

Juno & Josette

If you've been suffering from "cold and empty lap syndrome," we offer the perfect remedy: the "J" girls, Juno and Josette. Aside from being knock-out gorgeous, these two are champion cuddlers. They love everyone in their foster home, including their mom, dad, and feline uncles. These little sweethearts even tolerate the big goofy dog living in their house and respect their cockatiel brother, Basil.

Juno and Josette are five-month old tortoiseshell sisters who have never spent a day apart. They are very bonded and will be adopted only as a pair. They love wand toys, snacks, and being close to their people at all times. Both are social, friendly, and well-adjusted. They have excellent house manners and no special dietary or health issues.

As with all of our cats and kittens, Juno and Josette have been spayed, are up-to-date on vaccines, and have tested negative for FeLV/FIV. The adoption fee is \$150 for the pair. To learn more about any of our cats available for adoption, please call 503-402-8692, email arcf@pdx-petadoption.org, or visit pdx-petadoption.org.



JOSETTE (LEFT) AND JUNO

Lola

Her name is Lola, but she was not a showgirl at the Copacabana. In fact, her life before she came to My Way Home Dog Rescue was an endless cycle of breeding and raising litter after litter of puppies. When she was no longer of value to her owners, Lola was dropped at a high-skill shelter in California. Many wonderful dogs end up there through no fault of their own, but thanks to a network of volunteers and foster homes, Lola was lucky enough to get a free ride to Oregon and a safe landing with My Way Home.



In spite of those tough early years, Lola holds no grudges—she is sweet, trusting, and loves to be with her people. She quickly learned to appreciate the finer things in life, including cushy beds, chewy toys, and good food. Her tail goes into helicopter mode when her people come home, but she's quiet and calm when left alone and stays happily in a crate.

This happy girl enjoys going shopping and meeting people at the dog treat store. She loves to give kisses and melts into belly rubs. Lola would appreciate a secure backyard where she can wander around sniff everything at her leisure, and will benefit from continued positive training.

Lola walks well on leash and is well-behaved with other dogs, but no cats—she's too interested in chasing. Her background includes a mix of Staffordshire Terrier and Boxer genes, according to her DNA test. She's about three years old and weighs 55 lbs.

Lola has been spayed, vaccinated, heartworm-tested, microchipped, dewormed, and is current on flea control. The adoption fee is \$400. If you are interested in knowing more about Lola, please visit mywayhomedogrescue.org and complete the adoption application online.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Friends, we had a surprise snowstorm at ARCF World HQ in February which brought our fair city to its knees. But now spring has truly sprung, and you know what that means—we lost an hour of sleep to Daylight Savings Time. But it also means the days are getting longer, and a new crop of kittens is coming soon to a backyard near you! Although the pandemic brought an end to many low-cost resources for animal rescues and pet owners, we never gave up our mission. If you see animals that need help, please don't turn away—if you aren't sure what to do, let us know and we will do our best to help.

A few weeks ago, we were asked to help a stray cat who appeared at the home of a kind person we know. This person is Patricia Robinson, a valuable member of our team for several years. She lives in a mobile home community where many cats are abandoned or allowed to roam and breed freely. Patricia has learned the benefits of TNR (trap-neuter-return) and does her best to monitor the cat population in her community, seek out help when needed, and share information with her community members for the benefit of all who live there. She has also fostered (and adopted!) some ARCF kittens who needed extra patience and understanding.

The recent visitor to Patricia's home is **Levi**, a sweet and friendly young feline. We were happy to discover that he had a microchip, registered to a person in a nearby town. The person acknowledged that Levi was their cat, but did not want him returned, for reasons unclear. So Levi joined ARCF and we proceeded with our usual veterinary protocol for new arrivals, including vaccines and viral testing. Levi is about two years old, and getting along very well with the resident cats and dogs in his foster home. Please fill out the adoption application on our website if you're interested in meeting this easy-going guy.

It's been a relatively quiet winter for rescues and adoptions, but we keep busy in other ways. One of our budget items is "Direct Assistance," included in the Food/Supplies category of expenses. We provide donations of food and other supplies, including simple **shelters** for outdoor-living cats, in addition to assistance with TNR and other veterinary care when financial support is needed. If you know



FROM TOP: LEVI; ANNIE;
CAT SHELTER; DEREK

someone caring for community cats needing food or shelter, we have more to share.

That expense category also includes medication and supplies for our foster cats, and last quarter that number took a big jump—our kitten **Derek** needed some very special medicine to save his life, and it worked! You can read all about him on page 8.

