

FEATURED CATS

Griselda & Garfield

It's hard to imagine a more stunning pair of cats than these two youngsters. Griselda and Garfield are as loving as they are beautiful. They are also curious, playful, and active. In fact we think they have enough energy to power an entire household, if we could just figure out how to harness it and run it through a generator.

Although Griselda and Garfield came to us from different situations, they hit it off right away in our foster home, and we are looking for a home where they can be adopted and stay together forever. Both are about one year old, in excellent health, and have perfect litter box habits.

Garfield has the affectionate goofiness typical of marmalade cats. Griselda is the brains of the outfit and sometimes finds Garfield lacks finesse, so gives



GRISELDA (LEFT) & GARFIELD

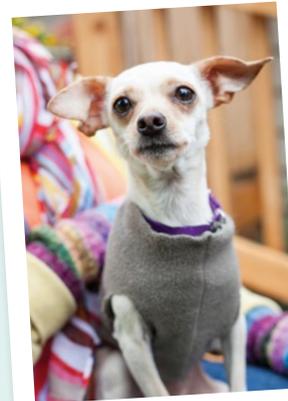
him a bop on the nose to keep him in line. They both love toys and games of every kind, making graceful and acrobatic leaps going after the feathered toys that fly through the air. Garfield loves hunting and killing his big furry mice, while Griselda prefers the challenge of playing fetch with small, sparkly things.

Their ideal family will have time every day to play with Griselda and Garfield. They are extremely social, and love greeting guests and giving them a good sniffing to find out what interesting places they have visited. After they are worn out from playing, these cats love cuddling up on the couch for lazy time, and they will definitely expect to sleep on the bed with their people. Because of their high energy level, a home full of delicate, valuable objects would not be a good match.

Griselda and Garfield have been spayed/neutered, microchipped, tested negative for FeLV/FIV, and are up to date on vaccines. The adoption fee is \$150 for both. To learn more about Griselda and Garfield, or any of our cats for adoption, please call 503-402-8692, email arcf@pdx-petadoption.org, or visit www.pdx-petadoption.org, where you can also see a video of Griselda and Garfield.

FEATURED DOG

Fola



Fola packs a lot of love into a tiny package. At only 6 pounds, she can fit easily into just about any lap and, given the choice, a comfy lap is where she would spend all her time. She's

about 2 years old and, like all Chihuahuas, she wants to stay close to a source of warmth and needs extra encouragement to go outside when the weather is less than perfect.

We don't know the story of Fola's early life, but we do know that she has excellent social skills. She gets along with dogs, cats, and people of all sizes. She has good manners, knows basic commands, and does well on a leash. Fola loves toys and makes up silly games to amuse herself.

If you dream of having a small, devoted companion who will sit on your lap all day and snuggle under the covers all night, Fola is your girl.

All dogs from My Way Home Dog Rescue are spayed or neutered, and current on vaccines. Fola's adoption fee of \$200 includes: microchip, leash, collar, blanket, food sample, and a copy of *Love Has No Age Limit: Welcoming an Adopted Dog into Your Home*, by Patricia McConnell.

If you are interested in meeting Fola, contact Cheryl at cayoshioka@aol.com or 503-974-4944.

From the President's Desk

Ah, summer time! Flowers in bloom, tomcats on the prowl, and kittens everywhere. Most of our readers know our system of naming the first litter of the year with "A" names, and working our way through the alphabet. We're already up to the "W" litter, and it's barely the first of June!

Typical of our clientele this time of year is a handsome orange fellow, whom we'll call Tom. A very nice lady had been feeding him for several months, knowing he needed TNR (trap-neuter-return) from her past experience caring for stray cats in her neighborhood. When Tom showed up with an injury, no doubt inflicted by another tomcat in a duel over a lady cat, his need became urgent. We arranged to take Tom to the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon clinic and we're happy to report that his injury was minor. He's now back home, and his days of sowing wild oats have come to an end.

In our last issue, we told you about the colony of feral cats left behind when an RV park closed down. We trapped all nine of the abandoned cats just before the bulldozers began clearing the land for the next owner.

