

# Pet Tidings



Volume 12, Issue 1

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

Serving the community since 2000

## Herman's long tale

By Ann Gilson

**H**erman's long tale, at least the part we know, began in the Sequim area some two years ago.

Before that there is only a blank, but it is likely that he and his brother were unwanted by their original owner and were "dumped" when about 6-8 months old, left to fend for themselves in an area strange to them.

They were first observed by a woman who was a bird lover, who saw them drinking often from her bird bath. She didn't want them preying on the birds she fed, so when she found that they were reasonably tame she ran a lost and found ad to try to find their owner.

There was one reply, and although Herman's brother, whom the woman had caught, was not the cat being sought, the seeker asked to adopt him and he was turned over to her. But Herman, now wary, avoided capture.



**Herman**

Somehow he managed to survive the terrible winter of 2010-11. He grew to be a huge 20-pound black short-haired beauty, obviously an excellent hunter. When spring came he again started coming to the bird bath for water.

*Continued on Page 3*

Peninsula Friends of Animals has always been and continues to be an independent group.

### 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.



**Maui**

**ADOPTED!**  
SEE PAGE 11  
FOR MORE



**Daisy**



**Callie**

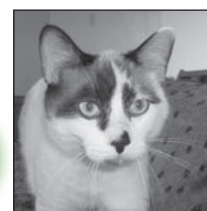


**Evan**



**Freckle**

SEE SOME  
PETS AVAILABLE  
FOR ADOPTION  
ON PAGE 6



**Charlie**

### Update on Frosty and Snowman



*See Page 7*

## Peninsula Friends of Animals

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(360) 452-0414

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### Pet Tidings

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## From the Editor's Desk

As the “recession” drags on and draws more and more hardworking folks into its maw, and as each day more local businesses fail, local jobs are lost, local homes are repossessed, and local families file for bankruptcy, it is very hard not to become fearful of the future. If not for ourselves, we are concerned for our friends, our neighbors, our extended families.

But no matter how frightened or gloomy we may sometimes be, there is much reason for hope — and yes, for gratitude. We at PFOA, like everyone else, have been hard hit by rising prices, enormously increased demands for our services, reduced income and all the other problems associated with “hard times.”

But there is one thing we can hold onto for hope, and for faith in the future — YOU!

That’s right — you and the other members of PFOA and our contributors and supporters, plus all of the Good Samaritans who labor, unrecognized, to help the helpless and forgotten animals who live in this beautiful world with us.

The caring and the compassion and the

generous-heartedness we see displayed every single day, by you and those like you, keep us going in the face of all odds.

It is you who, often at considerable personal sacrifice, keep our shelter open and food, litter and medical care available to pets who would have nothing without your help. Your efforts and sacrifices make it possible for many cats and dogs to be spayed and neutered each year, preventing untold suffering and early death for tiny puppies and kittens. You contribute not only money, but time, that most precious resource, to socialize kittens, make potholders, help with garage sales, and to spread the word about PFOA to those who need our services.

Without you, PFOA would be only a dream, not the 12-year-old reality that serves animals and people in our community, now more than ever.

Yes, we do need you, and we are very grateful for you, our friends and partners. We will keep going, whatever the future brings.

We are glad to have you with us, and we thank you.

*The Editors*

## Callis Insurance among pet food donors



**From left, Laurie Fineout, Andy Callis, Anita Bonham, Melissa Middleton, and Julie Jeromchek of Callis Insurance donated more than 160 lbs. of pet food to Safe Haven in January. See related story about PFOA’s Pet Food Drive on Page 4.**

## Herman: People-loving and everybody's friend

---Continued from Page 1

This time the woman called for assistance from Mike Love, who owns Clallam County Animal Carcass Removal Service, to trap him for her. Mike showed up at Safe Haven, Herman and trap in hand, one Saturday morning to ask if we could possibly take him in. Unfortunately, we were full.

Mike said he seemed like a nice cat, but would probably be euthanized as a feral if he was taken elsewhere. The woman, not uncaring, had sent along a \$75 donation. Herman *did* seem like a nice cat who deserved a chance after having survived without help for so long, so we agreed. Mike and trap left. Herman stayed.

Now what? Quarantine was full, and he couldn't enter Safe Haven until he was quarantined for two weeks. But where there's a will, there's a way, so off he went to the vet and then into a big deluxe dog kennel next to the garage! A little nervous and shy at first, he turned into a big old sweet creampuff who loved to lie on his back

and have his tummy rubbed. He loved *everybody*, and purred at the least bit of contact.

When he joined the other cats in Room B-2 he got along beautifully with them, and rushed to meet every visitor to the room. Naturally, it wasn't long before an adopter fell for him and took him home. "How wonderful," we thought.

Well, not really. Two weeks later he was returned by a tearful guardian whose heart was broken. Herman had made life a misery for the 15-year-old resident cat, even attacking her, because of his excessive affection for his new owner.

Herman was subdued for a while, but soon another adopter, who had recently lost a beloved old black male cat, fell in love with him. This person had two remaining younger black cats, and was sure that they and Herman would get along. Herman had been getting along fine with the other cats since his return, and we didn't realize how domineering he could become in his desperation to have a guardian to himself, so off a happy Herman went

to his new home. Shortly there was another sad return.

