



# MEOW CAT RESCUE & ADOPTION

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

Holiday 2023

## SUNDAY

### THE POWER OF COMPASSION EVERY DAY



Saving Sunday

On a sunny, crisp Fall afternoon, a mother and her teen daughter were enjoying a quiet drive on a rural highway near Sultan. In front of them, a car window came down and an arm reached out, swinging something, flinging something onto the roadway. First, it was still. Then it moved. It ran. Suddenly, a realization. "Mom! Mom! Stop!! I think that's a kitten!!" The moments that followed were confusing, heartbreaking, terrifying as the mother and daughter directed traffic, located the tiny tortoiseshell kitten, and then quietly approached and calmed her. Only when wrapped in their arms, then safely in their car, did she begin to purr. As her rescuers rushed her to MEOW, they could no longer hold back their tears.

This kitten was very fortunate. Thankfully, she had no broken bones. Miraculously, oncoming traffic had swerved to avoid hitting her. Somehow, she had landed on her feet. However, under her bunny-soft tortie fur, her skin was covered in scabs, clearly the product of a heavy flea infestation.

Sunday, as she is now called, was blessed that day by the quality of compassion. Compassion literally means "to suffer together". It is a feeling that arises when one is confronted with another's suffering and feels motivated to relieve that suffering. People who are compassionate are not overly-emotional. They are fearless.

As we consider little Sunday, thoughts go back to other cats touched by cruelty, by terrible choices made by unthinking, unfeeling humans. Vinnie comes to mind. Early in 2023, Vinnie, a cat who had previously survived on the kindness of strangers, was betrayed, doused with flammable liquid and set afire. The compassion of the gentle man who trapped Vinnie and sought MEOW's help, set in motion a long and arduous treatment and recovery. Vinnie's life was saved by the kindness of a whole team of compassionate people.

Every abused or injured animal, every discarded or unwanted animal, every orphan or ageing animal, all are deserving of our compassion, of our very best efforts to relieve the suffering they carry. We are their advocates. We are responsible for their well-being, their health and their safety. Each of them has had challenges to endure and overcome. All of them are worthy of our commitment, our care, our comfort, our compassion. Their stories serve to remind all of us at MEOW that we are indeed still committed to the motto that inspired us so many years ago, "all nine lives are precious". Thank you for supporting our work and the belief that still anchors and guides us today and every day.

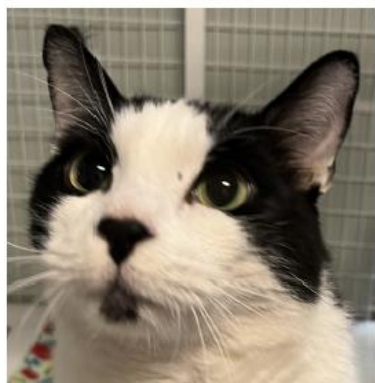


THANK YOU FOR SHARING OUR PASSION –  
AND OUR COMPASSION.





## GIVING BATMAN WINGS EXTENDING PATIENCE & PROVIDING SUPPORT



**Sweeter than Sugar**

Batman, a big, round-faced teen kitten, was adopted by a couple who have a serious love for cats. When he began having litterbox indiscretions at two years old, their veterinarian prescribed a special diet to treat his urinary crystals. That worked.

Fast forward a few years. The family had grown to include not only children, but also a couple of additional cats. The family moved to a new home. The urinary mistakes started again. Although the children were good with the cats and the cats did well with one another, some cats are sensitive to change, and Batman was prescribed an anti-anxiety medication. That helped but it didn't seem to be the entire answer. When the accidents persisted and Batman began exhibiting aggression toward his kitty siblings, his vet discovered another issue. Batman's glucose was far above the normal range. Feline diabetes. The veterinarian counseled the family regarding treatment. Fearing they would be unable to properly care for a cat requiring insulin injections every twelve hours and frequent glucose checks at the vet, they tearfully returned him to MEOW.

Batman had certainly enjoyed his special kibble for several years – maybe a little too much – and now, at the age of nine, he weighed in at nearly 17 pounds. Diet and weight are often contributing factors to diabetes in cats. One thing we've learned over the years about feline diabetes is that many diabetic cats respond favorably to a high protein, low carbohydrate diet. Kibble of any kind is fairly high in carbs, and while this, in good measure, might be fine for many cats, it can be a problem for others. On arrival at MEOW, Batman's diet was changed to a pate' type canned food, which is high in protein and low in carbs. Within just a few weeks his glucose and

his weight began showing a slow and steady adjustment back to a healthy, normal range. We're hoping he'll continue to do well on dietary management. For Batman, kibble is now off limits. He'll eat high protein canned food to keep his sugar in check.

Batman feels like a new man, proudly presenting perfect litterbox habits and behaving like a perfect gentleman around other cats in his foster home. Batman will soon be fully recovered from his recent dental and ready for his forever home. He's certainly got a new lease on life and that life is pretty sweet.