One of them is Mitzi, a darling little bobtail tabby cat who clearly had been someone's pet. Mitzi is looking for a home where she will always be warm and well fed, and won't ever be left behind again. The other cats are not socialized enough to place as housecats, so we are looking for homes where they can live out their lives as barn or shop cats. If you have such a place, or know of one, please contact us; we are always searching for homes for displaced community cats.

We also were called to help with a colony of more than 40 feral cats living at the end of a dead-end street in Portland. Their caregiver had been dedicated to feeding them for many years, but was overwhelmed by the prospect of trapping all of them. For more information on this project, see page 4.

Not far from that street, a smaller colony of feral cats began to grow out of control. Fortunately, we stepped in when there were only six cats and, within two days, our volunteers trapped the cats, had them spayed/neutered, and returned them all to their caregiver. This kind man, who lives outdoors nearby, watches over the cats and feeds them every day.

We helped pets of other homeless folks referred to us by the PAW Team, including dental procedures for an elderly Dachshund named

Heidi, a Shi Tzu named Bandit, and a cat named Grandma who was in excruciating pain and required full mouth extractions. We're always amazed to see how quickly cats and dogs bounce back to good health once painful teeth are removed and they can eat normally again.

The tiny "T" litter came to us from our local public shelter. Someone brought a beautiful and wild black cat to the shelter for spaying, but while she was waiting her turn for surgery, the cat had four babies. Because of her non-social behavior, the shelter asked if we could help by fostering the little family until the kittens are weaned, when momcat Teeka can be spayed and returned to her home.

Sweet Sherman was found with a colony of barn cats by a volunteer who was doing TNR for the property owner who had been caring

for them. His rescuer quickly noticed that Sherman didn't belong with the group; he started purring and rolled over for belly rubs as soon as she got him out of the trap. She asked for our help with finding Sherman a new home. He was in desperate need of a shampoo and shave in addition to the usual veterinary care, and he's now charming everyone he meets. We expect he will meet the right person very soon.

Although we have been busy with many rescue projects, adoptions were even slower than usual for this time of year; in the spring quarter, we placed only three adult cats in new homes.

Good homes are hard to find! Because we don't have a shelter or an advertising budget, we could really use your help in spreading our message. If you know anyone ready to adopt or foster a cat, please send them our way!

We're also looking for an attorney willing to donate a few hours of time to help us review and update our documents and agreements, and advise on a couple of other minor issues. To volunteer or to find out more, call us at 503-402-8692 or email arcf@pdx-petadoption.org.

Please spay and neuter your pets, and on behalf of all our rescued critters, thank you for reading our newsletter and supporting our mission.

Happy Summer!

— **Carma Crimins**
PRESIDENT



TOM



FOUR TINY T KITTENS



MITZI



SHERMAN

Since ARCF does not currently have a dog adoption program, we are working with other local dog rescue groups who share our goals and philosophies of animal welfare and rescue.

MY WAY HOME DOG RESCUE

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

mywayhomedogrescue.org

503-974-4944

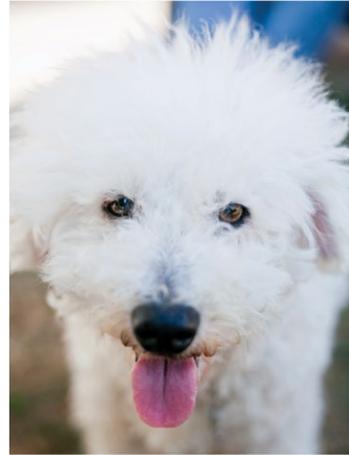
Pierre

Last fall we told you the story of Pierre and the many angels who were involved in getting him safely from a high-kill shelter in Los Angeles to a loving foster home with My Way Home Dog Rescue. No one will ever know the first part of his story, but once he arrived, it became obvious that he was about twice as old as originally estimated. In addition to having a wobbly leg, Pierre also turned out to be completely deaf and mostly blind. But he had a sweet disposition and a great attitude, so we settled him into our foster home and waited for the perfect family to come along. It took a while, but one day we got a message from Kristin, and she turned out to be his forever guardian angel. Here is Kristin's story:

I haven't actually sought out a pet for many years. I have been involved in rescue for so long that the animals always found me! But this time I did go looking.