On a sadder note, in the last month we've been contacted about several pets discovered in homes of their deceased owners, days or even weeks later. One of them is this adorable pup, **Annie**. She is now safe with our partner My Way Home Dog Rescue and will soon be available for adoption. These situations are traumatic for everyone concerned, but it's sad to think about the human that no one missed for so long. Please check in with your people who live alone, and maybe set up a system to check in every day with a simple text or phone call. It just takes a few minutes and can make a huge difference.

And let us remind everyone again to think about your pets and what will happen to them if they suddenly lose you. Enlist someone you trust to take immediate custody of your pets and keep them safe. Put this in writing! Tell people your wishes! It's very sad when we outlive our pets, but the other way is far worse—your pet will not understand what happened and needs you to make plans now to keep them safe when you are no longer able.

Many of our supporters chose us as their donor charity through the AmazonSmile program and we've benefitted from those quarterly checks. Amazon has discontinued the program. The reason given is that the donations were spread too thin over 1 million organizations and they prefer to focus their philanthropy on bigger issues in areas where their employees live. Thanks to all who contributed through this program and we hope you will continue your support in other ways!

Thank you for reading our newsletter. Please adopt, volunteer, and donate, if you can. Your support makes our work possible.

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

Happy Spring!

—Carma Crimins, President

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.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
mywayhomedogrescue.org
503-974-4944

MY WAY HOME DOG RESCUE

Tater and Roo: The Littles Need Rescue Too



GAVIN WITH ELLIE, GISELLE WITH TATER

In our last issue, we shared a story about the “Great Husky Migration” organized by staff and volunteers at public shelters in response to the overwhelming number of unwanted Husky-type dogs coming to their high-kill facilities. But even small dogs, often considered “easier” to care for than their larger brethren, are being abandoned in vast numbers. Tater and Roo (formerly Toby) are two pups saved



TATER AT THE DOLLAR STORE

when volunteers stepped up to get them out of a public shelter after they were brought in as strays. Without a dedicated rescue organization like My Way Home and committed foster homes, these two would not have the happy endings we get to share with you now.

Tater

Customers at a big city Dollar Store saw someone leave a small dog by the entrance, tell it to stay, and then drive off. Kind employees of the store offered food and water, and once it became clear that no one was coming back for the little guy, even bought him a bed for his spot on the sidewalk. Tater was initially afraid of the people trying to help him, but eventually volunteers were able to capture and take him to the local shelter. From there local rescuers stepped in to start the process of bringing Tater to My Way Home. Once his vet work was completed, it was time for the next step on his journey.

Giselle and Gavin had three dogs at the beginning of 2022, but by December they had only Ellie, a little Terrier who was as bereft as her parents at the loss of her companions. They began searching for a new family member, and were referred to My Way Home by a mutual friend, who suggested that Tater might be just the spud they were looking for. Cheryl at My Way Home agreed, and after a very happy meet-and-greet, Tater was off to his forever home.

Tater had clearly been loved by someone along the way, and he must have been so bewildered at being

abandoned. But it didn’t take long for this brave soul to adjust to his new life.

“Tater has settled in so quickly,” says Giselle. “He and Ellie were best friends instantly. They play together non-stop, and we love to see them both so happy. We feel like our family is complete now, and we couldn’t be more thrilled with our new little spud, the volunteers at My Way Home, and the whole adoption process.”



ELLIE (LEFT) AND TATER

Roo

Roo was also surrendered to a high-kill shelter as a stray. Staff members determined he was blind and kept him in their offices to help minimize his stress. Shelters are very scary places, even for big, brave dogs—imagine how terrifying it must be for a tiny, blind pup. Once again the volunteer network sprang into action, and Roo was soon safe in a MWH foster home. As part of the care provided by MWH, a veterinary ophthalmologist confirmed that Roo is completely blind because of previous trauma. His foster mom provided a safe and healthy environment for Roo to rest and recover from his ordeal, and once he settled in, a search began for his perfect forever home.

Continued on page 4

SUCCESS STORIES

ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

Dec-Jan-Feb: We rescued and cared for 23 cats and kittens, including veterinary exams, hospital care, vaccines, spay/neuter surgery, microchipping and more. We placed 17 cats and kittens in loving, responsible homes.

Major expenses for the quarter were:

Veterinary: \$3,630.69

Food/Supplies: \$6,235.82

Newsletter: \$2,709.58

AnimalTalk

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.