Poor Herman — his own worst enemy. He would have to wait for an "only cat" place, and that could take a while. It did, but fortunately his luck finally did change. In December, people-loving Herman *did* find his forever home, and a couple and their 8-year-old daughter Mary found their dream cat.

The Darcys wanted a cat who liked people, *all* people, as they host groups, four months of the year, on an 86-foot *sailing* ship! Their pet could not be timid or shy, but one who is "everybody's friend," and Herman is certainly that. And he will be an *only* pet, never again to compete for attention. The whole family really loves him and is thrilled to pieces that he's come to live with them.

And Herman? Well, Herman is as happy as a cat can be — three humans all to himself and not another cat around! His long tale is best finished with that classic ending, "And they lived happily ever after." ♣

## Mews from the Board

**Essential to the end of animal suffering** is an active, aggressive spay/neuter program that will reduce the number of unwanted and abandoned cats and dogs. This is the heart of our Mission and the reason for our monthly spay/neuter clinics for low-income families so flawlessly coordinated by board member and volunteer Sharon Palmer.

Because of the economy, it is becoming more difficult for some of our citizens to make a co-pay, so PFOA recently had a "Nickel Neuter" event and 37 tom cats were neutered for the co-pay of just five cents!

In February, Spay/Neuter month, Sharon organized a clinic and the plan was to have at least 20 free spay/neuters funded by Sequim Community Foundation, PFOA and individual donors.

The effort was as successful as the Nickel Neuters, so there will be many fewer heart-wrenching stories of abandoned baby animals.

And let's not forget the hard work done by our dedicated volunteer, Barbara Bolles, who has been coordinating our important Trap-Neuter-Return Program for years! Innocent "community cats" (abandoned, lost, dumped and only sometimes feral) deserve to be free of the added burden of feeding their offspring while they struggle to stay alive out on their own.

Their litters are usually feral from lack of human contact and are quick to reproduce. Several donors have taken a special interest in these unfortunate animals and have made donations specifically to support this program.

If you wish to help provide more free or low cost spay/neuters, just say so on your donation. Directed donations can only be used for the purpose specified.



*Diane Lopez, President*

# Big thanks to all who helped with pet food drive

By Susan Skaggs

**Three separate pet food drives** that brought in more than 1,500 pounds of food and litter and over \$400 in donations were held during December to restock the Pet Food Bank at Safe Haven. This pet food is used by low-income folks in Clallam County who are having trouble providing for their animals. The goal of the pet food giveaway is to keep cats and dogs in their own homes with the people who love them.

Staff and clients of Callis Insurance in Sequim donated over 160 pounds of food and cat litter that Andy Callis and Melissa Middleton delivered to the shelter. They also featured PFOA in their own newsletter.

Airport Garden and Nursery of Port Angeles held a pet food drive for PFOA, too, and matched what was given with a donation of their own.



**PFOA volunteer JoAnne Alford unloads donated pet food at Safe Haven.**

They delivered 520 pounds of food to Safe Haven on Jan. 4.

PFOA's own First Annual Pet Food Drive took place in December as well. It was headed by PFOA volunteer JoAnne Alford with initial setup done by Constance Authier. It netted over 1,000 pounds of dry food and cat litter, 200 cans of pet food and more than \$400 in donations. Helping in this effort were Bill Marschner, Elissa Hinson, Betty Gordon and Michael Moss.

Businesses that provided locations for donations were: Port Angeles Safeway (east), Patricia's Pet Shop, Tiny Bubbles, Sequim Safeway, Goin' to the Dogs, Greywolf Vet Clinic, Country Care Vet Clinic, Best Friend Nutrition, Co-op Farm and Garden, Changes Hair Salon, Frick's Home Health, and Fabulous Nails.

Plans are underway to share whatever can't be stored at Safe Haven with the Sequim and Port Angeles (people) Food Banks.

We are very grateful to everyone who participated, from those who set up and/or ran the drives to everyone who donated (and to those who donate to the Pet Food Bank on a regular basis). The fantastic success of these pet food drives couldn't have happened without you. Thanks to all who participated, many hungry critters will go to bed with full bellies and clean litter tonight. ♣

## Renovations made to Safe Haven buildings

By Susan Skaggs

**Thanks to the generosity** of PFOA supporters, many needed improvements have been made to the Safe Haven shelter.

Several years ago, a pole barn was constructed thanks to a donation provided by someone who fosters many of our adoption-challenged cats. She became seriously ill and wanted to be assured these cats would have a forever home if something should happen to her.

Recently, we were able to add a much-needed kitchen area (for preparing cat meals and medicine) to the pole barn, as well as extra electrical outlets, washable walls, floors that can be hosed down, and screen doors for ventilation.

The pole barn will soon have a covered entry/patio area also, making this area with its "cat safe" fencing a permanent home for those cats who are unlikely to ever be adopted.

PFOA also received an anonymous donation last year to renovate the trailer PFOA had purchased to house FIV/Felv cats and kittens. More and more cats with this condition, which is not life-threatening, are coming into care at shelters across the nation. These infected cats can be adopted (and

some from PFOA already have been), but cannot be housed with non-infected cats.

This trailer has already been used for FIV/Felv cats, and housed ringworm kittens away from the general population this past summer. This winter, with no residents present, it was painted, new windows and doors were installed, and steps and a landing were added to the outside.