## PHOTOS WITH SANTA



**Santa & Friend**

Commemorate this holiday season and support the animals of MEOW with a picture of your pet, your children, (and you?) with Santa. For a \$20 donation you will receive a printed photo on site and access to online digital images. Safety first, so pets must be restrained,

either on a leash or in a carrier. Many thanks to Mud Bay for supporting Santa photos again this year. You can be a Santa too, by bringing your pet food donations for MEOW's Little Pet Pantry, which asks visitors to "Give what you can ~ Take what you need".

Date	Time	Location
11/25	12-3 pm	Ballard Mud Bay
11/26	12-3 pm	Issaquah Mud Bay
12/2	12-3 pm	MEOW Bazaar, Kirkland
12/3	12-3 pm	Overlake Mud Bay
12/9	12-3 pm	Roosevelt Mud Bay
12/10	12-3 pm	Issaquah Highlands Mud Bay
12/16	12-3 pm	Redmond Mud Bay
12/17	12-3 pm	Lynnwood West Mud Bay



## DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES? IN HAPPY ENDINGS? IN JOYOUS REUNIONS? IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT?

On behalf of the many abandoned, neglected, mistreated, injured or otherwise unwanted animals who have been placed by MEOW Cat Rescue & Adoption into loving adoptive homes this past year, we wish to express a very sincere and heartfelt "Thank you!" to all who have played a part in making these miracles a reality.

### A Very Special Holiday Thank You to...

- ~the veterinarians who have performed services at reduced rates and dealt with emergencies as well as routine matters;
- ~our amazing shelter volunteers and staff who work so willingly on behalf of the animals, providing compassionate care for shelter residents, keeping the cages and common areas clean while doing endless loads of laundry, answering phones and providing guidance, raising public awareness concerning the importance of spay/neuter and the plight of homeless animals, and facilitating perfect matches between our animals and applicants;
- ~our fabulous foster homes who have given selflessly of their time and energy, their living space, their own resources and sometimes their sleepless nights caring for orphaned, ill, or Ninth Life kitties;
- ~all who have so generously supported our mission and contributed financially, donated pet foods and bedding, cleaning supplies and other materials to help defray everyday expenses at our shelter;
- ~all the individuals and families who have adopted shelter pets this year and in the past, who have made a commitment to take seriously their pet's health, happiness and safety;
- ~cat and dog guardians everywhere who spay or neuter their pets, helping to end shelter overcrowding and the cycle of homeless, and helping to ensure that one day every companion animal born will have a place to call their own.

WITH ONE VOICE, HUMAN AND ANIMAL TOGETHER, MEOW WISHES YOU AND YOURS  
A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON & A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

## PUSSYCAT PANTRY

Now that cats and kittens are back in the shelter, we have a need for food and supplies to keep their tummies full, their environment clean, and their needs met.

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



Scan for our  
Amazon wish list

## MEOW'S 2024 CALENDAR GET YOURS TODAY!



Every year we commemorate several of our rescue stories in our 12-month calendar. It's a wonderful way to be reminded that there are indeed happy endings.

Calendars make great gifts for cat lovers and those who recognize the critical work that MEOW Cat Rescue is doing each and every day of every year. You may purchase on our website with payment through PayPal (\$13 with shipping) or at the shelter (\$10 each). MEOW is open Thursday through Sunday from 1 pm to 5 pm.



Scan and order  
yours today

# TO HONOR & REMEMBER

In memory of Heidi Jane, Nancy's faithful cat companion for 22 years!  
*Janis Newman*

In memory of Heidi Jane, who was adored by her mom, Nancy.  
*Marcia McKelvy*

Happy Halloween!  
*Cisley, Scott, & Cowboy*

In honor of Lamme Meow, still happy & healthy, and sending her love.  
*Barbara Alex*

To thank Kathy Posner for knowing that Archie would be a good fit.  
He is perfect!  
*Jim Kesi*

In memory of our Sagwa Sweetie we lost last March 30, 2022, RIP  
*Susan Hart*

In memory of Maddie Goldsmith  
*Leslie Hamada*

In loving memory of Eugene, a beloved kitty  
*JD Krucik & Family*

In memory of my kitties Smokey, Mandy, & Lucky  
*Patrick & Lillian Costello*

In loving memory of Harald's cat Tuna  
*Harald Sund*

In memory of Charlie who brought us love and laughter for 16 wonderful years.  
*Angela & Jacob Kirkman*

Thank you for taking such good care of all the kitties!  
*Kathy Andeway*

In honor of our wonderful and beautiful kitty, Sir Winston.  
Thank you, MEOW!  
*Dawn Padula*

