# Pet Tidings

# TOS OF ANIANA

**VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2, SUMMER 2004** 

## Peaches' Predicament by Ann Gilson

Peaches huddled under a bush, as close to the fence as he could get. His shoulder hurt, where the rock thrown by the yelling person had hit him.

Once more, all day long he had gone door to door in the trailer park, looking for home. Home, or *anyone* who would help him. He was so afraid, so very hungry, so lost and so desperate.

But once again, when a door did open, a stranger would look at him and say kindly, "Go home, kitty. You don't live here." Or roughly, "Go away. Get out of here!," or a foot or

Stripes

Leo

Colette



broom would knock him away and the door would slam. Sometimes he would come upon one of the many other stray cats in the park and it would hiss and snarl, or attack him with teeth and claws. Worst of all were the small people who threw rocks.

Hi-way

Citi

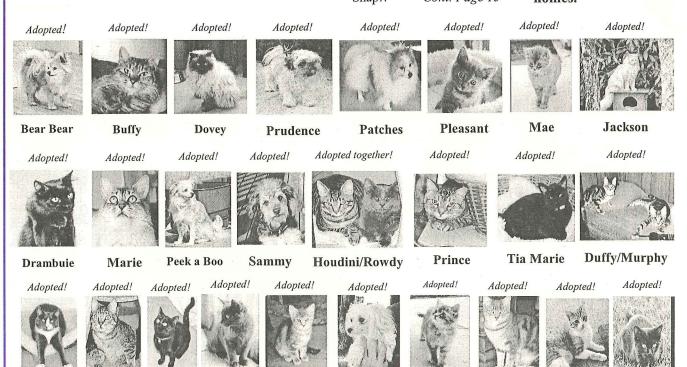
He closed his eyes and remembered his home—his bed and his food bowl, his cat box and his toy mouse. Where were they? What had happened? What could he do? He was so hungry. So tired. So scared.

Suddenly, he thought he could smell food. It was faint, but he raised his head and crept through the fence. Stronger now, and then he saw it. Food, just like he used to have, on a paper plate in a sort of metal box. Eagerly he crawled to it, over by another bush, and then stepped inside the box. Snap!! ——Cont. Page 15

Peninsula Friends of Animals has always been and continues to be an independent group that is not associated with any other group or shelter.

#### OUR MISSION

• To prevent the birth of unwanted pets through aggressive educational spay/neuter and programs; and to place as many homeless, neglected and/or abandoned pets possible into good, safe, permanent homes.



**Princess** 

Lucille

Jeanette

Hazel

Ouzo

# Peninsula Friends of Animals PO Box 404 Sequim,WA 98382 (360) 452-0414

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Mark your calendars!

Aug. 14/15, "Paws in the Garden," sponsored by Vision

Landscape Nursery to raise funds for and awareness of local animal welfare groups.

Fun for all! Be there!

# PAWS FOR A THOUGHT

It's been an amazing journey!

Just as PFOA has grown from a core group of three or four people five years ago to nearly 300 members and over 1,000 supporters today, *Pet Tidings* has blossomed as well! From a 2-sided, single page issue in the spring of 2001, PFOA's newsletter has grown to a 16-page quarterly publication that is highly regarded by readers and has been favorably compared to newsletters and magazines published by much larger and longer established organizations in larger communities than our own.

Much credit for the quality goes to the members who have written articles or submitted items discovered online, as well as to the advertisers who have supported *Pet Tidings* since the beginning. Without them we might well be turning out something much less impressive.

This issue's front page story about Mr. Peach will hopefully inspire a kind soul to consider adopting this incredibly friendly guy "as is" or others to come forward with the funds it may take in the future to perform surgery needed to make him "perfect." A column on the opposite page details the incredible amount of work involved in accepting dogs from homes where they are no longer wanted and placing them into homes where they are passionately desired. A column inside devotes a full page to debunking myths and correcting misunderstandings surrounding black cats, nearly all of whom make absolutely phenomenal pets! Another tells a local success story involving Trap-Neuter-Return of feral cats living on private property. Don't forget the messages from our paid advertisers, and please patronize their businesses and tell them you saw their ads in *Pet Tidings*!

Realistically, our journey has just begun. PFOA and *Pet Tidings* will be around for a long time......as long as it takes to find a good home for each and every homeless, adoptable pet who inhabits our community.

—*Editor* 

#### **Dear Dogs and Cats**

----submitted by Carol Kittrick, via the Internet

When I say to move, I mean go someplace else, not roll over or switch positions with another pet so that there are still two or more of you in the way.

I cannot buy anything bigger than a king sized bed. I am very sorry about this. Do not think I will continue to sleep on the couch to ensure your comfort. Look at videos of other dogs and cats sleeping; they actually curl up in a ball. It is not necessary to sleep perpendicular to each other stretched out to the fullest extent possible. I also know that sticking tails straight out and having tongues hanging out the other end to maximize space is nothing but sarcasm.

The dishes with the paw prints are yours and contain your food. The other dishes are mine and contain my food. Please note: placing a paw print in the middle of my plate and food does not stake a claim for it becoming your food and dish, nor do I find that aesthetically pleasing in the slightest.

The stairway was not designed by NASCAR and is not a racetrack. Beating me to the bottom is not the object. Tripping me doesn't help, because I fall faster than you can run.

The proper order is kiss me, THEN go smell the other dogs' rears. I cannot stress this enough!

# Placing Dogs in New Homes: a Huge Cooperative Effort

A family in Clallam Bay calls PFOA's Message Center phone and asks for help. Their Jack Russell Terrier, Simba, is tearing the house apart during the day when the parents are at work and the children are in school. The family knows he needs more time and attention than they can possibly provide. They decide to start the process of finding him a new home.