PFOA now has a spacious, comfortable area for infectious cats coming into our care. Another donation has been promised and is expected soon that will allow us to construct decking by the back entrance and put in fencing, giving the cats in this building a safe outdoor enclosure as well.

PFOA was recently the recipient of a generous bequest, which is making it possible to update and improve even more areas of Safe Haven. The heater in our main building needed a second major repair recently, and due to its age, will likely have to be replaced soon. Thanks to this bequest, when the time comes, PFOA will have the money set aside to replace the furnace.

Pet Tidings will keep you posted as these exciting changes happen at Safe Haven, thanks to you, our generous supporters. ♣

# Meet a Volunteer: Bill Marschner

By Nancy O’Gorman

**Bill Marschner found** his niche at Safe Haven as a handyman but he started out as a cat socializer. When he decided to be a volunteer, it seems he and the staff at Safe Haven were a perfect fit for each other.

The Michigan native and former Coast Guard captain moved to Port Angeles in 2000 from Bainbridge Island where he’d lived for nine years. He was still working on boats — and also had a career as a broadcast technician — when arthritis struck, preventing him from performing the physical demands of those jobs at the required level. But “rocking chair” isn’t part of Bill’s vocabulary. As a retiree, he had a lot of work left in him for the more manageable tasks.

Bill became familiar with PFOA years ago by reading its quarterly newsletter, *Pet Tidings*, learning about community programs for animals such



**Bill Marschner**

as spay/neuter and emergency pet food drives — and that PFOA was a no-kill organization. “It seemed interesting and a good thing to be involved in,” Bill said.

At first he gave PFOA monetary donations. Then, since he’s always enjoyed cats and being around them — and his then-landlord didn’t allow pets — Bill volunteered to be a cat socializer. That was back when he was still working, which eventually took him away from volunteering for three or four years. After that, the arthritis took him away from work.

So it was in the Spring 2011 issue of *Pet Tidings* where Bill saw an ad for someone to hay 20 acres at Safe Haven.

“I used to do lawn maintenance, pruning, and upkeep on other properties

in the past,” Bill said, “so I went in to talk to Sherry Creech (business manager).”

He got the job, started cutting Safe Haven’s tall grass, and eventually took on more responsibilities, turning into a much-needed handyman. Some of Bill’s chores: fixing a broken garbage disposal, building a cat door between cat rooms, re-covering cat trees with carpet and sisal rope, and building garage shelving to hold donated emergency pet food. He is also organizing the tons of pet food with PFOA volunteer JoAnne Alford.

Bill works four to five days each week and says Sherry keeps him “as busy as he wants to be,” handling most of the building-related projects.

And the cats? Bill adopted Kiara, a Maine Coon mix; his current landlord said a small pet would be just fine.

“I’ve had Maine Coons before,” Bill said. “I like their personality, the way they carry themselves. She’s a cutie and real smart!” ♣

## PFOA receives \$200,000 for building fund

**Since its inception**, PFOA has had a goal of building a new, state-of-the-art shelter and turning the current shelter into a long-term care facility for aging felines.

Thanks to an anonymous donation of \$200,000 that dream is coming closer to reality.

On Jan. 9, staff at U.S. Bank’s Sequim branch (which handles PFOA’s donations) presented an over-sized check to Diane Lopez, PFOA president, Janet Harker, PFOA Treasurer and Sherry Creech, PFOA’s Business Manager.

This \$200,000 donation joined with the \$200,000 already in the building fund, puts PFOA almost half way to reaching its goal of \$1 million to finance a 6,240-square-foot facility.

The donation has been ear-marked by the donor for the building fund, and can’t be spent on anything else.



**From left, Georgia Gale, bank branch manager; Marc Lawrence, bank relationship manager; Diane Lopez, PFOA board president; Diane Fletcher, bank investment representative; Donna Meyer, USBank’s senior financial adviser; Sherry Creech, PFOA business manager; and Janet Harker, PFOA treasurer.**

“We are so incredibly grateful,” Diane Lopez said. “We’re still going to need a fund-

raising campaign, but this donation makes a huge difference. A new building suddenly seems obtainable.” ♣

## Safe Haven **ADOPTABLES!**

# Teenagers... without the attitude!

There are currently more healthy cats 2 years or younger at Safe Haven than we have had in a long while. If you're looking for a feline friend (or two) to give you many years of love and devotion, please check out our youngsters by visiting our website or seeing the cats in person at Safe Haven.



**Connie**



**Bonnie**



**Maci**



**Maddy**

**CONNIE** and **BONNIE** are tortie sisters about a year old. They are very sweet and affectionate. These two girls have been inseparable since coming to the shelter. Adopting both together will give double the pleasure, and half the work, as they will be self-entertaining.

**MACI** and **MADDY** are two sisters with longish black hair. They were born last April and are as sweet as can be. They love to play, purr and knead. They'd make a lovely "matched pair" in their new home.



**Mittens**

**MITTENS** is a young, small, short-haired tabby who came to the shelter with her sister. Both cats were pregnant, and Mittens had six very beautiful kittens. She is a polydactyl (extra toes) with a face as cute as can be. She's affectionate but shy with strangers. She gets along well with other cats, but will need a home without children.

