

Walter & Wiggins

These adorable kitten brothers are playful, confident, and cuddly. Walter (brown tabby) and Wiggins (black) have been charming the socks off everyone they meet, and now it's time for them to meet their forever family.

Walter is a tripod—he's been missing a front leg since birth and has learned very well how to get along without it. He has a little trouble climbing and jumping, but with some modifications to his environment, Walter keeps up with his brother. We're happy to show you the simple ramp his foster dad created to give him a little assist to the top of the cat tree. It will be important to monitor Walter's weight throughout his lifetime, so he never grows heavier than his three legs can safely carry. Otherwise, he's just a regular guy with no special needs.

Walter and Wiggins are about six months old, so they still have big teenage appetites and energy. They play hard, sleep hard, and eat a lot. These sweet boys are easygoing and good-natured. They get along well with

the other cats and big dog in their foster home and love hanging out on the couch and sleeping on the bed with their people.

Walter and Wiggins have been neutered, are up-to-date on vaccines, and 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.



Cassie

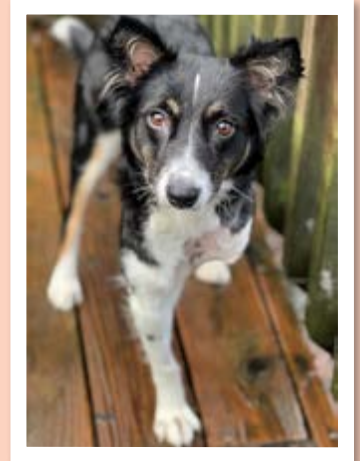
Cassie is beautiful, smart, and she's also a tripod! Her early life wasn't great—she was found roaming in an area with few rescue options other than a high-kill public shelter. Because she arrived at the shelter with a serious injury to her front leg and no resources were available to treat her, Cassie's chances of being

adopted were slim. A network of dedicated volunteers arranged her transfer to safety with My Way Home Dog Rescue.

Her leg was clearly very painful and too badly damaged to save, so My Way Home arranged the surgery needed to remove it and Cassie is already feeling much better. She's recovering quickly and adapting well to life on three legs.

Cassie is about a year-and-a-half old and weighs 25 lbs. She appears to be a mix that includes Australian Shepherd and Border Collie, but that's just a best guess. She's house- and crate-trained and walks well on leash. She gets along fine with the other dogs in her foster home but would also be happy as the only pup in her family. No cats, though—even with three legs, chasing them is just too tempting.

Cassie 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 Cassie, please visit mywayhomedogrescue.org and complete the adoption application.



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

We got that one extra hour of sleep back in November, but now it's dark at 5:00 pm and it's really hard to find the black cat someone has been feeding on her back porch at dinner time. We want to catch her for the spay/neuter clinic this winter so we don't have to worry about coming back for five cats in the spring if this momma has yet another litter. This work isn't easy when it's cold, wet, and dark, but the more cats we can fix in the winter, the fewer unwanted kittens born to these community cats next year.

Ernestine is one of those lucky cats we were able to capture and spay. She's a very sweet and agreeable cat, so she must have had a home at one time, even though her finders tell us Ernestine has been wandering the neighborhood for at least a year. She's ready to meet her perfect forever family.

Little **Emerald** came from the same neighborhood as Ernestine, but not the same family. She was a little spitfire on arrival at kitten boot camp, but Drill Sergeant Lori has worked her magic and Emerald is now a little gem. She will soon be available for adoption with her big brother, Ethan.

Beautiful gray girl Deirdre was living in the woods with a man in a tent. She was loved but there were no resources for vet care. When it became clear she was likely to give birth very soon, the man knew he would not be able to care for her and the kittens properly, so we were asked to take her. Several days later, four strong and healthy "D" babies were born, including **Delphine**—already showing signs of a "tortietude" personality to come. We'll provide everything they need to thrive, including finding their forever families when the time comes.

A firefighter in Southeast Portland called to report that a box of five kittens had been left at the fire station during the night. One kitten went home with a firefighter at the end of his shift, but the other four needed a place to go immediately. We discovered there were two pairs, including **ZsaZsa** and her sister Zoraya, and younger siblings we named Arthur and Audrey.

