

Please support homeless pets!

Animalfriends

Winter 2016 O F C O N N E C T I C U T

Animal Friends of Connecticut Changing Heart-wrenching Stories into Happy Endings

Cats at the AFOC Shelter



CHANCE came to AFOC after having been in a confrontation with another animal, probably a coyote. He managed to escape, but required several surgeries to repair his face. He now has

only a small scar below his ear. He is only about a year old, but has some digestive tract issues. Consequently, Chance is not considered adoptable. He will remain with us, pampered for the rest of his life.



HOUDINI is a beautiful long-haired orange boy. He was found abandoned in Canton and turned in to Roaring Brook Veterinary Hospital, who in turn, called AFOC. We brought him to our shelter. He had trust issues, but with love and attention, he overcame them.

He has since found his forever home.



MATTHEW and his sister came to AFOC with dental problems. We treated them both, but Matthew lost most of his teeth. His sister has been adopted. Since Mat-

thew needs a special soft diet, he will likely remain at our shelter for the rest of his life.

CHERISE'S two roommates were adopted and she was very sad. She and Matthew are now roommates and have become friends, but she would love a home of her own.



CURTIS saw his mother killed. When he came to the shelter, he was very frightened and struck out with his claws. Now, a year later, after lots of loving attention, he purrs when petted, eats out of volunteer's hands and even nuzzles noses with them. He would love to nuzzle with a permanent family.



SONNY was found with a wounded neck, probably the victim of abuse. Our veterinarians healed his wounds and he would love to be someone's only pet. He is a very sweet boy with a trusting nature. He's just waiting for a family he can bond with and show just how sweet he is.



By: Volunteer Jean Blackman



UNITED WAY

You can donate while at work by making a contribution to THE UNITED WAY. Just specify that your donation is intended for AFOC. Please use the following letters and numbers on the form: AG 0640.



Sunshine Fund

Sunshine was a dog that came to us many years ago. She was a Shepherd Husky cross and was found in a project in Hartford with one eye poked out by a stick. The owners signed the dog over to AFOC. We had her injuries treated and we found her a wonderful home. She lived to be over 14 years old. What happened to Sunshine was just the beginning of many years involved in rescuing injured and abused animals. This fund is in her memory.



I-GIVE MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS

Register with I-Give on line. Shop on line with major retailers and help AFOC at the same time! All consumer transactions will contain a percentage donated to AFOC.



Sponsorship Program

We have many cats that are not adoptable or hard to place. We are looking for sponsors willing to sponsor a rescue cat by helping to cover the cost of food, litter, and basic medicine. Our goal is to sponsor every cat.

ANOTHER CONVENIENT WAY OF GIFT GIVING!

You can now use your credit card and make a donation on-line through PayPal. Just go directly to our website for further details (www.afocinc.org).



Judy Levy, Director
Jo-Ann Regan, Editor

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(860) 827-0381
Newsletter e-mail: newsletter@afocinc.org

IN LOVING MEMORY

Linda: Donations were given in memory of Linda Arvonen.

Janet Griffin
Rudolf Braun
Linda & Charles Kniffin
Violet & Milt Winsor
David & Barbara Henri
Jeanne Fortin
Lauren Forrest
Leslie & Gary LeClaire
Elaine B West
Renee Burrus

Linda: A donation was given in memory of daughter, Linda Arvonen.

Eleanor Arvonen

George: A donation was given in memory of George Steinmetz.

Teresa Lapenta-Duffek

John, Edna & Erica: A donation was given in memory of John & Edna Shea & Erica Roraback.

George & Jacqueline Roraback

Linda: Donations were given in memory of Linda Lynch.

Ruth & Kenneth Caddick
Cheryl Follert

Margaret: A donation was given in memory of Margaret Rudewicz.

Jean & Dominick Donza

Bagel: A donation was given in memory of Bagel, a family pet.

Ellen Koch & Marty Shinder

Clover: A donation was given in memory of Clover, pet of Brian Mangue.

Mathew Pasternak

Emily & Bailey: A donation was given in memory of Emily & Bailey (Poopsie), forever in our hearts.

Lore Lutz

Cody: A donation was given in memory of Cody, a loving cat.

