

Pet Tidings



Published by PENINSULA FRIENDS OF ANIMALS, home of Clallam County's only cageless, no-kill pet sanctuary and adoption center, Safe Haven!

Little Janie, Fortune's Child

By Ann Gilson

You could say that Fortune smiled on little Janie in that at least she was not born feral, but it was a very weak and tentative smile.

Janie was born early this spring to a young mother whose owners had not been able to afford to have her spayed. Nor could the family afford regular cat food, flea control, shots, etc. However, they saw a PFOA poster and called to see if we could take the litter of three kittens.

When they described the situation, we responded quickly with food from our Emergency Food Shelf. A volunteer then



Janie was given another chance at life with love and care.

visited to check out the kittens, and immediately took them after arranging to have the mother spayed through our spay/neuter program.

The kittens were not in good shape and volunteer Donna Novak was worried as she took them straight to an excellent local veterinarian.

Janie's siblings, Dooley and Josie, were in fair condition, but Janie was

not. At 10 weeks of age, she only weighed one and a half pounds, was loaded with internal parasites, and was diagnosed with severe congestive heart failure. The vet advised immediate euthanasia for Janie.

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 cats and dogs through progressive spay/neuter and educational programs; and to place as many homeless, neglected, and abused animals as possible into good, safe, permanent homes.

Turn to Page 3



Sadie

ADOPTED!



Manny



Louis

SEE PAGE 10 FOR MORE ADOPTEDS



Sparky

It's kitty-puppy love!



See Page 7

Peninsula Friends of Animals

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Pet Tidings

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Pet Tidings welcomes submissions in the form of letters, photos, and stories. We reserve the right to edit any submission for space and clarity. Please keep letters brief; send photos in high resolution via e-mail to pettidings@olympen.com. Other correspondence can be e-mailed to pfoa@olympen.com.



From the Editor's Desk

Most of you probably read the news story that appeared last month in both local newspapers about PFOA's establishment of two endowment funds.

We've wanted to do this from the beginning, but couldn't decide how to proceed. Then earlier this year the Sequim Community Foundation generously offered their experienced help. Things moved quickly after that, and through them we have established funds for two very different purposes.

As you know, endowment funds accept gifts and then invest them over a very long period of time, spending only a portion of the interest or earnings while allowing the principal (hopefully) to grow and continue to generate earnings for the organization they support.

Our general purpose fund is the Peninsula Friends of Animals Fund, to be used for whatever the Board of PFOA determines is its best use. Returns from its investments may be used for operating expenses, capital improvements, or to support any of our programs. This flexibility will mean that it is always able to be used where most needed. It will be funded by donations, bequests, gifts, plus earnings from its principal.

The Lifetime Care Fund, on the other hand, will be funded primarily by gifts and bequests from those who wish to provide care for their cats (and depending on circumstances, their dogs) when they are no longer able to. One of the most tragic situations for which our help is sought is one in which a beloved pet loses its guardian to death or a move to a rest home. If no family or friend can assume its care, the situation is desperate for pet and owner.

Sometimes such a cat can come to Safe Haven, but most often we are full or the cat is essentially unadoptable. Seldom are we able to

help. It is truly heartbreaking.

When we are able to build our new Adoption Center, Safe Haven will become a Cat Retirement Home. The Lifetime Care Fund will make it possible for up to 55 cats to live out their lives there in cageless comfort with loving care. We advise that cats of 7 years or younger be made available for possible adoption through PFOA to carefully screened loving homes if their owner is willing.

The money for the Lifetime Care Fund will be bequeathed in advance by the owner for the care of each cat, and eventually earnings of the fund may make it possible to accept a few pets whose care is partially subsidized.

Through our association with the Sequim Community

Foundation we have arranged that the oversight and disbursement of the money in those two funds will be done by the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation. This is a very large foundation with long and extensive experience in its field, and we are very fortunate to have secured its assistance.

We're really excited about these new options for giving, which are now available to all the folks whose generous support undergirds everything PFOA does for pets, cats and dogs alike, in our community. Money for immediate needs will always be most urgent, but attention to the future is now possible, as well.

For more information about either the Peninsula Friends of Animals Fund or the Lifetime Care Fund, please contact:

Executive Director Janet Harker
PFOA, P.O. Box 404,
Sequim, WA 98382
or e-mail pfoa@olympen.com

Information will soon be available on our website at www.safehavenPFOA.org.

The Editors



Janie and her sisters find a home together

--Continued from Page 1

But Janie didn't want to die. Her tiny heart was laboring frantically to keep going, and her eyes said, "No! I can make it if you'll just help me." So Donna called Kim Pruitt, our shelter manager, who said, "No, absolutely not! Bring her in and I'll take her to Dr. Johnson. We're not going to let her go without a fight."

So within an hour, Kim and Janie were on their way to Dr. Ginny Johnson in Port Hadlock. Dr. Ginny is a fighter, too, and has pulled more than one of our dogs and cats through. Kim kept telling Janie as she drove, "Hang on Janie, Dr. Ginny will fix you." And Janie hung on.

Dr. Ginny took one look at Janie, said, "Oh my," and got busy. A thorough exam, an ultrasound, and a period of concentrated thinking. Then a worm pill, a shot, a bottle of Lasix and another of a cardiac drug for her heart.

