



# MEOW CAT RESCUE & ADOPTION

CELEBRATING 26 YEARS OF RESCUE  
& OVER 26,000 LIVES SAVED

Summer 2023

## VINNY

### MENDING HIS BODY, HEALING HIS HEART



Vinny

#### Getting Better Every Day

In the freezing rain of January, a cat in an apartment parking lot had been observed on camera acting erratically, shaking his head, running back and forth. When a concerned gentleman zoomed in on the fuzzy footage, it appeared that one of the cat's ears was injured. We provided a trap and instructed him to call as soon as he got the cat, knowing medical attention would probably be needed. Indeed. There was only a bit of melted tissue left where his ears had been. His whiskers were burned, singed down to his muzzle. There was no fur, no skin, from the top of his head all down his back. The horribly burned area from his shoulders to his hips was broad and penetrated deep into his flesh.

The emergency team cut away the burned and necrotic tissue, leaving about 10% of each ear and cleaning up the crisp, scabbed over edges all down his body. The cat had been microchipped by another gentleman in Bellevue after being taken in as a stray, but when the newcomer hadn't

gotten along with the resident cats, he had been rehomed via Craigslist. That had occurred about a month prior to him being trapped and hospitalized.

After hours of surgery, the cat, now called Vinny, was released to MEOW and the care of a medically competent foster home. Initially, Vinny required additional surgeries and fresh bandages almost daily to trim and treat the burned tissue on his head, ears, shoulders and back. Week by week, his surgical procedures became fewer and his wide-open wound became smaller. In addition, his right eye had a previous injury and was entropion. Because the eye would remain sightless and painful, it was removed.

Vinny's journey has not only been physically painful for him, but also emotionally painful for all who have met him and pondered his story. We believe that sometime shortly after being rehomed, Vinny was the victim of a vile act of cruelty, doused with a flammable liquid and then set afire. Only his amazing will to survive and the committed care of his entire team have made him strong enough to walk away.

Now several months into his healing process, new, fragile tissue has covered his large raw areas. Fur will never grow on the deeply burned places, so his scars will forever be a reminder of the agony he endured.

But in his foster home, Vinny is playing with cat toys, enjoying all the other cats and the tiny dog. He has begun to learn to trust people again, bravely snuggling near a lap while allowing head scratches and making biscuits. He's even enjoying the fresh air, from the safety of his catio. While time continues to heal his wounds, we remain grateful for the opportunity to have helped Vinny to survive, to live better days.



Content In His Catio

# TO HONOR & REMEMBER

In memory of all of our great kitties who have passed: KC, Pnurf, Orcas, Tigger, Gruffalo.  
*James Waletzky*

In memory of sweet, kitty loving Caitlin.  
With much love,  
*The Ivys*

In honor of Tank & Hera (formerly Zip & Zap)  
*Shari Kramer*

In memory of Calililee  
*Austin Rice*

On behalf of Tater  
*Amber Wood*

In memory of Grace the Cat  
*Jane Stevens*

In honor of Chandler, the best kitty  
*Brittany Kohler*

For MEOW's canine division, in honor of Bonnie Marie Fletcher  
*The Executive Board of the Sea Hawk's Booster Club*

In memory of Kelly, Kerry, Corky and Kegger  
*Joni & Paul Cervenka*

Thanks for all you do  
*Walnut*

For our loved fuzzy ones!  
*Karl & Kim*

In memory of Maddie Goldsmith  
*Shaun, Sarah & Aidan Rohret*

In honor of Sadie Drakes 12th birthday and her love of cats.  
Happy Birthday!  
*Kathryn O'Dell*

In memory of Manny  
*A Friend of MEOW*

In memory of Tinkerbelle  
*Mary Johnston*

In memory of Jenny Rose Johnson, who found out what love is all about.  
*Lynne, Ed, Wally and Charlie*

In memory of Carolyn (Sis) Armanini - who loved her Great Danes!  
*Lorraine Wormald*

Thanks for taking care of the Library kitties-hope they find the perfect home.  
*Jodi and Lulu*

In memory of Mr. Bingley  
*Stacey Symonds*

In memory of Bonnie Bryan Fletcher  
*Janet Peevey*

In remembrance of Madeline Goldsmith  
*Mark and Karmen McCloud*

On behalf of John Bay in honor of his birthday.  
*Timothy McGeath*

In memory of Moonshadow - loving friend to Trevor Hopkins and then to his growing family. Best kitty ever!  
*Pam Hopkins*

In memory of Heff & Muff.  
Sweetest cats ever!  
*JoAnne & Michael Priebe*

In memory of my little cat Meg and to help Percy  
*Ruth Ethelston*

In honor of Tyler Selman, age 10, who loves MEOW's mission!  
*Joseph Selman*

In honor of Amy & her wonderful tabbies, Trigger & Elsi  
*Daniel Carey*

In memory of Hunter who gave 18 years of unconditional love, unlimited purrs and headbutts. RIP, sweet man.  
*Christina Starr*