A woman in Forks dies leaving behind a 13-year old miniature Poodle, Maddy. Her neighbors contact Pam Winney at Friends of Forks Animals.

Both calls are eventually forwarded to Nancy Campbell, PFOA's volunteer dog placement coordinator. Nancy calls back the family in Clallam Bay to get information about Simba's age, health, general temperament, etc. She will ask about what veterinary care he has had, and about what he eats. If Nancy feels there is a chance to keep Simba in his original home successfully, she may counsel the family on making changes that would allow this to happen. If, on the other hand, the ultimate answer seems to be placing Simba elsewhere, Nancy will go to work on getting that done as quickly as possible.

Nancy then calls Pam in Forks to find out all she can about Maddy. She learns that Maddy has been well cared for and suffers no major ailments. She will need only grooming and a basic veterinary exam.

Simba, on the other hand, is not in the best of shape. A trip to Clallam Bay confirms what Nancy suspected all alongthe family has not been able to afford veterinary care for Simba since the beginning. As a result, he is not neutered, has no vaccinations, and is in need of extensive dentistry as a result of a poor diet.

Back to Port Angeles where Nancy starts a series of telephone calls. First, she calls for veterinary appointments for both dogs and finds that one Sequim veterinarian can see Maddy tomorrow and another can see Simba in just over a week. Then she calls one of a small number of people who are qualified and have volunteered to be foster homes for dogs. After three tries she finds someone who can take Maddy for a maximum of three weeks (meaning that she must be placed before then or moved to another foster home). She can't find anyone to take Simba, so he must stay in Clallam Bay until a new home can be found. He will need to be transported from Clallam Bay to Sequim and back, however, for his veterinary appointment. Nancy will have to find a PFOA volunteer to make that round trip twice, or do it herself. She makes more phone calls.

Still another call to the offices at Safe Haven nets Nancy official ID numbers for the two dogs. Paperwork authorizing the procedures that will be performed on them will need to be prepared and faxed to the respective veterinarians. While all of this is going on, Nancy begins looking over the lists of potential homes about which she knows from calls that have come into PFOA from people seeking dogs. Many calls and

hours of interviewing later, Nancy matches up Maddy with an elderly apartment dweller in Sequim who is looking for an older dog to be her companion during both of their final years. Simba appears to match up well with a recently retired but very active and financially stable couple in Joyce who have been seeking a dog to go everywhere and do everything with them.

Now begins the process of follow-up, the hours spent counseling the new guardians and helping the dogs adjust to their new surroundings. This includes phone calls and trips to the new homes—sometimes *many* calls and *many* trips! Nancy does all of this as well.

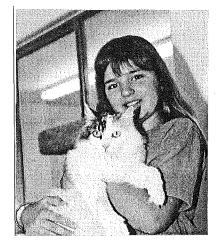
In a perfect world, every adoption of a dog into a new home would work well and Nancy would be relieved of the responsibility for the life of that dogs as it passes on to the new guardian. However, in cases that don't work out as expected, a dog may have to go back into foster care and the procedure of finding a new home starts all over again.

It's a cooperative (and sometimes exhausting!) effort from beginning to end: other animal protection agencies, people with dogs they don't want, others seeking dogs they don't have, foster homes, transporters, Safe Haven, veterinarians, groomers—and Nancy, the glue that holds all of this together!

## 10-Year Old Girl Scout Raises \$\$ for Emergency Medical Fund

She's only 10 years old, but she's as persuasive as an experienced fund raising professional!

Stacy Hanson and her mom, Kellie, offered this spring to work at Safe Haven for 20 hours on a volunteer basis so that Stacy could earn her Junior Girl Scout Bronze Award for Sequim Troop 174. Even before she was finished putting in her time socializing and cleaning up after the Safe Haven pets, Stacy had presented the case for PFOA's



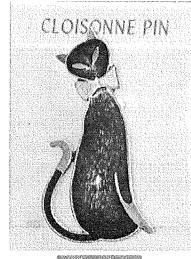
Stacy offers some quality hug time to shelter resident Callie

Emergency Medical Fund in front of the congregation at Dungeness Valley Lutheran Church. The fund assists low income pet guardians in our community with veterinary expenses for serious and urgent emergencies. Stacy's appeal, which involved a 5 minute talk at two different services and 90 minutes of conversing between the services resulted in donations of \$257!

Thanks to the Greywolf Elementary School 4th grader for her energy, time and commitment! We and the animals are most grateful for your help, Stacy!

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THIS PAGE FEATURES SILENT AUCTION ITEMS DONATED TO PFOA FOR THE PURPOSE OF RAISING FUNDS FOR THE SPAY-NEUTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. PLEASE PLACE YOUR BID IN WRITING AND IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MAIL TO US OR GIVE TO ANY PFOA BOARD MEMBER: OR DELIVER YOUR BIDS TO SAFE HAVEN. ADDRESS FOR MAILED BIDS: PFOA/Auction, PO BOX 404, SEQUIM, WA 98382. Bidding deadline: August 31, 2004. Bids include shipping; they will be opened and winner will be notified on Sept. 1. If you would like to donate items for auctioning to raise funds for PFOA, please leave a message on our Message Center Phone: (360) 452-0414. Thanks!





Cloisonne cat pin and earrings, mostly red in color, with gold, white and black trim. Shown actual size. Earrings are gold post. Both items still attached to the cards on which they were sold. They come in a and white Frederick & Nelson red (legendary Seattle department store) box. (Probably 1960s-70s era). Never worn.