"Let's try this — she'll need a Lasix and a heart pill twice a day for 3 days, but needs to be checked every couple of hours and extra Lasix given if she's retaining fluid — and you'll need to hand feed her as well. Call me right away if you have any problems," said Dr. Ginny. And when Kim asked for the bill, Dr. Ginny said, "Don't worry about it," as she has done time and again for PFOA cats and dogs.

A grateful Kim took Janie home with her and followed directions faithfully. She took Janie to work with her the next day. Volunteers Donna and Ed Novak took her for the next two days while Kim was out of town, then Kim cared for her for the next two weeks. Janie seemed to know Kim



Josie, now Tula, in back, and Dooley are Janie's sisters. All three were adopted by the same family.

was helping her, for she never fought the pilling, and soon ate voraciously on her own.

After two weeks she came to Safe Haven, down to one Lasix and one heart pill per day. Her heart had slowed down and didn't have to work so hard to keep going — in fact, she was as lively as any kitten in the shelter. Everyone who visited or worked with her at Safe Haven loved her sweetness and her spunk. Still tiny, and probably always will be, she thinks she's as big as anybody — a little queen.

In the meantime, Daniel and Linda Schultz of Sequim had decided they had been without a cat long enough, and came to Safe Haven to find one. What they found were two kittens, Dooley and Josie, Janie's litter mates. Josie (now Tula) and Dooley loved their new home, and the Schultzes loved them.

But they had heard about Janie, who was still at Kim's when they adopted Tula and Dooley, and were curious about her. So when Janie

finally came to Safe Haven, they came over one day just to see her — and fell in love with her, too!

At nearly four months of age, Janie still only weighed two pounds, six ounces, but she was healthy, friendly and frisky. Like some kittens with her condition, supported by skilled veterinary and devoted home care, she had "grown out" of the problem. She was down to a tiny fragment of Lasix each day and would soon be off all medication.

So just past the middle of July, Janie (who became Tawanda) went home with the Schultzes to her forever home, to spend the rest of her life with the same kittens with whom she began it. And with a now-sound heart and loving care, she, like her siblings, has many happy years ahead.

Fortune's smile is broad now, strong and hearty, as she gazes at Janie/Tawanda. Maybe even a chuckle, who knows?

Common myths about spay/neuter

Myth: "Only females need to be 'fixed,' since the litters are their owners' responsibility."

Fact: But how do those pets get pregnant? A male pet can easily father hundreds of offspring in his lifetime. (And if he gets into a neighbor's yard and mates with the "wrong" female, her owner could sue.)

Safe Haven ADOPTABLES!

A Study in Black and White . . .



JoBeth

JOBETH is, unfortunately, “people-shy.” This makes her harder to adopt, and she’s been at Safe Haven two years now. She’s an excellent hunter and spends most of her time on the patio being a cat, watching the birds and deer. Won’t someone with a “cat safe yard” give her a chance to patrol it? We’re sure that with love and time this little lady will turn her into a “person-devoted” cat.



Lucinda

LUCINDA is almost pure black with just one little white spot. She’s a young lass, about 2 years old, and her figure shows it; she’s slender and lithe, like a beautiful little panther. When the sun shines on her, you can see some of her “black tabby” marks. Lucinda is affectionate and wants to be loved and adopted into her forever home.



Ace

ACE is black and white with a charming little “bow tie.” He’s thought to be about a year old. He’s an adventuresome guy who’s almost always happy. He was found at a hardware store, but was never feral and he enjoys attention. He could be a great choice for a family with feline-trained kids.



Suzie

SUZIE, age 2, is a sweet little girl. She’s adventuresome, liking to roam the cat enclosure looking for excitement. She’s one of those Safe Haven kitties who gets overlooked by adopters because she’s quiet and self-contained and not much of a cuddler. But that also means she’s a cat who doesn’t make excessive demands, is content to watch, but isn’t timid. With some TLC and time, Suzie could be the perfect match for a working family.



Martha

MARTHA, age 8, has been at Safe Haven since it opened. She’s quiet and gentle. She’d be an excellent choice for older adopters since she has very low demands and is easy maintenance with her short hair and calm disposition. Martha is a “talker.” Speak to her and she’ll answer back! She’s a lovely kitty with a darling personality.

Please call PFOA’s message line at **360-452-0414** to talk about any of these featured pets; a volunteer will return your call. Or go online to see many others at www.safehavenPFOA.org

Friends, members provide new roof at Safe Haven

*By Angus Trent
Volunteer Property Manager*

After many years of service, the roof over the shelter provided PFOA with one leak too many. It was no longer cost effective to repair, and damage was accruing to the structure and could compromise its integrity if left to continue without immediate action. The Board decided to reach out to our members and supporters by sending out an urgent appeal.

On behalf of PFOA, the board members profusely thank all those who so generously gave to the fund, making it possible to replace the roof and gutters during the month of June. Care and maintenance of Safe Haven is critical if we are to continue to provide sanctuary for animals we care for into the future.

The old roof had two layers, a

fully developed “moss garden,” a “bird-bath” (a flat depression which leaked several times over the A4 kitten room), and two chimneys that had leaked despite four past attempts to prevent them from doing so. After removal of the material down to bare wood, we discovered dry rot, wet rot, and carpenter ants, requiring quite a number of patches and reframing of the entire roof over the kitten room. It was decided to remove the chimneys.

