

MEOW CAT RESCUE & ADOPTION

CELEBRATING 22 YEARS OF RESCUE
AND OVER 24,000 PRECIOUS LIVES SAVED

Spring 2019

ANGELS AMONG US

Senior shelter residents and those with chronic health conditions sometimes need (and deserve) a little advantage. Several years ago, some human angels sought to fill that need by providing a loving boost designed to increase potential adopter interest in these wonderful animals. They became Guardian Angels to some of these cats by paying it forward, covering their adoption fees. Since then, hundreds of cats have been sponsored by generous Guardian Angel donors and have been chosen as family members. Currently at the shelter there are a dozen cats who proudly wear the title Guardian Angel Cat.



Juanita

and doesn't mind the fluid therapy to help support her kidneys. Her Guardian Angel hopes that Juanita's sweet, loving personality will bring her a family who sees past her health hurdles.

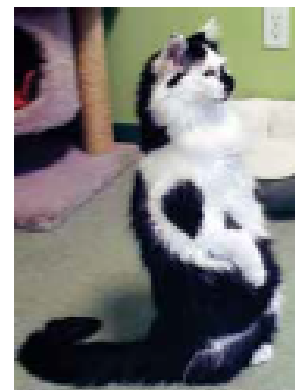


Tripp

Sixteen year old Mei Mei wants to be someone's Personal Assistant. She's ready and willing to reward your attention with sweet little kisses. Not long ago she was not feeling so well and having trouble keeping her meals down, but after medical treatment and a change in diet, she's fit as a fiddle. Mei Mei's Guardian Angel wants her to enjoy the rest of her life caring for a special human or two, keeping their feet warm at night and their hearts warm all day.



Mei Mei



Tripp

Meet Tripp. At just two years old, he has already spent too much of his life in the shelter. Considered the darling of The Cottage, he has welcomed many kittens there, and then watched as they've been chosen for a forever home. A natural greeter, Tripp enjoys human attention too. He loves being talked to and playing with interactive toys. We think he poses in silly positions just to make us laugh. Tripp has been diagnosed with Hypertrophic

Cardiomyopathy (HCM), in which the heart muscle is thickened. It is managed by daily oral medication, which he takes willingly in a pill pocket. His Guardian Angel believes that Tripp is so worthy of the best forever home, and is hoping his family comes and finds him soon.

Recently our Guardian Angel program was expanded by a generous donation in memory of a former Guardian Angel cat. Now, thanks to Tommy's Angel Aid, each Guardian Angel cat adopted will be going home with a month's supply of their food and medications. The Guardian Angel program and Tommy's Angel Aid were created to inspire the "better angel" in each of us, to encourage us to help in any way that we can, in order to grant senior and special cats the opportunity to live their best lives.



Angel Tommy

SMOOSHY AND PAPA COLOSSUS NO MORE WINKING AT THE LADIES



Smooshy

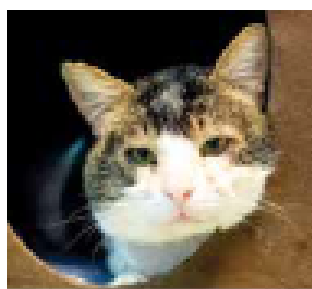
These two good-looking, big-cheeked, middle-aged brown tabbies had been procreating in different parts of the state for 6 to 7 years before coming into rescue. Initially, they were both a bit wary of humans but willing to give us

the time needed to softly speak our intentions and work up to petting and tummy rubs.

What may have added to their reticence was the pain they were most likely feeling. Both had significant dental disease, each desperately needing cleaning with multiple extractions. They could hardly open their red, weepy, swollen eyes. In addition to the other similarities, they shared a condition called entropion, which can be genetic or secondary to severe injury or chronic infection. Entropion causes the inward rolling of the edges of the eyelids resulting in irritation and scratches to the front surface of the eye. Self-trauma, due to the irritation, can contribute to the overall damage as well. Entropion can cause significant discomfort, trauma to the cornea, and even loss of eyesight unless addressed surgically.

We're thankful to the rescuers who brought Smooshy and Papa Colossus to MEOW. We're thankful to the doctors and staff at Northwest Animal Eye Specialists who helped them open their eyes and change their lives. We're especially thankful that Smooshy and Papa Colossus are now pain free and able to size up potential adopters who might talk to them gently and give good tummy rubs.