They were all healthy, clean, and friendly, so they obviously had a loving home—until they didn't.

Our work isn't always as simple as picking up cute kittens abandoned in a box. We use our resources to relieve suffering for many others in need. **Sprite** belongs to a colony of community cats cared for by kind people who understand that not every cat is eager or even willing to live indoors.

Community cats come from the offspring of household pets who have been allowed to roam and breed, and over time, bond with their cat family as each generation grows more wary of humans. We believe these cats deserve a good life too, and encourage trap-neuter-return (TNR) to prevent future litters.

With regular food, water, and adequate shelter, community cats can survive and even thrive. Occasionally they need a little more help, and when **Sprite's** caregivers noticed she was having trouble eating, they knew she would need dental care.

We helped fund the treatment she so desperately needed. Infection had set in from multiple abscessed teeth, but with the teeth removed and a blast of antibiotics, **Sprite** is feeling much better. She's back with her colony and eating well.

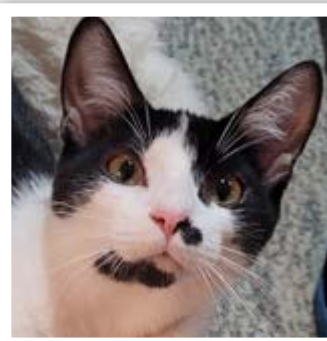
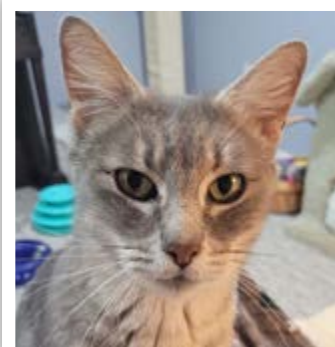
This year has been one of the slowest ever for adoptions of our rescued kitties. We're seeing this throughout the animal welfare community—adoption numbers have plummeted and no one really knows why. We hope this trend changes soon,

but in the meantime, we are very limited in the help we can provide. If you've been thinking about adopting a cat or two (or four—see page 5!) please do it now! Every cat adopted from a rescue or shelter means another one can be saved.

Thank you for reading our newsletter. Please adopt, volunteer, and donate, if you can. We are so grateful to all whose support makes it possible to do our work.

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

—Carma Crimins, President



FROM TOP LEFT: ERNESTINE; EMERALD; SPRITE; ZSAZSA & DELPHINE

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



LEFT: ARCHIE; MEETING HIS NEW FAMILY



Archie

Archie was one of many pups caught up in the wave of unwanted dogs brought to shelters when the novelty of having a “pandemic puppy” wore off and many people were tired of doing their jobs at home and walking the dog multiple times every day. He was a young healthy dog when he landed at a high-kill shelter, but there were so many others already there—smaller, fluffier, and cheaper to feed. Archie’s time was running out, so a group of volunteers coordinated efforts to get him out of the shelter and into a rescue. Cheryl at My Way Home Dog Rescue was told that Archie was two years old, 60 pounds, and very sweet, so she decided to make room for him.

Upon arrival, Cheryl discovered that Archie was only a puppy, probably about six months old, and likely to get much bigger—his legs seemed way too long for the rest of him. But he immediately made friends with the other dogs in his foster home, including the cranky old lady dogs. Archie continued to grow while he waited for his forever family to find him.

Alysia and Nathan had a five-year-old pit bull mix named Rosie who was getting bored as a single girl and needed a playmate. They thought a smaller, younger male might be the best match for her. An internet search led them to apply for a Husky from My Way Home. Cheryl asked for details about Rosie’s personality and their family situation, and suggested Archie might be a better fit. “He knows how to get along with smart female dogs,” she told them. “But he’s big!”

They decided to come meet him anyway, first without Rosie, and it went very well. The second meeting included Rosie, and the two got along like they’d known each other for years. That sealed the deal! “These two absolutely love each other,” says Alysia. “They hit it off immediately. Rosie was never much into toys but Archie is crazy about them and now she loves playing tug and chase with him.”