To complete the refurbishment of the roof and accessories, we needed to replace the gutters and down spouts which, upon inspection, contained 30 leaks, mostly at the seams, which



A new roof solved all leaking, rotting problems.

had resulted in some damage to the wooden building structure and contamination of the cat enclosures below. The damage has been repaired and the building has been partially repainted by volunteer labor.

A history of the roof project, complete with photographs and full documentation has been kept and is available upon request.

More Safe Haven ADOPTABLES!



Piper

PIPER is an extremely friendly female who’s between 2 and 3 years old. She has a very pleasant purr-sonality. She loves people but can hold her own with other cats, so a multi-cat family shouldn’t be ruled out. She’s not at all bossy with the other cats in her room, but she’s definitely telling us it’s time for a home of her very own.

... and a Coat of Many Colors!

LEXI is a beautiful, long-hair tortie. She’s loving and sweet and will purr up a storm if you pet her. About 5 years old now, she’s an “alpha cat” who will want to run your household. She overeats out of boredom so having a multi-cat family, or lots of people around to give her attention and activity toys would be a big plus for Lexi. A little diet control would be good, too! She loves to snuggle, so don’t lock her out of your bedroom at night. Lexi must have a home where she can be the boss — no other dominant cats, please.



Lexi

Please call PFOA’s message line at **360-452-0414** to talk about any of these featured pets; a volunteer will return your call. Or go online to see many others at www.safehavenPFOA.org

Ask PFOA: How can I save \$\$ on pet expenses?

By Ann Gilson

In this era of rising unemployment, \$4+ gasoline and skyrocketing prices of food — and almost everything — many of us with pets are looking for ways to control expenses for their care while maintaining a good quality of life for them. There are no new, easy, magic solutions, but only old, tried and true ones.

Food is no doubt the number one expense for most pets, and quality is very important. “You are what you eat” is as true for our pets as for ourselves. But remember sales? Remember stocking up? Remember quantity discounts? We need to buy differently, more like our parents or grandparents did long ago.

Grocery stores, drugstores, pet shops, and farm stores all regularly have sales on pet foods. Make it your goal never to have to buy pet food except when on sale. When Friskies is 35 cents a can, or whatever Fluffy likes is 1/3 to 1/2 off, buy six months’ worth of canned food for her or three months worth of dry. Stick it underneath the bed, in the (dry) basement, in the bottom of a closet, or stack it in the living room with a tablecloth covering it. When there’s a real deal and you have a lot of pets, 10-15 cases are not too many.

Start watching for another sale about six weeks before you run out. You’ll save not only a lot of money, but time and gas on trips to the store. Stockpiling not only saves money and time, but is great for disaster preparedness. Earthquakes, terrorist attacks, and avian flu are all only remote possibilities, but your preparedness is a *free* side effect of your frugality.

Ask for a quantity discount when you buy food not on sale — most places will give 5% off on cases. Dry food is usually cheaper to feed than wet food of the same quality.



If you can use larger sizes of wet or dry food the unit cost is usually less than smaller sizes. Above all, avoid “treats”! They are hideously expensive and most are *not* good for your pet. Obesity leads to poor health and high veterinary bills. Most of us overfeed our pets, and we should not.

Litter. No, it is *not* cheaper to make your cat an indoor/outdoor cat! Vet bills are more expensive than litter, by a long shot. So again, buy on sale and in quantity to save. Litter doesn’t spoil or grow stale, so if you have a dry place to store it, buy up to a ton if the savings are great enough. Its price, like all prices, is going to keep going up in the foreseeable future.

Regular grooming is very important for the health and comfort of pets that need it. Don’t skimp in this area. But do your very best to do your own grooming if you can. Buy good quality proper tools — nail clippers, combs of various kinds, mat breakers, hair clippers. Get good shampoo and conditioner, styptic pencil or powder, and whatever else your pets require. Be calm and gentle. Unless you are an expert, you may find a very large dog, a fancy clip, or an irascible cat beyond you, but it’s amazing what most owners *can* accomplish.

Lastly, toys and furniture, those luxuries that seem like necessities and do enhance your pet’s enjoyment of life. In this area, it helps to look at things from the pet’s viewpoint. They are interested in *function*, not appearances.

We can buy Fluffy a catnip filled “mouse” that is somewhat mouse-like in appearance for one to five dollars. Or we can take a square of old material from a worn towel or shirt, fold it in half, stitch it by hand or machine around three sides, put some homegrown dried catnip in it, sew the end shut, and voilà, a perfectly satisfactory (to the cat) oblong catnip “mouse” for no cost at all. And if you don’t want to sew a mouse, just put the catnip in an old sock and tie a knot in the ankle portion. Old Fluffy will enjoy it just as much.

A large paper grocery sack or a large cardboard box with a couple of holes cut in the sides, turned upside down, are two cheap and always satisfying cat toys. So they don’t look all that classy in the middle of the living room — do similar items made in China of plastic or polyester look that much better, really? The cats are enjoying them, and you can always toss them in the recycle bin when the cats lose interest or you’re tired of looking at them.

Dog toys? Again the faithful old sock, this time an old work sock that’s still pretty sturdy. A big knot in each end and you have a fine tug or toss toy. (If color coordination is important to you, buy future work socks to match your décor!) An old tennis ball, or a worn softball for really big dogs, is a great favorite. As long as *you* are playing with him, Fido doesn’t really care what toy is involved. A stick thrown and retrieved gives hours of exercise and fun for a dog.