Breaking News! Recently these "brothers from other mothers" were introduced in our community room called The Library and they seemed to recognize themselves in one another. On that same day, they met their forever family! That's right, they will be spending their retirement years together, no doubt sharing stories of their adventures in days gone by. Godspeed, fellas!



Colossus

ROSIE THE UNEXPECTED JOY OF ADOPTING A SENIOR PET BY DR. AMY COTTILLE



Rosie

Last night our sweet old lady Rosie passed away. My entire life has been full of adopted pets through deliberate thought or random circumstance, but it happens they all ranged from a few weeks of age to perhaps six years old or so. I did not intend to adopt Rosie, we were not looking

for another cat and I only brought her home from the shelter because they were too crowded, I would bring her back when there was room. It happens she fit into our busy, loud, animal-and-person-filled household right from the beginning. She was frightened of nothing, ever. Completely unflappable. She tolerated dogs and visiting dogs and litters of foster kittens and noises of all kinds. She loved our family and guests, and would seek out affection from anyone. She acted like she'd never lived anywhere else. When there was room in the shelter I knew we'd never let her go back.

At the time I met her, I estimated Rosie to be around 16-17 years old. We knew we wouldn't have her long, but she exceeded all expectations and lived with our family for over four years. She was a big favorite with friends, extended family and pet sitters. I understand that we fear pet loss, one way we try and extend our time with an animal is to adopt them when they're young, when we have the best chance to be with them as long as possible. But friends, it doesn't always work that way, as any vet can tell you. Our last kitty died from an acute disease two months before her fourth birthday. Rosie lived with our family longer than Ophelia, whom we'd raised as a kitten. There are no guarantees in life.

The next time you consider adopting a pet, please consider a senior pet. They are more calm and steady, you know who they are when you meet them, far fewer questions about what they're going to be. Many older pets do like children, and active families, and active lifestyles. They have house manners, they know what's expected.

We wouldn't trade our time with Rosie for anything. Her personality was rare and delightful, we will always fondly remember our sweet old lady, and the love and sass she shared with our family.

Dr. Cottille is one of our amazing volunteer vets who visit the shelter on a regular basis and help keep all of our kitties healthy.

FLATSTICK SUNDAYS IN APRIL BEER, MINI GOLF & MEOW



All day Sunday, on each Sunday in April, Flatstick Pub in Kirkland will be donating to MEOU Cat Rescue \$2 for every beer they pour and \$2 for every round of mini golf purchased as part of their Sunday Fundraise! Their goal is to make Flatstick Pub more than just a bar where you can play games and drink really great Washington beer. Each Flatstick location aims to "tap" into their local community to help make it a better place. There will be plenty of fun and games, and of course, great beer. Each Sunday from 1pm to 4pm there will be a putting contest where you'll have a chance to win a Party Room reservation for a group of up to 20, which includes golf and a \$100 gift card. Please mark your calendar for at least one Sunday in April and join us at Flatstick Pub, all to benefit the animals.

WE GIVING TOGETHER! WEDNESDAY, MAY 8TH

I give. You give.
We give, together.



We are so excited that local nonprofits joined together and are making giveBIG 2019 happen after Seattle Foundation announced that 2018 would be the last year they'd host this amazing event. Partnering with 501 Commons, we are once again excited to

participate in this 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. Last year, you, our amazing supporters, donated just over \$38,000 to help the precious ones we serve at MEOU! Watch our website and our e-newsletter, MEOU MEWS, in the near future to learn more. Are you interested in providing matching funds to inspire other donors? Email joni@meowcatrescue.org for more information. Your gift will go even farther and help MEOU even more on Wednesday, May 8th.

