Every spring, and all summer long, kittens are being born in woodpiles, under bushes, inside sheds and crawl spaces – anywhere – everywhere. Those who are fortunate are found by kind and loving people, taken into protective custody, and provided the socialization and medical care needed to ready them for life as cherished family members. But for this fragile kitten population, time is of the essence. Kittens have little natural immunity against viruses and infections which can attack them very early in life.

Four week old Nacho and his sister Chiquita were found just in time and transferred to MEOW by Kittitas County Friends of Animals. These sad little ones were both struggling with an upper respiratory infection and feline herpes virus. Their eyes were red, swollen and crusted, with Nacho’s right eye completely covered by a thick, dark scab.

For several weeks, Nacho and Chiquita were treated with multiple medications which included oral antibiotics, oral anti-viral medications, antibiotic and anti-viral eye drops, some as often as four times a day.

We held our breath and crossed our fingers. We watched and waited as, little by little, healthy kittens emerged. Today their future is bright. Now Nacho and Chiquita open their beautiful, healthy eyes in their forever home.

On the night of MEOW’s 20th anniversary celebration earlier this year, a van pulled up to the darkened shelter, stopped briefly, and when it sped away a small fabric pet carrier remained. In a stroke of luck, volunteer Pete had witnessed the act and he rushed to get the abandoned cat in out of the rain. The young black cat was neither neutered nor micro-chipped. He seemed nervous, unwilling to allow touching, and was quick to turn and nip at a hand attempting to comfort him.

As the days became weeks it became more and more clear that this teenage kitten we named Twenty had more baggage than the carrier in which he had been left. We have come to believe that as a small kitten someone did the disservice of playing very rough with him. He learned to react in the only way he could, by playing rough in return. During play sessions at the shelter, Twenty would often turn quickly from the toys and latch onto an arm or a leg.

In addition to rough play, Twenty exhibited all the signs of Single Kitten Syndrome. In his formative months, he probably didn’t have another cat or kitten to teach him valuable lessons and manners. With the help of Sweet Pea, his Therapist Cat, Twenty is learning to play nice with feline friends. When he gets too exuberant, when the headlocks and the takedowns are a bit too rough, Sweet Pea lets him know in no uncertain terms that he’s out of bounds. A time out follows.

Twenty, the silky panther, is a work in progress. When he makes a mistake, it seems more about confusion than aggression. Through his scheduled play dates with people and Ms. Pea, he is beginning to understand the difference between hands and toys, between potential pain and proper play. Our wish for Twenty is that he’ll soon be ready to spend the next twenty years as a cherished family member.
For a small young cat on her own, the world is a frightening and unpredictable place. There are cats to dodge, dogs who bark and chase, unfriendly humans, not to mention predatory animals. And then there’s the burning hunger.

Observed for days in the neighborhood, the little cat appeared to have nowhere to go and nothing to eat. When Talia and Jay offered food, she ate hungrily and then disappeared. Soon she came regularly, clearly having no other food source. A day or two after Talia, a MEOW volunteer, brought her to the shelter, the little cat’s mammary glands began to fill with milk. She was a mother!

Now the clock was ticking. The kittens must be found - quickly! Talia and Jay brought mama back to her home area, keeping her in a carrier, in hopes she might meow to her babies. As they walked the perimeters of the yards and listened near overgrown shrubbery and woodpiles, a man watched them. Talia called to him, “Have you seen any kittens around here?”

“Kittens?” he said. “Well, yes. I’ve been feeding them for a couple of days. There are three of them.” Behind some old bicycles, under a tarp, there they were, three tiny faces with frightened eyes, approximately four weeks old. Within moments they were all safely indoors, babies nursing hungrily, mama purring and bathing each one.

The elements of this very fortunate outcome fit together like puzzle pieces. The young mama cat was befriended by MEOW volunteers who knew what to do. The kittens’ hungry cries caught the attention of a kind man. The kittens were lucky to be at the age to try solid foods, which ensured their survival while mama was away. Although unsure at first, the kittens soon began to enjoy human touch. Had they been a few weeks younger, being without mama may have taken a more serious toll. Had they been a few weeks older, catching and socialization may have been more difficult. This lucky little family’s lives were saved because people noticed and took action.

The world can indeed be a frightening and unpredictable place, but often, thanks to our dedicated, knowledgeable and passionate volunteers, the stars align and lives are saved.