**SPRINKLES** is a shy, 1-year-old female Siamese mix. She's a little beauty with haunting, aqua-blue eyes. She was part of a litter rescued as older kittens who weren't well socialized. She was adopted with a companion kitten who died, and Sprinkles' owner didn't want to keep her when she recently moved. After losing both her sibling and her home, Sprinkles has had a hard time adjusting to life at the shelter but she's beginning to purr and interact with volunteers. If you have the time and patience for a kitty who needs a helping hand, you could make a huge difference and turn her into a loving friend and life-time companion.



**Sprinkles**



**Louie**

**LOUIE** is a young male who showed up as a stray at the home of PFOA supporters. When his owners couldn't be found, he was brought to the shelter. Louie is a wonderful brown and black tabby who gets along with other cats and likes everyone he meets. He's a gorgeous, laid-back love of a cat. Louie would fit in with almost anyone willing to provide a soft lap and good chow!

**ISIS** is an adorable little champagne-colored tabby. She and her two kittens were abandoned. Her kittens were now gone to great homes, and Isis is ready for a home of her own. She is friendly, playful and outgoing. This little beauty would be a great addition to your family.



**Isis**

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](http://www.safehavenPFOA.org)

# Blind and deaf dogs land perfect home — finally!

By Susan Skaggs

## “They’re happy.”

That’s the thing Sarah Bird most wants people who care about Frosty and Snowman to know. Indeed, contentment does reign in the Bird household on this winter afternoon. Sarah talks quietly while Snowman cuddles in her lap, almost asleep. Frosty rests happily by her side.

John and Sarah adopted the blind and deaf dogs a year ago. Sarah was looking for a small dog at that time, preferably a white one, since Trooper, their white German Shepherd, (also a rescue) was primarily John’s dog.

“I like small dogs,” Sarah says. “I’m learning to like large ones, but small ones are my preference.”

She saw Frosty and Snowman’s picture and thought they’d fit in well with their animals and that she and John could handle them.

Frosty and Snowman, half Lhasa Apso and half Shih Tzu, came into PFOA’s care as puppies in the spring of 2009. They both had Waardenburg Syndrome, which is responsible for their hearing and vision loss. (See Pet Tidings, Spring 2009.)

They were fostered by a PFOA

board member until a home was found. That family had an active life style with children and other dogs, and the puppies thrived. But their family’s move to Scotland made it necessary for Frosty and Snowman to find a new home. That’s where the Birds came in; they agreed to take the two little dogs as a foster-to-adopt placement.

“I had to be sure they’d all get along before we could make it permanent,” Sarah says, referring to Trooper and the Birds’ five cats, all of them strays or rescues.

“I didn’t think the boys would bother the cats,” she adds.

For the most part they don’t. Frosty, who hears and sees a bit, will gallop after a cat if he notices one, but he’s unable to catch it. Snowman pretty much ignores the cats. Trooper, on the other hand, is a good buddy to the smaller dogs when he isn’t off hunting or fishing with John.

Frosty and Snowman are sturdy little dogs weighing about 25 pounds each. They’re stockier than when they were in PFOA’s care, having obtained their full adult weight.

“They’re fun,” Sarah says. “They’re good guys. Since they’ve always been loved and protected,



**Frosty and Snowman as puppies**

they have no fear. They don’t know they’re different. They think this (their handicap) is normal.”

The biggest challenge? “The barking,” Sarah answers quickly. Frosty, especially, greets those who enter the household with barking and even a few growls, but Snowman, seeming to sense his brother’s barks, will pitch in. Frosty barks at the cats, too, although Sarah isn’t sure whether he actually hears them, or only thinks he does. But overall, the placement is working very well for the family, and the two newest members of the Bird household have found their niche.

“We’re comfortable living together,” Sarah says. “They’re not much different or harder than other dogs. As long as we don’t move the furniture, we’re fine.” ♣

## Safe Haven ADOPTABLES!



**Jack**

**JACK** and **MAX** were born in June and are handsome, long-haired, gray “teenagers.” Jack is larger than Max, but they are both big sweethearts with lots of love to give some lucky family. They look like little gray lions prowling their room at Safe Haven! These two must be placed together.



**Max**

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](http://www.safehavenPFOA.org)



# “Dear Peninsula Friends of Animals . . .”

**To all the good people and the beautiful animals at PFOA,**

Many of you probably remember Tamara, one of your “adoption challenged” cats. I knew she was the cat for us since I first saw her photo and video online. It was so surprising to discover that, in five years at the shelter, no one had asked to adopt her. I guess some things are meant to be. Of course, there was a period of adjustment. But we couldn’t ask for a cat with a sweeter, more loving personality. She is a delight.

Although I was concerned at first that taking her from the shelter after all those years might be a disservice to her and her caretakers, I’ve come to realize that what she, and undoubtedly what all the shelter animals want, is love, and a “forever home,” and being a beloved pet. Tamara is a living example of this.

Please accept this small gift (I wish it were more) for all those animals who are still yearning for homes. Sincerely, **Sasha Sterling and Curt Mcbeth**

**Dear PFOA,**

I have enclosed a recent picture of Lorelee (Loretta at the shelter). She is 5 years old now and, as you can see, a very happy and contented kitty.



I adopted her from your shelter in August, 2010.

