

Anniversary Party

Sunday, October 17th
11:00 am - 4:00 pm.

We will be celebrating another anniversary this October with a special open house at the shelter. Come and meet the cats and volunteers, enjoy some goodies and learn more about Katie's Place and the work we do.



Filling Furry Tummies

Baby Sisko is going to gobble down a lot of food before he's a full grown cat. They don't stop gobbling when they're full grown though. Our cats look forward to mealtime more than any other time (besides treats time). They go through a lot of food and we ALWAYS need more. We - and they - would be very grateful if you can help stock our food cupboard with both canned and dry food.



THSS Craft Fair!

Volunteers have been working hard crafting and sewing and knitting cottage wares for Katie's Place 2nd Annual attendance at the Thomas Haney Senior Secondary craft fair! Please come visit us Saturday or Sunday, November 27th & 28th between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. THSS is known as one of the very best craft fairs in the valley with high caliber crafters and artisans; you won't be disappointed! 100% of the proceeds from everything purchased goes towards the care of all the animals at Katie's Place so you can find some fantastic gifts that help fantastic animals and we look forward to seeing you there!

When the Bikers Came By!

We are lucky to have supporters. Youngsters donate their birthday money. Others donate their time. This summer brought us some unique donors though. A motorcycle club, GWRRA Chapter BC-A, does charity runs and we were lucky enough to be their choice this time. Neighbours must have wondered when nearly a dozen bikers descended on the neighbourhood. The shelter benefited with food and cash donations and the cats appreciated being fussed over.



Holiday Greeting Cards

It has become a tradition and once again high-quality holiday greeting cards will be available this year. As always, 100% of the proceeds go towards the care of the animals in the shelter. There will be several designs to choose from. Boxed sets will be available for purchase from the new shop on our new website, directly at the shelter, and at various community events starting October 15th, 2010. Share holiday greetings and help homeless animals at the same time.

In Memoriam and Tribute

We gratefully acknowledge gifts to Katie's Place

from Carol and Tom Collins in loving memory of

Leah Denise Oakes

who passed away on July 18, 2010

from Helen Hylton-Foster "in memory of

Honey

Our beautiful dog who passed away August 2, 2009.

Rest in peace our faithful friend.

- Hylton-Foster Family"

from Melissa Mutter in memory of

Nemo

from Jane Stutfield in memory of

Nemo

from Joann Albert in memory of

Nemo

from Anne White in memory of

Mishka

A loving cat who died at the fine old age of 17.

He was much loved and will be sorely missed by the family, including the dog, Edison.

Katie's Place

Animal Shelter

SEPTEMBER, 2010

The Kitten without a Face

Masumi – Japanese for beauty and purity. What could be a more perfect name for this beautiful little girl?

As she gazes out the window, flicking her tail and chattering at birds, Masumi seems like any other four-month old kitten.

She zips from room to room as a blur of greys and oranges, in pursuit of friends or toys – real and imagined. Her purr, which surges and reverberates throughout her entire being with the mere touch of a hand or the sound of a voice, is just as easily heard as felt as she rubs her body against one's legs with enthusiastic affection. Masumi is a delightful kitten who is courageous and feisty, curious and playful; in her mind, she is flawless.

However, at the approximate age of three weeks, this barn-kitten's life abruptly changed when she had an unfortunate encounter with a cow's hoof. Its diagonal path grazed her side, mutilated her face, and severed some toes, yet the barn owners had no plans to get her veterinary help. By chance, a visiting girl took pity on the kitten, and sought to collect bottles in the hopes of one day getting her veterinary care. When a Katie's Place volunteer heard her story she drove far out into the countryside to pick up the five week old kitten to see if our shelter could help.

When a few of us saw her, our hearts fell. Some of us wept at the sight of her. The tip of her right outer-ear, which hung by a thread, eventually fell off. Because her right eyelid had been damaged she could not close it to moisten her eye. The tip of her left paw was a raw stump; the two middle toes had been sliced off, the outer toes and claws hung awkwardly. Scabs covered surface damage to her tail and body, but the critical injury concerned her nose – it had been completely severed from her tiny face. The scab in place of her nose made breathing difficult. It was so incredibly heart-wrenching that this tiny little cat, which had been left to miraculously heal herself or die, was so beautiful in every other way.