I had rescued a Maltese dog that finally passed on in January. I realized after he was gone that my Chihuahua Sparky seemed to miss him, although he had been a bit jealous while he was with us. So I looked at local shelters for an older, quiet dog that was okay with other dogs and cats. That's when I came across the adorable picture of Pierre at My Way Home Dog Rescue.

After a meet and greet with Sparky, which was fairly uneventful (in a good way), Pierre became part of my family and my work partner. Since he has a bit of separation anxiety, he goes to work with me every day. I am a Certified Vet Tech and I run Animal Rehabilitation & Fitness in Vancouver. Pierre is a perfect partner because he greets all of the clients and patients at the door and escorts them in, then either goes back to his bed or lays



LISA TESO



KRISTIN HELPS PIERRE WITH HIS THERAPEUTIC SWIM

at the client's feet while the dog (or cat) does therapy. He gets very excited when his favorite patients arrive!

After a long day at the office, he can't wait to get home for dinner. After all, food is his first love. I monitor his weight because he gets treats throughout the day from the clients in addition to his treat puzzle toys at home. He also stays fit

by swimming in the pool at work. I have him on a rehab regimen that enables him to live a normal life, including stairs.

He gets along great with the cats and he and Sparky have developed an understanding. They don't sleep with

each other necessarily, but definitely enjoy each other's company. They eat together, chew bully sticks together, and hang out in the sun together—they just don't cuddle.

His crazy dinner time dance is something you have to see for yourself, you would never know he is blind. He has learned the lay of the land inside and out and at work and has never fallen or hurt himself. His sniffer makes up for the senses he lacks. He can find a treat like a needle in a haystack!

Pierre continues to surprise me with little quirky personality traits. I am so happy that I found him and that he's a part of my life.

— Kristin Finstad

The Dead End Kids

A kind-hearted senior gentleman has been feeding a colony of feral cats in an industrial area of southeast Portland for more than 15 years. He used to live on that street. Now he lives many miles away but still returns each evening to feed the cats. In April, he contacted the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon (FCCO) about getting one cat spayed, and eventually revealed that there were more than 40 cats at his colony, none of them spayed or neutered. Although he knew the cats needed help, he also knew he was not capable of doing the physical work of TNR (trap-neuter-return). Our friends at FCCO asked if we could help him.

Our volunteers went right to work and within two weeks, we had trapped 41 adult cats and five kittens, and taken them to the FCCO clinic. Of the female cats, eight of them were

lactating, so we knew there would be many more kittens appearing soon at the feeding stations.

One cat turned out to be already neutered and microchipped, and was returned to his owner. Another was tame but not spayed, so she was placed for adoption to a new home. We were able to find a suitable home for four of the others to live as barn cats.

The first litter of kittens to appear after the initial trapping was actually dumped there by a passerby who saw the cats and feeding stations and decided that was a good place to leave 5-week-old kittens. Fortunately, they came immediately to the food and we were able to grab them and get them safely to a foster home, where they became the "P" litter.

The next kittens to appear (the "Q" litter) were older, not so tame, and in very poor health. But with good



CATS #1 THROUGH #8, SOON TO BE TRAPPED



THE LAST CAT IS CAPTURED!



QUENTIN RECUPERATES

food and medical care, Quentin and Queeny made a miraculous recovery. Quentin had a badly infected left eye, and we expected he would require surgery to remove it, but he is responding well to treatment, and we're hopeful his eye will be saved. In the meantime, both the Qs have become happy little purr machines. The third Q has just been trapped and will soon join his siblings.

We've seen at least three more litters just starting to come out, so we'll be busy with this project for at least a few more weeks. Eventually, all of the kittens will be healthy, tame, fixed, and ready for new homes. Because all of the adult cats have now been neutered, the colony will stabilize, and over time will shrink and eventually fade away entirely. In the meantime, their lives are much improved, and their caregiver will continue to come each day to feed them.