Starting bid for the set of 3: \$15



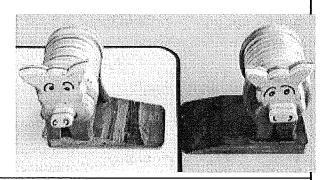
AVON cat print TOTE BAG. 2002 issue. Mostly shades of blue and green, with white, yellow and brown. Outside material is 100% PVC, lining is 75% poly/25% cotton. Includes inner pockets, one with a zipper. 12"X 14". Never used. (We have two of these, one of which is still sealed in an outer plastic and one of which we opened to take its picture. The top bidder will receive the one which is still sealed; the second highest bidder will receive the one we photographed). Starting bid: \$12

More SILENT AUCTION ITEMS. See page to the left for instructions on how to bid.



Cat and moving mouse watch! Mouse acts as the second hand and moves clockwise around the cat. Movement: Singapore. Dial, case, band: China. Watch has been worn and gold color band shows signs of wear around the notches but is excellent around the face of the watch. Battery operated. Has new battery and works perfectly. Shown actual size. Starting bid: \$14

Wood pig doorstops, hand-crafted by local artisan. Not quite identical, but offered only as a set. One has a base measuring 6 1/4" X 3 3/4". The other has a base measuring 5 3/4" X 3 1/3" Starting bid for the set of 2: \$8



#### SAFE HAVEN WISH LIST

Peninsula Friends of Animals offers sincere thanks to all of the nice members and supporters who responded to the Wish List printed in the spring issue of Pet Tidings by contributing many of the items needed by the volunteers and pets at Safe Haven. Here's the latest list of needs.

#### Items:

Paper towels Liquid laundry detergent Liquid antibacterial hand/ dishwashing soap Hand lotion Heavyweight trash bags (13-30 gallon size) Wellness canned cat food (5.5 oz cans, chicken or turkey) Max Cat Dry Food (Adult or kitten) KMR kitten formula (powdered only) Canned pumpkin (no spices)

World's Best Litter (extra strength formula) Postage stamps (37s, 23s) Inkjet print cartridges, Hewlett-Packard black #s 27, 45 or 56; color #s 23, 28, 57 or 78 First aid kit Small book cases Packaged snacks & canned juice and pop for the volunteers 10 envelopes (24 pound) # 6 3/4 envelopes (24 pound) Copy paper, 91+ bright

#### Volunteers (training provided for all tasks):

To do pre-adoption counseling of potential adopters (Excellent telephone demeanor required);

To do callbacks to people in the community who call us for various reasons (Excellent telephone demeanor required);

To solicit advertising for this newsletter;

To do feral cat trapping, transporting to vet for spay/neuter, and returning;

To do detail-oriented computer work in Safe Haven's office:

To disinfect pet carriers, traps and kitten cages;

To remove marks from cat room floors: To help with yard work (mostly weeding and weed eating)

#### HOW TO SPONSOR AN ADOPTION-CHALLENGED PET IN PFOA CARE

Can't have pets due to allergies or terms of your lease? Have pets of your own already and can't take in any others? Then sponsorship may be the best way for you to help pets living long term in PFOA foster care due to illness, age or temperament (often as a result of trauma suffered before coming to PFOA).

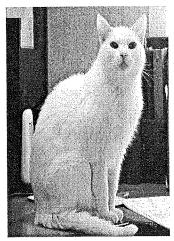
Monthly sponsorships are just \$10 per pet. A pet may also be sponsored for an entire year for \$120 or for the pet's lifetime for \$500. Just use the envelope enclosed with this newsletter or fill out the form on the back page and send it back to us with your sponsorship payment. We'll send you pictures of your sponsored pet in return, along with a story about the pet's history and how he or she came to be with PFOA.

Current sponsors of pets in PFOA care are Teri Adair, Claire Bernards, Sheila & Peter Bowen, Blair Burns, Lynn Calhoun, Sara Ann Courtney, Lori Crow, Kathy Danley, Gale Enger, Charlene Erickson, Louis and Marguerite Evart, Donna Flint,

Claudia Fureby, Virginia Green, Linda Harer, Tom & Patricia Hart, Dennis Haven, Lacy Hennessey, Bea Holleck, Carolyn Howard, Sylvia Jane Kahan, Maureen Kelly, Lisa Ljunhammar, Polly Loggy, Helen Miller, Alice Mitchell, Lee & Linda Moench, Catharine Reed & Andy Swartzbacker, Richard & Sally Ruud, Nellie Stokely, Mary Sweetser, Jean Marie Szeles, Judy O'Grady-Tilley, Diana Vance, Dennis & Marian Wajckus, Kari Walter and one anonymous sponsor.

PFOA pets who currently have sponsors are Azure, Booky, Catharine, Cinders, Dallas, Donovan, Drambuie, Inky, Jack, Jamie, Jim, Johnnycat, Little Joey, Mama's Cat (Peach), Missy, Murphy, Oreo, Peggy Sue, Princess, Rutabaga, Snickers, Spot Nelson, Sumari and Tigger.

Thanks to all of you sponsors for helping PFOA to care for all these precious and worthy beings.



Azure needs to be sponsored due to hyperthyroidism and early stage kidney failure.

PFOA subsidized spaying & neutering of 542 local dogs and cats in 2003.

