  
*Daniel Carey*

For Gaby, MEOW alumnus 2001,  
and in memory of her  
"sister," Moray.  
*Cathy Bohke*

In memory of David B. Linse and in  
honor of Nikko and Natasha,  
our dearly departed pussies.  
*Mary Ann Tabin*

In honor of R. Chin.  
*Lily Lock*

In honor of Fluffy, a special  
companion to Michael.  
*Trisha Nerney*

In loving memory of Bower Lailia.  
*All your friends at MEOW*

In honor of David Linse.  
*Mary Wright*

In honor of John and his kitties,  
Wylie, Beccali, and Charlie.  
*Tammie Fahn*

In honor of Phoebe  
*Chris Moore*

In memory of David Linse  
and all of the "baby cats"  
who passed before him.  
*Angela Linse*

For MEOW kitty Clarissa,  
the best blessing!  
*Mike Radel*

Remembering Calvin & Hobbs  
and honoring Odie.  
*Andrea Larig*

Our furry family members from MEOW  
mean the world to us.  
*Elaine Schneus*

For my daughter,  
Katy Rosenlund, weekend volunteer  
and animal lover.  
*Joy Ramshur*

To remember Alice Christanson.  
*Kara & Joseph Davies*

In honor of Tom McGowan.  
*Patricia Garity*

In honor of Miss Molly (formerly Esmeralda),  
adopted August 2015.  
*Carol Greenough*

In loving memory of Grandma Ruth.  
*Christina & Chris Meyers*

In honor of Nalle, our 9 year old  
MEOW cat. Happy!  
*Frederick & Joan Hutto*

In memory of our kitties.  
*William Forrest*

In honor of Jaimie Guagliano.  
*Rebecca Harris*

In loving memory of our sweet  
MEOW cat, Lydia.  
*Ann, David, Victoria & Elizabeth*

In loving memory of Nydia's Abby.  
*All your friends at MEOW*

In loving memory of Buddy & Rudy.  
*Christene Iverson*

For Boone Cat, a 2002 MEOW rescue cat.  
I miss you so much!  
*Sandy With*

Remembering my beloved Ouzo, Sake,  
Lily, and Cowboy. You came.  
You purred. You conquered.  
*Lynne Madrigal*

In loving memory of my husband,  
David Linse.  
*Carole Linse*

Remembering Gus and Sadie,  
2000 - 2017.  
*Alison Hirsch*

In memory of Tashmat.  
*Minna Levitt*



In honor of Jaimie Guagliano.  
*David Harris*

In gratitude for Luna and Oliver and guests  
at the Taubeneck holiday party.  
*Julie Zetterberg*

In memory of Bette Rosatto.  
May you fly with the angels.  
*Vicki Roberts*

To all the cats who have blessed my life.  
*Robin Hillier*

In honor of my wife, Carla Palapea,  
an advocate for all animals,  
especially cats.  
*Edward Pedersen*

In memory of Falki - Kayce Taylor;  
In memory of Midnight - Teri Haney;  
In memory of Angel -  
Cynthia Ostermiller and Gina Knuth;  
In memory of Jinx - Christina Hansen;  
In memory of Trxie;  
In memory of Colby - Kathryn Perkins;  
In memory of Little Guy - Darlene DeWitt.  
*City Kitty*

In memory of 16 wonderful years with  
MEOW tabby Tajar and of Jekyll,  
much loved beef buddy of  
our neighbor, Steve.  
*Jean Muir & Ian Walker*

In honor of Skye and Ilay,  
our lovely rescues.  
*Robert & Julia Harding*

In loving memory of our beloved  
baby boy, Appy Cat.  
*Noel & Chanel White*

In memory of 11 wonderful years  
with Scooter, Bandit and  
I miss you every day.  
*Cheryl Symonds*

In honor of cat-lover extraordinaire,  
Marika Fagan!  
*Kennedy White*

In honour of David De Vorchik.  
*LL Litwack*

In memory of Cherie.  
*Deborah Thompson*

**ONE WINES & FELINES 2018  
TAKE MEOW TO THE BALLGAME  
SATURDAY, JUNE 23RD — 5:30PM TO 9:30PM**

Mark your calendars and please plan to join us as we celebrate another great year at our 13<sup>th</sup> annual dinner and auction FUNdraiser! The HUB Ballroom on the UW Campus will be our home field for the evening. We will have covered golf carts available to shuttle you from the parking lot to the HUB in case of a rain delay, or if you just prefer to be delivered in style. For your bidding pleasure, there will be more than 200 items total 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 depend on all of us. Invitations will be mailed and online registration will be available in early May. Check our website [www.meowcatrescue.org](http://www.meowcatrescue.org) in the coming weeks for more information. Email us at [meowauction@gmail.com](mailto:meowauction@gmail.com) if you have questions or would like to donate an item. Our hope is that, if we plan it, you will come. See you there!

**GIVING FOR ALL  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 9TH**



We are once again excited to participate in Seattle Foundation's one day, twenty four hour, online 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 Dollars for Change giving us a chance to raise even more funds. Last year, you, our amazing supporters, donated almost \$29,000 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 Wednesday, May 9th. Do you have other plans that day? No worries. You may make your giveBIG donation as early as April 26th. Here's the link: [www.givebigseattle.org/meow-cat-rescue-adoption](http://www.givebigseattle.org/meow-cat-rescue-adoption).

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