Turn to **Saving money** on Page 7

Gypsy and Luna — true love at last

By Nancy O’Gorman

When Pam Gillen of Sequim found a lactating chow-retriever mix on the road five years ago, she tried to find her owners. Unsuccessful, she adopted the sweet dog and named her Gypsy. Pam and her husband, Jim, had several adult cats, but Gypsy ignored them, and their home was harmonious.

As a PFOA volunteer, Pam fostered kittens every now and then, which is when Gypsy would show an interest in the feline species. Upon hearing kittens cry in the night for food, Gypsy would express great maternal concern. But it wasn’t until PFOA asked Pam to foster the latest kitten in May that Gypsy made a statement by her actions: “I want to keep this one!”

Pam named the light, fluffy kitten “Luna” — short for “Lunatic” and, as Pam says, “He glows in the dark.” At only five weeks of age, Luna found a surrogate mother in Gypsy, who would lick, cuddle, and protect Luna like he was one of her own puppies. Pam was always careful to make sure Gypsy was gentle with the bathing, and Luna loved the attention and returned the affection.

The two are firmly bonded and now, at several months old, Luna is slightly more independent. But his favorite place to sleep is still curled up against the tummy of his warm chow-retriever “mother.”



“Meet a Volunteer” series will return next issue

Saving money on pet care can be easy and fun

--Continued from Page 6

Why do we think our pets need or want bright plastic toys to add to our landfills?

Beds and cat trees and other furniture are not really necessary – our own beds, chairs, and tables work fine for our pets. But if you already have stuff it can be refurbished for little or no

money and only minimal skills. An old beach towel can be wrapped around a cat-bed or cushion, or cut and sewn into a “new” cover by the needle-handy. Scrap carpet can re-cover a cat tree in part or whole. An old bed pillow (you haven’t one? Try Goodwill or Serenity House) in the bottom of a basket or box does fine for a cozy sleeping spot.

In short, to save money without

reducing the quality of your pets’ lives, you should shop wisely, look at function rather than appearance, give your own time and attention to Fluffy and Fido rather than buying more stuff for them, and hone your own skills rather than hiring others, when possible.

Happy, healthy pets need not be expensive pampered pets.



“Dear Peninsula Friends of Animals . . .”

Dear PFOA,

Just a short note to let you know Tazz has made himself quite at home.

Tell Sharon Q. and Liz we love him very much.

**Rose M. Rose
Renee Lambert**



**Dear “Mom Janet”
and “Auntie Kim,”**

Thank you for putting MY picture in (the Summer) *Pet Tidings*. I am VERY proud that I now have a forever home, too!

Besides, I am very pretty and I make the newsletter even better.

**Love,
Miles Schindler**



Dear Friends at PFOA/Safe Haven~~

My husband and I have chosen to spend our “stimulus check” to support our favorite charities.

You are one of my favorites because I became the lucky human of Vinnie — aka Charlie — just over a year ago. He’s my love, brings me joy and lives *every* day to the fullest.

Thanks for all you do. Spend the enclosed check as you wish.

Sincerely,
Patsy Simpson and Vinnie

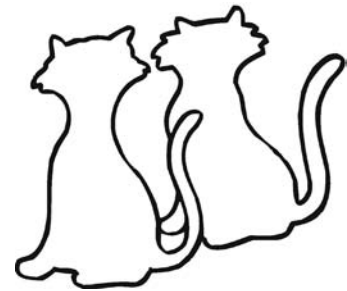


Hello PFOA,

Here are our new babies playing and snoozin’. Too wonderful! They have new names: The white and brown tabby is Mouser. The all-gray tabby is Sasha. The black and white kitty is Spooky. We’re busy kitty proofing our home and having fun. They go to the

vets this afternoon to introduce them to Dr. Andi and to check ears and such. Thanks for your love and care of these treasures.

Kathryn and Neal



Hi, Just wanted you all to know how much we are enjoying our new kitty. We have renamed Tickle Tabby. We named him “Buttons.” He is such a lovable, energetic kitten. Eating well and no accidents. You all did such a good job. He is a real “people” cat. He takes turns sleeping on our laps. (Of course, this is after he has worn himself out playing). We love him. Thanks again,

Dolly and Vern Sprague

Dear PFOA,

My girlfriend Vicki and I adopted Ajax, one of Bess’s kittens, over a year ago. We just wanted to say how much we love him. He is the most beautiful and lovable cat we could ever ask for. His new name is Moe. The reason for the e-mail is to ask if we could bring him over to visit all of you. I don’t know if other people do that, but we can’t help but show him off. We often wonder if everyone there wonders how their adoptees are doing? Please let us know if we could bring him by to say hi. Thank you,

Cliff Heater

“Dear Peninsula Friends of Animals . . .”



Dear PFOA,

It’s time we both acknowledge Sweetie Pie’s transformation. To start with, we are consistently using the new name we gave her, which is Thistle. It seems to suit her well; her coat reminds me of the color of the plants, she is pretty like the flower, but still a bit wild and possibly prickly.

I had to leave my husband and Thistle home alone for a week last week. Thistle and John had a break-through while I was gone. After 2 or 3 days of her usual ultra-cautious behavior around him, she jumped into his lap, talking and butting her head to be petted. She even jumped on the bed that night and slept with him.