33 WAYS TO BE KIND TO ANIMALS: Spay or neuter your dog or cat; never leave your pet alone in a car; adopt pets from an animal shelter; never kick, hit or spank a pet; spend quality time with your pet daily; use a non-choking collar on your dog or cat; provide nutritious food and constant fresh water for your pets; keep chocolate away from pets as it can poison them; take pets for annual health exams and recommended vaccinations; only provide toys approved for their use; keep pets away from toxic household chemicals; make sure pets always wear up-to-date ID tags; read books about animal care; quit smoking, as second-hand smoke can cause health problems in animals; provide pets with plenty of exercise; make sure pets have constant access to shade in the summer, heat in the winter, and a place that's always dry; brush your dog's and cat's teeth; groom your pet often; never give pets any medicine without a vet's approval; don't let pets play with string, yarn or rubber bands as they can cause intestinal blockages if consumed; keep your vet's office and emergency numbers handy; learn CPR and choking rescue for pets; volunteer to help care for a busy or elderly person's pet; be alert when driving to avoid hitting animals; volunteer at an animal shelter; buy from companies that don't use animals in testing; report animal abuse to the proper authorities; report injured dogs and cats to police authorities or humane shelters, and injured wildlife to wildlife rehabilitation centers; pick up litter that might hurt animals; put up a bird feeder; never buy anything made from wild animals; leave all wild animals, including insects, in their natural homes; plant trees and shrubs in your back yard to make birds and other wildlife feel welcome.

# The Rewards of Rescuing and Living With Black Cats

"Black is beautiful!"

That's the response of Dennis Wajckus, guardian of 30-40 black or mostly black cats among the 70 street rescued felines who share his (and his wife Marian's) Fresno home.

"Black cats are very loving, playful and just plain fun to have around," says Dennis, who—in addition to caring for all these cats of his own—sponsors a semi-feral PFOA cat, Jim, who is coincidentally mostly black.

While the Wajckus' will take in just about any cat who has been living out in the elements, there is a special place in their hearts for the black ones who are sometimes the victims of myth, misunderstanding and abuse.

Going back as far as the 13th century, black cats were wrongly connected with witches and the devil, and some people living even today

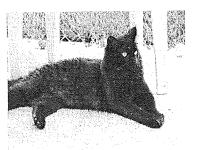
are willing to let that myth prevail over the truth.

However, Pauline Roper of the Cats Protection Shelter network in Great Britain says attitudes toward black cats are becoming healthier, at least in her country. "Black cats are often considered lucky and it has generally been believed in recent times that if one crosses your path, good fortune will come your way."

"Black cats and kittens have the most fantastic, friendly natures," says Ms. Roper, "but they are often overlooked in favor of cats with ginger, tabby or tortoise shell coats."

Texas cat guardian Gayle Holshouser says, "We, too, are great fans of black cats. Ours are the sweetest, most loving kitties I have ever seen. They are so affectionate it is unreal. We can't imagine life without them."

Adopting a black cat from PFOA will immediately improve your life! Please call (360) 452-0414.



Recently adopted PFOA cat Drambuie is everything anyone would want in a cat—loving, agreeable, playful, friendly, relaxed and happy.



Just a few weeks old, Bailey is one of PFOA's newest residents—a "tuxedo" black and white kitten.

#### Letters

Long distance supporter

Dear PFOA: Today I received the spring issue of *Pet Tidings*. You are really an inspiration! And I think of my three very spoiled kitties. Through the cat door and on to a big front porch—it's completely enclosed with lattice. They are three fortunate ones.

I plan on a trip to Sequim soon and plan on visiting you. Maybe I can help you out for a couple of hours.

Thanks for being there for the animals. J.S., Auburn

Successful placement

Dear PFOA: My wife and I wish to thank you for finding a new home for Tiny Tim. We first saw his picture in the *PDN* ad explaining the preferable conditions for his adoption and were very pleased.

We felt even better when we received your newsletter with his picture and notice that you had found him a home. We miss him, but find consolation in knowing that he went to a good home.

T.H., Port Angeles

Hooray for Hazel

Dear PFOA: Here are the pictures of Hazel we promised. My husband and I are very happy with her and we think she is happy, eating well and she is very playful.

Maggie and Hazel touch noses. One time I saw Maggie give her a big kiss!

Hazel is now running very fast from room to room.

Thank you for helping us to find her! J.G., Sequim

Heaps of praise

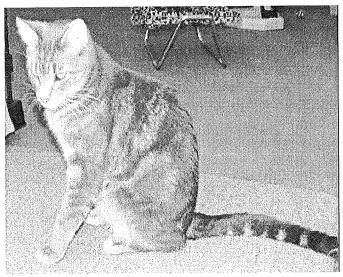
Dear PFOA: I have followed you progress over the past few years and am only now getting around to telling you how grateful my neighbors and I are to you.

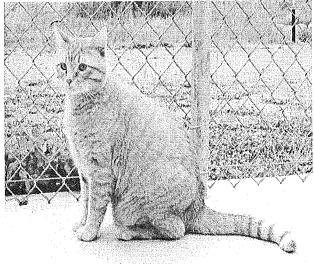
Your newsletter is exceptional and we enjoy keeping up with all of your programs to help people and pets in our community. We have been especially impressed with your T-N-R program for feral cats and your spay/neuter program in general. Also, your new Emergency Medical Fund will help those who need it most. And Safe Haven is a long overdue and badly needed facility in this area. Yes to no-kill!

Thank you for all that you do! It's appreciated! A.R., Sequim

# **Adoption-Challenged**

Special animals with special needs looking for special homes with special people





Dandelion is a gorgeous silver/gray classic tabby. He is around a year old and should have been adopted by now. However, Dandelion is painfully shy. He does love to lay in sunny spots on the floor, but spends most of his time hiding under the sofa or anyplace else hard to reach or see. When potential adopters visit Safe Haven, most of them never even know he is there. After four months he is just now coming around to interacting with his caretakers.

