

SPRING 2022 • VOL. 47, NO. 1

PO BOX 14956, PORTLAND, OR 97293



## Graham

Look up “mellow” in the cat dictionary and you might find a picture of Graham to illustrate the concept. This calm and elegant senior gent will be a perfect companion for someone with a relaxation-focused lifestyle. His activity level is probably about 2 on a scale of 10—on his really busy days. He enjoys meeting new people and sharing time with them, preferably while reclining on a piece of soft furniture. We suggest you bring snacks and a lengthy piece of reading material when you sit down with Graham on your lap because he won’t be going anywhere for quite a while.

Graham seems to be a descendent of one of the larger breeds. He weighs almost 18 lbs. and although he is in excellent condition and has a large frame, we have him on a nutrition program that will help him lose a pound or two over time, which will be better for his overall health. We estimate he’s between 12 and 15 years old.

This handsome blue-eyed guy came to us with a very long and severely matted coat. A recent lion cut was a big improvement. Fortunately, Graham loves being groomed, especially with the ZoomGroom massager brush, since he’ll need daily grooming to keep his coat from matting again as it grows out. Continuing with a high-quality diet will help with that as well. To our great astonishment, we found that he likes the food that is good for him—most cat people will never know this feeling and we do realize how lucky we are.

Graham has been neutered, microchipped, tested negative for FELV/FIV, and is current on vaccines. He has had a recent dental cleaning. The senior adoption fee is \$80. To learn more about Graham, please call 503-402-8692 or email [arcf@pdx-petadoption.org](mailto:arcf@pdx-petadoption.org).

## Reggie

Look up “mellow” in the dog dictionary and you might find a picture of Reggie! He is one of the easiest dogs ever to come to My Way Home Dog Rescue, and there’s a family out there who will be lucky enough to meet and fall in love with him.

Reggie has a big heart and an open mind—he loves people, dogs, cats, and riding shotgun on car rides. He also loves going for walks, taking naps in big fluffy beds, and cuddling on the couch with people, dogs, or whoever is available. Reggie also knows how to ring a bell when he needs to go out and use the facilities—very polite.

Because nothing really bothers this easygoing dude, Reggie would be a great fit for someone interested in fostering other animals. He gets along with everyone, and doesn’t try to push into personal space where he isn’t welcome.

Like many floppy-eared dogs, Reggie has had issues from previous ear infections not properly addressed in his former

life. He’s seeing a specialist for treatment, which may leave him hearing impaired, but his quality of life will be much improved with no more painful ears.

Reggie has been neutered, dewormed, and microchipped. He’s had recent bloodwork and is current on vaccines and flea control. He’s about 7 years old and weighs 38 lbs.

The senior dog adoption fee is \$300. If you are interested in meeting Reggie, email [mywayhomelodogrescue@gmail.com](mailto:mywayhomelodogrescue@gmail.com) or call 503-974-4944.



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Friends, we made it through another winter! Daffodils are blooming, pitchers and catchers have reported to spring training, and we may even be approaching the light at the end of the pandemic tunnel. We know it will take years to catch up with the backlog of need created during two years of closures and delays, but shelters and clinics are opening to the public again. For us the work never stopped, it only became more challenging.

Although there was a winter lull, there was no month without kittens for us in 2021 and the first call of this year came in January. A litter of kittens was being given away by a well-meaning person who started feeding a couple of stray cats, and soon found herself with a house full of kittens. We rescued the "F" litter, including **Flint**, before they were given away unfixed, and worked with the homeowner to spay/neuter all the cats and rehome most of them. She is down to a reasonable number, and no more unwanted kittens will be born.

In a similar situation in another town, a renter was threatened with eviction if she didn't reduce her cat population from fourteen to two. We were able to help by taking **Hannah** and her mini-me **Harlie**. Both are receiving needed vet care and a much-improved diet, and will be available for adoption soon.