EDITOR

Carma Crimins

GRAPHICS/LAYOUT

Sandra Horrell, @sandrahorrelldesign

2023 OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

President: Carma Crimins

Vice President: Debbie Norr

Secretary: Anne Malinowski

Treasurer: Chrisi Badrick

Member at Large: Marian Kerr

Animal Rescue & Care Fund

PO Box 14956, Portland, OR 97293
503-402-8692

www.pdx-petadoption.org
arcf@pdx-petadoption.org

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.

Toni and Terry were looking for a small, older dog to join their family and provide companionship to Wally, their 10-year-old "Terrier-ist" dog, who had come to Portland from a public shelter in Los Angeles. They were also referred to MWH, and even though they had no experience with blind dogs, Toni and Terry began the application process for Roo. Soon, they went to meet Roo and a match was made.

As expected, some adjustments were required, but it didn't take long for Roo to figure out the lay of the land. This involved much sniffing of every inch of his new home, and Hoovering up every errant crumb. Hence his new name: Roo is short for Roomba, the automatic floor cleaner adored by so many families with pets.

Wally has stepped right into his role as "seeing eye dog" for Roo—or what Toni and Terry call "the blond leading the blind." The two of them are always together, and love their long, daily hikes. In an interesting twist, Roo has actually taught Wally how to use the doggy door—Wally didn't understand the concept until Roo demonstrated the use and benefits of the flap.

Like many former California residents, Roo was in shock the first time he encountered the blanket of deep, fluffy snow that periodically covers the Portland area during winter.



TERRY WITH WALLY, TONI WITH ROO

But he was brave enough to give it a try and soon he and Wally were having a blast doing snow zoomies around the yard.

"My favorite thing about Roo is how much he loves to snuggle and be held like a baby. Then he drops into a deep sleep and nothing will disturb him," says Toni. "It's fantastic having Roo in our family. We just love him."



WALLY (LEFT) AND ROO

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 mywayhomedogrescue@gmail.com.

“W” Kittens

In our fall 2022 newsletter, we told you the story of a friendly tomcat who brought home a girlfriend and started a family that grew to include 23 kids and grandkids in a matter of months. A kind neighbor asked ARCF for help, so we came out to trap, neuter, and return (TNR) the adult cats and bring all 13 kittens into the rescue to socialize and place in loving, indoor-only homes. The last four of those kittens were the “W” litter. We have some recent updates to share.



BABY WANDA



BABY WILLIE



BABY WYNONA



CROWLEY (LEFT) & AZI

Azi & Crowley

(formerly Waylon & Willie)

Dan and Jen recently lost their cat to complications of diabetes and lymphoma. They were ready for some kitten energy for their young daughter to enjoy—and a break from the daily care of a special needs pet. We invited them to meet Waylon & Willie.

There were a few hiccups—sometimes kittens forget where the litter boxes are in their new home, but patience paid off and the problems resolved themselves in due time.

Things are going well! The kittens have come out of their shell and are very affectionate. We named them Aziraphale (Waylon) and Crowley (Willie), from a novel called *Good Omens* by Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman. (For fans of the book, we recommend the Amazon Prime series!) Azi likes to steal my clothes and roll around in them. Crowley always wants to curl up on top of Jen while she’s sleeping. We love that they love to snuggle!

—Dan & Jen Rodgers

Wanda & Wynona

Ashley & Will work from home, and although they tend a flock of backyard chickens, they were ready for the companionship of indoor pets. They thought Wanda and Wynona looked like a fun and snuggly pair of kittens, and we agreed.

We are happy to report that Wanda and Wynona are doing great! They adjusted quickly to their new home and have been having fun exploring and galloping around.



WANDA (LEFT) & WYNONA

Wanda likes head pets the best. She loves playing with springs and watching birds out of the window. She is a food connoisseur and enjoys a wide variety of treats.

Wynona loves to bring us gifts. She is excellent at finding mementos, photos, and interestingly crunchy pieces of plastic to share with us. She loves carrying around and snuggling with anything fuzzy.

Both love to smell everything so we are sure to give them the chance to sniff at anything new. We enjoy the kitty wake-up committee joining us in bed each morning for snuggles and pets.

We are so happy to have found these two, they are just perfect! Many thanks to ARCF and their foster parents for setting them up for success so thoroughly!

—Ashley McGraw & Will Errikson

Anisette & Barnaby

(formerly Annabelle & Archie)

Beth and Allen were also looking for a pair of kitten lovebugs. They saw Wanda and Wynona on our website, but since the "W" girls had a meet-and-greet already scheduled with Ashley and Will, we suggested they meet Annabelle and Archie instead. The kittens were nervous and didn't make a great first impression, but Beth and Allen are patient and experienced cat people, and we all agreed it was likely to work out well.

