

FEATURED CATS

Bartlett, Becky, Beatrice, and Benedict

Meet the “B” kittens! This beautiful bundle of four siblings came into our care in early October when their kind caregiver passed away and they were left homeless. They were a bit bewildered when they came to us, but quickly settled in and began to show us their charming and quirky little personalities. All four are incredibly sweet and good-natured. Because they are very bonded and have spent their entire lives together, we will place them in pairs only.

Benedict is the big brother and boss of the outfit. He is the first to greet visitors and check out anything new and unusual. Once he investigates and gives the sign of approval, the rest of the tribe moves in to share the fun.

Bartlett is the orange component of this unit, and second in charge. He’s not quite as bold as Benedict, but he’s never too far behind. Bartlett is adored by both of his sisters and sometimes they can be found tag-team grooming him.

Becky has very unusual markings, big blue eyes in an irresistibly adorable face, and she speaks in little bird-like chirps. Becky is the family hairdresser and wardrobe coordinator, making sure that the others

are impeccably groomed at all times. Becky seems to have an extra sweet spot in her heart for Bartlett; she is the first one to curl up next to him when that place is open.

Beatrice is the baby of the family, and although she’s content to let the others take the lead, she adores her siblings and wants to be involved in whatever they are doing. Beatrice is still a bit shy, but she’s very playful and her confidence grows every day.



BECKY (LEFT) & BEATRICE



BENEDICT (LEFT) & BARTLETT

These kittens individually have the loudest purrs we have ever heard. Put them together and you might think a Kenworth truck was idling in your hallway. They have lots of kitten energy for games and play time, and are excellent lap cuddlers when they run out of steam.

The four B kittens are about 10 months old. They have been spayed or neutered, microchipped, tested negative for FeLV/FIV, and are up to date on vaccines. The adoption fee is \$150 for a pair. To learn more about these kittens, or any of our cats for adoption, please call 503-402-8692, email arcf@pdx-petadoption.org, or visit www.pdx-petadoption.org.

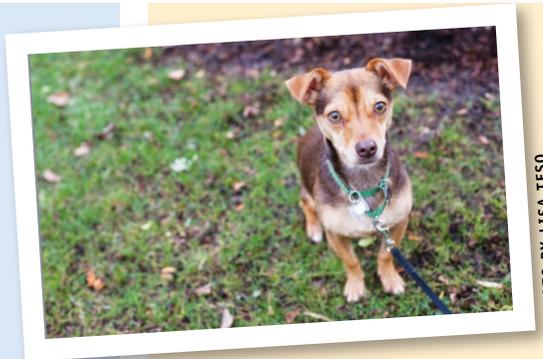


PHOTO BY LISA TESO

FEATURED DOG

Kipper

Kipper is not only adorable, but he is a smart little whipper-snapper, too! He was found as a puppy living near a dumpster and was bounced around here and there until he found his way to My Way Home Dog Rescue. Now he’s ready for his forever family to find him and start the happily-ever-after part of his life!

Kipper is about 1-½ years old, and a compact 12 lb. mix of Miniature Pinscher and Dachshund. Although he’s a bit afraid of big dogs on first meeting, he loves small dogs and plays well with the kitten at his foster home. He quickly learned how lovely it feels to curl up in a warm lap, and he also loves walks around the neighborhood, zoomies around the yard, and a good game of tug-of-war with his buddies. Kipper is leash-, crate-, and potty-trained, and he is learning basic commands.

All dogs from My Way Home Dog Rescue are spayed or neutered, microchipped, and are current on vaccines. Kipper’s adoption fee of \$220 includes: 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 Kipper, contact Cheryl at cayoshioka@aol.com or 503-974-4944.

From the President's Desk

When the temperatures dipped below freezing this week, we were comforted thinking of the insulated shelters we made and distributed to caregivers of outdoor cats. We wish all cats could live indoors (with "catio" access—see page 7!), but some of our feline friends don't care to live in such close proximity to people, so we do our best to make them safe and comfortable. Many others share that commitment, and in fact since 2001, October 16 has been designated National Feral Cat Day, an event created and sponsored by Alley Cat Allies, a national advocacy group.

For our National Feral Cat Day project, we planned to TNR (trap-neuter-return) the many roaming cats at a large mobile home park. Residents wanted to help the cats they were feeding, but were overwhelmed by the logistics of trapping and transporting so many cats. We spent a weekend canvassing residents, sharing information about our project, and getting a head count. We estimated about 60 cats, and so far we have captured 52, including the handsome **Clarence**. We transported them to the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon clinic for spay/neuter surgeries, then recovered and returned them to their caregivers. We'll catch the few remaining cats to make sure the population is stabilized and then monitor the situation so any newcomers can be TNR'd before more kittens are born.