SUCCESS STORIES

Poppy (formerly Carly)

In February, we were contacted by a cat wrangler in the Albany area. She needed help with a family of eight cats and kittens who were left behind by a tenant who was evicted from a rental home. The house was trashed, the cats were dumped outdoors, and the property owner wanted them gone. A local shelter took the kittens but didn't have room for the adult cats. We agreed to help, and Poppy and Hazel came to us.

We were surprised to find that two cats from the same family were so unhappy about sharing quarters in our foster home. It was clear that Poppy and Hazel

were looking for at least a trial separation, and preferably a permanent one.

We first heard from Wendy, who had recently lost one of her elderly cats, and was looking for a mellow companion for her remaining ancient feline. But



POPPY (LEFT), SKY (TOP) & NOVA

before she could meet Poppy, an unexpected circumstance brought a suddenly homeless cat named Nova to her family. So the situation had changed somewhat, but Wendy came to meet Poppy anyway and fell under her spell. Poppy was so eager to get away from Hazel, we agreed that she would go home with Wendy and make a test of the feline socio-dynamics in the household. Upon arrival, Poppy seemed to make herself at home instantly, but the other two cats weren't quite sure what to make of all her goofy energy. Two months later, Wendy sent us this update:

When Poppy came to live with us I wondered if it would work out: introducing an energetic 3-year-old to quiet 10-year-old Nova and 18-year-old Mr. Skybluepink. I had thought it would be best to keep the household sedate for Sky in his dotage, but it turns out that Poppy was just the CATalyst to meld the colony together.

Within a month there were group feather toy games and cat tag stampedes. When old man Sky opts out of the action the girls are very respectful of his space—they just leapfrog over the top of him.

Everyone enjoys the mutual ear washing sessions (I just watch) and all three have their spots picked out on the bed when it's time to sleep.

Sky has really perked up and loves to watch the girls. Nova is still quite full of zip, having a youngster to contend with. If Poppy can't find someone to play with, she's happy to chase her tail, her shadow, or THINGS WE CAN'T SEE.

Poppy has brought lots of love and laughter to us. What a lucky, lovely household we have here.

— Wendy Street, Sky, Nova, and Poppy



Hazel (formerly Audrey)

Shortly after Poppy went home with Wendy, we got a message from Alexis, who was looking for a feline companion who would be content to spend the days alone while Alexis is at work, but happy to greet visitors and cuddle on the couch in the evenings. Alexis came to meet Hazel, who showed off her cutest tricks and her beautiful soft-as-a-bunny fur coat, and Alexis was instantly smitten. We packed Hazel's bag and made arrangements for the move. Here is the latest update from Alexis:

Just thought I'd give you a short Hazel update. She is just the best and cutest kitty. She's sat in a few laps even! Despite that, she still prefers to curl up next to me on the couch, or try to snuggle between me and the laptop when I'm lying down (awwww).

She's gotten very playful—she really loves the mousie on a string and will ask for playtime by gently nomming my hand when I pet her. She enjoys her perch and watching kitty TV more now that the weather is nicer. Her red ball had been lost for a few weeks but today she unearthed it from who-knows-where and then had a nap next to it on the floor.

I love that every week or so she does something new, like nap on the floor, jump from perch to the top of the couch, or sit on my chair (at first it was all couch or bed).

My favorite thing is still when she squirms over and crashes out totally asleep on her back. She looks like a little (snoring) kitty ballerina sometimes!

— Alexis Grant

SUCCESS STORIES

Savannah

About three years ago, we were contacted by a man in desperate straits. He had lost his job because of an injury, then lost his home to foreclosure, and was returning to live with his elderly parents in another state because of their failing health. The man had no family other than his two cats, but they would not be allowed in his parents' home. The cats were 13 years old, and he had not been able to find any shelter or rescue willing to accept his cats for adoption. Sadly, he considered having them euthanized, but couldn't scrape together the necessary funds. Because of their age and unknown health status, we knew the cats would be in our foster home for a long time, but we also knew they had no other options. So Sesame and Savannah came to us.