In short, she is settling in and learning to be a part of the family. I’ve taken her twice to Petco for a mani and pedi and both groomers pronounced her “the sweetest cat ever,” which is how I suppose you guys settled upon her original name.

Take care and keep up the good work.

Jonell Allamano

Dear Friends,

Just want to say “thanks so much” for the help with Jack’s dental surgery (11-year-old male cat). He had six extractions, including the right incisors, so has to adjust his eating, drinking and bathing. But he’s doing well. One good result — his breath is no longer rancid!

Thanks again,
Linda Rhodes



Dear PFOA,

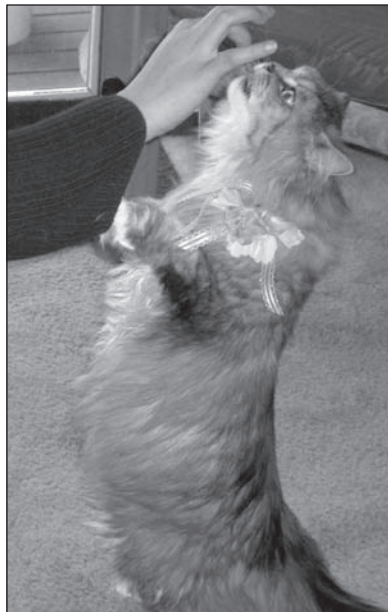
Now that Rory turned one year old in late April, I thought I’d send you some pictures to show you what a gorgeous young cat she has grown into. Rory is a real delight: Playful, sweet, mischievous, affectionate, quirky, smart — just absolutely adorable! She still “helps” me with the pot holders and will run upstairs to the sewing room every chance she gets.

Thank you for all you do for the kitties and other pets, but especially thank you so much for Rory.

Carol and Dar Gearey

Dear PFOA,

I’m writing to send a little update on Angel (we call her Kitty VonSchtupp here), whom my husband and I adopted a couple years ago now. Also, I’m looking into doing some more volunteer work. Your place would be my first choice. Do you need volunteers? (I’m great with bathing, grooming and general love). I hope you are all doing well in your kind venture there, keep up the good work! **Karen Swarm**



Dear PFOA,

Just wanted to let you know Paddy Paws (now Kali) is completely at home. It took her a few days to stop following me around the house, but now she’s content to fall asleep in one of her favorite places (the bay window overlooking the front yard where she can watch birds and squirrels and on the back of the couch) and stay there even though I leave the room for a while. She’s really talkative and affectionate. I couldn’t be happier to have her as my family. We play every day until she gets tired out. She’s happy here. Thank you for her.

Andrea Aufieri

Look who's been adopted!



---Continued from Page 1



Marin



Mika



Tango



Belle



Gillespie



Brady



Belinda



Bodette



Bobette



Janie



Dooley



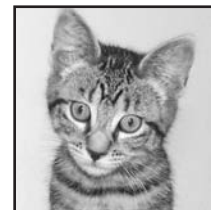
Josie



Sam



Sadie



Trisket



Twizzle



Sampson



Iris



Nelix



Dolly



Ritz



Pele



Spats



Dewey



Bonnie



Tickletabby



Spunky



Apollo



Not pictured:

Hot Rod (aka Bristol)
Pretzel (aka Gabby)

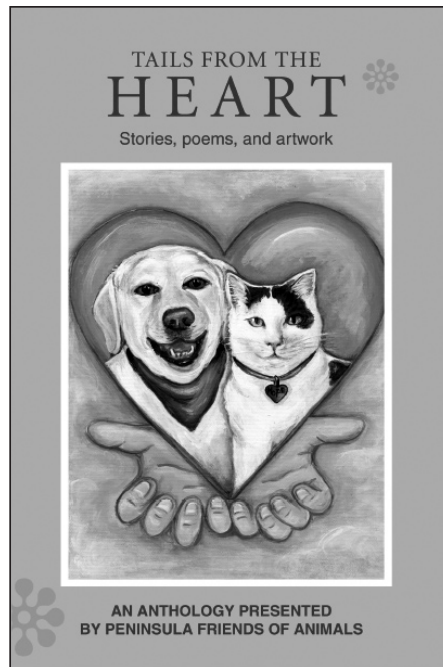
Tails from the Heart will warm your heart

It started more than a year ago as an idea from a group of writers who were discussing how difficult it is to get a book published these days.

Spearheaded by Susan Skaggs, she took the idea to the PFOA Board: Would they be willing to pay to publish a book about companion animals as a fundraiser? Susan's writers group, (Susan along with Erika Hamerquist, Joan Worley and Morgan Van Dyke) would run a contest and select the winners. They would edit the stories and poems and submit them to a print-on-demand publisher. It would include an art component to the contest with the winning artwork serving as cover art for the book.

And the group was pretty certain they could get Nebula Award-winning author Elizabeth Ann Scarborough of Port Townsend to help judge entries and submit a story, too.

That long-ago discussion has at last led to publication with *Tails from the Heart: Stories, Poems and Artwork*, now available for purchase.



At \$17.95 for a paperback edition or \$6 for an Adobe eBook, the anthology can be ordered from iUniverse.com, Barnesandnoble.com or Amazon.com.

In September there will also be copies available for purchase at Safe

Haven and selected local outlets.