I’m so glad to have her — she’s just a joy! She and my 10-year-old cat, Maggie, are friendly toward each other now. It took quite a bit of time mostly due to Maggie being the anti-social one.

This small donation is to help with the wonderful work you do.

**Pat Wilson**

**Dear PFOA,**

I bought some potholders at the bazaar — they are beautiful. Great fundraiser!

**Emery and Lila Winters**



**Dear PFOA,**

Have a fabulous and prosperous New Year’s and Christmas. Many folks have kittens to thank for you all. We love you! ~~~ **Ellen Morrison**



**Dear PFOA,**

Merry Christmas and I hope that the New Year brings homes to our “kitties.”

**Les and Lynne Stuhr**



**Dear PFOA,**

Happy Holidays to all staff and volunteers at your wonderful group. ~~~ **Jeanne Noyes & Smudgie**



**Dear PFOA,**

Thank you all, and special meows from Mr. Wilson, who oversees our “rescue” care. We love him!

**Tara Sparkman and Craig Andrews**

**To Nancy Campbell,** staff and the wonderful army of volunteers at PFOA,

Thank you for my wonderful big orange cat Darby, and a giant thanks for helping me find a home for my little white rescued cat, Sweetie.

Bless you for all you do.

**Donna Davis**

P.S. If you have a building fund, that’s my first choice, as an adoption facility would be a dream, but PLEASE, use this check where you see your greatest need.



**Dear PFOA,**

We adopted Tigger (renamed Fudge) in March 2011 from PFOA. He is doing very well and is a great foster brother to kitties we foster from the local shelter.

Thanks for helping him find his forever home with us!

**Cara McDermott**



# Annual Membership Meeting Scheduled for May 23

**Peninsula Friends of Animals'** annual meeting will be held at Lazy Acres Clubhouse, 111 Dryke Road, Sequim, beginning at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 23, 2012.

Please bring a snack — sweet or savory — to be shared during the social hour.

The reports, plans and elections

will begin at 6 p.m. Please carpool if possible as parking is limited at the clubhouse. Overflow parking is available at Robin Hill Park across Dryke Road.

Non-member supporters of PFOA are welcome to attend but may not vote on member issues. There are no by-law changes

scheduled for consideration at this time.

Board President Diane Lopez is requesting that PFOA supporters who may be interested in ensuring the future of PFOA by serving on the Board contact her through an e-mail to [pfoa@olyphen.com](mailto:pfoa@olyphen.com) or leave a message at **360-452-0414**.

## “Dear Peninsula Friends of Animals . . .”



**Dear PFOA,**

Hello!

Our Karmaela (Cortana originally) is such a little lover and though she's very shy with strangers and basically a one-person cat (my husband wishing she'd sit on his lap), she will only rub against his leg and allow him to pet her when she's on her cat tree. She runs and hides at the sound of a car, and we doubt that will change. In February she will be 9, she's been ours for two years. She's a happy girl and makes me very happy!

Thanks for all you do to make a difference in our community. Sincerely,

**Judy Palumbo-Gates**

**Dear PFOA,**  
To PFOA and all the kitties, thank you for all you do to help cats in need and helping with spay/neuter assistance.  
**Linda and Ted Dennis and our kitties**



**Dear PFOA,**

Thank you for all you do.



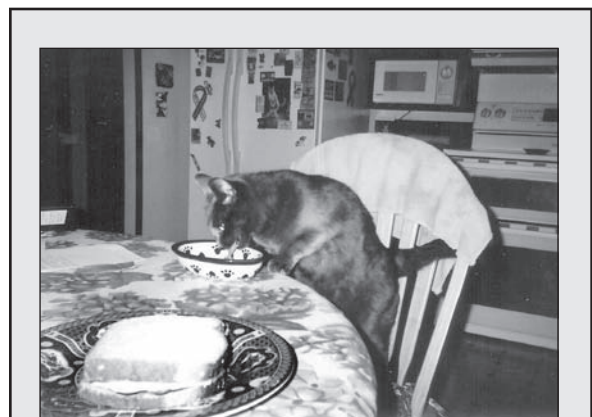
**Stu and Chris Estes**, proud parents of Teddy and Maggie Mae, aka Bingo and Jenza



**Dear PFOA,**



We love our babies that we got from you six years ago. Comet was Fagin and Thistle's littermate and Tazz, our 4 year old grey silver tabby we got two years ago. ~~~ **Rose M. Rose**



**Dear PFOA,**

The Princess Mews and I would like to thank you folks for the generosity and kindness you unselfishly give to our “little friends” who are so often ignored and kicked out in the cold.

**Michael Snyder and the Princess Mews**

# Ask PFOA:

By Julie Coyle

**Y**our dog just busted a toe nail and it's bleeding everywhere. Your cat has a fish hook through his lip. Fido just sampled the prize-winning foxgloves out in the front yard and it's after hours, the weekend, and there's not a vet in sight.

What do you do?

First, don't panic! Every pet owner goes through at least one harrowing moment with their pet's health. Luckily, there are steps you can take to be prepared for these nerve-racking, and sometimes scary, experiences.

Our first reaction is usually to grab the phone and immediately call our trusty veterinarian. Certainly there are times when professional medical attention is needed, and quickly. But there are circumstances, such as a busted toe nail, that can be dealt with at home by using a few handy items and a little know-how.