Rosie is very smart, and Archie is learning from her, too. He loves his stuffy toys, and always chooses one to take outside for playtime. He’s even learning the names of his toys and other things—he knows that

“toothbrush” means “go get your dental treats.” They have already worked out their routines: meal time means Rosie gets her dinner first, then Archie, and then they swap dishes to finish up. They patrol the yard in tandem: Archie takes the perimeter and Rosie monitors the interior. Then they go back inside and cuddle.

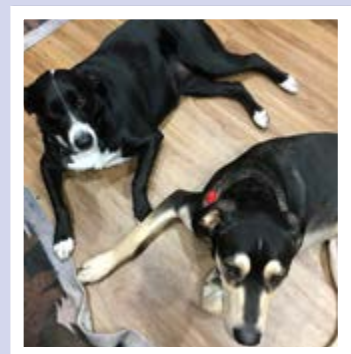
Archie’s genetic background was a mystery—he seems to be one of those specimens put together at the end of the day using all the leftover parts on the assembly line.

Alysia and Nathan wanted to know more, so they had his DNA tested and here are the results:

German Shepherd (26%), American Pit Bull Terrier (21.2%), Great Pyrenees (15.8%), Golden Retriever (14.0%), Lab (9.9%), McNab (6.8%), and Border Collie (6.3%).

So now we know! Archie is a fabulous mixture of looks, brains, personality—and those long legs from the Great Pyrenees.

“It’s just amazing how we found the perfect match with Archie,” says Alysia. “We never would have chosen Archie from an online search—we were looking for a 45-pound dog and he weighs 84 pounds! But Cheryl was right about Archie. He is a member of our family now and we couldn’t be happier.”



SISTER ROSIE (LEFT) & ARCHIE

ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

Sept-Oct-Nov: We rescued and cared for 22 cats and kittens, including veterinary exams, hospital care, vaccines, spay/neuter surgery, microchipping and more. We placed 14 cats and kittens in loving, responsible homes.

Major expenses for the quarter were:

Veterinary: \$3,013.91

Food/Supplies/Direct Assistance: \$3,726.61

Newsletter: \$2,151.67

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.

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Momo & Peach (formerly Midnight & Ginger)

These handsome boys were adopted from ARCF as kittens five years ago. Last spring, their family informed us that the cats could no longer stay in their home and would be returned to us. Their situation wasn't fully explained, but we never argue or refuse—all ARCF cats are welcomed back if they need us. We found them to be in good health, but very confused about the change in their circumstances—mostly they just wanted to hide. We were prepared to give

them all the time they needed to adjust and decompress at our foster home.

In the meantime, we heard from Stan and Annie, who were pet-free for the first time in many years and missing feline companionship. We felt their patient personalities and quiet home might be the perfect match for these sweet, scared boys.

Our hearts went out to these two shy brother kitties upon arrival at our home. It was



BROTHERS

obvious they had brought with them some old fears and insecurities. This made us sad. We were determined to earn their trust and provide them with a second chance at a happy and safe life. We believed with enough time we would wear them down with love.

Through lots of play and affection, it is paying off! They are still shy, but behind all that fear and insecurity are two beautiful, playful, and affectionate creatures. They love play time, petting time, brushing time, and of course meal time. They love snuggling with us in bed and sleep like logs. They even tolerate nail trimming, although we can only get at most



PEACH

one paw at a time. When they chase each other down our long hallway, it sounds like a herd of elephants, and it's pure joy to our ears.

They are happy and secure in their new forever home, and we couldn't be happier to have them in our family.

—Stan Seid & Annie Cuggino



MOMO AT THE MIRROR

Minding our Ps and Qs

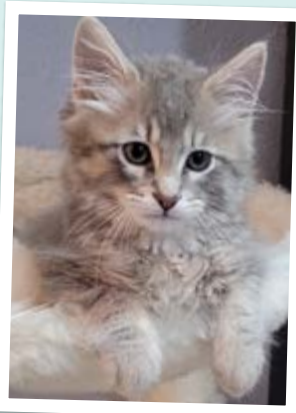
During the “high season” of kitten rescue our volunteers stay busy wrangling stray momma cats and their kittens from backyards, woodpiles, crawl spaces—any place mom can find that feels safe to have her babies, even if just for the moment. In one week last May we rescued two litters: the Ps were Peony, Petal, and Periwinkle and the Qs were Quentin, Quimby, and Quill. The six kittens paired up nicely and when it was time to meet their forever families, they all got very lucky on the same weekend.



