

Her Mojo is Working!

We began her story in our last issue of Animal Talk, and we knew our supporters would like to know how this story has developed.

A Good Samaritan found Mojo (then known as Blanche) with a horribly injured leg. The emergency vet stabilized her and sent her to Multnomah County Animal Shelter. MCAS contacted ARCF, who arranged for her treatment at North Portland Veterinary Hospital. The injury was serious enough that Dr. McCoy decided to amputate her front leg immediately.

The story continues, by Dr. Kristin Sulis:

I met Mojo a few days later when I was volunteering at the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon clinic. ARCF's dog coordinator Ronnie is also an FCCO volunteer, and she happened to be there with the puppy. She asked if I could take a look at her back legs. Boy, were they messed up! She walked like a cowboy that had ridden all day. Amazingly, she got around that way – with 3 legs and only one of them structurally stable. We were just opening our new veterinary clinic so I invited the puppy over for an x-ray. Later that evening I told my husband Michael about the puppy and arranged for him to be there when Mojo was scheduled for her x-ray – so he could meet her.

Mojo arrived for her appointment. She was so darn cute and so excited -- she had the first potty accident on our brand new carpet. The x-rays showed her legs were terrible, so I recommended she see Dr. Shaw at Back on Track for an evaluation. As the puppy recovered from her sedation Michael held her. She looked so sweet and Michael looked so happy.

That evening Michael, being very practical, said that now was not a good time for us to adopt a puppy. He, of course, was right. Opening the new clinic required so much time and energy, it would be difficult to fit a puppy in. Besides, he reasoned, she was so cute she would surely find a home soon.

Ronnie kept us updated on Mojo, who had many admirers but no takers. She was a special case, possibly requiring very expensive surgery on her hind legs. She was getting along OK, but tired quickly. Ronnie was busy caring for her other fosters and her own dogs, and needed some help. It had been a month and still no adoption.

Late that night I emailed an update to Michael, who responded with the suggestion we go play pool. It was our Sunday night tradition while we were building the clinic. I agreed and the

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The Kitty Corner

So Many Cats, So Few Homes

You may have noticed many groups and shelters are advertising cats for adoption, some featuring reduced adoption fees and other "specials." The sad fact is that adoptions are down everywhere, all shelters are overflowing and they simply can't make room for any more unwanted cats. Because placements are so slow, ARCF has not been able to offer fostering or placement for strays for some time now; our foster homes are also pushing the population limits.

If a stray cat does find you, here is how you can help: If the cat is friendly and you have questions on how to care for it, call us at 503-284-8768. We can't take it in, but we can offer advice and give you a vet referral. If you are trying to help unapproachable strays, call the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon at 503-797-2606. FCCO doesn't take cats for placement, but they offer spay/neuter services, humane traps to lend, and advice on trapping and caring for feral cats.

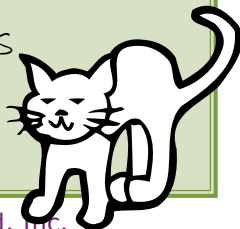
(Oregon Humane Society does not accept stray cats for placement, only owner-surrendered pets.)

Summer is always a slow adoption time, as we vacation, entertain out-of-town guests, and try to get those home projects done. But this year is absolutely scary. It seems that the entire metropolitan area (if not the entire state) is saturated with cats and anyone who likes cats already has one or two.

If you're one of the ones who does, or maybe you used to have a cat and are now ready for the company of another one (or two), please give us a call. We have so many wonderful cats of all ages and personalities that I'm sure you'll find the perfect felines to complete your family.

We can't do it without your help. Spay or neuter your pets, volunteer to foster, or adopt a cat today!

--- Pam Brooks
Cat Coordinator



ChiChi and Luka

Besides being gorgeous tabbies, these darling siblings are "oh so sweet." They are almost a year old; full of kitten energy, but without all the kitten "crazies."

ChiChi and Luka were born with cerebellar hypoplasia which means the cerebellum didn't develop as it should. It is a part of the brain that controls motion. This condition doesn't get worse with age; in fact, as they grow, they learn to compensate and become more agile. According to veterinary experts, the life expectancy of cats with this condition is not affected, given a safe environment. In fact, most cats with this condition live long and happy lives, and are not the least bit troubled by it.