Besides the reek of cow-pie, Masumi's coat was a gorgeous blend of medium-length tortoiseshell and tabby colours, with a

little white bib and mittens. Regardless of her pain, she purred affectionately, snuggling into whoever held her. Her eyes, though

watery, were curious and bright. As a group, we decided this kitten needed a name that would reflect the beauty not only of her coat, but also of her willingness to live, and her innocence as a helpless kitten. "Masumi" was a perfect fit.

We took her to the veterinarian to see if she could be helped. After the grotesque scab covering where her nose should have been was removed we were relieved to find her palate unscathed; our vet had prepared us that euthanasia would be the kindest option if it had been damaged beyond repair.

Masumi's injuries were unique; it was unclear whether or not the 1.34 kilogram kitten would survive. Yet only weeks later, tiny Masumi had doubled in size. Unfortunately, her open nasal cavities make her more susceptible to developing potentially fatal upper respiratory infections (URI). She did start developing an URI but her foster mom rushed her into the vet and

a round of antibiotics thwarted the sickness and fever. Her ability to thrive and grow shows us that with diligent care, Masumi has a chance at a nearly normal life.

Masumi reluctantly receives several saline drops to her 'nose' throughout the day to keep it from drying out, and she uses her third eyelid on her damaged eye to blink. We hope we can find a veterinary surgeon willing to construct a new 'nose' that will help filter out infection for her. Presently, Masumi lives in a foster home where she receives ongoing love, attention and socialisation from her foster-guardians and their resident felines.

We'll keep you updated on Masumi's progress through our website and future newsletters. If you would like to donate toward Masumi's care (or any of the other fur-babies we look after), see our contact information on page two or drop by the shelter during our open hours (weekends, noon to 2:00).



Our Furry Friends

JAG

Jag is a shy, plain, black, 15 year-old male with a thyroid condition and stress incontinence - definitely a hard-to-place cat. Fate smiled on him though. He was adopted and joined another Katie's Place alumnus named "Cat." Hilarious updates on his adjustment arrived. Jag started out shy, but his new person said he "came out to show a fine display of how to properly stand on your back legs and walk around while catching a moth! Cat and I were in awe of his graceful skills! And to make the week even weirder, Cat has found some new youth in him and is acting quite frisky." The final update said Jag "decided he wants to sleep on the bed, wedged between us, and hold your hand in his paws under his head! I think he's finally understood that this is his forever home, and that we are nice people who would never hurt him . . . even though he feels the need to freak out and run and hide every now and then. There seems to be no rhyme nor reason to this so we just accept it as one of his little freak-outs. It's fine - he's old, he doesn't have to explain himself to us!" Definitely a happy ending!



SOL

Sol is a chocolate point Himalayan who was rescued from a situation in which he lived in a dark garage. By the time he was rescued, he was completely matted and could barely



open his eyes in light. His rescuers couldn't keep him because he peed outside the litter pan at their home (often a sign that peeing is painful - "maybe it won't hurt if I pee somewhere else"). He was diagnosed with urine crystals, which we remedied, and he was adopted. The updates we received described his evolution from neglected and possibly abused to a beloved and confident family member. His adopters discovered

that "as soon as he hears the front door open or keys being rattled, he becomes completely terrorized and looks for a place to hide." Soon they reported, "He is such a great little companion - he follows us everywhere, sleeps with us, and is very affectionate. In one short week he has become much more confident and content. His reaction to doors opening and keys rattling has already been downgraded from terror to mild caution." The last update said, "He was originally described as "mellow and quiet." Well, not anymore! He is so much fun and is so playful, we can't believe how different he is from a month ago. He loves all the attention he gets and he's very, very happy."

ROYCE

Royce lived the whole nine years of his life in one home, but he'd been confined to the garage for the last several years due to aggression towards other pets and kids. It seems to have been a situation of incompatibility that escalated. From the moment he arrived at the shelter, Royce was gentle and starved for love. Once he understood we were his friends, he became one of the first cats to greet us each day with great enthusiasm and affection. He waits hopefully at our feet for more pets the whole time we're in his room. He's a perfectly-behaved resident in his communal room. Royce is fine among the other cats and he's unfailingly gentle and loving with people. It's proof that behaviour depends heavily on circumstances and environment.