Most of our work is geared toward preventing situations like these, which often involves TNR (trap-neuter-return) of community cats—those strays that show up hungry and, if a food source is secured, bring all their friends to set up permanent housekeeping.

Handsome creamsicle **Jupiter** is one of those wayward boys who must have been a beloved pet at one time, but somehow found his way to a place where kind people feed hungry cats. He appeared for meals twice a day for months and, although he didn't allow touching, he clearly understood that some humans might be valuable as resource providers. He was quickly trapped, vet work was done, and we're giving him a chance to decide if he'd like to move indoors permanently as someone's pampered pal.

We helped with a couple of special projects recently—one being the adorable **Peanut**. Stay tuned for her story in our next issue!

Local non-profit Born Again Pitbull Rescue created a sister organization called The MexiMutt Project to provide veterinary services, food, supplies, and adoption support to street dogs in rural Mexico. Their volunteers recently had the opportunity to take a 40 ft. school bus (seats removed!) from Oregon to Guadalajara and asked the community to help fill it with supplies desperately needed by the animals they serve. We donated three truckloads of cat and dog food, crates, carriers, potty pads, toys, leashes, and other needed supplies. Our volunteer **Paul Sharp** helped load and deliver the goods to the departure point. Check out The MexiMutt Project online for details on their mission and how the donations are being put to use.

We've been doing some spring cleaning here at ARCF World HQ, and we could use your help. If you're receiving this quarterly newsletter in the mail, we hope you enjoy reading it, and perhaps even sharing your copy with friends and co-workers. But if you're trying to reduce paper clutter, we'd be glad to send it by email instead. Our permanent mailing list includes all our adopters, volunteers, and vets. Donors are also added to the list, but if we don't hear from you again in three years, we'll stop mailing. And, although we

never sell or share our mailing list with anyone, we will remove you from our list completely at your request. Let us know at 503-402-8692 or [arcf@pdx-petadoption.org](mailto:arcf@pdx-petadoption.org).

As always, we are grateful for our dedicated supporters who make it possible for us to carry on our mission. On behalf of all our volunteers and the rescued animals whose lives are saved, we thank you.

Be careful, be well, and please be kind to all creatures.  
Happy Spring!

—Carma Crimins, President



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: JUPITER; HANNAH & HARLIE;  
PAUL SHARP; FLINT; PEANUT

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

## Maple

Maple's life started a few years ago in Mexico. She was running with a pack of street dogs when a Good Samaritan saw her and stepped up to help. Through a network of dedicated rescuers, Maple made her way to My Way Home Dog Rescue in Oregon. Director Cheryl



LEFT: MAPLE MEETS HER NEW FAMILY; RIGHT: WITH HER BIG BROTHER, BONES

explained, "Even though we weren't ready, we know the dogs are always ready. We had an open space and there was a dog somewhere who needed us."

They discovered Maple online and her story tugged at their hearts. Knowing they had the skills and experience to care for a very shy dog, they completed the application. After a conversation,



Yoshioka knew that Maple would need time and patience but experience told her that the rewards would be worth it, for Maple and her new family.

Brandy and Mike had recently lost a beloved dog, and although their house seemed a bit empty with only one canine kid (down from four not so long ago), they were grieving and not ready to bring home another. But as Brandy

Cheryl agreed that their home might be perfect for Maple. She suggested a tryout, but Brandy said no tryouts—when a dog comes into their home, they take responsibility for life. No saving receipts and making returns.

Brandy and Mike (and their older dog, Bones) prepared to meet a sweet but shy little dog, who was very frightened of new people. But within a few

minutes, Maple approached Mike and licked his hand, the first time she ever greeted a stranger with a welcome. She quickly won their hearts and off this new family went, expecting that Maple would regress in her new environment.