You have to watch this pair closely to notice that they are just a little stiff in their movements. They have learned how to climb their cat tree, but the nice thing is they don't get on the kitchen counters!

This inseparable pair has lived happily with other cats, dogs and cat-friendly children. They are very small, and make perfectly-sized bundles for carrying and lap-cuddling. The family who chooses these charming kittens to share their home will be lucky indeed.

Luka is a gorgeous, petite, girly-girl bullseye tabby with seafoam green eyes. But, never fear -- although dainty and adorable, she can keep up with her brother.

ChiChi is a striking grey tabby with stripes and spots, a bit bigger than Luka, but every bit as playful and affectionate.

Like all ARCF rescue cats, these two have been altered, tested negative for FIV and feline leukemia virus, and are up-to-date on vaccines.

FEATURED DOG

Cotton

Cotton is a young terrier mix with a minor disability common to white, blue-eyed dogs: he's deaf. He'll need someone with lots of time and patience to continue his training, but his potential as an active and devoted companion is unlimited.

Cotton is looking for a high-energy family, where he will be welcome as a running or hiking buddy. He loves water and goes nuts whenever a hose is turned on. He also adores all kinds of toys and can entertain himself quite easily. (Check out his video on our website for some of his hilarious antics!)

Cotton is very people-focused and constantly checks to see where his people are. He's also smart and food-motivated, so he responds quickly to reward-based training. He likes cats but only as playmates; he wouldn't hurt them. He enjoys playing with our other dogs, and has been very gentle with our foster puppy, but because he can't hear when the other dogs have had enough, his doggie play should always be supervised. He's great for play dates, but probably would do best as the only dog at home.

He's also great with kids, although a bit clumsy, so probably older children would be best. Cotton thinks he is a lap dog. He sleeps like a log through the night.

If you'd like to know more about Cotton, please contact our dog coordinator, Ronnie at 503-695-3352.



Canine Corner



Open Your Mind and Your Heart or Strong Bonds require Strong Commitments

You may have a picture in your mind of the perfect canine companion, but surprises lie around every corner, and some of the most amazing and devoted companions we know were completely unexpected.

Take Mickey. Mickey came into our life five years ago when he was ten years old. He wasn't "our" kind of dog. He was small and old, chased cats, had no interest in toys, was desperately food-focused and barked endlessly when left alone. In short, a real pain. But we stuck with him. Why? Well, because he was devoted to us – and we became devoted to him.

For weeks, he was leashed to our waists, so he learned not to chase cats. For months, there was always enough food, so he learned not to fight for it. For a year, we came home at the end of every day, so he learned not to fear abandonment. He has become a prized and precious member of our family, but we never would have believed it on day one.

And then there's Nigel. A friend agreed to foster Nigel, thinking he would be quickly adopted. Nigel turned out to be the best three-legged flyball dog ever, and he's now a permanent member of her family.

Our friend Mary saw us rescue a litter of very small, very sick Chihuahuas. Mary never wanted a Chihuahua – not "her" kind of dog. But Mary opened her eyes and her heart, and now her Chihuahua, Hugo, is the best friend she could have hoped for.

Adopting a dog is not like buying a new appliance or car; you can't consult Consumer Reports. Even purebred dogs may not meet expectations. Keep an open mind -- you never know what size or shape your next best friend will turn out to be. You may encounter more hurdles than you bargained for, but trust me: the reward of building a bond with a devoted, loving, and trusting companion will pay you back a thousand times over.

And remember, no matter what you may have heard, old dogs CAN learn new tricks!

---*Ronnie Balog-Ressler*
Dog Coordinator



Naboo & Mrs. Doyle

A very conscientious family discovered a litter of kittens, minus a mom, in their backyard. They took them in and started making calls. It truly is a small world; she found one of our foster homes with an opening for this little family just a couple of blocks straight down the street. Raised by one of our most expert foster moms, these kittens all grew up to be extra sweet.

Their new mom and dad report:

Naboo and Mrs Doyle (formerly Victor and Tess) moved in with us in March 2008. Mrs Doyle is very much the domestic goddess; she likes to supervise our activities and volunteers her help where she feels it's needed most. Naboo is also quite the domestic boy; his area of expertise is overseeing the laundry, changing the sheets, and the distribution of socks around the house.