SERVING BREAKFAST FOR SIX

Quimby, Aspen, Luna, & Moose (formerly Peony, Petal, & Periwinkle)

We were so sad when our wonderful cats of 16 years (also adopted from ARCF) passed away in June. Max and Bella were so loved by our family. We knew we wanted to adopt more cats and this time we decided that since we love cats so much, we would adopt four! With luck, there happened to be four kittens available at ARCF.



BABY ADLEY

We are so in love with our four babies! Quimby, Aspen, Luna, and Moose are all wonderful cats. They each have their own unique personality, and they absolutely love being together. They play and

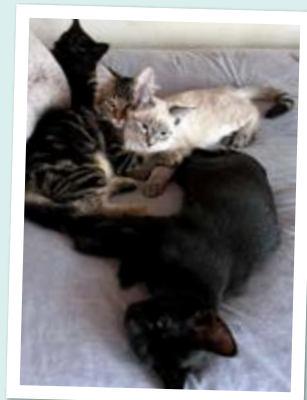


BABY QUIMBY

cuddle together during the day but also give their humans some attention too.

We love each of them and are so thankful that ARCF took such good care of them before we adopted them.

—The Schoepper Family



MOOSE, QUIMBY, ASPEN & LUNA

Adley & Nolan

(formerly Quinn & Quill)

Adley and Nolan joined our family at the end of July 2023 and what a blessing they have been. They both adapted quickly to being part of our family, including our other pets. They are both growing by leaps and bounds and provide us love and laughter every day.



NOLAN (LEFT) & ADLEY

They spend their days playing hide and seek in the kitty tunnels, playing with their favorite toys, chasing our black lab's tail, and napping on any human who happens to be home. They have both learned how to play fetch and how to sit for treats! They sure picked up on the sound of the treat jar opening extremely fast!

We are loving the experience of raising Nolan and Adley and look forward to more adventures with our boys.

—Matt & Trina Nees

Note: If you suspected that Matt & Trina are fans of baseball and, in particular, the Oregon State Beavers, you are right. If you know, you know.

IN MEMORIAM

Leo

Hillevi Johnson and Leo paired up 20 years ago when he was just a baby and she was just a child. They helped each other grow up. Leo became her best friend and truest companion, in the special way all orange tabby lovers will understand. He was there for her through the trying times, and she did everything possible to make his last years as good as the early ones. Leo was loved by all who knew him and will never be forgotten.



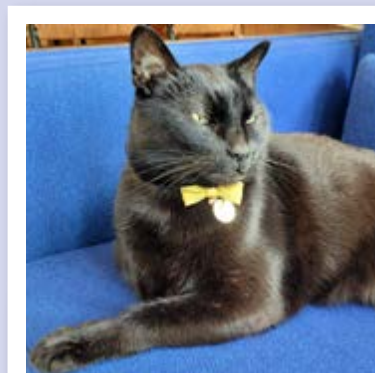
LEO

Frits

Before Frits and Sunny were lucky enough to meet each other, he had been adopted and returned to the same shelter three times. He was smart and headstrong—just too much cat for most people. But he began training Sunny how to be his preferred kind of mom, and she trained him to assist with sales in her elegant modern design and furniture shop. He soon became top producer and was promoted to sales manager for the entire chain of one store, and became an Instagram star.

Frits also travelled with Sunny on her many road trips buying and selling their wares. He was a comfortable and confident traveler, adapting quickly to any new situation, but he had no patience for rude people, foolish time-wasters—or dogs. His personality was huge, he was always impeccably dressed, and he left an impression on everyone he met.

In recent years Frits battled kidney disease, the nemesis of senior felines everywhere. Although not a fan of any veterinary professionals—most of whom took his dislike far too personally—Frits received the finest care available, until he said no more. He went to sleep in Sunny's arms at home and never woke up. No cat was more loved than Frits, and he is missed by his many, many friends, fans, and fellow furniture sales professionals.