Jolie inspired me to learn about MEOW. I love that some cats come from Maui - my cat is a Maui Mutt also.  
*Theresa Daly*

In honor and remembrance of Madeline Goldsmith  
*Julie Hagen*

In memory of Oliver  
*Kim Webber*

For the joy that all 18-20 cats of past 20 years have given us.  
We've been blessed by Rescues.  
*Jack & Barb Avery*

In loving memory of Madeline (Maddie) Goldsmith and her love and compassion for her beloved cats.  
*Western Region OPS team*

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

Adoption Open Hours:  
Thursdays, Fridays,  
Saturdays, & Sundays,  
1-5 pm  
Closed to Public:  
Mondays—Wednesdays  
and major holidays

"... he will be our friend for always  
and always and always."

*Rudyard Kipling*

## REVIEW US ON GREAT NONPROFITS

If you love MEOW and the effort we make on behalf of the animals, will you help us spread the word? Stories about us from our supporters will help us make an even larger impact in our community. GreatNonprofits – the #1 source of nonprofit information, stories and feedback – is preparing to honor highly regarded nonprofits with their 2023 Top-Rated badge. Won't you help us raise visibility for our work by posting a brief story of your experience with us? We have been so fortunate to have earned this reward for the past several years. All content will be visible to potential donors, volunteers, and adopters. It's easy and only takes a few minutes! Use the QR Code to get started. Thank You.



Scan & Write a  
Review



## FINE WINES & FELINES 2023 GREAT TO GATHER ONCE AGAIN



This being our first in-person fundraising event since the pandemic, we didn't quite know what to expect as far as participation and support. With most of our silent auction

items being on-line, the event certainly had a different feel with more time for mingling and learning about our various programs. One thing is for certain, we didn't anticipate the amazing generosity of those in attendance and those who opted to participate online. We were absolutely blown away by the results. A smaller but extremely enthusiastic group raised over \$90,000 in our paddle raise for our Mercy Fund, a new record. This combined with our auction results, brought in just over \$168,000 for the animals, another record.

We'd like to thank our amazing business sponsors, Eastside Veterinary Hospital, Mud Bay, Cat-Man-Doo, All About Cats Animal Hospital, Seattle Veterinary Associates, Northwest Animal Eye Specialists, Leatherback Printing, Animal Medical Center of Seattle, and Coldstream Financial Group for their support and helping make this event possible and successful.

If you were in attendance, we'll be sending out a survey to get your feedback. If you weren't able to attend and would like to watch our Mercy Fund video and meet a few of the very special animals whose lives have been touched, you may access it with the QR code here. And, we hope you'll be able to join us next year.

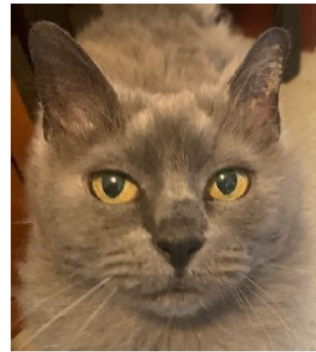


Showing Off Our MEOW  
Alumni Bid Cards



Scan and click on  
"Make a Difference 2023"

## SCARLETT LOVE FOR A LIFETIME



Scarlett  
Lady in Waiting

We'd like to believe that once upon a time Scarlett had a real home, a real family, someone who really loved her. But over her ten years she has also seen people come and go. We know that an elderly gentleman had taken a liking to her at some point and while with him she had

enjoyed some love and regular meals, until one day he was gone, unable to take her when he had to move.

Then for a long time, Scarlett did her best to fend for herself, until the lucky day when she was discovered by a kind, cat-loving woman in the neighborhood. After that, although she had no worries about her next meal, she must have still been lonely sometimes. Unable to add another cat to her own family, the woman networked among friends for this stunning long-haired blue beauty. Scarlett's story caught the attention of an independent rescuer, and a few months ago she was introduced to us at MEOW.

At first, she was polite but a bit distant, perhaps choosing not to allow herself to love too deeply again. But day by day, little by little, her walls began to come down. She accepted head scratches, chin rubs, treats. She began to talk. Scarlett loves a good conversation but she's not pushy about attention. She doesn't mind entertaining herself, a skill she probably learned in her previous life.

Scarlett has been through so much change and loss. This time, and we truly hope it's for the last time, she seems ready to give her whole heart to someone who will give theirs in return. She'd love to talk with you about it.