If you don't have a pet first aid kit in your home, I highly recommend one. The ASPCA website offers their own version and a comprehensive list of items if you wish to make your own. Tweezers, hydrogen peroxide, and saline eye wash are just a few of the essentials you might include.

As for that bleeding toe nail? Having styptic powder or a styptic pencil on hand, which can be found at your local pet store (cornstarch works too!), along with wrapping the foot and adding pressure will solve the problem.

As for the case of the cat with the fish hook, it might be better to see your veterinarian. Though the situation is not life-threatening, a veterinarian will have the right tools for the job and the sedatives to calm your pet.

Life-threatening situations are sometimes difficult to discern but the following symptoms and situations should never be ignored. You should contact your veterinarian immediately under these circumstances:

- ◆ Poisoning. Even if your pet is not displaying symptoms of poisoning, if you witness them consuming a toxic substance, take them to your veterinarian immediately. Some poisons react slowly and your pet may not show signs right away. If your vet is unavailable, call ASPCA's 24/7 Animal Poison Control Center at 888-426-4435 for guidance on treating your pet.

- ◆ Your pet's gums are an unusual color. Normal gums should be pink (or black with pink spots) that return quickly to their color when pressed on. Pale, white or blue gums or gums that are brick red are all signs of a possible health issue.

- ◆ Rapid heart rate or rapid breathing. Heat stroke,

## What do I do if my pet needs first aid?

among other serious conditions, can cause your pet's heart rate to increase and place stressors on their body.

- ◆ Extreme agitation/panting/unable to lie down.

These are usually signs of extreme discomfort and should be reported to your vet, especially if accompanied by vomiting and/or diarrhea.

- ◆ Loss of consciousness/seizures/inability to stand.

These symptoms could signal neurological damage such as stroke.

- ◆ Swollen and tight abdomen. Severe bloating can cause your pet's stomach to twist and possibly flip, requiring immediate medical attention.

- ◆ Straining and pain when urinating. This could be a sign of urinary tract blockage; cats are especially prone.

It is important to remember that our pets are just as vulnerable as we are to injury and disaster. Along with knowledge of pet first aid, creating an emergency plan and disaster kit for you pet will help you navigate any crisis that might arise and keep your pet out of harm's way. Here are a few things to consider:

- ◆ Arrange for a temporary place for your pet to stay in case of an evacuation or family emergency, whether it be a kennel, animal shelter or friend/family member.

- ◆ ASPCA provides Rescue Alert stickers to place on your front window. These stickers alert rescue personnel of the pets in your house.

- ◆ Make sure your pet carrier is in an accessible location.

- ◆ Make sure your pet's vaccines are all up to date. Keeping a copy of this information in a ziplock in your pet carrier will be helpful in case it is necessary to leave your pet at a shelter during any emergency.

- ◆ Microchip your pet. It is easy to imagine a pet becoming separated from their family during a crisis. By ensuring your pet has proper identification it will be much easier for rescuers to reunite you and your pet.

- ◆ Create a disaster kit for your pet including food, water, extra collar and leash, any medications your pet may be on, blanket, paper towels, and recent photos of your pet (in case your pet becomes lost).

For more information on pet first aid and disaster preparedness, or if you wish to take a pet first aid class, visit either your local Red Cross chapter or ASPCA's website at [www.asPCA.org](http://www.asPCA.org).

April is Pet First Aid Awareness month, so this is a good time to make sure you are ready for anything! ❖

See  
some adoptable pets  
on Page 6 and online at  
[www.safehavenpfoa.org](http://www.safehavenpfoa.org)

# Look who's been adopted!



---Continued from Page 1



Felicity



Kennedy



Ferris



Mario



Poly



Peggy



Shorty



Rose



Mupla



Betsy



Ross

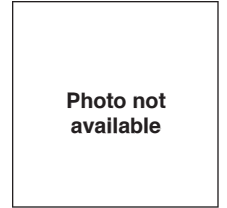


Photo not available

Eco

## Basic rules for cats who have a house to run

Reprinted from the Spring 2004 issue of *Pet Tidings*

**DOORS:** Do not allow closed doors in any room. To get a door opened, stand on hind legs and bammer with forepaws. Once door is opened, it is not necessary to use it. After you have ordered an outside door opened, stand halfway in and halfway out and think about several things. This is particularly important during very cold weather, rain, snow, and mosquito season.

**WORK:** If one of your humans is sewing or writing and another is idle, stay with the busy one. This is called helping, otherwise known as hampering. Following are two rules for hampering: 1) When supervising cooking, sit just behind the left heel of the cook. You cannot be seen and



therefore stand a better chance of being stepped on, picked up, and consoled. 2) For book readers, get in close under the chin between the human's eye and the book — unless you can lie across the book itself.

**HAIRBALLS AND RUGS:** If you have to throw up, get to a chair quickly. If you

cannot manage in time, get to an Oriental rug. If no Oriental rug, shag is good.