With intense one-on-one time, we believe that Dandelion could become a real lover boy. We can see it in his eyes and demeanor....he wants so badly to share in all the love and affection that is going around, but he is having a hard time letting his guard down.

Please call Safe Haven if you are interested in adopting Dandelion. You may also call us if you would like to learn about helping to socialize Dandelion or some of the other cats.

Peaches (aka "Mr. Peach" or just plain "Peach") is a moderately big and very friendly orange tabby. He has a medical condition which we believe to be megacolon and is on a special diet that costs about a dollar a day. He also takes twice daily medication to keep his colon working properly (medicine he takes willingly and anxiously....it's tuna flavored! ....and which costs less than a dollar a day). Other than that, he is a perfectly normal and healthy cat!

Peach loves playing, sitting on laps, and giving to and getting attention from his special person. He's a gregarious cat who loves people and doesn't have a shy bone in his body.

Mr. Peach enjoys being king of his castle (and the only cat in it!) so would best make a wonderful companion for someone without other animals and who has the time to offer the bit of extra care he needs to remain healthy.

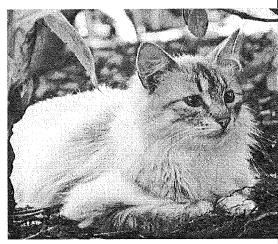
To adopt or sponsor Mr. Peach, please call.

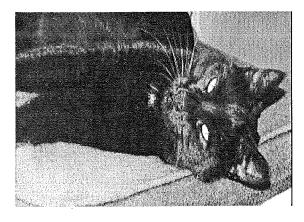
All PFOA pets have been health-checked, spayed or neutered and vaccinated. We ask a \$75 donation at the time of adoption to help cover these expenses. To adopt a PFOA pet, please call our Message Center phone: (360) 452-0414.

# ADOPTABLES!

All of these socialized pets have been health-checked and treated, vaccinated and spayed or neutered. Please call our Message Center at (360) 452-0414 if you can provide a safe, loving, comfortable home for one or more of them.

Christy is a beautiful Siamese/Himalayan type mix cat. She has the most gorgeous azure-blue eyes. We don't know her exact age but guess her to be not more than three to four years old. Christy and her kittens were rescued from a dangerous situation and all of the kittens have been successfully adopted. Now it is Chrity's turn to find her forever home. She is a very sweet, loving, affectionate and quiet cat—although she can be quite playful when enticed to do so! She enjoys the company of other friendly cats and is the first one in line when someone is handing out kitty treats. Call about Christy today!

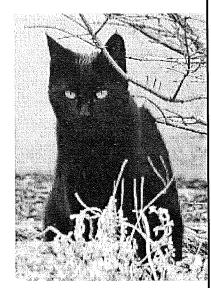




Comet is a short haired black cat with one tiny white spot in the middle of her chest. She is a character who likes people and other cats and will play with both. She was originally called Comet because of the way she streaked by people attempting to touch her or pick her up, but patient socialization by a number of PFOA volunteers helped her to realize the joy of contact with human beings! She now enjoys being scratched or petted, but still needs a bit more work for her to stay in a lap or to feel safe dozing next to someone. She is energetic and likes streaking around and "fishing" for toys. Call if you are interested in Comet.

Ginger is a petite blue-black beauty with lovely soft gold eyes. She has one of the tiniest and most pitiful sounding little "meows" that we've ever heard, sometimes sounding more like a bird than a cat! She is a very gentle, quiet and loving kitty who would very much like to have a family of her own. Shy at first, she eventually warms up nicely to love and attention. Ginger has the potential to be a real lap warmer and she brings a sense of serenity with her. She will bring joy and love into any home. Please call about Ginger.

PFOA asks for an adoption donation of \$75 to help cover the costs of health checks, spaying/neutering and vaccinations that each pet gets before adoption.



#### ANIMAL -FRIENDLY BUSINESSES YOU CAN COUNT ON FOR QUALITY PRODUCTS AND SERVICES



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John L. Scott

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#### **VOLUNTEER: Helen Miller**

When asked what she wants people to know about her, Helen Miller says proudly, "I'm an oddball!"

That's the kind of spirit that keeps this 87-year old volunteer going strong and why she is so welcome working around the offices at Safe Haven.

Born in Wisconsin in 1916, Helen lost her father to the great flu epidemic during World War I. She and her mother made their way west to Idaho and eastern Washington. Helen moved to Seattle after high school, eventually getting married and then embarking upon careers in bookkeeping and accounting.

Helen and husband, Dick, moved to Sequim in 1984. When Helen decided that it was time to get a pet a few years ago (she had previously had seven dogs and



three cats over the years), she was led to PFOA's dog placement coordinator, Nancy Campbell, who in no time had matched Helen up with a sweet and beautiful black Cocker Spaniel named Molly Molly considers herself surrogate mother to all the kittens at Safe Haven!

Helen's volunteer duties include keeping detailed information for PFOA's animal records (dates of vaccinations, blood testing, spaying and neutering, etc.) She also allowed telephone orders for PFOA's 2004 fund raising calendar to be directed into her home, where she processed hundreds of orders over the past nine months.

Helen's other interests and hobbies are knitting, crocheting, sewing, baking (from scratch, of course), wild bird feeding, reading, doll collecting, country music, dancing and gardening!

She may be "odd", but she's a gem! And by the way, Helen makes the world's best sticky buns. Just ask anyone who's ever tried one!

#### THIS OLD CAT —Author unknown

I'm getting on in years, My coat is turning gray, My eyes have lost their luster, My hearing's just okay.