Ready for a Chat

# TO HONOR & REMEMBER

In memory of Ella,  
my little fancy mouse.  
*Ruth Ethelston*

In honor of Gretchen & Clayton, our  
adopted kitties. Love them.  
*Susan Sullivan*

In memory of my beloved cat,  
Gerrit.  
*Patricia Miller*

Thank you for taking care of our  
precious Sweet Pea while we were  
away. She was loved beyond  
measure at her sleepover!  
*Dana Churchill*

Sometimes the presence of a very  
special cat changes our hearts for-  
ever. We are so sorry for Merry's  
loss of her beloved Fuzzy.  
*Love, her Signature Family*

For Poly Posy's and Popcorn's food  
*Sally Paull*

In loving memory of Mr Darcy.  
You will be missed.  
*Glen, Gretchen, Lexi, Annika and  
Mickey*

For all the furry mothers  
on this Mother's Day!  
*Karl & Kim*

In memory of Smokey  
*Linda Juliano*

In memory of Frank and Beans  
*Susan Marks*

In memory of Gracie and Pixie  
*Rebecca Reese*

In memory of Mister Willy Parrish  
*Kathleen Parrish*

In memory of Gus and Sadie  
*A Friend of MEOW*

In honor of Johnny V & Magnus  
*Roxanne & Tim Smith*

In memory of Leo the Junkyard Cat  
*Penny Olson*

In memory of Riley >^..^<  
*Deana Christensen*

In honor of Zelda and Chui  
*Kay O'Connell*

In memory of SIMM and DIMM  
*Chris Lew*

Happy Birthday Natalie Harris.  
*Tricia Lapitan*

In loving memory of ZAPHOD,  
from "the moms"

In memory of Maddie Goldsmith,  
a former student of mine  
and an amazing person  
*Eillean Groby*

In memory of Jim Harman  
*Niko Okamoto*

To honor Bonne VeVea  
on Mother's Day  
*Patty & Jim Groves*

In honor of all you wonderful  
Volunteers who take in these cats to  
give them the right home.  
*A Friend of MEOW*

In honor of our senior gal kitties  
adopted in 2022. We love them so  
much and we're so appreciative of  
the great care you gave them.  
*Connor & Reba Pinkerton*

In memory of Doreen Lidgate  
*Laurie Kohli*

In memory of Marilyn Richards, a  
former volunteer.  
*Bob Richards*

In honor of Banjo, the one who  
chose me. Best cat ever!  
*John Chilcote*

For Anna K's Birthday  
*Elizabeth Wong*

In memory of Pumpkin  
*Cate Yu*

In honor of Jamie, Max, Lucy,  
and Figgy.  
*Jennifer Waltman*

Happy Birthday Jamie!  
*Jatinder Bansal*

In memory of Cooper  
aka Mr. Friendly  
*Ed & Kathey Alexander*

Marie-Thank you for helping such a  
worthy cause!  
*Diana Cates (and Vizzy) at Oracle*

In appreciation of Daniel Gomero  
& Beatriz Azzolini-Travalon  
*A Friend of MEOW*

To honor our sweet baby girl, Esme  
*Kam Lee*

In memory of Kiwi and Miss Maynard  
*Dean William Byrd*

In gratitude for our 12 years with  
Zabby (Zabu). Her failing heart is at  
peace. Ours still broken.  
*Carol Verga*

Thanks for being awesome, Marjorie!  
*From Core OS PM LT*

In honor of Lucinda & Oscar  
*Mary Cathey*

Thanks for all you do!  
Kaylee is doing well!  
*Larry & Lani Johnson*

In memory of my granddaughter  
Madeline Goldsmith  
*Bonnie Holstad*

In loving memory of Cosette,  
Kiki, & Chloe  
*Julian Woodward*

In honor of Sage, a beautiful soul  
in a cat form. She saved my life.  
*Susan Pratt*

In honor of Gabby's "Dad" Rich  
*Diane Staub*

On the first anniversary of Bruno &  
Mirabel's adoption, thank you for  
the best kitties in the world.  
*Erica & Adam Bresson*

To our sweet kitties, Sarah, Winnie,  
Lizzie, Minnie, Arvo & Roscoe  
*Bill & Anne Nolan*

Happy Birthday to Chieko  
Kashiwagi, with love & best wishes  
*Judi and Quillabella.*

In memory of Penny, Josie,  
and Saul. We miss you still.  
*Debbie and Stuart.*

In memory of Ghost, and in honor  
of Shiv, Elgin, and Bryce. Ghost, I  
hope you're stealing water from  
higher powers' glasses in Heaven.  
*Akshai Wadhvani*

In memory of Carolyn Armanini  
*Carol Matteson*

In memory of Teddy the golden  
Chow, friend to and fierce protector  
of all cats. Those who lived with  
him miss him still.  
*James & Barbara Kajiya*