**GUESTS:** 1) When walking among dishes on the dinner table, be prepared to look surprised and hurt when scolded. The idea is to convey, "But you allow me on the table when company isn't here." 2) For sitting on laps or rubbing against trousers, select fabric color which contrasts well with your fur. For example, white-furred cats should go for black wool clothing. 3) Quickly determine which guest dislikes cats the most. Sit on that human's lap. If you can arrange to have Friskies Fish Glop on your breath, so much the better. 4) Always accompany guests to the bathroom. It isn't necessary to do anything. Just sit and stare. ❖



## 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, but invite you to submit photos and poems for our online memorial page — for a donation — by logging onto [www.safehavenpfoa.com/memorials.html](http://www.safehavenpfoa.com/memorials.html)).*

### In Memory of Special People

■ In loving memory of our daughter, **Charmienne Harker**, who lost her two-year battle with cancer and passed away in Alaska on Oct. 1, 2011. From **Jess** and **Janet Harker**.

■ In memory of **Kristin Tucker**, from **Lou** and **Robert Nevaril**.

■ In memory of **Denise Graham**, from **Lauretta** and **Dewey Ehling**.

■ In memory of **Ginny Rose**, from **James** and **Cherie Pickett**.

■ In memory of **Inga Lisa Evers**, from **Betty Brooks**, **Marcy** and **Miranda Wilson**.

■ In memory of **my mother**, who was quite an animal lover. I'm sure she would be pleased with this donation in her name. She was partial to cats! From **Pat Miller** and **Jannett McIlroy**.

■ In memory of **Roger Herschner**, from **Rory Haggerty**.

■ In memory of **Grayson Hulse**, from **Connie** and **John Miller**.

■ In memory of **Barbara Kernes**; she loved animals. From **Chuck** and **Marian McGilvra**.

### In Memory of Beloved Companion Animals

■ In fond memory of our three Life Time Care Kitties that passed away in 2011. **Princess**, **Boots**, and **Honey Bun (aka Little Bear)** they were very much loved and we will miss them terribly. From **Jess** and **Janet Harker**.

■ In memory of **Polaris**, beloved kitty of **Leon** and **Diane Lopez**. I know he will shine forever in their memories. From **Janet Harker**.

■ In loving memory of **Chrissy**, beloved dog of **Sherry Creech** and our faithful office dog who will be missed by all of us at the PFOA Shelter, especially by me. From **Janet Harker**.

■ In loving memory of **Sunshine** and **Nicholas**, who now play in Paradise. We will meet again. From **Ann Gilson**.

■ In memory of "**Mr. Meep**," my dear friend **Brenda Jennings'** beloved cat of 15 years who died suddenly. From **Pat Lang**.

■ In memory of **Kona**, our Maine Coon cat. From **Wendy Taibbi**.

■ In memory of **Chrissy**. Please accept our heartfelt condolences, **Sherry Love**, **Dave** and **Francie Loudon**.

■ In memory of **Chrissy**, who had such a special bond with **Sherry**. I know that you will miss her and I will, too. Remembering her sweet nature and adorable eyes and the special time we spent together brings a smile to my face. She was a sweetheart. Sincerely, with love and sympathy, **Amy Hixenbaugh**.

■ In memory of **Chrissy Creech**, from **Nancy Dolansky**.

■ In memory of **Oreo**, from **Kerri Wiggins**.

■ In memory of **Rameses** and **Domino**, from **Brian** and **Carol Reiss**.

■ In memory of **Polaris Carter Lopez** and honoring the work of **Diane Lopez**. From **Shirley Rogers**.

■ In memory of **Lisa's** much-loved **Lillie** and my sweet **Kizzy**. From **Julia Murphy**.

■ In loving memory of my beautiful dog **Sheba**, my faithful companion for 14 years. I miss her so much. With love, **Ellen McLean**.

■ In memory of **Chance**, from **Gloria**

**Bornstein**.

■ In memory of **Chrissy**, **Sherry Creech's** constant canine companion. We will miss your presence at the PFOA office. From **Susan Skaggs**.

■ In memory of **BoBo**, our long-time, well-loved member of the **LaVigne** family. From **Sara Maney**.

■ In memory of **Sadie Sue**, our cat that died. We were very happy to adopt **Bennie** and **Callie**. I'm sure they will be happy here. From **Tom** and **Joanne Thomas**.

■ In memory of **Chrissy Creech**, our sweet office dog. We miss you. From **Eileen Franson**.

■ In memory of **Chrissy Creech**. From **Susan Kreml**.

■ In memory of **Chrissy Creech**, the passing of a sweet soul. From **William** and **Dale Stelman**.

■ In memory of **Chrissy**, **Sherry Creech's** devoted companion. From **Peter Grassi** and **Shirley McFadden**.

■ In memory of "**Chico**" **Bolles** and "**Nick**" **Gilson**, from **Pacific Northwest Veterinary Hospital**.



*Memorials and Honorariums*

- In memory of our Golden, **Gemma**, now chasing countless glittering stars across the sky. Lovingly, **Millie Singleton, Mark and Susanne Walker.**
- In memory of Thelma Sullock's beloved tabby cat, **Pumpkin.** He was her faithful companion for many years. From **Diana Lusby.**
- In loving memory of my cat **Arlo** and for all our lost beloved pets, from **Debbie Littlejohn.**
- In memory of my dog **Tootie**, who I lost in November after almost 15 years of love and devotion. In her memory, I would like to sponsor an adoption-challenged or handicapped animal for a year. Thank you for all you do. From **Mary Jo Childress.**