There were many health issues needing to be addressed, including major dental work, but both cats were very social and each showed a unique and quirky personality.

In spite of a lifetime together, the two cats detested each other, so we split



them up. Savannah was quickly adopted by a young family but even more quickly returned when she expressed her displeasure at sharing the floor with a toddler. In fact, Savannah made it clear she preferred to be around adults only, and absolutely no other cats.

Sesame was a bit less fussy, and although it took two years, Sesame found a home with the Kang family, the perfect situation for her golden years.

It took another year for Savannah, but one day this spring we received a message from Cynthia, who was looking for a companion for her 86 year old mother in an assisted living residence, who had

recently lost her little dog. Cynthia came to meet Savannah and was charmed by her outgoing personality. We agreed to let Savannah try an extended "sleepover" visit to see how Savannah would fit in.

Here is an update from Cynthia:

Savannah is a true delight. They enjoy each other's company and Savannah acts as though she has always been there. In some ways, she's very dog-like in that she greets anyone who comes into my mom's apartment and then goes to whoever happens to offer their hand. My mom is named Katy and when I asked her today what she was calling the cat, she replied, "Oh, just Kitty. You know, Kitty and Katy!"

What a wonderful cat she is! My mother has two caregivers with her each week and neither had been exposed to cats before Savannah. Now, after getting to know Savannah, each of them is considering a cat as a future pet.

— Cynthia Chilton

Where to Find Us

If you'd like to meet some of our cats and volunteers in person, you can find us on the second Saturday of each month at Furever Pets store on NE 19th and Broadway in Portland, from noon to 3 pm.

We'll also be setting up our booth at the following events this summer:

Broadway Street Fair

NE 19th and Broadway on July 20

Montavilla Street Fair

SE 78th and Stark on July 21

Fremont Fest

NE 47th and Fremont on August 3

IN MEMORIAM

We were sorry to learn that Terry Vinocur lost Emma, her precious feline companion, adopted from ARCF in 1998. Emma was remembered with a donation by Marilyn Rabie.

Heather Rosenwinkel sent us a note and donation in memory of Tutu, beloved cat of Isabel McDonald.

Elaine Prause lost her dog, Noggin. Nancy Klass remembered Noggin with a donation.



OLIVE

Nancy and Carlos Chavez were saddened by the sudden loss of their 7-year-old cat, Olive. She was rescued as a tiny kitten from a feral colony and, until the day her mysterious illness struck, lived the pampered life dreamed of by every cat.

SUCCESS STORIES

Sophie

Sophie came to Animal Rescue & Care Fund not from neglect or abuse, but from love. Mary Lou Powell, her previous owner, loved Sophie dearly but was no longer able to care for her. After multiple mini-strokes and seizures, Mary Lou could hardly walk and taking Sophie to the vet was a huge challenge.

Sophina (as Mary Lou called her) began to suffer constant itching, hair loss, insatiable thirst and hunger, and ongoing infections. Mary Lou found herself at North Portland Veterinary Hospital on a regular basis and the costs for these visits were adding up.

A firm diagnosis was not made until veterinarian David Mallov suspected Cushing's disease. The cost of the diagnostic tests and ongoing treatment was beyond what Mary Lou could afford on her modest fixed income. She believed there was no choice but to put her beloved Sophina to sleep. That's when ARCF stepped in. Dr. Mallov suggested that Mary Lou consider placing

Sophie into foster care. Broken hearted but knowing the alternative was worse, Mary Lou surrendered Sophie to ARCF in November of 2007.

Sophie was placed in a foster family who is able to keep up with her demanding regimen of daily medications and regular vet visits. While Cushing's disease is not curable, it can be controlled, and Sophie's symptoms greatly improved.