Not only was this adoption a success, but it turns out that both families already knew each other! Beth is a pet-sitter who helps care for Ashley's chicken flock, and she'll be an "auntie" for Wanda and Wynona too.

The kittens are now Barnaby and Anisette, and they're doing tremendously well! I've learned enough about cats in the last few years to know that I wanted to adopt a bonded pair, but I couldn't even begin to imagine how amazing that bond could be.



ANISETTE (LEFT) & BARNABY

They sleep together, play together, and groom each other. If one of them walks into the room, it's a pretty sure bet that the other will be two steps behind.

They also seem pretty fond of us (and we of them, of course)! They've been sleeping with us at night from the very beginning and are both incredibly affectionate. You've never heard such purrs! Barnaby is our class clown and, hilariously, one of the clumsier cats I've ever met.

Anisette is our little secret agent who just appears when you least expect her. All in all, they've brought a lot of joy into our house, and we are so glad to have found them.

—Beth Levy & Allen Gurney

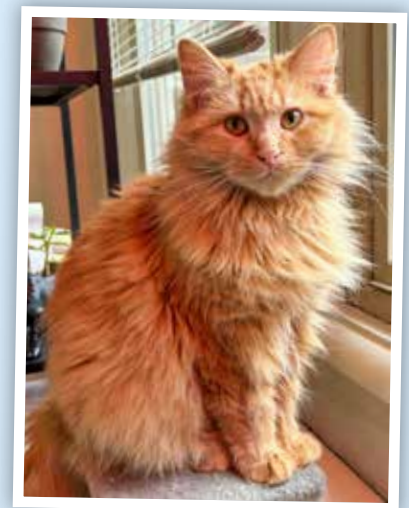


Tangie

(formerly Hildy)

Sweet Tangie was found wearing a collar with a leash dragging behind, which got tangled and trapped her in someone's backyard. She had no ID or microchip, so we were asked to foster Tangie and keep her safe while also searching for her owner. After several weeks with no signs of someone stepping forward, Tangie's vet work was complete and we began the search for her new family. It didn't take long for Gina and Branden to find her!

My husband and I adopted Tangie (short for Tangerine) after sadly losing our 13-year-old cat to cancer. She has been such a ray of sunshine for the past three months! She is a very sweet, gentle, and goofy little kitty. Tangie will often leave several toy mice next to the bed for us to find in the morning, and will jump up and sleep on my back or chest for a little while during the night all while purring up a storm. She loves her cat tree that looks out at a busy street—so much to see! I love having her as my work-from-home buddy and we look forward to many more years with our sweet little Tangerine.



—Gina & Branden Vondrak

Nutella

Nutella came to ARCF with the rest of her litter and was adopted as a kitten in 2012. Sadly, eight years later she was returned to us due to severe allergies in the family. A few months later she was adopted by a very kind man who adored her. Again Nutella lost her home when the man died suddenly. She came back to us again, and we took care of some deferred veterinary care, including dental work. Fortunately, our previous adopters Javis and Ping were currently cat-free and available as an emergency foster home. To no one's great shock, they quickly fell in love with Nutella. Ironically, Javis and Ping also have allergies, but they love cats so much they have learned how to mitigate the symptoms enough to make it work. We are confident this will be Nutella's family forever.



Nutella is doing great! She's very social and interested in everything that's going on. She is very playful and active—and talkative! She loves monitoring the neighborhood from her cat tree at the picture window. Nutella absolutely adores Ping, and rarely leaves her side. Nutella is the sweetest and most affectionate cat we have ever met. We are so happy we were able to adopt her and she seems very happy with us.

—Javis Jones & Ping Hsaio



CASHEW (LEFT) & CANTALOUPE

Cashew & Cantaloupe

Last fall we helped with a big TNR project for more than 35 cats and kittens. When we find kittens (and friendly adults) in a feral colony, we always take them to be socialized and placed into indoor homes.

At first glance, Cashew and Cantaloupe looked like young adults, too old for quick taming. But our volunteer Bonnie decided to give them a little extra time to think things over and it was worth the wait! Even though they remained a bit shy, the kittens became very loving and playful. Bonnie's friend Tenacity came to meet them and fell in love. The love story continues:

Things are wonderful! They are sweet, hungry, energetic, and LOUD! And adorable. Cashew is always disturbing Cantaloupe's peace, and she is super bothered (but clearly loves it). They are so delightful—I never knew a cat to behave as much like a puppy as Cash does. Thank you!