FRITS

Leon

Leon came to ARCF in 2012 from our local public shelter. He was taken there by a "critter removal service" but Leon was not open to being handled by shelter staff, so they asked if we could find him a suitable home. We quickly learned he was not fond of other cats but enjoyed the company of people. Our friend Sally McKendrick was open to fostering him, and his anti-cat attitude didn't concern her—she could see the sweet brown tabby spirit underneath his battle scars.

"I fell in love with him and we stayed together for 11 years. He had a lead pellet imbedded in his jaw as a kitten and big health issues which it took years to discover. He was frequently disoriented. I agreed to keep him away from other animals. But eventually with my supervision he was able to be around the big dogs sharing our home. Eventually he fell in love with the downstairs cat who started spending the days with us. She was also under a "no other animals" protocol, but after years of supervision they could be left mostly alone. With increasing dementia, he stopped worrying about the big dogs and wandered past them to see if there were snacks in the back hall (there always were). His girlfriend now spends the days with me. Leon was the sweetest."



LEON

Our Year-End Gratitude Journal

The success of our mission depends on the dedicated foster volunteers who care for our rescued cats and kittens literally every day and night, including weekends and holidays. Their homes also serve as adoption venues, and we deeply appreciate their willingness to be generous and flexible with their personal time and space. Giving our cats and kittens the opportunity to live in comfortable homes with experienced foster caregivers provides the security they need to feel safe and helps us make the best match with the families we choose for their forever homes.

In addition to the regular stream of momcats with newborn babies arriving at her home, **Anne Malinowski** had her hands full caring for our miracle kitten this year—Derek required daily injections for 45 days, followed by daily medication for 40 days, then 84 days of observation, not to mention all the extra vet visits to monitor his condition. It wasn't easy, but with her lifesaving care, Derek made a full recovery from FIP.

Some of our foster kitties are lucky enough to enjoy accommodations at the home of **Lauren Magnee** and **John Miskey**, appointed with a deluxe enclosed outdoor "catio." We especially appreciate their willingness to welcome older cats, including some returnees who may be slower to adjust and aren't likely to be adopted quickly.

Janet and **Eric Blackstone** have also hosted some unexpectedly returned older cats, as well as a few of the youngsters who are more fun to watch but more likely to prevent a good night's sleep.

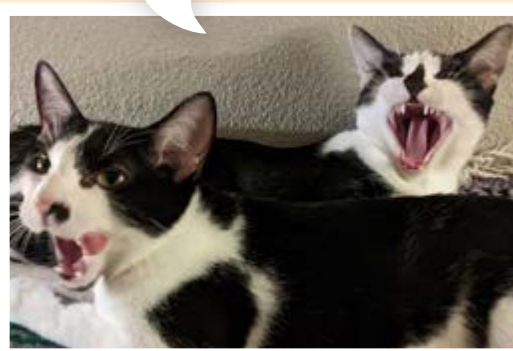
Bonnie Williams and **Drew Flowers** have a house full of their own pets, but manage to make room for a couple of our rescued kittens when

we need them. **Bonnie** has managed many trap-neuter-return (TNR) projects, often providing coaching and logistical support to folks who want to help their community cats but don't know where to start.

Many of the momcats and kittens rescued from those projects go to stay with **Lori** and **Paul Sharp**, our "go-to" team for fostering feral moms with their babies. Those moms can be pretty feisty during their

stay, which can be a couple months, depending on how long the kittens need them.

Thank you!



Jen Hansen and **Roger Anderson** have also welcomed hundreds of kittens to their home, where they are trained by resident feline "uncles," **Aspen** and **Elliott**, and their faithful canine servant, **Blue**. Sadly, their cockatiel **Basil** recently passed away at the age of 28. He was a good sport about all those kittens, tantalizing them from the safety of his cage for 10 years.

Manon Gerard and **Stefan Van Elk** joined us this year as foster volunteers, helping some special cats make the transition from street life to the comforts of the great indoors.