In honor of Tony Martinez  
*Kerry A. More*

In honor of Robert & Natalie Harris,  
who just turned 10!  
*Robyn Noto*

Happy birthday to Robert Harris  
*Logan*

Thank you for all you do  
for the kitties!  
*George Hamasaki*

In memory of my friend  
Milo, a good cat.  
*David Christie*

In honor of Harlem and Schyler,  
two amazing boys  
*Gretchen Van Kekerix*

In memory of Maddie Goldsmith.  
Rest in Peace!  
*Charman McGraw*

In memory of our beloved and very  
well cared for Grandkitty Dora.  
*Ruth & William Drollinger*

In honor of Madeline Goldsmith  
*Michelle Heilman*



## NICO & LEO OUR FAMILY NOW

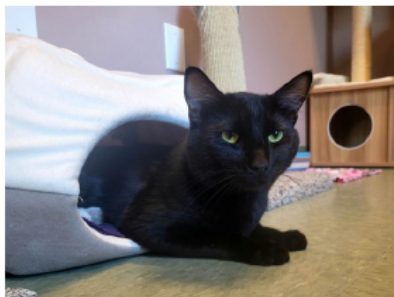


**Brave Leo**

On an otherwise ordinary day in May, a large cardboard box was left at the front door of the shelter. Under the flap on which were the handwritten words "Two Cats", four frightened eyes peered up through the darkness. For the next several days the young unneutered cats did their best to hide under their bedding and each other. When someone would get too close for their comfort, they would respond with a half-hearted hiss, but never any aggression. There seemed to be some sadness in these young mancats.

Nico di Angelo, a sleek, tall black cat, and Leo Valdez, a round-faced boy with opposable thumbs on his hefty front feet, slowly began to realize they were safe. They shyly introduced themselves to those who spoke softly or offered meals or treats. Within a few weeks, the big boys graduated to a suite and then to the Library, where they began to greet visitors at the door and live up to their namesakes. Now they enjoy wand toys and gentle caresses. After some playtime, they often lie down near their guest and stretch out to politely ask for a tummy rub.

Although it is illegal in Washington state to abandon an animal, we choose to offer some grace. Perhaps there was a good reason their previous owner chose not to ring the bell on that day when these "Two Cats" were left at MEOW. Regardless. Now and for the rest of their lives, they have a safety net. They have a soft place to land. Nico and Leo, we're family now.



**Nico the Adventurer**

## SHELTER HOURS UPDATE WE'RE NOW OPEN THURSDAYS TO SUNDAYS

As we continue to welcome more cats and kittens into the MEOW family, add more foster homes, and train more volunteers, we have added Fridays to our adoption day schedule. During the summer, we are open every Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 1pm-5pm. We are accepting appointments for adoption applicants and also welcoming drop-ins on those days.

Why are there so many homeless pets this year? During the pandemic, veterinarians were not allowed to perform elective surgeries in order to make

medical supplies available for human hospitals. Spay/neuter surgeries were classified as non-essential, which caused an explosion of litters of puppies and kittens. When once again allowed, limited



**Curious Foster Kittens**

staff and new safety restrictions greatly reduced the number of surgeries which could be performed. Shelters in our region, as well as across the country, are seeing more kittens and unaltered adult cats than we've seen in years. We're hopeful that adding an additional day to our open schedule will allow more potential adopters to visit us, and will result in more of our deserving kittens and cats finding their forever homes.



**Cottage Welcoming  
Committee**

If you know someone looking for a furry family member and you think MEOW is the right place for them, please suggest they check out our website, Petfinder, or Facebook page, and stop by for a visit. And remember, any shelter animal adopted,

anywhere, saves a life and makes room for another animal who needs a chance.



*all nine lives are precious®*

## MEOW LOGO WEAR NEW DESIGN—ORDER YOURS TODAY



Are you in need of a new summer t-shirt? Or perhaps you're thinking of a long-sleeved t-shirt for the cooler weather this fall? Why not choose a MEOOW logo shirt or two in the newly released design? When you wear the MEOOW logo you help spread the word on what MEOOW is all about – and what you care about. Plus, it may provide an opportunity to tell someone about your own amazing cats. Shirts are available in 4 styles (3 short sleeved, 1 long sleeved) and a variety of great new colors. Order online and your MEOOW shirts will be shipped directly to you in two weeks or less. The animals of MEOOW benefit from every single purchase.



Scan for Shirt Options



## PUSSYCAT PANTRY

Now that we're caring for so many cats and kittens in the shelter, we have a greater need for food and supplies to keep their tummies full, keep their environment clean, and make sure all their needs are met.

Friskies Pate' canned food  
Unscented Clumping Clay Litter  
Liquid Laundry Detergent HE  
Kitchen Garbage Bags  
Bleach  
Postage Stamps  
Paper Towels  
Hand Sanitizer  
Costco, Target, and Fred Meyer Gift Cards



Scan for our  
Amazon wish list

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