As part of our TNR projects, all kittens are socialized and placed for adoption after completing our kitten "boot camp," where they learn to love people, and receive training in proper house manners. Each kitten gets necessary vet care, including spay/neuter surgery and microchipping. When our foster homes are full, we work with other shelters to move the kittens into new homes as quickly as possible so that we can make room for the next batch to arrive. We make sure every mother cat is captured and spayed so the breeding cycle is stopped.

We also attempt to locate owners of any friendly adult cats we find living with feral colonies. If the cats are not claimed, we place them in foster homes as soon as possible. Our goal is always to minimize the number of cats of living outdoors who could be living happily in an indoor home.

A young woman called us in September about a cat belonging to her neighbors. Chiquito was well loved, but his left eye seemed too large and looked very painful. The family had been told that

Chiquito needed surgery to remove the damaged eye, but the father had serious medical issues of his own, and simply had no resources for vet care. We provided Chiquito's surgery, and because his recovery was going to require ten days of medications, in addition to wearing the dreaded "cone of shame", he stayed with us until he was fully recovered. He couldn't wait to get back home, and his family was very happy to see him again.



CLARENCE

June, the sweet tuxedo cat, came to us when a Good Samaritan noticed her roaming outdoors in some kind of distress. The vet exam showed that June needed immediate surgery for an abdominal infection. There were complications which required a second surgery and it was then that the surgeon discovered multiple malignant masses in her abdomen. The masses were removed, but her prognosis doesn't point to a long life, so June will remain comfortably in our care as a "permanent foster" for as long as she lives.

Even though we don't currently have a dog placement program, we support our canine friends in other ways.

In November, we helped a senior dog named **Chloe**, the companion of a disabled man for ten years. Chloe had developed a couple of the growths that tend to appear on older dogs, and she was overdue for extraction of some painful teeth. We partnered with Project POOCH to get Chloe's

procedures done. She's feeling much better and her dad is very happy to have her home and healthy again.

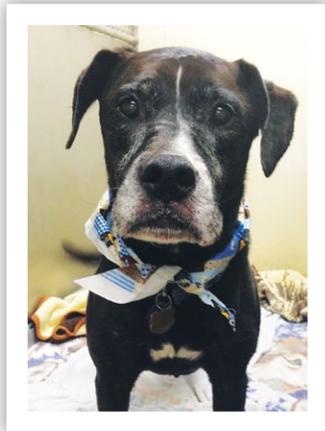
Another project we supported was knee surgery for **Layla**, a lovely black Lab rescued by our friends at My Way Home Dog Rescue, who learned that Layla suffered from a torn ACL. For those not familiar, that type of injury requires a complicated and expensive knee surgery, plus rehab and careful monitoring as part of recovery. We're happy

to report that Layla's surgery went well, her recovery is right on track, and best of all, she has found her forever home!

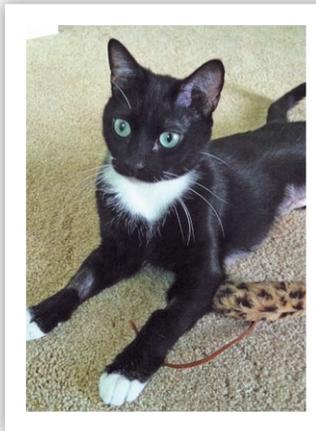
Every donation to ARCF goes to helping an animal in need. On behalf of Clarence, Chiquito, June, Layla, Chloe, and the hundreds of others who depend on us, thank you for supporting our mission.

Happy Winter!

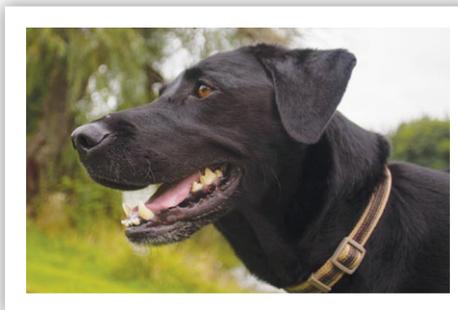
— **Carma Crimins**
PRESIDENT



CHLOE



JUNE



LAYLA

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

Lola

The beginning of Lola's story is sadly typical. She was found as a young stray wandering the streets of Los Angeles, and was taken to a public shelter. From there she was adopted, but after about six years she was returned when her family lost their



home. Because so many dogs are surrendered to that shelter every single day, the ones who aren't adopted quickly are scheduled for euthanasia to make room for new arrivals.