Book signings by authors and artists will follow — in Sequim, The Buzz will host a signing on **Saturday, Oct. 11, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.** at 128 N. Sequim Ave.; in Port Angeles, Port Book and News will sponsor a signing on **Friday, Oct. 24, at 7 p.m.** at the Raymond Carver Room, Port Angeles Library, 2210 S. Peabody St.

Forty authors, poets and artists of all ages and from all over the United States participated in the book. Linda Kemp's painting of her paraplegic dog, Maggie, and PFOA's own cat, Hope, is featured on the cover. Ann Gilson's "Haiku for the Fallen" won the "Best in Show" category.

For a preview of *Tails from the Heart* go to iUniverse.com, click on the "Bookstore" tab, and search by title. The cover, the introduction, and 13 pages of the book are on display.

And yes, Elizabeth Ann Scarborough did help judge the contest. Her story "Mu Mao and the Court Oracle" is the last one in the anthology.

Sparky finds his sparkle again, and love along the way

by Susan Skaggs

Sparky was about the saddest dog I'd ever seen when Pam Winney of Friends of Forks Animals dropped him off for me to foster. He wasn't eating well—not surprising. He had a mouth full of rotting teeth and his breath smelled as foul as an outhouse. He was obviously in a lot of pain from that neglected dental work.

He was also confused and sorrowful. His owner had died five months ago. Since then he'd been given to his former owner's friend, who'd passed him on to a couple in The West End. They couldn't keep him either since the wife was allergic. They didn't know what to do with a little unhappy dog in need of expensive dental work. So the wife called Pam to inquire about where she could find humane euthanasia somewhere.



Sparky

Pam took one look at Sparky and knew he was a prime candidate for adoption, so she took him home with her. A couple of days later, she handed him to me, his fifth home in five months!

He was "seventeen pounds of cute" in an orange-red hue, and desperately looking for someone to love him. He was a perfect gentleman, having no "accidents" despite the series of strange homes. He didn't bark, and he didn't stray when let off leash. He liked nothing better than riding in the car or taking walks with a human companion. And when he smiled, Sparky melted hearts.

I learned from Pam that Sparky was 8 or 9 years old—no one knew for sure, only that his previous owner had rescued him from a humane society eight years before. No one was sure of his breed either. His coat had the color and some of the characteristics of a Pomeranian. But his body was long and heavy with short legs like a Lhasa Apso's. He had Pekinese ears, and his face, though not as flat, had some of the characteristics of that breed.

Turn to **Sparky** on Page 15



Memorials and Honorariums



Memorials given in honor of a deceased pet, in memory of a friend or family member, or Honorariums to thank special friends are a lovely way to say "Thank you" or "I love you" or "I miss you." A public statement of remembrance can help bring closure or soften grief, as well as honor a loved one. (Please try to keep memorials to three or four lines or less — about 15-35 words — for space consideration. We do not publish photos of pets here).

In Memory of Special People

- In memory of our son, **Brian R. Robinson**, from **Albert and Beverly Robinson**.
- In memory of **Dorothy Lewis**, from **Clyde R. Stice**.
- In memory of **Gail Wollman** who loved her cats, from **Helen Hille**.
- In memory of **Rosemary Hutter**, from **Connie Rene Smith**.
- In memory of **Rosemary Hutter**, from **Geraldine Lovett**.
- In memory of **Rosemary Hutter**, from **Elsie M. Stockton**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Arrow Launch Service**.
- In loving memory of **Bernice (Boots) Cochran**, from **Vicki Webster**.
- In fond memory of **Patty Hart**, a true friend of PFOA and to all animals, from **Jess and Janet Harker**.
- In memory of our dear, departed friend, **Barry Sullock**, from **Albert and Virginia Friess**.
- In memory of Dr. Sharon Jensen's mother, **Bernice Cochran**, who recently passed away, from **Mike and Carol Howard**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Veronica Lindstedt**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Arnold Hale**.
- In fond memory of a dear friend, **Barry Sullock**, from **Mary Jill Klay and Murray Hayes**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, who was so often there when needed to transport the cats, from **Gary Del Mastro**.
- In memory of Penni, Sherill and Bruce Allen's husband and father, from **Gary Del Mastro**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Linda Sweda**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, a great man and animal lover. We will miss you terribly. From **Tammy White and Joy Kennedy**.
- In memory of my friend, **Barry**, and his faithful companion, Hannah, from **Judy Hendrickson**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Shelley Taylor Morgan**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Pat Perry Nix**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **D. Fay and Michael Alton**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Ann W. Penn**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Anne Headlee and David Tourtelot**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Mary and Francis Busch**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Catherine C. Van Winkle**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Jess and Janet Harker**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Joanie and Michael Schmoll**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, one of my favorite Brits, from **Rita Hayward**.
- In memory of **Jim Benedict**, from **Rita Hayward**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Dr. and Mrs. James P. Zettas**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Olympic Gentle Paws**.
- In memory of **Barry Sullock**, from **Chris and Claire Cornell**.
- In memory of **Carol Curcio**, from **Lucy Martin**.