Carolyn & Michael Puhalski

Fox: A donation was given in memory of Fox.
Edward Hayden

Gypsy: A donation was given in memory of Gypsy, a sweet black and white dog.
Carol & Robert Phelan

Jonah & Blake: A donation was given in memory of Jonah, a cat, for Debra Lebel & Blake, a dog, for the Marshall Family.
Elizabeth Schiro

Kate: A donation was given in memory of Kate, cat of Jeanette & John Rhine.
William & Laura Kerrigan

Milagro: A donation was given in memory of Milagro.
Diane Bennett

Molly: A donation was given in memory of Molly.
Willa Nemetz

Oreo & Bud: A donation was given in memory of Oreo & Bud.
Diane & Stephen Hunter

Sammy, KitKat & Danny Boy: A donation was given in memory of Sammy, KitKat & Danny Boy.
Dorothy Duessel

Ziggy: A donation was given in memory of Ziggy, loved dog of the Lichsteiner Family.
Joan & Stuart Bolton

IN HONOR OF

Margot & Shawn: A donation was given in honor of Margot Koch & Shawn Griffan's wedding.
Ellen Koch

Dr. Morganti & Staff: A donation was given in honor of Dr. Morganti & Staff at Avon Vet Clinic.
Nicola Rubinow

Nancy: A donation was given in honor of Nancy Sanaola.
Eleanor Vaughan

Pat: A donation was given in honor of Pat Hirschy's Birthday.
Jennifer & Eric Pazdar

Mr. & Mrs. Einling: A donation was given in honor of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Einling.
Vivienne Dawn Maddox

Jacob & Joshua: A donation was given in honor of Jacob & Joshua's Birthday.
Elizabeth DeGroat

Sophie: A donation was given in honor of Sophie.
Janet & William Spargo

Fritz: A donation was given in honor of Fritz.
Linda & Douglas Smythe

Rex & Philly: A donation was given in honor of Rex & Philly.
Elyse & Kendal Franceschi

Bella, Louie & Terry: A donation was given in honor of Bella, Louie & Terry, dogs of a friend.
Jane Palzere

Sapphire: A donation was given in honor of Sapphire, an adopted pet.
Michael & Ann Buchas

Jennie (kitty) 3/17/98 - 1/10/15

Dear Lorrie,

You gave Jennie lots of love and a great home. Jennie loved you just as much. Jennie was so beautiful and precious. I share in your sorrow.
Love, Barbara

Freddie (kitty) DOD 9/23/15

Freddie, thank you for rescuing me and being my best friend. I miss you and your love, hugs and kisses. I feel so lost without you. Forever in my heart are you, Freddie, my love.
Love, Barbara

ADOPTEE STORIES

SAVING BUNNY (a.k.a. PIPPIN)

By T. J. BANKS & BUNNY'S FOSTER MOM

Marcus Garrett was visiting his grandmother in Hartford when he saw the stray, a long-haired, blue-cream female kitten.

There were men hosing down the back porches in the neighborhood, but they didn't see her, and the tiny stray was getting soaked. The 8-year-old boy stopped them. He then brought the kitten over to one of his grandmother's neighbor, who fed the strays on a regular basis.

"It's really nice to see that children can have concern for animals at such an early age," remarks AFOC Director Judy Levy. "He's smart enough to know who to go to in the building...to know who likes cats."

Marcus's concern for animals is just part of who he is, his mom, Tikea, says. "He cares a lot about stray animals. There's something about stray animals that catches his eye...and he's sad when I tell him we can't take it into our home." Marcus knew the neighbor would take care of the little kitten. She dried the kitten off and called Animal Friends of Connecticut.

Bunny was only about 6-7 weeks old when I first saw



her at the AFOC shelter in mid-September. She had just been brought in from the mean streets a few days before after being treated at Roaring Brook Veterinary Clinic in Canton. I picked her up to cuddle her and she was so thin, I could feel her bones through her fur! She weighed only one pound. I took her home, not only to give her the love she deserved, but to ensure, as well, that she put on weight.

I had her for five weeks, until we were satisfied that she was healthy and strong enough to put up for adoption. During the time I had her, it was clear that she was a strong-willed little survivor, a feisty girl who had overcome her rocky start in life. She twisted me around her little paw in no time flat.

A nice couple, Christine and Joe, came to see her and fell in love with her just like I had. They had recently lost their older cat to cancer, and were looking for a companion for their remaining kitty, Skittle. They took Bunny home and renamed her Pippin, "because she is such a Pip!"



Pippin and Skittle

Christine sent me an email with photos just before Christmas: "I just wanted to let you know that Pippin has been bringing such joy to our lives! When she's not wrapped around our necks like a scarf, she's playing with Skittle, or sleeping peacefully on the couch or sink. Last week she got spayed and had to spend the night. Skittle was searching the whole night for her! The operation didn't slow her down though. She came home and climbed right up the middle of the Christmas tree!! (I used plastic ornaments this year). I'm attaching some photos so you can see how she has grown!"



Clearly Pippin rules the roost! A happy ending all around.

Leaf Raking Party at the Shelter

The day after Thanksgiving dawned sunny and warm. The high for the day of 67 degrees broke the record. You could not ask for more picture-perfect weather for the volunteers assembled to rake the leaves from the shelter property. The side benefit was working off some calories from Turkey day.