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
Fred Meyer Gift Cards

Link your Fred Meyer rewards card to MEOW Cat Rescue, Organization 80427, and benefit MEOW every time you shop there. Whenever you use your Rewards Card when shopping at Freddy’s, you will be helping MEOW earn a donation from Fred Meyer. At the end of each quarter, Fred Meyer will make a donation to participating nonprofits based on the accumulated spending of the Rewards customers linked to each nonprofit. If you do not have a Rewards Card, you can sign up for one at the Customer Service Desk of any Fred Meyer store.

community rewards
FredMeyer
MEOWEE, THE MAUI CAT

What an interesting journey! This young Oriental Shorthair mix was born as a street cat on the Hawaiian island paradise of Maui. He was one of hundreds to arrive at the SPCA there last kitten season. Without enough cat rescue and spay/neuter resources on the island, the stray and feral cat populations are uncontrolled.

Transfers to the mainland are lifesaving. So it was for Meowee. He was chosen to be in a transport, along with several others, and found himself at a sanctuary in Central Washington. Sanctuaries typically exist for the purpose of housing animals for their lifetime. It was an easy decision, however, to allow Meowee and some of his fellow Hawaiians to be transferred again, to provide the best possible opportunity for adoption.

Arriving just before Christmas, Meowee began his stay at MEOW in Isolation, first being treated for an upper respiratory infection, then due to possible ringworm (which turned out to be negative), and finally, in an abundance of caution, due to a potential exposure to Feline Leukemia.

When at last Meowee was declared healthy and adoptable, his exuberant personality emerged. He adores having his extraordinarily large ears rubbed. His toy mice get a lot of attention. Still working on learning his boundaries, Meowee may be a bit too mouthy or play too rough for a home with small children. He does enjoy the company of other cats but sometimes plays too hard. His best home might be as a single cat in a home with a person who is committed to helping him polish up his manners and become the very best purrson he can be.

Meowee is a Personal Assistant in the Meet Your Match program. Meowee is seeking employment as Supervisor of Everyday Household Chores and Pastime Activities. Are you taking applications?

KIRKLAND OKTOBERFEST 9/22 - 9/24
ATTEND OR VOLUNTEER - OR BOTH!

Mark your calendar for Kirkland Oktoberfest, a three day authentic München-style Oktoberfest Biergarten held at Kirkland’s Marina Park. There will be live German music, traditional foods, games, contests and of course, northwest craft and German import beer. Once again this year, MEOW is delighted to be one of the charity beneficiaries of this event. This event’s success is due in large part to the volunteers. If you’d like to be part of that success, have some fun, and benefit MEOW as well, sign up to volunteer at https://www.universe.com/events/kirkland-oktoberfest-volunteer-tickets-D59YFP?ref=universe-discover.

There are a wide variety of volunteer shifts, ranging from 2 to 4 hours long. You’ll receive a t-shirt and admittance to the event. Make sure you check the “I’m supporting MEOW” box when you register to volunteer, so that we get credit for your shift. Why not get a group of friends or co-workers together and have some fun while benefitting MEOW?

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
428 822-MEOW (6369)
Info@meowcatrescue.org Newsletter@meowcatrescue.org www.meowcatrescue.org

Hours:
Mon., Wed., Thurs. 3 - 7PM
Fri. 12 - 7PM
Sat. 12 - 5PM
Sun. 12 - 5PM
Closed Tuesdays and
Major Holidays
In memory of two very special cats, Drei and I.C. They were so loved and will be missed very much.
Linda Calhoun

In honor of Adele Alershorn, on behalf of her dear friend Ruth.
Lori Yeaman

In memory of my beloved sister, Fra Black.
Mary Burns-Haley

In honor of Caska Cousin, We miss you girl!
Martenea Cousin

In memory of Amy, my sweet little dog that cheered me up during my cancer treatment.
Judy Anderson

In memory of Cindy, adopted from MEOW in 2008. I miss her sweet and gentle nature dearly.
Judy Anderson

In memory of Sharon Osborn, who loved animals.
Chris Schweiger

In honor of Mark Willmes.
Gene Colm

In honor of Janet Beck and in memory of her magnificent cat, Mally.
Lisa Reising

In honor of Carolyn Ceccanti’s upcoming marriage — to a cause she is passionate about in lieu of a wedding gift.
Betsy & Andy