In Memory of Beloved Companion Animals

- In loving memory of **Blizzard**, Yvonne Martineau's best friend and the light of her life. Blizzard had gorgeous baby blue eyes and long white fur. In spite of his rough kittenhood because of being born totally deaf, Blizzard turned out to be the most lovable and sweet cat and constant companion, from **Laurie L. Cox**.
- In loving memory of my beloved 16-year-old tabby, the sweet, gentle giant who gave so much love and affection. I miss him so. From **Jerry McClinton**.
- In memory of **Red Sonja**, from **Chuck and Georgia Duschka**.
- In memory of **Riley**, Marilyn Clark's dear canine companion of 14 wonderful years, from **Ann Gilson**.
- In memory of gallant little **Linsey**, a radiant soul in an old and worn body, who blessed my home with her presence the last few months of her life, from **Ann Gilson**.
- In memory of my beloved kitty, **Sato**, who shared her life with me for 15 1/2 years, from **Faye Hayden**.
- In loving memory of our dear Pekingese, **Tiny**, who was with us for 13 wonderful years. He is greatly missed by us and his Peke sister, Gigi, who were best buddies and playmates, from **Richard and Sally Ruud**.
- In memory of Tina Olson's **KC**, from **Rory Haggerty**.
- In memory of our **Millie**. "When it is painfully clear that death is the *only* way out, the decision must be made to let that beautiful spirit continue on its journey. That is the final act of unselfish love." I will miss you, Millie, from **Connie Smith**.



Memorials and Honorariums

- In memory of my gentle giant, **Dinky Doo**. How my heart breaks when I look around for you. I loved (love) you so very much. Dink would have been 17 years old this November. He was my support and always with me during my illness. From **Jerry McClinton**.
- In memory of Faye Hayden's cat, **Sato**, from **Patty Dearing**.
- In memory of Nancy and Dallas Campbell's special kitty, **Chester**, and devoted canine, **Mickey**, from **Gary Del Mastro**.
- In memory of **Jack**, whom Jeff Carpenter and Sue Burns rescued from malnutrition and neglect, and nourished with quality food and love, from **Gary Del Mastro**.
- In memory of **Shields**, whose heartbreaking, tragic, terrifying and painful few days were turned into love and safety by Dr. Melissa Smith, PFOA, Janet and Jess Harker, and Joelle Pederson, from **Gary Del Mastro**.
- In memory of **Smudge**, beloved cat companion of Lynn and Sheldon McGuire, from **Dorothy Thompson**.
- In memory of Nancy and Dallas Campbell's **Chester**, from **Jess and Janet Harker**.
- In memory of our **Smudge**, from **Jess and Janet Harker**.
- In memory of my "**Kitty**," from **Virginia Green**.
- In memory of Mom, Virginia Green's cat, "**Kitty**," from **Lynn McGuire**.
- In memory of **Pat**, the beloved feline companion of Mary and Ed Crumley, from **Judy Price**.
- In loving memory of my dear **Mai Tai** and of Nancy O'Gorman's beloved **Champ**, feline sisters, who lived 17

- happy years and then both crossed the Rainbow Bridge in May, '08, from **Ann Gilson**.
- In memory of brown-tabby **Champagne (Champ)** and black, fluffy **Mai Tai**, two of the sweetest kitties that ever lived and will be missed forever, from **Nancy O'Gorman**.
- In memory of **Champ**, a loving kitty companion and a beloved family member, from **Kendra Rand**.
- In memory of Ann Gilson's **Mai Tai**, a gentle and darling kitty, from **Kendra Rand**.
- In memory of **Lucille (Lucy)**, Hannah Swimmer's kitty from childhood, from **Nancy O'Gorman**.
- In memory of the long life of **Chester**, dear cat companion of Nancy and Dallas Campbell, from **Ann Gilson**.

Honorariums

- In honor of **Brian Robinson's birthday**, from **Karen Robinson**.
- In honor of **Nancy Toepke**, from **Dorothy Thompson**.
- In honor of **Ann Gilson**, who loved and cared for Mai Tai so well for almost seven years, with gratitude from **Nancy O'Gorman, Rocky Rudolph, and Kendra Rand**.

A Soul Mate Is So Much More

A soul mate's more than one you marry,
more than your best friend;
One who stands beside you,
until the very end.

One who can comfort you,
with only just a glance.
One who walks beside you,
with every given chance.

Little Red Sonja has given all her love;
And always will forever
looking from above.

Never to be forgotten,
the times you did share;
The love you've always given,
always so aware.

Her memory lives on and on,
and it shall never cease.
Red Sonja will be forever missed;
Our soul mate,
Rest in Peace.



Samantha Gush, 2007

We are deeply saddened by the recent death of one of our devoted volunteers, Barry Sullock. Barry and his wife, Thelma, socialized cats and kittens at the shelter and transported many of them to various appointments. They often answered the call to help fold letters and copies of *Pet Tidings* for our regular mailings.

Barry and his golden retriever, Hannah, were also actively involved with Gentle Paws, a group of folks who are trained to make therapeutic visits to medical facilities and schools with their pets. Thelma plans to be trained so that she and Hannah can continue this special work of Barry's.

Barry's gentle, compassionate presence will be greatly missed at Safe Haven. We are glad that Thelma plans to continue the work with PFOA that was so important to them both.

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 By Appointment

Mews from the board



After PFOA facilitated 637 spay/neuters of cats and dogs in 2007, we again set a goal of at least 700 for 2008. As of the end of July, the number was 397. A big thank-you to volunteers who put up flyers in Port Angeles and Sequim, our volunteer spay/neuter coordinator, Sharon Palmer, and the participating veterinarians!