Maple spent the first night in her crate, as she did in her foster home, but spent her second night on the bed, and by the fourth night she was happily cuddling under the covers. Maple was soon asking for belly rubs and doing exuberant zoomies around the yard. It was not love at first sight with Bones—she was a bit bossy for being the new girl, but after a little correction from Bones, she learned proper manners and now looks up to Bones and watches him for guidance. He's mostly indifferent to the adoration of his new little sister, but he tolerates her tagging along everywhere he goes.

Maple has made huge progress already and, as Brandy says, "We love Maple, and we are 'all in.' We'll provide whatever she needs for the rest of her life." While she is still fearful of strangers and may never be completely comfortable meeting new people, Maple is getting more confident every day.

"We wish there were more like Brandy and Mike," says Cheryl. "Shy dogs can make wonderful and devoted pets when people are able to accept them exactly as they are, be patient, and enjoy every step of the progress they make."

My Way Home Dog Rescue saves dogs from high-kill shelters, providing all necessary medical care and home-based fostering. These dogs often have long-neglected chronic conditions. Returning them to good health takes a commitment to providing as much care as each one needs. If you'd like to foster, adopt, or donate towards the care of a rescued dog, please contact [mywayomedogrescue@gmail.com](mailto:mywayomedogrescue@gmail.com).

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
[mywayomedogrescue.org](http://mywayomedogrescue.org)  
503-974-4944

## IN MEMORIAM

Buddy came to ARCF in 2006 when he was caught sneaking out of his family's apartment in a building that did not allow pets, and they were required to find him a new home immediately. They had called him "Assassin" for his hunting skills and his enormous murder mittens, featuring thumbs and extra toes. He was dropped off to stay with Jerry Crimins "for a couple days" while we searched for a permanent home. He soon became known as Buddy, and



BUDDY

he was an excellent companion to Jerry for the next 15 years. Buddy learned the house rules, greeted all visitors, and had no bad habits. He enjoyed reading the paper in the morning and watching sports and documentaries on TV in the evening. His favorite snack was freeze-dried salmon. Buddy began slowing down a couple years ago and recently he slowed to a stop. He will be not be forgotten by anyone who was lucky enough to meet him.

Winnie was 16 years old when her lady passed away two years ago. Nobody in the family wanted her, so she was surrendered to their vet for euthanasia—a sadly common story. Winnie had no major health issues and the vet refused to go along with the plan. We were asked to help find Winnie a home. Our friend Wendy Street was looking for a feline companion for the pandemic isolation period that had just started, so we picked up Winnie from the clinic and went straight to Wendy. They were a well-suited pair and good company for each other through those tough times. Winnie recently succumbed to the compounded familiar maladies of senior cats, but her retirement years with Wendy were nothing but golden.



WINNIE

How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.

—A.A. Milne  
(Winnie-the-Pooh)



EMME

Emme was adopted at three months old in August 2004. I was shocked to see one teeny stitch on her spotted tabby tummy. That stitch would change my life. My passion became sharing the facts of how kittens can have kittens. "Did you know cats can have babies at a mere four months old?" In line at the grocery store, at a restaurant or cocktail party—I had to let people know. If we all knew better, we would do better. I needed to reach people

in masses instead of one by one in grocery lines. I started volunteering with animal organizations and found my people, the ones who shared my heart for spay and neuter services for community cats. Because of Em, I found my passion, some of my very best friends, and some who are a burr in my paw but still are the most wonderful humans I know. They say it takes a village and Emme brought the village to me.

Emme was a gentle person. She didn't need to be the boss of anyone because she knew she was the Princess. She is the reason Ava gave up her identity as feral and life on the streets for a collar and a lap. She shared her climber with downtrodden community cats who had been living on the streets (Kenny and Scruffie) and the Willamette Park Twinsies (Drew and Abbi) who were close to death. She loved the feel of fuzzies on her face, called for me every time she woke from a nap, hated when I talked on the phone, and her Sleep Number was 20. She knew she wouldn't catch the red dot and she didn't care. For 18 years, Emme was a witness to my life like no other.