I spend my day dreaming Of conquests in my past, Lying near a sunny window Waiting for its warm repast.

I remember our first visit,
I was coming to you free,
Hoping you would take me in
And keep me company.

I wasn't young or handsome, Two years I'd roamed the street. There were scars upon my face, I hobbled on my feet.

I could sense your disappointment As I left my prison cage. Oh, I hoped you would accept me And look beyond my age.

You took me out of pity, I accepted without shame. Then you grew to love me, And I admit the same. I have shared with you your laughter, You have wet my fur with tears. We've come to know each other Throughout these many years.

Just one more hug this morning Before you drive away, And I know I'll think about you Throughout your busy day.

This time we've left together Is a treasured time at that.
My heart is yours forever,

\_ I promise—This Old Cat

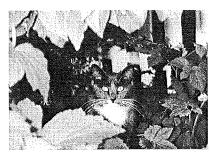
### LIFE 101: Lessons From Feral Cats in the City by Sharon Quesnell

Editors note: PFOA's T-N-R (Trap-Neuter-Return) program likely has done more to reduce feral cat numbers on the north Olympic Peninsula in just five years than conventional (and mostly inhumane) methods of feral cat control have done in fifty. Ms. Ouesnell's story is typical of many of the individuals and families who have enlisted assistance from PFOA and whose feral cats now live safe, healthy lives as a result. Additionally, the cats have ceased to be a nuisance to their caretakers and neighbors.

Who could have guessed in April, 2003 that we would be graced in July, 2004 with six feral friends who congenially reside in our back yard?

It all began when an unoccupied building in Sequim was dismantled. It had been home for abandoned cats from a nearly trailer park. Now homeless, these cats began seeking other "digs." Enter Mama Kitty #1 and her family of four. After scouting the area, our back yard—about a block away—had definite possibilities: fenced, protected, lots of hiding places, no cats or dogs in residence....yup, definite possibilities. Mama spent

considerable time finding just the right location in the back yard (let's see...in the garden shed...no...under the deck...no...back to the garden



Back yard living has turned into a win-win situation—for Bootsy and for her caretakers

shed....final answer).

During the course of this process, we experienced many emotions—awe, compassion, irritation, puzzlement, frustration and joy to name a few. And when there was time to reflect, one thing we knew—at some point we needed to take action—but what kind? Peninsula Friends of Animals to the rescue!!! With the patient help of PFOA's trapping coordinator, Gary (who was aware of the trailer park situation), we did humane livetrapping over the next few months.

T-N-R (Trap-Neuter-Return) allowed us to safely catch

the cats with as little disruption as possible and then have them spayed or neutered and returned to the same location. Not long after, Mama Kitty #2 (believed sibling to #1) delivered two additional babies in the yard. When old enough, they, too, were signed up for the T-N-R program. Just think: for each cat we spayed or neutered, we decreased the projected population of cats on the Olympic Peninsula by approximately 400,000 (the number that could have been born over a seven year period!!!!!!!)

Looking back on the past year, we realize how blessed we were to have the guidance of PFOA. The cats are well adjusted, coexist happily and bring joy to our lives. Our PFOA promise is to provide food regularly, something we do gladly. The cats have taught us many lessons as we watch them through the stages of their lives—lessons which include having fun, getting along, showing love and maternal devotion.

Sometimes life hands us challenges. The test is in making the appropriate choices. For us, T-N-R was the best choice. Today T-N-R has a new meaning: that is, Teach New Respect for PFOA and our animals friends...they deserve it.

### How Many Dogs Does It Take To Change a Light Bulb? via the Internet, submitted by many

Golden Retriever: The sun is shining, the day is young, we've got our whole lives ahead of us, and you're inside worrying about a stupid burned out light bulb?

**Border Collie:** Just one. And then I'll replace any wiring that's not up to code.

**Dachshund**: You know I can't reach that stupid thing!

Rottweiler: Make me.

**Boxer**: Who cares? I can still play with my squeaky toys in the dark.

Lab: Oh, me, me, me!!!!!
Pleeeeeeze let me change the light bulb!

German Shepherd: I'll change it as soon as I've led these people from the dark, check to make sure I haven't missed any, and make just one more perimeter patrol to see that no one has tried to take advantage of the situation.

**Jack Russell Terrier**: I'll just pop it in while I'm bouncing off the walls and furniture.

**Old English Sheep Dog**: Light bulb? What light bulb, where? I don't see any light bulb.

**Cocker Spaniel**: Why change it? I can still pee on the carpet in the dark.

Bulb.

Chihuahua: Yo quiero Taco

**Pointer**: I see it, there it is, there it is, right there......

**Greyhound**: It isn't moving. Who cares?

Australian Shepherd: First, I'll put all the light bulbs in a little circle.....

**Poodle:** I'll just blow in the Border Collie's ear and he'll do it. By the time he finishes rewiring the house, my nails will be dry.

The cat's answer: Dogs do not change light bulbs. People change light bulbs. So the real question is: How long will it be before I can expect some light, some dinner and a massage?

## **MEET A BOARD MEMBER: Rita Heywood**

Born in London and schooled in various parts of Great Britain, Rita Heywood and her significant other, Svend Holst passed through Sequim in 1990 on their way to visit Svend's sister in British Columbia. Before they knew it, they had bought a home here and were "enjoying the beautiful scenery, weather and friendly people."

Rita, who is PFOA's Secretary of the Board of Directors, worked in banking in England before moving to Canada to live in both Montreal and Toronto. Another move to Los Angeles had Rita working various jobs, including one as manager of a company that was a huge industrial supplier of detergent....over a quarter of a million pounds of it every week!