To honor Ophelia, epic foster fail, for the too short time she provided support and love to Dr. Amy and her family.
Ruth Laflita

This gift is in honor of Sean Gallahue on his birthday.
Martha Gallahue

In remembrance of my brother Kevin, who taught his two cats to play gently with his train set.
Daniel Carey

In loving memory of Valerie Vallejos, from her mom Dana and her brother Bryan
For Bunny.
Anonymous

In honor of Gabrielle Qui’s 9th birthday!
Stephanie Olson

In honor of Emma Solanki and James Hickman’s wedding.
Robert Snell

In loving memory of my Mom, Alice Roddis.
I miss you everyday.
Kathy Posner

In honor of Atsuko Patzwald’s birthday.
Emily Patzwald

In memory of Karen Sharp and all her strays.
Carol Verga

In honor of Amelia’s birthday.
Carol Greenberg

In memory of Zoey.
Eileen Brown Fitzgerald

In memory of my grand-cats, kitty cousins Daniel and Maddie. They were a special part of our extended family for many, many years.
Janell Gregson

In honor of our daughter, Jen.
Margot & Robert Swift

In memory of sweet Wana Dixon; gone too soon, loved forever.
The French family

In loving memory of our wonderful and furry friends -- Heidi, Puppers, Elvis and Yogi.
The Memmels

In honor of Roxanne Navrides.
Seattle Building Enclosure Council

In memory of Bobo Orange Tabby.
Barbara Alban

In memory of George and Jefferson.
Barbara Baugh

In memory of my husband Mark.
Vickie Russell

In memory of Sebastian.
Kelly Beck

In celebration of the 7th birthday of Kappa and Luna.
Rowena Verdan

In memory of Bates.
Sonia Piers

In memory of Hans.
Diana Franklin

In memory of Pochi, Ichigo, Koume and June.
Roja Kwon

In appreciation of Kathy Hobson, for always being there for humans and animals alike.
Joni Cervenka

In memory of Boo Bear and Furby
Amy Evans

In memory of Melinda Sue.
Debra Handrich

In memory of Clancy Harvey.
Elizabeth Harvey

In honor of MEOW alumni, Louise and Chloe, two happy and healthy four year old cats!
Jason Hoskins

In memory of Joey.
Cynthia Jaeger

In memory of Sherpa the cat.
Lee Klasorin

In honor of Lulu (aka Chelsea), Thank you for all the wonderful work you do!
Jodi Klineper

In honor of Mr. Pickles and Blaze.
Krista Kolaz

In memory of Pochi, Ichigo, Koume and June.
Roja, Miju, Minam and Momi Kwon

In memory of Tuxedo.
Lovisa Leroae

In memory of Simm and Dimm.
Chris Lew

In memory of Bernard.
Dorie Lysaght

In memory of Rocco, Debbie Meyes’s “little man” — adorable, wonderful, charcoal black, big golden eyes, greatly missed but watching from kitty heaven.
Linda Marquardt