—Tenacity Remington

Bruno

Bruno is another sweet orange cat who showed up at someone's home, wanting to move in where he was not welcome to stay. With no ID and no neighbors claiming him, we went through the process of trying to locate his owner. Sadly there was no response, but we knew somebody with a soft spot for orange boys and a little extra room in his home.



BRUNO (LEFT) & HARVEY

Dave agreed to accept Bruno as a "foster"; while we knew Bruno was already in his forever home, it took Dave a few days to figure that out on his own. Bruno hit it off instantly with Harvey, the resident big orange boy, and they seem destined to live out their days together.

Bruno is a very pleasant boy, cuddly but not smothering, sweet and agreeable. He and Harvey are already bonded bros—they eat from each other's dishes, share toys nicely, and curl up together in bed. I gave them each \$100 for cab fare and snacks and they just returned an hour ago, laughing hysterically and reeking of lemon drop martinis. I swear, they must have known each other in a previous life. I've never had two such sweet, fun, good kitty boys. I couldn't be happier with them both.

—Dave Mays

Derek: Our FIP Warrior

For as long as we have been rescuing and caring for cats, Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) has been a crushing diagnosis. There is no vaccine or no treatment, and it has always been fatal. Fortunately, FIP has been rare among the cats and kittens cared for by ARCF—we usually see just one or two cases per year, and zero cases if we're lucky. Earlier this year, our kitten Derek was diagnosed with FIP, but this experience was different because there is a new experimental treatment available and now Derek is on his way to being cured.

What is FIP?

FIP is caused by a common coronavirus found in the intestines of almost all cats by the age of nine weeks. In about 10% of cats, the virus mutates outside the lower intestine and causes infection. Of those cases, about 99% of cats will fight off the infection. Of the remaining 1%, symptoms may appear within days, weeks, months, or even years. In general, duration of illness to death is often a matter of days.

What are the symptoms?

There are two forms of FIP, wet and dry, depending on where in the body the mutated virus ends up. The wet form is far more common and more severe. It typically presents as an accumulation of fluid in the abdominal or chest cavities. This is the symptom most commonly noticed by our foster volunteers—kittens develop big, squishy bellies without

normal growth on the rest of their bodies. Symptoms of the dry form of FIP are less noticeable and may include tumor-like lesions on the organs, including eyes and brain, causing neurological issues.

Is FIP contagious?

Cats with FIP do not appear to be very contagious to cats they come in contact with, based on clinical observations and research. The highest number of FIP cases typically come from breeder catteries and other over-crowded environments. This is not an issue for ARCF—we limit the number of cats and kittens in our foster homes. We also keep litters separated, provide good nutrition, and carefully sanitize all equipment and bedding.

What is the new experimental treatment?

There are multiple anti-viral drugs being tested on cat populations around the world, and results are promising. Treatment requires daily injections of anti-viral medication for 84 days, with bloodwork completed at 30, 60, and 80 days. Based on lab results, dosages may be adjusted, and the injections may be replaced with oral medication at some point during the treatment. After 84 days, if bloodwork and physical condition show adequate response to the treatment, another 84 days of observation is required. If no relapse occurs, the cat is considered cured.

About 80% of treated cats are cured following the protocol. Although the drugs are not yet approved and licensed

for veterinarians to prescribe, they are available through experimental channels. The approval process can take years, and the price is currently very high, but hopefully the medications will become widely available and more accessible.

How is Derek doing?

We are very fortunate that Derek's foster mom Anne noticed immediately that something was off when he was still very young. Within days he was diagnosed with wet FIP and we learned about the experimental treatment available. The idea of giving injections every day seemed overwhelming, but Anne was willing to make that commitment to save Derek's life. She researched the best way to manage the daily requirements and keep Derek healthy, and we ordered a supply of the miracle drugs. On March 11, Derek completed his 84 days of treatment and started on his 84-day observation period. We fully expect he will be cured and ready for adoption in early May.

We are very grateful to Anne for the excellent care she provides Derek (and all her foster kittens) and to our generous supporters, who make it possible for us to purchase the medicine that saved Derek's life. He would thank you himself, but he is a kitten and very busy doing kitten things.

—ARCF Board of Directors

Resources:

SOCKFIP.org (research website)
FIP Warriors® 5.0 on Facebook

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.

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 _____.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Mail to:

Animal Rescue & Care Fund
PO Box 14956
Portland, OR 97293-0956