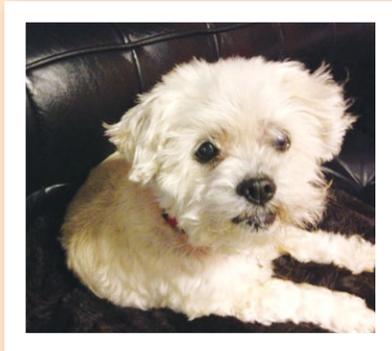
Her foster mom took her to visit Mary Lou until last November, when Mary Lou passed away in her sleep. She knew up until her last day that her sweet little Sophina was in good hands and loved each and every day.

We are very grateful to Sophie's foster family for the loving care she receives, but the treatment of

her condition costs about \$250 per month for special food, medications, and regular testing. ARCF will cover this expense for as long as Sophie is with us. If you would like to help sponsor Sophie's care, we would gratefully accept your donations on her behalf.



MARY LOU & SOPHIE IN 2008



SOPHIE IN 2013

Did you know that ARCF can accept donations of unwanted vehicles? If you're tired of looking at the clunker in your driveway, give us a call and we'll help you make it disappear. We'll arrange for Speed's Towing to pick up your vehicle and sell it at auction. They'll send us the net proceeds and we'll send you a receipt. 503-402-8692 or arcf@pdx-petadoption.org.

ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

March-April-May: We placed 3 cats in loving, responsible homes. Major expenses were:

Veterinary Fees: \$8,838.59*
Advertising/Outreach: \$16
Food, Special Meds: \$1,922.42**
Newsletter: \$1,388.00

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

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

AnimalTalk

ANIMAL TALK is a quarterly newsletter published by Animal Rescue & Care Fund, Inc., and printed by Natural Press in Portland.

Our Mission: To rescue, shelter, and care for homeless animals and place them in permanent, responsible homes; to promote and support spay/neuter for all companion animals.

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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, and publishing the quarterly newsletter, *Animal Talk*. Volunteers provide good temporary homes until the animals are placed in responsible, permanent homes.

THINGS WE LIKE



AMY NISSL OF MY WAY HOME DOG RESCUE AT 2012 EVENT

Best Friends Strut Your Mutt

We had a blast at this event last year, and encourage all our friends to participate on September 28 at Sellwood Riverfront Park in Portland. Sponsored by Best Friends Animal Society, this event raises money for local rescue groups who participate. Only 11 cities nationwide are chosen to participate. We strut with our friends at My Way Home Dog Rescue, but you can join up with any Portland pack. Walk your dog, volunteer to walk a rescue dog, or just walk on your own. After the walk, enjoy the festival featuring contests, photos, refreshments, vendor booths, and more. To sign up, go to strutyourmutt.org and click on the link for Portland.



Pet Fusion Scratcher Lounge

We use this combination scratcher/lounger from Pet Fusion, and we give it four out of four paws for usefulness and durability. The cardboard is sturdy enough to support several cats for lounging, and will hold up to serious scratching. When the top starts to look raggedy (which ours still doesn't, after almost a year of daily use) just turn it upside down and start over. This lounge/scratcher is available from multiple sources online, but the best deal we found was about \$50 from Amazon.com with free shipping.

DIY Toy for the "Eviscerator" Dog

A friend found this great idea on an internet blog called Leopold's Crate. If your dog is the kind who disembowels stuffed toys (and you're getting tired of stitching them back together), you might want to give this a try. Start with a Hol-ee® Roller Ball in the appropriate size for your dog (available at most pet supply stores and online). Cut a bunch of fleece fabric into strips, and then roll them up or tie them in knots and stuff into the ball. For added interest, tuck a few treats in with the fabric. So simple! No more shreds of stuffing everywhere. Just pick up the fleecy pieces and restuff the ball for another round. Of course this activity is not safe for dogs who like to eat fabric, and all dogs should be supervised when playing with toys.



MATERIALS NEEDED



READY FOR PLAY

YES! I want to help

Animal Rescue & Care Fund, Inc., 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.

Make a secure online donation using a credit card, debit card, or PayPal account. Save time and postage!

Visit our website for more details: www.pdx-petadoption.org.

- 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 _____

Mail to:

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