To have fun in Los Angeles, Rita got involved with snow skiing (her



favorite activity), camping, tennis, ice skating, biking, water-skiing and sailing (she was part of the All Girl Crew on Catalina Island).

Svend and Rita met at a picnic in 1974 and along the way have managed to incorporate into their lives three dogs, one cat and about 15 fish.

Since putting down roots in Sequim, Rita has taken up watercolor painting and enjoys it immensely, but has trouble finding as much time to devote to it as she would like.

Besides being on the Board, Rita routinely helps out in the offices at Safe Haven, and at fund raisers and informational events. If PFOA has a table set up in some public place, you can pretty much bet that Rita will be there to help man it.

And, oh, by the way.....Rita participated in PFOA's highly successful 2004 calendar fund raising project. "Puss 'n Boots....and Fido, Too"——as a model!

Rita, for all you do, this thanks is for you!!

# Summer Weather: Hot Cars, Pets Are Often Tragic Mix

Despite all the warnings, we humans continue to make the tragic

mistake of leaving our pets in our parked cars for extended periods of time.

On a warm day, the temperature in a car can reach 120 degrees in a

On a warm day, the temperature in a car can reach 120 degrees in a matter

of minutes.

matter of minutes—even with the windows open. Temperatures even

lower than this can cause a pet to suffer brain damage or to die from heatstroke or suffocation.

Serious signs of heat stress are heavy panting, glazed eyes, unsteadiness or staggering, vomiting or

a purplish tongue. If your pet shows these signs, he or she should be taken to shade where cool (not cold) water is applied all over to help lower body temperature. Small amounts of cool water should be offered as well. Then, a direct trip to the veterinarian is in order. Heat trauma is an emergency and should be treated as soon as possible.

Any time of year can be an unsafe time to leave pets in a car, but summer is especially dangerous.

#### WHAT IS A CAT? WHAT IS A DOG?

—via the Internet, submitted by Connie Barr

#### What is a cat?

- 1) Cats do what they may.
- 2) They rarely listen to you.
- 3) They're totally unpredictable.
- 4) When you want to play, they want to be alone.
- 5) When you want to be alone, they want to play.
- 6) They expect you to cater to their every whim.
- 7) They're moody.
- 8) They leave hair everywhere.

**CONCLUSION:** Cats are tiny women in little fur coats.

#### What is a dog?

- 1) Dogs spend all day sprawled on the most comfortable piece of furniture in the house.
- 2) They can hear a package of food opening half a block away, but don't hear you when you're in the same room.
- 3) They can look dumb and lovable all at the same time.

- 4) They growl when they are not happy.
- 5) When you want to play, they want to play.
- 6) When you want to be alone, they want to play.
- 7) They leave their toys everywhere.
- 8) They do disgusting things with their mouths and then want to give you a kiss.

**CONCLUSION**: Dogs are tiny men in little fur coats.

# Memorials and Gratitudes

In Memory of Special People

In memory of Dennis Allen, from an anonymous friend

In memory of Dennis Allen, from Christine Allen

In memory of Dennis Allen, from Jane & Robert Andrews

In memory of Jody Hirleman, from Mary Ellen Barnett

In memory of Dennis Allen, from Alice & Harry Berejikian

In memory of Don Steen, from Dottie Clark

In memory of my mom, Marilyn Nelson, from Lori Crow

In memory of Dorothy Loftus, from Dorothea De Land

In memory of Dennis Allen, from Virginia Dunn

In memory of Dennis Allen, from Judy & Glen Foster

In memory of Norma McCormack, from Carl Lloyd Gay

In the name of Jeanne Martin, from Kathleen Godbe

In memory of Jody Hirleman, who loved her work with PFOA so much, from Stephanie & Lowell Grage

In memory of Dennis Allen, from Peter Grassi

In memory of Jody Hirleman, from Janet Harker

In memory of my mother, Marilyn Jones, who was a lover of animals—especially dogs and cats—from Diana Hough

In loving memory of Evelyn Hyde, from Mike & Ginger Hyde

In loving memory of Emily Fern Gillespie, and thanks for Buddy Boy, from Paula Johnson

In memory of Mr. Dennis Allen, from Helen E. Levine

In memory of Mr. Donn Steen, from Geraldine Lovett

In memory of Dorthy Loftus, from Margie A. Movius

In memory of Denyce Pine, from her friends Connie Rodriguez & Jane Kobel

In memory of Dennis Allen, from Elbert & Wanda Sanders

In memory of Virgil Sprague, who loved animals, from Maureen Sprague

In memory of Dennis Allen, from Barbara & Everett Stauffer

In memory of Dennis Allen, from J.N. Tucker

In Honor of Special Friends

In honor of Claire Bernard's 40th birthday, from John David and Linda Crow

In honor of Pam Foss and Donna Criscione for socializing Kona, Cheddar, Tiger, Moose and Bailey, from Wendy Detrick

To honor the volunteer work of Helen Miller, from Carl Lloyd Gay

In the name of the Patries (Ellen & Milton), for whom "Thank you" just doesn't cut it, from Lawrence Howard

# In Memory of Beloved Companion Animals

In memory of their dear friend, Marcus, from Galina and Harry

For Benjamin, "who could not wait for me" and left this confusing world for Paradise on May 25th, from Ann Gilson

For Dilly, who blessed me with her love for more than 18 years, and will be remembered as long as memory lasts, from Ann Gilson

In memory of Ann Gilson's Dilly, from Janet Harker

En memoria di mia cara Guilia—ti amo sempre, from Ann Kittrelle

In memory of our beloved kitty, Pepe, from Sally Ruud

In loving memory of my beloved cat, Katy, from Susan Tonini

In memory of Peaches, the Poodle, from Dot Traficante

In Honor of Special Pets

In honor of Mocha, with thanks for rescuing her, from Jeanne Colley

In honor of Tigger and Penny, from Earl Gilson

#### Predicament, cont.

—Continued from Page 1

He turned to flee, only to find himself trapped.