Both cats enjoy a good conversation with lots of chirruping and trilling. They also call out to locate us or one another when in other parts of the house. These cats play as hard as they work; soccer practice with a ping pong ball is the game du jour. Chasing each other (and imaginary others) around the house, rocketing up and down the stairs and getting spooked are other favorite. There's always time for a nap, wherever that might be; on chilly days Naboo likes to park himself on top of a heating vent and let the warm air lull him to sleep. Mrs Doyle's preferred spot is on my lap wedged under the keyboard as I type at my desk. We couldn't have wished for a more lively and loving pair of cats.

Nora & Trevor



Diamond Fox Spencer

Hello good people at Animal Rescue & Care Fund, Inc.:

It's me, Pickle! Well, actually I have a new name now, I am Diamond Fox Spencer, but I was called Pickle by my old friends at North Portland Veterinary Hospital where I came to stay after I was rescued by angels on their staff [Hello, Lara :) who decided I was worth saving.

After two surgeries and some special care, Tom and Chrisi Badrick of ARCF became my foster parents and treated me royally until my adoption in November 2007. Now I am truly at home, and I couldn't be happier.

Peace,

Diamond Fox and Roberta Spencer

Wini & Walker

We are so in love with them, and they have hugely enriched our lives. They are complete rascals and sweet-hearts! Their favorite place in our house is a wool rug by the front door. They take turns sleeping on it, pouncing on it, and diving underneath it to stalk anything that walks by.

Thanks again for everything!

Elizabeth Collins



MORE CAT SUCCESS STORIES

SAWYER (previously Leo)

What can I say? I'm a lover! When Rachael first brought me home from my foster family in December 2007, I was secluded in a room "to get used to my new environment." Who wants that?! I want to play and meow and meet everybody! It only took her a week to realize the other pets would love me and I would love them.

Tully, my best cat friend, is older and bigger, but I can run circles around him. He always goes easy on me when we play, and I usually win our wrestling rounds. Cady, my best dog friend, lets me play with her toys but chases me when I attack her tail. I love to rub against her soft fur and make her tell me all about her journeys outside.

My favorite time of day is morning. I get to snuggle with Cady, chase Tully, and follow Rachael while she prepares for work. It's a purr-fest! Rachael and my doctor decided to make my official date of birth April 1, 2007, as some sort of human joke. Someday I might grow out of this kitten phase, but right now I'm having too much fun! Plus, I have a famous name to live up to and more adventures to begin.

Sawyer and Rachael Pound



Cosmo

Our friend Eva rescued Cosmo, with the help of ARCF. Soon after I adopted him we discovered he has stomatitis, which is a disease of the mouth and gums. He had all his back teeth removed and he is now a much happier and healthier boy.

He shares his new home with Zita the cat, and two greyhounds, Milo and Misty.

Thanks for all you do!

Deanna Cecotti



Low Cost Spay & Neuter Services

Oregon Spay/Neuter Fund sponsors a reduced-fee spay and neuter coupon, which makes the surgery very affordable. Several full-service vets participate in this program, which is available for cats and dogs. The participating vets and prices are printed on the coupon, which you can download at www.oregonspayneuter.org, or you may call OSNF at 503-286-2411 and request that one be mailed to you. Please spay and neuter all companion animals.

You can help us.

1. Make the most of our newsletter: After you've finished, pass it along to a friend or neighbor or leave it in a public place (coffee shop, waiting room, community bulletin board, break room at work). Thanks to our supporter Don Nesbitt for this excellent suggestion.

2. Choose to receive our newsletter via email, saving us postage and paper. Send an email to: ARCF.newsletter@gmail.com to request email delivery. Please include your full name and your current postal mailing address.

DOG SUCCESS STORIES

Her Mojo (CONTINUED)

response was: "If you win 3 out of 3 games we can keep the puppy." I won the first two . . . and lost the third. We decided to go to the evaluation appointment anyway.

Dr. Shaw explained the exercises and how many visits would be involved, and fitted her for a device to help her legs. She put on the orange band and the puppy could not use her back legs. Ronnie was teary-eyed at the sight of Mojo trying so hard, yet falling. I saw a resilient puppy with determination to succeed. With encouragement, she quickly figured it out.

Then came the underwater treadmill. The first day, she was so scared she tried to walk on top of the water to escape it. It was hard to watch, but she learned – I knew she could.