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 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 Sensitive Digestion
Unscented Clumping Clay Litter
Liquid Laundry Detergent HE
Kitchen Garbage Bags
Bleach
Postage Stamps
Paper Towels
Hand Sanitizer
Costco Gift Cards
Target Gift Cards
Fred Meyer Gift Cards



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

MEOU Cat Rescue
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Kirkland WA 98033
425 822-MEOU (6369)

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

Hours:
Wed., Thurs., Fri. 3 - 7pm
Sat. 12 - 5PM
Sun. 12 - 5PM
Closed: Mon., Tues., and
major holidays

THE AMAZING SWEEPER



Sweeper

If Sweeper could talk, his life adventures would most likely amaze us and bring tears to our eyes. Found by a MEOW volunteer in the winter of 2010, a four-paw declaw, he had certainly been someone's indoor cat. His initial uneasiness at the shelter soon melted away and before long he was adopted.

Nine years later, Sweeper's human mom made the difficult decision to return him. For the past six years, since his human dad passed away, Sweeper had been having litter box issues. Although his mom sought veterinary solutions, she was distraught and not always able to medicate Sweeper.

Some cats have a strong negative reaction to change. So it was with Sweeper. Back at the shelter, he went on high alert, poised to strike, giving loud warnings to anyone who approached. He was too fractious to medicate and would swat away the yummy food laced with the medicine which might have made him feel better. When it finally became safe to do so, he was moved from a cage to a Suite, in hopes that a larger space would help him feel more in control and allow us to become friends. That worked!

When it was noted that Sweeper had held his urine for more than 24 hours, he was hospitalized. Interestingly, there was no blockage nor infection. He was catheterized, treated for a few days, and sent home with medicine. But it happened again. And then again. On this third trip to emergency, more drastic measures had to be considered. After several days in the hospital, he returned to the shelter, catheter still in place, to be cared for under close supervision. We hoped his bladder and urinary tract which had, over time, lost the ability to pass urine, would respond to the multitude of medications prescribed. When the catheter was finally removed, we held our breath in anticipation. Just four hours later, he produced his first urine clump! He has been making us proud multiple times a day since.



Sweeper



Baby Sweeper

Wait, there's more! When Sweeper's tummy was shaved for an abdominal ultrasound, a large tattoo of letters and numbers was revealed. Our shelter sleuths traced him back to the Humane Society of Broward County, Florida. HSB/C

shared his information and his 2004 baby pictures with us! We've been unable to reach his original adopter, so Sweeper will soon be available for adoption again. Older now, he'll require a special diet and possibly medicine to help keep his bladder healthy long term, and a supplement for arthritis, but we think he's well on his way to begin the Adventures of Sweeper – Part Deux.

14TH ANNUAL FINE WINES & FELINES AUCTION FUNDRAISER SAVE THE DATE SATURDAY JULY 20TH, 2019

Our 2018 auction fundraiser was another one for the record books, raising over \$130,000 for the animals of MEOW! Can we beat that? With your help we can! Our Fine Wines & Felines Auction is our major fundraising event each year, providing critical funds for the animals. Please mark your calendar now and plan to join us on July 20th at the HUB Ballroom! We'll be celebrating a magnificent northwest summer with a fun filled evening with the greatest supporters around. Watch for early registration, available beginning in mid-June. Are you interested in donating something interesting for the auction, reaching out to a favorite business about donating, or being a sponsor? Email joni@meow-catscue.org for more information.



TO HONOR & REMEMBER

In loving memory of Wilbur, Lucy, Beauty,
Norman, Thumbs, Staples and RISC.
Cheryl Crowley

In loving memory of Vanilla.
Friends of MEOW

In honor of Gaile Bryant Cannon.
Joan Marsh

In celebration of Kappa and Luna's
birthdays.
Andrea & Rowena Verdon

In memory of Cody, Buddy and Rudy
welcome you with open paws.
Chris Iverson

In loving memory of Katrina.
Friends of MEOW

In honor of Ilay and Skye, who bring so
much life and love to our house.
Julia Harding

Remembering Ticup.
Mary Kierner-Hartick

In loving memory of my husband, Mark.
I miss him terribly.
Vicki Russell

In loving memory of Missy.
Friends of MEOW

In loving memory of Henry,
a very special and loving cat.
Bill & Linda Calhoun

For all the cats I grew up with:
Tiger, Samantha, Elsie, Tigger, Little Bear
and my friends who love cats.
Daniel Carey