—Glenda Hughes

When the time comes to help our ill and elderly pets leave the world without pain, it may bring comfort for you and your pet to have humane euthanasia administered at home by veterinarians who make house calls for this purpose. Here are some Portland area vets who provide this service:

**At Home Veterinary Services,**  
**Dr. Louise Mesher,**  
503-281-1631, [pdxhomevet.com](http://pdxhomevet.com)

**Compassionate Care, Dr. Lori Gibson,**  
503-880-1172, [drlorigibson.com](http://drlorigibson.com)

**Vet to Pet, Dr. Laura Chang,**  
503-757-6124, [vetttopet.net](http://vetttopet.net)

## SUCCESS STORIES

### Tiki & Toby

*Our regular readers may remember Tiki & Toby from the cover of our spring issue. They are gorgeous and sweet, but their early life was rough, and they came to us as little wild things, with two other siblings. We knew they would blossom into loving lap-warmers with the right family, and boy, did they hit the jackpot! Dee and Jim had two older kitties at home and were looking for a pair of youngsters to liven things up. Here is their report:*

Tiki & Toby are growing by leaps and bounds. They enjoy our schedule, as follows: 4 am, play time with string toys. 6 am, breakfast. 11 am, lunch. Noon to 3 pm, nap. 4 pm, dinner. 5 pm, play time with string toys. 7 pm, reading in bed while wild kitty rumpus begins, which includes four cats going all directions at top speed. It lasts about an hour and then quiet descends. 3 am, wake up and repeat.

I can now pick up Tiki and carry her around. Toby is continuing to progress in trusting us to be picked up. He likes Jim best and loves getting pets and massages from him. He is very interested when we talk to him. Tiki is very interested in anything going on in the kitchen. She tastes all the meat dishes to make sure they are



TOBY (SECOND LEFT) AND TIKI (RIGHT)  
WITH SIBLINGS

acceptable. She is quite a fan of pork roast and rotisserie chicken.

They love watching the flora and fauna in the backyard. They sun themselves on their various cat towers, window ledges, and shelves all around the house. They aren't in the least concerned when Ruby the pittie comes to stay for the weekend. They play all around her, and they like to touch noses and smell her. Ruby has her own cat at home so she's used to catty behavior.

Tiki and Toby are wonderful family members and we appreciate them so much.

—Dee Chase & Jim Hlousek



NAP TIME IN THEIR NEW HOME

### ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

Dec-Jan-Feb: We rescued and cared for 32 cats and kittens, including veterinary exams, hospital care, vaccines, spay/neuter surgery, microchipping and more. We placed 24 cats and kittens in loving, responsible homes.

Major expenses for the quarter were:

**Veterinary:** \$1,733.19

**Food/Supplies:** \$3,404.03

**Newsletter:** \$1,924.12

## Animal Talk

**ANIMAL TALK** is a quarterly newsletter published by Animal Rescue & Care Fund.

**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 is a private, non-profit, tax-exempt corporation funded solely by private donations. We are a 501(c)(3) organization so all donations are tax deductible. Our tax ID is 51-0137768. A board of directors makes decisions on policy and activities. All funds are used to support our programs, including publishing this quarterly newsletter.

## SUCCESS STORIES

### Adelaide & Alonzo

Adelaide and Alonzo came to us from one of our rescue partners, a small shelter in Eastern Oregon. The shelter was short on space and we had a foster home open, so we arranged a transfer. We were delighted to find that these (very large!) kittens had the sweetest dispositions and they enjoyed the company of a toddler in their foster home—most of our rescue cats find small humans to be a bit too unpredictable. So, when we learned



ADELAIDE AND NEW FRIEND



ADELAIDE (LEFT) & ALONZO

that Bridie's family included a two-year-old, we did a little happy dance, anticipating a perfect match. A meeting was arranged and more dancing ensued.