*Honorariums*

- In honor of my mom, **Terry Vogel.** From **Anne Hines.**
- In honor of **David and Francie Louden,** from **Robert Louden.**
- In honor of **Jess and Jan Harker,** from **Randall and Dolores Harker.**
- In honor of my brother, **Steve Bott,** from **Darry Bott.**
- In honor of **Barbara Swedeen,** from **Jerry and Ruth Swedeen.**

- In honor of **Paulette Willson,** from **Chris and Kay Duff.**
- In honor of **Sue Burns and Jeff Carpenter,** from **Barbara Ross-Burns.**
- In honor of **Peter Ignatjev,** from **Belicia Munoz.**
- In honor of our friends **Polly and Terry Lyle,** from **Steve and Mary Beth Young.**
- In honor of **ALL the devoted PFOA volunteers, supporters and those who take into their homes and lives a special new cat or pet.** From **Tammy White.**
- In honor of **Diane and Sammie Stenzel,** from **Paulette Willson.**
- In honor of **Chuck and Linda Livingston,** from **Joe and Roberta Hairfield.**
- In honor of **D.J. Rutherford,** from **Margi Renken.**
- In honor of **Richard Serkes,** on his birthday, from **Theresa Killgore.**
- In honor of **Shirley McFadden and Peter Grassi.** From **Kathryn McFadden.**
- In honor of my sister, **Kathy Larson,** on her birthday. From **Gus Spraker.**
- In honor of **PFOA foster homes,** from **May Carrell.**
- In honor of **Nancy Campbell,** from **Donna Davis.**
- In honor of our son, **Ming Chang, Jr.,** whose birthday was Jan. 25. From **Ming Chang, Sr. and Ann Chang.**

## Raffle winner gets artwork



**Betty Gordon of Sequim** displays the gorgeous hand-painted floorcloth that she won in a fundraising raffle. The floorcloth was commissioned and donated by one of our loyal supporters. PFOA volunteers Cindy Caldicott, fundraising coordinator, and Della Floyd, shelter manager, drew the winning ticket on Nov. 30. The effort raised \$207 for Peninsula Friends of Animals.

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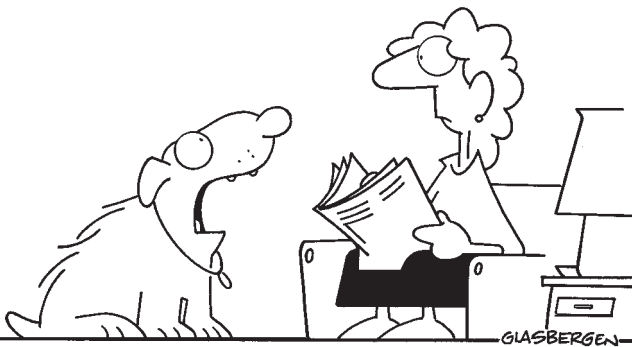


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“First my ball rolled under the sofa, then my water dish was too warm, then the squeaker broke on my rubber pork chop. I’ve had a horrible day and I’m totally stressed out!!!”

“To err is human, to forgive, canine.”  
— Unknown



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# THE CLASSIFIEDS

## PFOA WISH LIST:

■ **Rock salt, gas cards**, Pendaflex hanging file folders, 5” x 7” manila envelopes, 2-inch to 3-inch binders, 5” x 7” notebooks; soft blankets big enough to cover futons, but not so big as to overstuff the washing machines; nice dog beds, medium size with pads; Fancy Feast cat food in classic flavors.

## DARE TO DREAM

■ **Top-loading washer and dryer** — heavy duty and in good condition.

## WANTED:

■ **Writer for Pet Tidings:** The editors of our quarterly newsletter could use volunteer help writing short features like those in this issue. Can work from home but must have e-mail capability. Only one or two short articles needed, up to four times per year (but once or twice/year would help!) Experienced writer preferred. E-mail inquiry to [pettidings@olypen.com](mailto:pettidings@olypen.com).

■ **Assistant webmaster** — A volunteer is needed to help update the website with cats for adoption from time to time. Can work from home — time involved is usually short and sporadic. Must know XHTML and be experienced with coding and working with photos for web use; knowledge of PhotoShop preferred. Knowledge of CSS helpful but not required. Must have at least one working website to show examples of work. **Must be dependable.** See our website at [www.safehavenpfoa.org](http://www.safehavenpfoa.org). **Inquire by e-mail only, please, at [pettidings@olypen.com](mailto:pettidings@olypen.com).** Please do not call Safe Haven. This is a volunteer opportunity.

## AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE:

■ **PFOA potholders** are available at **Hair Trix Salon**, 21 Valley Center Place in Carlsborg (Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-12 p.m., 360-681-3749); **Safe Haven** (Tues.-Sat., 11 a.m.-4 p.m.); and at **The Red Rooster Grocery**, 134 1/2 W. Washington St., Sequim (Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 360-681-2004; website: [www.theredroostergrocery.com](http://www.theredroostergrocery.com)). You can purchase these wonderful potholders in many colors and patterns for only \$14.

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**"Psst. Can you keep a secret?"**  
photo by Lori Crow



## 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 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., closed Sunday and Monday. Call **360-452-0414** to leave a message; appointments required.

<http://safehavenPFOA.org>

## I WANT TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION!

I am making a tax-deductible donation in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to be used for:

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I would like to sponsor a PFOA adoption-challenged or handicapped cat or dog.

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