A shelter volunteer named Wendy fell in love with Lola's sweet and gentle soul, and decided to find a rescue willing to save a senior dog. Through a network of rescue angels, including Carrie Ann Inaba from "Dancing with the Stars," My Way Home Dog Rescue was contacted. They had a foster home available, and Lola became the first beneficiary of the rescue's new focus on senior dogs.

Lola waited patiently at her foster home, taking in her new surroundings and looking so serious with her permanently furrowed brow. Lindsay picks up the story from there.

I lost my dog to cancer in March and, after months of grieving, was ready to welcome a new 4-legged best friend into my life. This past summer I searched high and low at various websites and shelters for the dog that was just right for me and my family. When I saw Lola's mug, I knew she was the dog for me! She is a gentle giant with soulful eyes. She gets along with children, cats, and other dogs—something that is hard to find in a rescue dog, but necessary for my complex family. After a lengthy application, followed by references and a home visit, I passed the test and Lola moved in.

She was skeptical at first, wondering where her foster mom had gone, but day by day I earned her trust, solidifying our bond. She now looks for me and follows my lead. Her favorite thing is to cuddle on the couch. Lola thinks she's a lap dog, but at 103 lbs. she is far from that. Her other favorite thing is to strategically lay right in the middle of the kitchen while you're cooking. I think it's her

tactic to get you to trip and drop a few food scraps.

Lola has fit right in with my family. She comes to family dinner at my parents' house every week, joining three other dogs, one cat, one rat, and two small children. Amidst all the chaos she stays calm and goes with the flow.



She's joined me for weekends camping and at the Oregon coast. And she's never one to turn down a car ride. I have even been known to roll down the windows and crank up the heat when it's chilly outside. She loves to be with "her people" and I do all that I can to include her in my activities and outings. She's part of the family!

— Lindsay Murphy

Christmas Tree Fundraiser Cancelled

We are sad to announce that My Way Home Dog Rescue will not host a Christmas tree sale and fundraiser this year. The trees were affected by blight and they're just not up to the usual standards. This event was a major source of operating funds for My Way Home, and we hope you will consider making a year-end donation to help them make up the difference. My Way Home will miss seeing you and your dogs and hope to welcome you all again next year.

Lorenzo and the “B” kittens

Two and a half years ago, we rescued five tabby boys, the “B” litter for that kitten season. Around the same time, we had taken Lorenzo, a large black male cat, as a transfer from our local public shelter, where he wasn’t behaving well. The kittens had way too much energy and Lorenzo was bored, so we put them all together. Lorenzo was a perfect babysitter and the kittens adored him. Will and Sarah Joshu adopted two of the boys, and Rema and Eric Gossman adopted Lorenzo, whose family now includes Marcie, a real baby of his own to watch over.



FROM TOP: LORENZO AND THE B BOYS; BABY BENNY; WILL, SARAH, BENNY, AND INDY (FORMERLY BUGSY)



MITZI

Mitzi and Inez

Early this year we rescued nine cats from an RV park that was being demolished to make room for new construction. The cats had all been living outdoors, and eight of them were not well-socialized. After providing necessary vet care, we found new homes where they could continue to live outdoors with committed caregivers. One of the cats turned out to be quite social, so we named her Mitzi and brought her to our foster home. She seemed like a senior kitty, but with a steady diet of good food, she gained needed weight, her coat became shiny and plush, and she showed her truly gentle and easy going nature. With her little bobtail and sea-green eyes, Mitzi made quite an adorable picture.

Inez was also abandoned, and her journey to ARCF was long with many twists and turns. But this girl has absolutely no self-esteem issues and simply took charge of the situation every step of the way. One of her rescuers called her “Pistol,” and that is a pretty good description of her energy level. Black cats always have captivating personalities, but this girl has charisma plus!

Our friend Marian visits an ARCF foster home quite often. She first met Mitzi and took her home, and on another visit fell under the spell of the irrepressible Inez. She recently sent this status report:

Since losing her good feline buddy Thomas last winter, Tallulah the Tortie had settled into being Head Girl here, so she has not been entirely thrilled to have Inez, the adorable black kitten, and Mitzi, the quirky tabby, join the household this fall. But Inez and Mitzi are more than up for such minor organizational challenges. Some of the volunteers gave Inez the nickname of “Pistol” and it fits: live wire, ball of fire, and big personality are also right on (“drama queen” was someone else’s less-flattering observation). After a lengthy round of “catch,” she likes to hide the balls in hard-to-reach locations; I recently found nine (!) wedged between the bed and a wall.