I could see Ronnie was overwhelmed with Mojo's special needs, so I convinced Michael that we needed to take her on. Yes, it was overwhelming but we had a good plan. I would take her to work every day, to her therapy appointments, and make sure she did her exercises. The next day she came home with us.

Puppies are so much fun and yet so much trouble! Mojo quickly learned her exercises and the finer points of potty training. She loves her big sister DeeDee who is now half her size and Mojo's favorite chew toy.

Mojo thrives on new challenges. She now pulls me on our walks to work, when not so long ago it looked like I was dragging my poor 3-legged puppy down the street! Her legs are in normal position, she does her exercises with gusto and she even enjoys the underwater treadmill now.

Everyone who sees Mojo wants to pet her, and she loves them all. She's great with kids and respects older dogs but can play rough with the best of them. I can't tell you how many times we've heard how lucky she is to have found us but the truth is WE are the lucky ones.

Kristin and Michael Sulis

You can see more detailed updates about Mojo on our blog at www.mttaborvetcare.com/mojo.



Sophie

After losing Carl, her partner of 36 years, Mary Lou Powell's little bichon frise mix Sophie became the dearest thing in her life. Then Sophie developed a mysterious disease that caused her to lose patches of fur, urinate in the house and gnaw at her skin until it was raw. Sophie required multiple vet visits, expensive tests and ongoing treatment.

Mary Lou, on a fixed income and with health issues of her own, faced one of the most difficult decisions of her life -- whether to give up her beloved Sophie because she couldn't continue taking care of her.

"I thought my only option was to put Sophie down," said Mary Lou. "I had no idea there was an organization that could help us."

Luckily for Mary Lou and Sophie, they found themselves in the hands of Dr. David Mallov, at North Portland Veterinary Hospital. He thought there might be help available from Animal Rescue & Care Fund, Inc. He contacted ARCF Dog Coordinator Ronnie Balog-Ressler, who began looking for a foster home while she coordinated Sophie's care and treatment program.

Sophie's new permanent foster family, with help from ARCF, is able to provide the care she needs. Sophie was eventually diagnosed with Cushing's Disease, caused by a benign tumor near the pituitary gland. Cushing's Disease is not curable but the symptoms can be minimized with proper medication and close monitoring.

Sophie's new family includes Sabrina, a fifteen year-old Border Collie mix. The two of them are inseparable. The foster family even worked out visitations so Mary Lou gets to see Sophie every other weekend.

"I can't believe how lucky I am that Sophie is in good hands and I still get to see her. She looks better than ever and I'm so grateful to Animal Rescue & Care."

Dearest Edward



You were found living in a drain pipe, being fed by construction workers during the week, probably starving on weekends. You must have been so frightened. When you were trapped by Animal Rescue & Care Fund volunteers, you were filthy, matted and filled with worms. But now you were saved!

After a month in foster care, you came to us, a frightened 19-lb. cream-colored cat who ran directly under the bed. We adopted two kittens from ARCF to keep you company. They taught you how to relax and enjoy living at our house. Your purr became louder and more constant. Your meow became more assured. You trusted us to make your future secure.

For four years you brought a smile to our faces when you ran to greet us at the door. You wouldn't eat until you were petted. You slept with the other cats. You began talking to us. When you were totally secure, you rolled over and over, white paws in the air, your intense blue eyes gazing at us with love.

But all those months living in the woods had taken their toll. Your kidneys and pancreas were badly damaged. You were uncomfortable, probably in pain, but you never complained. When we made the heartbreaking decision to end your suffering, you died in my arms. The house is quiet without your purr and meows. Our bed is empty without your warm fur. Our lives are lonely without your love.

Sleep peacefully, our dear Edward.

Kathrine and Tom Grinnell

Vehicle Donations

Animal Rescue & Care Fund, Inc. now accepts vehicle donations, and the process couldn't be any easier! Your vehicle can be a tax-deductible donation to ARCF through the following steps:



1. Contact Speed's Supertow at 503-253-5866 and let them know you have a vehicle donation for Animal Rescue & Care Fund. They will get basic information about your vehicle and arrange for a pick up.
2. When Speed's Supertow picks up your vehicle, they will give you a temporary receipt and make sure that you have the title paperwork signed over to Animal Rescue & Care Fund, Inc.
3. The vehicle will go to auction, and the net proceeds will go to ARCF!
4. Speed's Supertow will handle the DMV paperwork. You must notify the DMV of your donation which can be done online. See: www.oregon.gov/ODOT/DMV/vehicle/sell.shtml.
5. ARCF will send you a 1098-C receipt for the amount that your car sold for along with a thank you letter indicating that amount.