Adelaide and Alonzo are such a part of our family. We all have our routine together and it's just so beautiful. They love to race around the house, chasing after each other and all of us. They love it when we have visitors. Their favorite spots in the house are beds we've made for them next to

all of the windows. In the morning when I open the curtains they run to their favorite spot to watch birds and squirrels. They have adjusted so quickly and we are all having a great time!

—Bridie Cawthorne



WATCHING CAT TV

### Tippy

We were asked to take Tippy from another rescue organization that couldn't provide the right environment to help her safely lose weight, something critical to her long-term health. Obesity can lead to diabetes, arthritis, and heart disease for our four-legged friends, just as it does for their human servants. Fortunately, we have a foster mom who has become expert at helping obese cats like Tippy, so we agreed to take her.

After a few months on foster mom Janet's nutrition and fitness program, Tippy had lost weight and become more active, which brought about a positive attitude adjustment. We began to look for a home where Tippy would be loved enough to maintain her nutrition program for life—it's not difficult to provide the correct food in the proper amounts, and Tippy is not food-obsessed, but not everyone who met Tippy was willing to make that commitment.

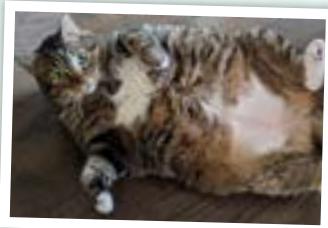
We were very happy when Jessica and Colin wanted to meet Tippy! Here's how it's going:

We'd been talking about adopting a cat for a while before we found Tippy. As soon as we saw her photos

and read her bio, we knew we had to meet her.

When we finally got the chance to introduce ourselves, we knew right away that we would be lucky to have her. Thankfully, Tippy tolerated us too. The day we brought her home, she made herself comfortable on our couch and spent the afternoon watching us from afar. Three months later, we feel honored that she has let us join her fan club and even pick her up for a cuddle, which we both do as often as she'll allow us. Tippy has so much character and makes both of us laugh daily. It was a special experience to watch her open up over time and share her sweet, silly personality with us. She is a loyal, loving companion to both of us and we love learning more about her quirks (including her grumpy spells). We couldn't think of a better addition to our home than our little grumpy grandma. Thank you, ARCF!

—Jessica Gomez & Colin Misich



TIPPY, BEFORE



TIPPY, WORK IN PROGRESS

## SUCCESS STORIES

### Stewy

(formerly Tai)

We first met Stewy about two years ago as a sad and starving stray, eking out a living near a food cart pod. He already looked pitiful, so when he showed up one day with a mouth injury that affected his ability to eat, the kind people giving him handouts asked if we could help. Stewy was in rough shape, and at first not very appreciative of our efforts. But with proper vet care, good nutrition, and a clean, safe place to live, he blossomed into the big, gorgeous creature you see now. Once he realized that delicious meals (and snacks!) would be served daily FOREVER, Stewy let down his guard and started demanding enough affection to make up for all those years when nobody could approach him.

Everybody who met Stewy fell in love, including his foster family—and we may have “forgotten” to advertise him for adoption, since he was such a delightful and easygoing companion. We wanted him to have the best home possible and guess what happened next? We heard from Stephen and Thomas, who had adopted big orange dreamboat Woody from ARCF a couple years ago. Since their older cat Ruby never

really accepted Woody, they were looking for a more agreeable companion for him. Stewy was eager to make friends with every cat in his foster home, so we thought he and Woody might hit it off—and Ruby could just continue to be her diva self. Girls rule,



STEWY ON RESCUE DAY



STEWY ALL GLOWED UP

and boys drool! Which in this case is literal—Woody and Stewy share the trait of being “dentally challenged.” But don’t worry, they aren’t missing any meals.

We are so happy big, handsome Stewy (Stew) joined our household. He has made himself at home and has a great friend in Woody. Both love to play and most of all they love to

eat! Our dog Henry loves Stew which is reciprocated (most of the time). Ruby isn’t so happy but we are sure time will soften her frustration. Thank you for helping Stewy complete our family!