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

In honor of Vinny  
*George Price*

In honor of Vinny.  
Thanks for all you do.  
*Jennifer Cherney*

In honor of Parker's (formerly Bam Bam's) birthday., He is happy and healthy and we are grateful to MEOW  
*Jeanne Galloway*

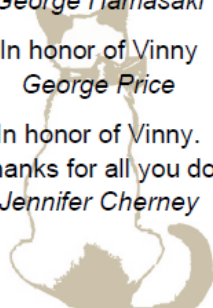
In memory of Macy, loved by Ken and Mary-Ann Tasker-Thompson.  
*Jeannine Sieler*

In honor of QuillaBella, whose furry felines presence comforted me during the COVID quarantine. Her loyal company brought great joy to me and uplifted my spirits through the long isolation. I love her!  
She's the best!  
*Judith Sorensen*

In memory of Madeline Goldsmith  
*Todd & Laura Goldsmith*

In loving memory of my beloved Kirby, and in honor of Charlie, Pumpkin, Smokey, & Chester  
*Rose Smith*

In memory of Julie Williams, a good friend, who was very fond of animals.  
*Sheelagh & Frederick Baily*



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  
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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

We all find comfort in community, whether that means honoring a special friend or occasion, or sharing our grief by commemorating the life of a loved one. At your request, MEOW is proud and humbled to publish those tributes in each newsletter. For a minimum donation of \$50, you may use this QR code or, if you prefer, you may donate by check or credit card, enclosing a note with your special dedication.



Scan and Donate



## LIAM OFFERING HIM COMFORT



Lovable Liam

around begging to be petted or allowed inside. No one could take him in and resident cats would chase him off.

Briefly fostered during recovery from his neuter and an initial dental, Liam was found to have good house manners. Unfortunately, he was also discovered to have terribly inflamed, chronically infected gums, a condition called stomatitis. He needed an expensive surgery called Full Mouth Extractions. Community Cat Coalition posted on Facebook their concern about him roaming in a rural area, ultimately being in pain, hiding, and then dying alone. They were desperate to find a place for him. There seemed to be three paths for his future:

- 1 -an adoptive home with someone who could afford the thousands of dollars in dental care.
- 2 -a hospice home where steroid injections would keep him comfortable as long as possible.
- 3 -euthanasia when the time came that his quality of life was unbearable.

When MEOW's volunteer vet read the post, her immediate response was "Can MEOW take him?" Yes, indeed. The rest is happy history. In late October, after Liam's remaining teeth were removed, he spent a few weeks healing and recuperating in foster care. Liam is now so ready to live a comfortable, healthy life - without teeth, but in a loving forever home.

*all nine lives are precious®*

L i a m , a community cat, was being fed. But he wanted more. He wanted a home and a family of his own. In his rural neighborhood, he would go door-to-door and roll



and make a difference in the lives of companion animals in need.

Last year, you, our amazing supporters raised just over \$ 5 0 , 0 0 0 on #GivingTuesday, which helped sustain our Ninth Life, Public Spay/Neuter Voucher, IRS programs, our Mercy Fund, and support the daily needs of the animals in our care. For example, our expected expense this year of our Public Spay/Neuter Voucher Program, which provides vouchers for no-cost spay or neuter surgeries for the animals of people in need of support to do the right thing, will be about \$30,000 (about 500 surgeries). By year end, we expect that approximately 25 cats in our care will have needed and received dentals, which relieve significant mouth pain and improve overall health, at a cost of about \$25,000.

This year, on #GivingTuesday (a global day of online giving, which provides critical financial support to non-profits during the holiday season), we are asking you, our community, to come together again to pass on your compassion and to truly make a difference.

Throughout the day we will be providing updates on donation matches available and amounts raised as well as sharing stories of compassion on Facebook and Instagram. If you'd like to make a donation, you may do so anytime at [www.meowcatrescue.org](http://www.meowcatrescue.org), or using this QR code.



Pacino—Post Dental







## MEOW'S HOLIDAY CRAFT BAZAAR & BAKE SALE

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, 10 AM TO 3 PM

#### MEOW's HOLIDAY CRAFT BAZAAR & BAKE SALE



Our annual Holiday Craft Bazaar and Bake Sale will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church at 105 State St. in Kirkland, last year's spot, just up the road from the shelter. Shop for beautiful, handcrafted items and delicious baked goods, generously donated by our volunteers and supporters. Pet beds, toys, décor, knitted wear, and seasonal items are just a few of the wonderful things we'll have available. Try your luck in the fun raffle drawings. Commemorate the season while Santa visits from 12 pm to 3 pm. For a \$20 donation you will receive a photo



printed on site and access to online digital images. Safety first, so pets must be restrained, either on a leash or in a carrier. Please consider bringing a pet food or human food item to support MEOW's and St John's Little Pantries. MEOW's Holiday Bazaar is a wonderful opportunity to find one-of-a-kind gifts, support MEOW, and catch up with other MEOW folk. We hope you will stop by!



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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