Please check www.irs.gov or your tax advisor for more information.

Thank you for considering donating a vehicle to ARCF - it will help us continue to rescue and find homes for cats and dogs in need.

Gayle and Peter Green lost their wonderful Bart.



Erin lost her eldest cat, Bridgette, who succumbed to a stroke at age 17 years.



Helen & Fred Sandau lost their dear cat Charley. He was 17 years old and always a love from the time they took him in as a stray.



Carol McGrew lost sweet old Kisha, who came to live with Carol when her person became terminally ill. Kisha had serious health issues herself, but Carol wanted her to have a quiet and loving home for her last days. She didn't have her long, but Carol will "miss the little bug."



Katie lost her foster kitten, Odin at 9 weeks old -- a hard beginning and an unexpectedly short life, but a gracious and loving spirit throughout.



Banu Yagcioglu lost her dearest Oliver from cancer. Even though she has rescued many, he was "The One" for her.



Lorraine Jones lost Susie, a beautiful calico girl who was special in many ways.

Animal Placements

In May, June, and July, we placed 12 cats and 4 dogs in new loving, responsible homes. Our major expenses for those three months were:

Veterinary Fees: \$26,278.28
 Advertising: \$73.50
 Food, Special Meds: \$353.59
 Newsletter: \$920.36

*These expenses include veterinary care for the dogs of Portland's homeless. We also had expenses for injured and sick pet and emergency vet visits.

**Most volunteers pay for food and litter for the animals they care for as their contribution to the cause.

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Animal Rescue & Care Fund, Inc., is a private, non-profit, tax-exempt corporation funded solely by private donations. A board of directors makes decisions on policy and activities. All funds are used exclusively for veterinary care, food, classified advertising to find suitable homes to place animals, and publishing the quarterly newsletter, "Animal Talk." Volunteers provide good temporary homes until the animals are placed in responsible, permanent homes.



Disaster Planning for Pets

In case of disaster, you should have emergency supplies for 72 hours or longer. Don't forget to include your pets in your planning. Here are suggestions for an emergency kit to have ready, and plans you can make in advance:

Supplies:

- Portable hard-sided, plastic carrier (essential for cats)
- Food and water for at least three days, bowls and a can opener
- Litter and litter box for cats
- Pet first aid kit, including medications and vaccination records
- Instructions on feeding schedule and diet, including medications and special needs
- Leashes and collars with current ID
- Current photos of you and your pets together to document ownership, including details of age, sex, breed, markings, color, etc.
- Favorite toys, treats and bedding

Planning:

- Microchip your pets and make sure your records are up to date
- Line up friends or family who would be able and willing to take your pets temporarily.
- Contact lodging outside your local area about pet policies. Create a list of the pet-friendly places you find.
- Prepare a list of boarding facilities or veterinarians who could shelter your pet.
- Develop a pet care buddy system to make sure someone will care for your pets if you are unable to do so.
- Make sure your vet and your pet care buddies have a copy of your pet's medical and ID records.



Due to technical difficulties, Joanie's photo didn't appear correctly in our last issue. Here it is again, with our apologies. Joanie and her pal Chachi were adopted a year ago by Lynn and Ryan Smith.

YES! I want to help

Animal Rescue & Care Fund depends entirely on your donations. Our work includes rescue, medical aid, food and shelter, humane education, neutering/spaying, and more. All workers are volunteers. Your contribution goes directly to help the animals. All contributions are tax-deductible.

You can now donate online using Paypal. Save time and postage! Visit our website for more details.

I'd like to make a contribution of \$ _____ for the ARCF Microchipping Program, which will pay for adopted animals to have microchips.

I enclose _____ for humane work. (\$35 sponsors an animal, but we appreciate any amount)
 Sponsors can check here to receive a story and a photo about the animal being fostered.

I'm interested in being a volunteer. Please contact me at _____.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____

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