—Stephen Oringdulph & Thomas Morgan



WITH HIS BRO WOODY

### Loretta

(formerly Gabrielle)

Sweet Loretta came to us early in 2021 with her newborn babies, rescued from a big box store parking lot. After her babies were adopted, it was Loretta’s turn to fly the nest. Unfortunately, the resident cat in her first home could not accept sharing his home with Loretta. Although it was sad for the humans who loved her, we all agreed it was a not a good fit. But these humans knew other humans who had met and loved Loretta too, and in their home she would be the one and only pampered princess. Here is a recent update:



LORETTA

Loretta has really settled in and become a member of the family. She has such a personality! She loves to play—she’s definitely still a kitten—

but she’s also a snuggler and will happily curl up with us for hours. Loretta spends most weekdays hanging out with Liz in her home office, or at her favorite spot on the couch, where she sees all the activity on our street. Loretta still occasionally runs away from the kids, but can also be found tucked up in one of their beds when they’re all having quiet time. We are all so happy Loretta joined our family!

—Caitlin Upshaw & Liz Mangano

## HOW TO HELP

As any family with pets knows well, the cost of veterinary care, food, and other supplies has gone up dramatically in the last two years. Multiply those numbers by the hundreds of cats and kittens we care for every year to understand how our budget has taken a big hit. We haven't raised our adoption fees, and even in the best of times those fees don't begin to cover the actual expenses required to care for each cat. We receive no public funding, and depend entirely on the kindness and generosity of our supporters to keep our small but mighty rescue in business year after year. But don't worry if your budget doesn't allow you to write us a big check! Every little bit helps, and there are ways to help that don't cost you anything. Here are some suggestions:

- ARCF is eligible to receive donations from the **Oregon BottleDrop** program for returnable cans and bottles. We can provide you with blue bags pre-tagged to our account, so you just fill them up and drop off at your nearest BottleDrop location. Many more drop locations for green and blue bags have been added, so it's much easier to make returns than when the program started. If you already have a green bag BottleDrop account, you can direct your refunds

directly to ARCF. We received about \$500 last year from BottleDrop. Let us know if you want to participate and we'll help you get started!

- For **Fred Meyer/Kroger** shoppers, choose ARCF to benefit from your purchases every time you shop. You need a Shopper's Card and a digital account. Sign in to your account online, choose **Community Rewards** and link to ARCF using our organization code, **EQ279**. It costs you nothing, and every quarter ARCF receives a check based on your purchases. We currently have 63 families on our account and we received about \$800 last year. Just a few more families could make a big difference!
- If you shop online, start at **Smile.amazon.com** Select ARCF as your charitable organization. Your account information, history, and settings will transfer over and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of every eligible item to ARCF. It doesn't sound like much but it adds up! Last year ARCF received about \$500 from this program.
- Donate a car, van, boat, RV, or anything with wheels and a motor. It doesn't have to run; you just need the title and keys. **Speed's Towing**

will handle the towing and then sell the vehicle at auction, and we'll provide a receipt for your tax deduction. Call Speed's at 503-234-5555 and let them know you have a vehicle donation for Animal Rescue & Care Fund. (Portland metro area only.)

- Start a fundraiser on your **Facebook** page. From the menu on the left of your home screen, click **Fundraisers** and then select Animal Rescue & Care Fund from the list of charities. You can share the fundraiser with your friends and contacts, and you'd be amazed how many people will donate, if you ask them to. It's very quick and easy, and 100% of all donations go directly to ARCF!
- Mail us a check or make a donation online at our website, **pdx-petadoption.org** using PayPal or credit card. You can use the form below, but we'll gladly accept your donation without it—we just need your address to send the acknowledgment and your receipt.

**All donations are tax-deductible. Our federal tax ID is 51-0137768. Thank you!**

## 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. 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](http://www.pdx-petadoption.org).***

I enclose \_\_\_\_\_ for humane work. (\$35 sponsors an animal, but we appreciate any amount.)

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

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