REMINDER!

MEET, GREET, AND APPRECIATE Open House will be held on Sunday, Sept. 28, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at The Gathering Place in Sunland, 135 Fairway Drive, Sequim. PFOA members, volunteers, and authors/artists of "Tails from the Heart" are invited for snacks and drinks. See you there!

Buy a cute gift, help PFOA

Looking for a cute cat-related T-shirt, mug, tote, or cap for yourself or as a gift? Consider going to PFOA's new online shop at Cafepress.com/pfoa. Right now, there is one cute logo available on a variety of products — a photo of five orange kittens adopted out from Safe Haven a couple of years ago along with the quote: Four out of five kittens agree: "Meow."



Four out of five kittens agree: "Meow"

All proceeds go *directly* to PFOA. As more artwork, photos, and quotes are collected, more will be available for purchase and the online store can expand. And if you have an idea for a cute, original quote that would work well with a cat or dog photograph, please suggest it to Nancy O'Gorman by e-mailing her at pettidings@olympen.com. It could be a lot of fun.

And remember — four out of five kittens agree!

PFOA's "official" logo T-shirts are available for purchase, as always, along with tote bags. The items are created by our longtime volunteer, Pam LaLonde, who has been providing quality T-shirts since 2001. Stop by **Safe Haven** to buy one — or two — *today!*

THE CLASSIFIEDS

■ **PFOA WISH LIST:** Paper towels, bleach, wet/dry dog- and cat- food, (for pets of low-income community residents), piddle pads, vinegar, pet carriers, trash bags (from Costco, 13-gal., also 10-gal. wastebasket liners), laundry and dishwashing detergents, cat litter, fresh catnip or cat grass.

DARE TO DREAM:

Decorative bark, outdoor storage shed, a tractor for mowing fields, two generators.

■ WANTED ~ VOLUNTEERS:

MEDIA COORDINATOR — to place advertisements and announcements in local newspapers and be responsible for publicity on radio, in newspapers, etc., including writing press releases.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR — to help attract and organize volunteers for various jobs at Safe Haven and those who work from home.

LIGHT GARDENING — for weeding and maintaining front garden area at Safe Haven.

Call 360-452-0414 to inquire about our classifieds.

Sparky goes everywhere with them in the car

--Continued from Page 11

So he was advertised as part Peke and put on PFOA's website and on Pefinder.com.

Dr. Ginny Johnson in Port Hadlock was enlisted to do his dental surgery, and she pulled many of the rotting teeth. As soon as the pain in his mouth subsided, Sparky began to eat. He smiled more. He still loved his walks and his car rides, but most of all, he loved to sit in my husband Chuck's lap and rest his head on Chuck's shoulder.

PFOA member Kathy Larson brought Sparky to Clover Gowing's attention. Kathy had seen him when Chuck and I brought Sparky to a PFOA membership meeting and knew he'd be perfect for the Gowings, a retired Sequim couple. Clover wasn't quite sure that she and her husband, Parker, were ready for another dog.

"Don't let this one get away," Kathy advised her. "He's the one."

They didn't, and he is. He's now Clover's companion on

long walks through their neighborhood. He goes everywhere with them in the car. And he sits for hours in Parker's lap resting his head on Parker's shoulder. But best of all, he has a new forever home to smile about. And smile he does — often. He even barks — but only occasionally, and only when he's protecting his new family from someone knocking at the door.

Can you foster a small dog?

PFOA is desperately in need of foster homes for small- to medium-sized dogs. Most dogs stay only a week or two while necessary medical procedures are performed. Others may stay a month or more. PFOA pays all expenses for its animals while in foster care. Please consider fostering. For a dog like Sparky, you can be the difference between life and death.

Peninsula Friends of Animals

P.O. Box 404
Sequim, WA 98382

Phone: 360-452-0414
Fax: 360-452-0412
E-mail: pfoa@olypen.com



Dates to remember:

■ **The PFOA Board meets** at Safe Haven from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the **third Wednesday of every month**. The public is welcome to attend. Members who are interested are encouraged to come and observe.

■ **Safe Haven shelter is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.** It is closed Sunday and Monday. Please call **360-452-0414** to leave a message if you would like to visit; appointments are required.

■ **Book release, reading, and signing party** for *Tails from the Heart: Stories, Poems and Art-work*, PFOA's latest fundraiser, will be held on **Saturday, Oct. 11, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.** at **The Buzz**, 128 N. Sequim Ave., and on **Friday, Oct. 24, at 7 p.m.** at the **Port Angeles Library**, 2210 S. Peabody St.

■ **Meet, Greet, and Appreciate Open House on Sunday, Sept. 28, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.** at The Gathering Place in Sunland, Sequim.

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I WANT TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION!

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_____ Emergency Medical Fund; _____ HOPE Fund for PFOA's handicapped pets

I would like to sponsor an adoption-challenged pet who is currently in your care.
I will receive a photo and history of that animal.
_____ \$10 per month; _____ \$120 per year _____ \$500 for the animal's lifetime

I would like to become a member. Please send me the Membership Application.
_____ I am prepaying my \$20 yearly membership fee.

_____ I am renewing my membership.

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<http://safehavenPFOA.org>

Peninsula Friends of Animals, P.O. Box 404, Sequim, WA 98382