INEZ

Mitzi is the mellow member of the family; she asks for little except for lots of brushing, a little conversation, several quiet perches near windows to watch the birds outside, some quality time on a lap, and her own cache of toys, which she likes to rearrange, often as part of a vigorous midnight round of the “berzerkies.” Despite a vision problem that makes her a bit skittish about sudden moves, she warms up quickly to everyone, and has a charming kink in her fluffy tail that makes her uniquely adorable and uniquely Mitzi-ish. Thanks to ARCF for saving both of them!

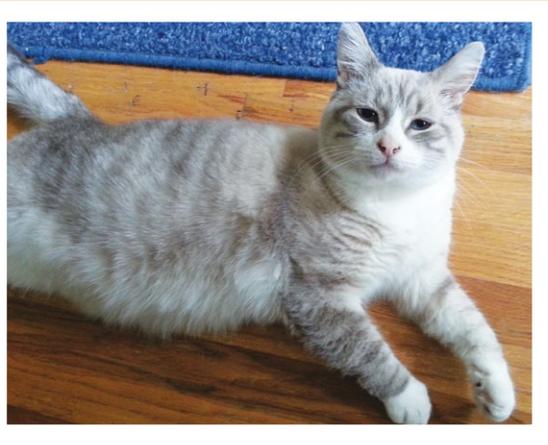
— Marian Kerr

SUCCESS STORIES

Buddy (formerly Snowball)

Last winter we were contacted by Tom, a kind man who was caring for a cat left behind by the previous owner when she moved away. He named the cat Snowball, took him to the vet to be neutered and vaccinated, and intended to give him a permanent home. But there were major issues between Snowball and the resident dog, Possum. It was difficult to keep them separated, and it became too stressful for everyone involved. We agreed to take Snowball and find him a new dog-free home.

We found that Snowball had some medical issues needing attention, including a few broken teeth, probably caused by living outdoors and eating the hard



dog food he had been fed before Tom rescued him. Snowball had a few bumps and scrapes, so we took care of those, gave him a complete dental with some extractions, and before long, he was better than new.

After Snowball had been in our foster home for a few

months, we heard from Lorraine and Henry Tobeck, who had recently lost their elderly cat Simon and were looking for a companion for Petey, who was now the only feline resident. We arranged a meeting, where Snowball charmed Lorraine and Henry, and we decided he would go home and meet Petey.

It wasn't an instant love fest between them, but also not all out war. After a few days they seemed to have reached a pact of peaceful coexistence. Also, we all agreed that Snowball needed a new name for his new life, and because he quickly became Henry's buddy, "Buddy" became his new name.

Here's a recent update:

Buddy's appetite is very healthy. He has extremely good house manners, he never jumps up on the counters or table, and only occasionally on the bed. And he's meticulous about being neat and tidy with the litter box. Foster mom Gloria must have given him a good finishing school education!

He'll take a swipe at Petey now and again but it's only after Petey rejects his overtures to play and turns his back on Buddy and walks away. Buddy is also learning to come when he's called. It took a lot of reinforcement because of his name change but he's getting the idea (especially when his name is paired with food!).

I can't believe it's only been three weeks!

— Lorraine & Henry Tobeck

ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

September-October-November: We placed 10 cats in loving, responsible homes.

Major expenses were:

Veterinary Fees: \$7,857.04*

Advertising/Outreach: \$0

Food/supplies: \$1,431.77**

Newsletter: \$1,462.00

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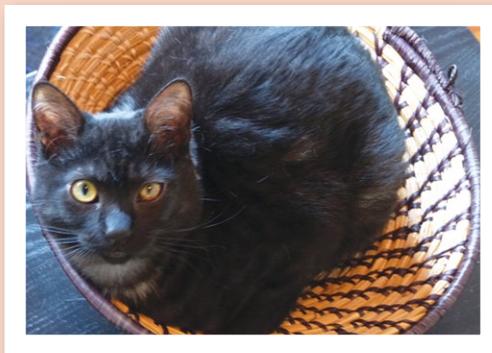
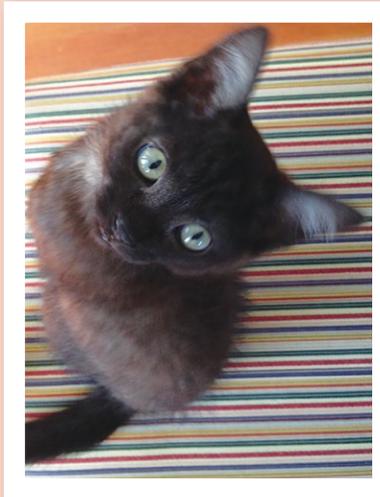
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Animal Rescue & Care Fund, Inc., is a private, non-profit, tax-exempt corporation funded solely by private donations. A board of directors makes decisions on policy and activities. All funds are used exclusively for veterinary care, food, and publishing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

SUCCESS STORIES

Elliott

Last summer we received a call from a man who discovered that a beautiful black cat had made a home in his woodpile with her three kittens. He wanted to help the little family, but they wouldn't let him get close. Our volunteer trapper quickly captured all four, and they became the "E" litter. Momcat Esther was spayed and returned to her home where she will always have food and shelter. The kittens went to one of our "boot camp" foster homes for socializing. Roger and Jennifer had been doing a great job working with kittens and getting them ready for their forever homes. Jennifer picks up the story from there:



ELLIOTT NOW AND AS A BABY, TOP.

Elliott arrived at our home in early August, along with his sister, Edie and his brother, Ernie. Edie and Ernie were very shy upon their arrival. It took them over an hour to step out of their carrier. But Elliott was a different story. He marched right out and was eager to explore. He was purring in my arms a couple of hours later (this usually takes at least a couple of days to occur with most foster kittens).

Elliott was very small compared to his siblings. While they quickly moved on to their new homes, Elliott needed a couple of extra weeks, and it was during this time that we grew very attached to him.

My husband Roger and I had made a pact before we started fostering kittens that we were not going to keep any of the

kittens that came through our home. We live in a very small house and decided that our cat Roman, our goofy Labrador Iris, and our 18-year-old cockatiel Basil, were enough for us. We had resisted keeping some of the most adorable foster kittens imaginable, and even though we were always sad to see them leave, there was a small sense of accomplishment, knowing that we had not broken our pact.

Long story short, Elliott truly won us over. He integrated himself beautifully into our home by making every possible effort to befriend our grumpy cat and snuggling with our dog. By breaking our pact, we have gained a wonderful addition to our family. Elliott has taught our dog how to gently play with kittens, he keeps our bird company by lying right next to his cage, and he keeps our cat on his toes (this relationship is a work in progress).

Elliott is now what you might call a "working kitty." He helps socialize other foster kittens who visit our home. His confidence helps visiting kittens feel more at ease in a strange

place. He loves having the extra companionship too.

At a recent vet appointment, two vet techs were unable to hear Elliott's heart rate because his purr was so loud. This really wasn't surprising to me, though. This is how he has been ever since he arrived.

— Jennifer Hansen & Roger Anderson

Zellie & Zuzu

About a year ago, Zoey and her seven babies came to us when their human family also had new babies to feed, and there just weren't enough resources to go around. All eight members of the family were placed in wonderful homes, and we recently received a photo and update on two of the kittens, Zellie (Zelda) and Zuzu. What stunningly beautiful cats they have become!

Thank you, Animal Rescue & Care Fund! We have had our sweet girls Zellie and Zuzu for one year. We love them dearly!

— The Kelloggs



ABOVE: ZUZU (LEFT) & ZELLIE
RIGHT: ZOEY & FAMILY,
DECEMBER 2012





CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT: INSPECTING THE NEW CATIO; MELODY AT THE CATS-ONLY ENTRANCE; CHANCE LOVES THE GRASS; BLOSSOM ON A HIGH PERCH.

CATIO CRAZED

by Leah Goodman

This summer Blossom, Melody, and Chance spent much of their time doing what they do every summer: pressing noses against window screens, sniffing exciting smells, and watching me enjoy the outdoors from their indoor world. Thus, the catio idea was born!

What's a Catio?

A catio—cat patio—is an outdoor space enclosed on all sides and overhead to prevent intruders from outside and escapees from inside. The world poses significant dangers to cats—cars, predators, and toxins among them—so for my indoor kitties, a catio would give them a chance to experience the outdoors in safety.