Four volunteers (Pat, Kathy, Jean and Jennie) raked up 38 bags of leaves and stacked them at the curb in accordance with the New Britain's leaf pick up program. Judy Levy provided pizza for lunch and Pat provided chocolates for dessert. So much for burning calories!

The Shelter parking lot is now prepped for its next yearly challenge – SNOW!!



*Pat, Jennie and Kathy
Photo by Jean*

Record Setting Bake Sale

The weather was cold and blustery on October 17th when we set up at 9:30 for the annual AFOC bake sale at the Simsbury Stop N Shop. The weather seemed to hold down activity at the sales table. A lot of people just wanted to get into the store or back out to their cars. We had plenty to sell, with baked goods and candy from Carmelo Aresco, Julie Blackmore, Barbara Dennis, Erika Ekbert, Barbara Greenpeace, Michelle Laramie, Liz Neff, Joann O'Connell, Ed Paquette, Jill Perrault, Mary Skinner, Terri Wilson and myself. (My apologies if I've omitted anyone.)

Erika, Carmelo and I manned the sales table in the morning. Erika left around 1:00, but George Murtha and Donna Neary arrived to lend a hand. We closed things up around 2:30 so Carmelo, George, Donna and I could go home and defrost. George took left overs to two vet offices in Canton and I dropped off some at Avon Veterinary Clinic. Carmelo also took some of his delicious coffee cake to work and put out a donation box.

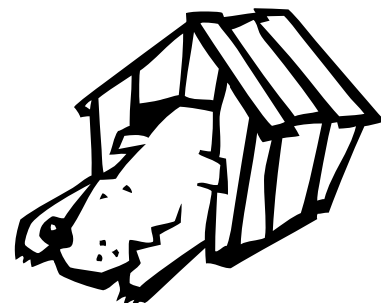
Expecting that we had made around \$500 to \$600, you can imagine how surprised I was when I counted up the money in my pockets and the two donation canisters. It totaled \$955.49. With \$47 that Carmelo collected at work, the bake sale brought in \$1002.49!

This is the first time the sale topped \$1000. Thanks to everyone who helped make it possible. Let's see if we can do it again in 2016.

Ruth Woodford

ANOTHER WAY TO HELP AFOC

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets you enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/06-1132973>, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the eligible charitable organization of your choice. It does not cost anything to sign up or add to your purchase price. It is totally funded by Amazon. Remember, when you are shopping on line with Amazon, go thru AmazonSmile instead and help Animal Friends of Connecticut at the same time.



THE PERFECT LAP CAT

At the end of July, our kitty of thirteen years passed away. She wasn't the most loving cat, but we loved her with all we had. As the days went by, I was really missing a cat's presence in our home. I started studying the pet adoption websites for a ragdoll cat, which I always wanted. One day on Petfinder.com, Georgette caught my eye and I have no idea why, because she looks nothing like a ragdoll. I even tried to talk myself out of meeting her, because AFOC was pretty far from East Haven, CT. The next thing I knew, my husband, Allan, and I were in New Britain on a Saturday before Labor Day. Georgette fell immediately in love with my husband and she had him at the first "meow." She curled up on his lap for close to an hour. We then went home and the only thing I heard the rest of the weekend was how loving, sweet, cute, pretty, etc. Georgette was. By the end of the weekend, I couldn't call Pat fast enough to say we'd like to have Georgette come home with us.

Since our new kitty came home from New Britain, which has a large Polish community (and I'm half Polish myself), we looked up the word "cat" in Polish and the countries in the surrounding area. We came up with the name "Kitska", which means cat in Ukranian.

We want to thank Pat of AFOC for helping us find Kitska. On Monday, September 7th, Labor Day, she came home with us. Not only is Kitska a very talkative kitty, she's also very smart. She knows when Allan will be home from work and waits, not too patiently, for him. When he comes home, he calls for her and she comes running down the hallway like a little puppy. She then meows him to death until he sits down with her to cuddle. I actually do get some quality time until then. She's very sweet and gentle when she plays and she's learning something new every day. She is the most perfect lap cat we could have hoped for. Now Kitska, Allan and I are living happily ever after.

Myliisa Quagliano



Please reach into your heart and give what you can afford to help these animals get a second chance in life.

Your gift is tax deductible.

We would be happy to talk with you about endowments, grants, gifts-in-kind, corporate sponsorship or other long-term support. Please call us at (860)827-0381

Animal Friends of Connecticut, Inc

P.O. Box 370306

West Hartford, Connecticut 06137-0306

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|---|--|
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- I'd like to help. Volunteers please call 827-0381.
- I am interested in becoming a member. Please add me to your mailing list to receive the newsletter (new members only).

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