In memory of Belle.
Tanya McDonald

In memory of Marcus, our first cat from MEOW.
Sherilyn McGough

In honor of Dr. Amy Catrille, DVM.
Kathleen Miller

In memory of Sancho.
Kristin Montero

In honor of Bonnie Vevea, founder of MEOW Cat Rescue.
Janis Newman

In memory of Karl Schulz. I
Danielle Foster

In memory of Che, our Last Revolutionary Cat.
Richard & Eunice Grubb
In honor of Kaspar. Dorothy Osborn
In honor of Luna. Anne Ottersburg
In memory of Lizzie, Alec, Anni and Fozzie. Barbara Pearson
In memory of Argenta. Carolyn Plant
In honor of MEOW volunteers and animal rescue supporters! Katy Rosenlund
In honor of Fiona, Findlay and their seven little black siblings. Caroline Routke
In memory of Herman and Claudia. Marc Runyard
In memory of Kitty. Lynn Russell
In memory of Apollo and Koshka. Julie Sardo
In memory of Maggie a MEOW rescue and wonderful companion. Elaine Schreurs
In honor of Glowfish, aka Fishy -- the most purrfect purrson in the house! Susan Seccor
In memory of Twizzle. Carol Ann Davidson
In grateful & loving memory of Mr. Scout T. Braverman, the feral cat who rescued me and became my devoted and constant companion for over 14 years. Thank you for loving me, for trusting me, and for bringing such exquisite joy into my life. You are my beloved forever. Jodi Sorensen
In memory of Lily and Strider, neighbors, walking buddies and all around good dogs. Anonymous
In loving memory of Ardene Kanov. She loved cats, especially the kittens. Her voice was always happy when she talked to them. Daria (friend of 59 years)
In memory of Jennifer Nakagawa, friend to animals. John Bay
In memory of Miles. James & Grace Shibayama
In memory of Cleo and Lucy. Cathy Silva
In honor of Vern and Carl. Lisa Singer
In honor of Gabby (formerly Char). Diane Staub
In memory of Luca. Robert Talder
In honor of Johnu, Neelum and Sadira. Gretchen Vankekertx
In memory of Romeo. Mary Wiegand
In memory of Pippie, Carly and Puzzle. Linda Yelenik
In memory of Bugsy. Kelly Ann Young
In honor of Felix the Huddersfield Station Cat. Anonymous
In honor of Janis Newman for the many years of saving cats and kittens. Also for the time spent helping other people learn how to help animals. Thanks Janis! Karen Fineide
In memory of my naughty girl Lizzie, whom I loved. Jackie Faucette
Congratulations to Dianna and Curry on their marriage. Katie Gronowick
In memory of Charlie Starbuck Reid, the great powderpuff Chinese crested I was honored to have in my life. Rebecca Reid
In loving memory of my precious little calico Emily (Betty at MEOW) and to thank Melissa Worland, DVM for her skill and compassion in easing Emily through her final illness. Patricia Rice
In memory of Puddy. Niko Okamoto
For gentle Cloud -- you leave behind you a dark, empty, echoing void which nothing can ever fill. My heart holds you. My arms ache to hold you. Diane Smith
In memory of Sally. Anonymous
In memory of Essie Swanson. Peter & Ann Swanson
In memory of Tabitha Susan, Misty Kitty, Lucky Lee, Christmas Kitty and Rockafeller Amiet. Don & Deborah Amiet
In memory of Tourette and Pandora. Anonymous
In memory of Jasper. Lauren Gaddy
In memory of Kay and Vic Glenn. Catherine Glenn
In memory of Xenda, loved by Sandra Phillbrook; In memory of Poco, loved by Angie Kienbrink; In memory of Ash, loved by Connie Newman; In memory of Beej, loved by Christy and Derek Brown; In memory of Professor Charlie Buttons, loved by Allison Everett and Corey Moore. City Kitty
In honor of all the MEOW staff and volunteers. Jean Bergquist
In honor of Castiel. Jessica Bell
In honor of Bonne Vevea. Rhoda Besecker
In honor of Miss Astrix. Sarah Carr
In memory of Stanley Cervinka. Patricia Cervinka
In memory of Bailey, Dante and Sadie. Rhonda Chesley
In honor of Buddy and Sweetheart. Penelope Clemens
In memory of Tess. Angela Dorgan
In honor of Mittens and Beanie. Jocelyn Ellis
In memory of Watson Espe. Anna Espe
In honor of Mary Stleton. Bob Stleton
In memory of T-Max. Gabriella Metzger
We are so grateful to everyone who played a role in Fine Wines & Felines 2017 – The Great Catsby. We had record results, raising over $120,000 for the animals of MEOW! Whether you donated to, volunteered for, or were in attendance at the event, you made a difference! We’d also like to thank our sponsors, whose support was critical in our success: Eastside Veterinary Associates, Northwest Animal Eye Specialists, Cat-Man-Doo, Mud Bay, Cat Clinic of Issaquah, Juanita Bay Veterinary Hospital, Seattle Veterinary Associates, Vision Pet Imaging, All About Cats Veterinary Hospital, Compassion 4 Paws, Real Estate Gals, Seattle Veterinary Specialists, CAT Running, and Leatherback Printers. We are already planning Fine Wines & Felines 2018 and hope you will all again be a part of it! THANKS!!

Put on your tennies, start training, and mark your calendar for CAT Running’s 4th Annual 5K Run/Walk to benefit MEOW Cat Rescue. Whether you walk, run, or both, you’ll have a great time while you support the animals of MEOW. We’ll be there to cheer you on and accept your pet food donations. Learn more and register at www.catrunning.com. Leashed dogs are welcome.