Tiffany Summers and **Lloyd Wood** also joined our foster team but had to resign after their first adoption, since one of their resident cats was vehemently opposed to the idea of

additional felines in the home, and expressed his displeasure in the rude way anyone with a territorially-challenged cat will instantly sniff out. (We're sorry, **Odis**.)

We welcomed our old friend **Barbara Trent**, who came out of retirement to start fostering again and immediately filled her home with kittens.

Val Walker stepped up when we needed a "forever foster" for two shy older cats who lost their home when their people became too ill to care for them any longer. She also has taken on many TNR projects when extra hands (and traps!) were needed.

Gina Chirillo donates her time to do our bookkeeping every month and **Leah Goodman** provides professional editing and proofreading for this newsletter.

We are very grateful to **Cat & Dog Hospital of Portland**, **The Pixie Project**, **Willamette Valley Animal Hospital-Gladstone**, and **Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon** for providing top quality care for our rescued cats. **Gabriel Park Veterinary Clinic** has been a placement partner for some of our kittens.

Pets on Broadway, **Healthy Pets NW**, **Happy Tails Pet Center**, and **Sellwood Pet Supply** support us with donated supplies. We encourage everyone to shop at locally-owned pet supply stores who can offer expert guidance in choosing appropriate products for your pets.

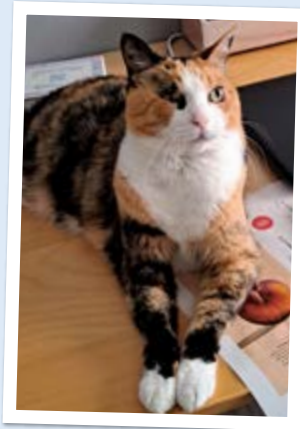
And finally, we extend our deepest gratitude to our generous and compassionate donors and all the wonderful people who provide the loving homes that make it all worthwhile.

—ARCF Board of Directors

SUCCESS STORIES

Chloe

Last spring, we got a call from a local vet clinic asking if we could take a cat that had been relinquished to them. Her elderly owners were no longer able to care for her, and family members asked the vet to euthanize this beautiful 12-year-old, one-eyed calico. Chloe charmed everyone at the clinic, and other than a poorly healed leg injury, her health was excellent. Our friends Sally and Paul had recently lost their beloved Frankie and were looking for a companion for their other cat, Rusty. We asked them to foster Chloe, and here's the rest of the story:



CHLOE

We agreed to foster Chloe and went to meet her at the clinic. She is such a sweet cat that we officially adopted her after a month. She has a loud purr that starts instantly when she is petted. She loves sleeping in the sun and playing with the laser toy and her catnip toys. She established "boundaries" with Rusty and is set to peacefully share her forever home with us. We wanted to adopt an older cat and thanks to ARCF we found a perfect match.

—Sally & Paul Needham

Lenny & Gladys

(formerly Salem)

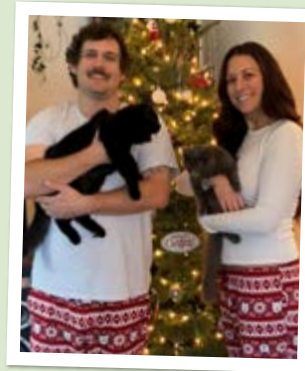
Our policy is to send kittens to their forever homes in pairs—anyone who has experienced the joy of kittens and watched them grow understands that having a buddy to drain off their kitten energy is important. But occasionally we rescue odd-numbered litters and in those cases we match up the "odds" so everyone has a lifetime buddy. Lenny was a singleton in our foster home when Salem was found wandering alone. No one claimed her and a quick introduction led to an instant bond between the kittens, and soon after they met Kealoha and Kyle and off they went together.



GLADYS (LEFT) & LENNY

The kittens are doing great! We kept Lenny's name but Kyle suggested "Gladys" as a new name for Salem. It took me a second to love the name, but it's definitely

grown on me. The kittens have made themselves right at home and bring us so much joy. They are our shadows and follow us everywhere. They love to cuddle on the couch and sleep with us every night. They are best friends and do everything together. We couldn't be more thankful for these two. Thanks again for bringing them into our lives.



KYLE, LENNY, KEALOHA,
& GLADYS

—Kealoha & Kyle

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.

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