For Bunty,
a valiant spirit and a loving heart.
Mary Hutton

In loving memory of Rosie.
Friends of MEOW

In loving memory of my husband,
Richard Chin.
Lily Lock

In loving memory of my precious Abigail.
Sheryl Stock

For Twisp and Felix, who warmed the hearts
of Katy and Jeremy for over 11 years.
Joy Ramshur

In loving memory of Alice Christianson.
Kara Davies

In honor of Andrew and Taffy.
Sandra Chivers

In loving memory of Bruno.
Friends of MEOW

In memory of Margot,
loved by Nancy Mollohan;
In memory of Mac,
loved by Jim & Kathy MacDonald;
In memory of Sheba,
loved by Gail & Stan Riley
City Kitty

To honor Albie and Amie.
Carmen Almodovar

In memory of "The Big Guy",
the best boy cat ever. We miss you.
Mark & Julie

In loving memory of Alex.
Friends of MEOW

In memory of our beloved Thumbelina.
Liana Elmaliah

In memory of our kitties.
Bill and Barb Forrest

In memory of Barb Shavelly,
good neighbor and animal lover.
Haug family

In memory of Gina C. Rembiesa,
loving mother of kitties:
Ava, Caitlin, Savannah, Blaise, Eve
and my dear Bride-Girl and Groom-Boy.
Thomas Rembiesa

In loving memory of Tiger Lily.
Norma Elaine Hobbs

In honor of our MEOW cat Nellie,
10 years of age.
Frederick Hutto

In gratitude for our wonderful rescued kitties,
Sebastian, Rebecca and Tulip.
Joe Memmel

In honor of Lucy, our MEOW rescue kitty.
Jean Muir

In loving memory of sweet Vanilla.
Bill & Linda Calhoun

In memory of Charles Ordine
and in honor of Kelly Starbuck,
HUGE animal lovers.
Wendy Ordine

In honor of Justin Tobin.
Shawn Tobin

In memory of Equinox Bethell 2002-2018,
adopted from MEOW along with his brother
Solstice Bethell 2002-2016.
Brie Finger

In honor of Dr. Jackie H's birthday!
Patrick Gallahue

In loving memory of my sweet kitties Mariah,
Megan and Sugar Plum
and in loving memory of our special dogs,
Patches, Rocky, Kaiser and Pepper.
Gayle Nelson

In memory of Egypt (Queen of the House)
and in honor of our sweet Sundae,
MEOW kitties who found
their forever homes in 2003.
Christy Reynolds

In honor of Spector, who has gracefully
endured many trials in 2018.
Cathy Tarabulski

In memory of Zelda and Chui,
the best and in our hearts forever.
Kay & Bob

In memory of Jim Hamett and our Raika.
Karyn & Michael Angulo

In memory of Jasmine McAfee,
special family member
of Debbie & Doug McAfee.
Chrisea Anthony

In memory of Lucille Beier.
Janet Block



NEW SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATE HELPS REDUCE PET OVERPOPULATION



Would you like to drive with a purpose? The new SPAY ~ NEUTER ~ ADOPT specialty license plates support the mission to reduce pet overpopulation. Since 2007, The WA Federation of Animal Care and Control Agencies' previous plate, titled We Love Our Pets, has earned more than \$612,000, all of which has been granted to animal agencies across the state, providing more than 17,000 spay/neuter surgeries for pets of low-income households

as well as feral or free-roaming cats. One such grant helped MEOW launch our Public Spay/Neuter Voucher Program in 2010.

The new, redesigned SPAY ~ NEUTER ~ ADOPT plate features Laurie, a dog from Homeward Pet Adoption, and our own MEOW alum, Dory! When this specialty plate is purchased or renewed, \$28 dollars of the fee collected by the Department of Licensing goes directly to the WA Federation to be awarded quarterly to Washington animal agencies for the purpose of increasing spay/neuter services for cats, dogs, and rabbits. Plates are available for registered passenger vehicles, light duty pickups, trailers, motorcycles and campers.

Each year nearly 150,000 cats and dogs find themselves in shelters across Washington State. Spaying and neutering is the most humane and effective method for reducing the number of homeless pets, and provides significant health and behavioral benefits.

You can be a part of the solution. SPAY ~ NEUTER ~ ADOPT specialty license plates may be ordered online at www.dol.wa.gov or at your local DOL office.

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