To gather ideas, I went on the Catio Tour, hosted by the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon in September, and then started brainstorming. We chose to build on the east side of my house in an area mostly protected from wind and heavy weather. We built a 12' x 4' x 8' space using two-by-fours, galvanized wire mesh fencing, concrete pavers, and PVC panels for roofing. A cat door in the guest bedroom wall allows the cats to easily come and go.

At eight feet high, the catio is tall enough for the cats to taunt the dogs next door while feeling safe from any passing animals. The wire mesh we used is strong enough to fend off especially pesky raccoons, but flexible enough to be easy to work with.

As cat people know, our cats don't always get along. My cats don't often fight, but they didn't always like each other either. Since building the catio, inter-cat relationships have completely changed. They cuddle more, bicker less, and all three sleep on the bed at night for the first time in almost two years. The stimulation of being outdoors has helped them settle into their skins indoors. Turf wars are a thing of the past. Other catio owners have found that behavior problems like spraying and bullying also lessen after building a catio.

The cats behave differently with me as well (after all, they have a separate catio life now). Everyone still greets me at the door when I get home, but no one tries to go with me when I leave anymore. Most of the time, they're headed out the cat door before I've even made it out the front door. I know that while I'm gone, they're out having fun, getting exercise, and their brains and eyes and ears and noses are keeping busy. Their lives are more enriched, busy, and interesting than ever before and, as their person, I'm thrilled that I could build it for them.

RESOURCES:

feralcats.com/catio/CatioTourGuidebook.pdf

catioshowcase.com/

jacksongalaxy.com/category/catification/outdoor-enclosures/

user.xmission.com/~emailbox/catrun.htm

THINGS WE LIKE

It takes a very dedicated village to keep our small but mighty rescue organization going year after year. The ARCF directors want to recognize the volunteers and supporters who give their time and energy to our mission.

Good foster homes are like gold, and we are lucky to have **Carlos & Nancy Chavez, Anne Malinowski, and Gloria Garbutt** who open their hearts and homes to our rescued cats.

We think our cat wrangling team is the best anywhere. **Val Walker, Eric Phelps, Courtney Argo & Bryce Charchenko, and Lori & Paul Sharp** have been all over the tri-county area trapping and transporting cats to vet clinics and back home again. They have rescued cats and kittens from hair-raising situations of all kinds, and never quit until the last one of each litter was safely in custody. **Gerry Taylor's** bum knee forced her to retire from trapping, but she is always ready to deliver traps, cats, food, and very fine handcrafted items wherever the need arises.

Courtney, Lori, and Val are also the core of our "kitten boot camp" team. They take hissing tornadoes of teeth and claws and turn them into purring bundles of love. We were happy to

welcome **Jennifer Hansen & Roger Anderson** to our kitten foster team this year. We are ever grateful to **Wilma Perez-Leon**, who helps us with so many feral momcats and their babies when nobody else is able to handle them. **Sara Andersen** also stepped in to foster a couple of those scary mamas for us this summer.

Debbie Norr fills a number of positions on our roster. She helps get this newsletter sorted, labeled, and delivered, and she made a number of critical road trips with kitties on board at very short notice. Others who help deliver the newsletter are **Marian Kerr, Sally Needham, Susan Phipps, Nancy Schroeter, and Roz Simon.**

Chrisi Badrick handles our finances, making sure not one penny gets lost or wasted. Our outreach coordinator is **Kirk Kiggins**. His team includes **Katharine Loevy, Heidi Hart-Zorin, and Dave Zorin. Marian Massey** writes the beautiful thank you notes our donors receive. **Leah Goodman** maintains our website and puts her sharp proofreader's pencil to work keeping our newsletter free of errors.

We have a number of special needs animals who will spend their lives in

our care. Thanks to **Lorraine Jones, Jan Lewis, Erin Bergstrom, Olga & Barnaby Tuttle, and Dwight & Wynonia Conkle** who care for these "permanent fosters."

Our friends at **Furever Pets** support us with food drives and donations, our monthly outreach location, and a prime spot at the Broadway Street Fair.

We also depend on these excellent veterinarians who support our work: **Cat Hospital of Portland, Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon, North Portland Veterinary Hospital, Northwest Veterinary Specialists, Stark St. Animal Clinic, and Tigard Animal Hospital.**

Willamette Animal Hospital and **Woodburn Vet Clinic** each helped us with a special situation this year.

Gabriel Park Veterinary Clinic has been a supportive placement partner for our kitten boot camp graduates, including Vito and Violet, who went to live with Dr. Libbi Hawkins.

And finally we extend our deepest gratitude to our generous and compassionate donors who make this important work possible.

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.

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