A woman came out a few minutes later, picked up Peaches and the trap, took him inside and called PFOA's trapping coordinator.

And so it was that Peaches, after a stop at the veterinarian's for a couple of days for an exam, shots, tests, neutering and a lot of friendly attention, came to Peninsula Friends of Animals.

First, he went to a foster home, and then was the very first cat to come to Safe Haven after it opened. Mr. Peach, as the volunteers there call him in honor of his lovely orange coat, loved his room, loved everyone, and purred and ate and played. His painful days as an abused stray were only a memory. Such a beautiful, loving cat. Every one was sure he'd be going to a home of his own within days.

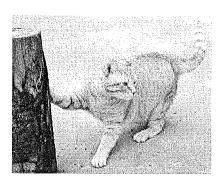
But within a week it became apparent that Mr. Peach had a problem which may have cost him his

original home, and would make it hard to find another for him.

Mr. Peach has a bowel condition called megacolon. It is treated with a special diet and daily medication, but even with treatment Mr. Peach has a small "leakage" problem every few weeks for a short time. Not often, and not much, but a problem to daunt the ordinary person looking for a companion. Even worse, probably because of fights with other strays at the park, Mr. Peach will not tolerate being with other cats. What a predicament.

Of course, Mr. Peach will always have a home with PFOA, but oh, how he wants a home of his own! He greets every one with trust and love, and his eyes ask, "Are you the one?" as he purrs and rubs his head against them.

Those of us who love and care for him hope that there is a home for him somewhere, with someone who wants only a single cat, has a house that can tolerate a minor accident now and again, and has a loving heart to match Mr. Peach's.



Until that wonderful person comes for him Mr. Peach would love to have someone sponsor\* him and maybe come to visit and play with him. We have also started a "Mr. Peach Fund" to collect money for an expensive operation by a specialist if and when it becomes necessary in the future.

For now, Mr. Peach takes each day as it comes, glad for food and safety and gentle hands. But always hoping.

\* See details of how you can become a sponsor of one of our "special needs" cats on page 6, or call (360) 452-0414 and leave a message for Donna or Gary to call and answer your questions about the program.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: Miskit Airth, Sherrill Bjorklund, J.M. Carras, Alice Clark, Sue & Hank Cram, Lori Crow, Cyndi Duval, Joyce Fell, Donna Gast, Glen Gast, Marilyn Gilmore, Linda Grubb, Roderic Grubb, Helen Holtzheimer, Michele & Norbert Juhasz, Janet Krantz, Louise Martin, Marie McCooey, Carol Nelson, Jim Nelson, Doris Nolan, Phyllis Rainwater, Lorena Strickland, Grace Wanrow, Nancy J. Watson, Sharon Vander Weyden, and Marci Wilson.

## PT Classifieds

Classified ads are \$5.00 plus 25 cents per word. Peninsula Friends of Animals reserves the right to reject any ad. Send payment along with your ad to PFOA/Newsletter advertising, PO Box 404, Sequim, WA 98382

FREE BUMPERSTICKERS! "SUPPORT SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAMS—Sterilize, Don't Euthanize." Available at Safe Haven

FOR SALE: VIEW PROPERTY with well, 5 acres, top of Hooker Rd, on Lost Mountain. (206) 364-1484.

PERMANENT HOME WANTED! Jack, a 3-year old Rottweiler-Shepherd mix is a good boy who is highly trainable. An owner with leadership skills can help him control his impulses. He loves humans, but his early life provided no guidance. Energetic, alert and a fun boy. 683-4238

PFOA DOG/CAT LOGO T-shirts, sweatshirts, drink coasters, computer mouse pads and more! E-mail magic@olypen.com

WANTED: Volunteers to help trap feral cats, transport for spay/neuter, return. Call PFOA, 452-0414

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Web site: http:// safehavenpfoa.org

# All About Ordering PFOA Merchandise

Although "sold out" in local retail stores, PFOA's 2004 fund raising calendar, "Puss 'n Boots ......and Fido, Too" is still available directly from PFOA. The calendar (featuring tastefully undressed female PFOA members of all ages posed with pet cats and dogs) is fast becoming a collectors' item as the second half of the year begins, but the expectation is that all orders placed within the next few weeks will be filled successfully.

Calendars are \$14.95 plus \$1.00 each for shipping. Orders paid by check or money order may be sent to PFOA, PO Box 404, Sequim, WA 98382. Credit card orders can be called in 24 hours a day to 1-800-701-0488. Those with internet access can visit the calendar website at www.charitycatcalendars.com and can order them directly off the site if they have online accounts with PayPal.

PFOA logo T-shirts, sweatshirts, computer mouse pads, drink coasters, barbeque aprons, napkins and other items can now be ordered directly from the local people who design and create these items for us. The mailing address for these is: Mountain Magic/PFOA Sales, PO Box 2204, Sequim, WA 98382 (check made out to "Mountain Magic"). T-shirts and sweatshirts are available in almost any color and are \$17 and \$22 respectively (XXL and XXXL are \$19 and \$26 respectively). Please add 8.3% sales tax and \$5.00 for Priority shipping. Contact Mountain Magic at the address above or via email (magic@olypen.com) for information on other products.