ASHA

As more proof that behaviour depends strongly on situation and circumstances, Ten-year-old Asha lost her home for failing to use her litter pan. She was adopted though, and her new person reported, "She is extremely happy and healthy, she plays constantly and talks even more. She loves to play in the tub, well she just actually likes to spend time in the tub! Sitting, lounging... Never did have an issue with the litter box, she is as close to perfect as it gets."



Katie's Place Animal Shelter

Katie's Place, established 2001, is a nonprofit, no-kill, volunteer-run shelter in Maple Ridge. We rescue, alter and adopt out homeless small animals.

Phone: 604-463-7917

Email: katies.place@shaw.ca

Shelter address: 10255 Jackson Road,
Maple Ridge

Mailing address: 20803 Camwood Avenue,
Maple Ridge, B.C. V2X 2N9

Open Hours: Sat. & Sun. 12:00 noon - 2:00 pm

Website: www.katiesplace.petfinder.com

Charitable Registration

Number: 86250 6037 RR0001

MCALLISTER

McAllister came to us from another shelter where he'd arrived as a homeless cat and had shown aggression toward staff and volunteers. We gave him time to settle, and he found a new home. The report from his new home was great: "He settled in like no other cat I have seen! He fit right in. He met his buddy Cassius after a few short moments of being home, and now they are best buds! We have renamed him Benjamin and will show him as much love as he has shown us." All McAllister needed was time to settle.



MISSY BEAR

Missy Bear gave us more proof that behaviour depends strongly on the situation and that pets need to be well-matched with homes. She was returned from a wonderful home because of tensions between her and the other pets.



We re-listed her for adoption noting that she'd probably be best as an only cat. The next people to fall in love with her had a variety of other animals however. An update from her new home said, "She is great. She is so sweet and loveable and loves to play. One of the sweetest cats I have ever met. She is so affectionate and does certainly looooooove our (her!) family. She

adjusted very well to our big dog. He seems to like her much more than our other cats! She is getting to know our other cats Frank Sinatra, Miles and Charlie, and they all will sit in the same room together in their own spaces. The other cats have adjusted to her and I think Frank thinks she's cute."

FREDDY

Freddy has FIV and lived at the shelter since June 2007. Finally he got the chance at a home of his own. "Thrilled" doesn't describe his reaction to having a real home! He was purring and he explored every surface of his new home. Unfortunately, his new person had physical limitations that made Freddy's access to their counter tops unacceptable. He was returned the next day. Freddy, the adopter, and the volunteers were all brokenhearted. But luck turned it into a happy ending. The adopter chose a more compatible FIV+ pet, Smudge, and Freddy was adopted a week later - after three years at the shelter.



EDWIN

We have many older cats who are often passed over in favour of youngsters and kittens. Yet these cats have as much to offer as any youngster. Edwin is proof of that. Eleven-year-old Edwin was adopted and his new family reported that on his first night at home he spent the whole evening watching CNN and "seemed mesmerized with Anderson Cooper." His youthful, loving personality soon came out. The family described his antics with delight and said, "Thank you all for our most amazing addition to our home. Edwin's cute face looking out the garden window is a wonderful addition to our joy. Your rescue home touched my soul and so has our sweet boy, Edwin. He is a true asset to our family."



RICARDO

Ricardo is a mature cat who proved to be a joy to his new family and his kittenish personality gives them a lot of pleasure. They said, "He must be just about the best kitty anyone could hope to



have share their hearts and home. He is gentle, calm, curious, very affectionate, playful with his catnip mouse and loves to help out with things that need to be done." They noted that "Cardo has especially attached himself to Olivia [the youngster in the family]. He and she are constant companions. Cardo and Olivia sleep together every night with both their heads sharing her pillow. He purrs and kneads the

blankets while Olivia falls asleep. He stays with her until she wakes up and makes a little 'purrup' sound when she opens her eyes." Ricardo is more proof that a mature cat can be a great pet. "Cardo the cuddly" has finally found his so much deserved forever home and we have lost our hearts to him and found our forever kitty."

CHASE AND CALVIN

We recently admitted a Feline Leukemia positive cat and an FIV+ cat who turned out to be FeLV and FIV negative after all. They are healthy! (Our vet has confirmed that if a cat has been inoculated, then even without boosters, the vaccine can stay in their system for life - meaning they can test positive for life.) Chase is a perky, frisky youngster and Calvin is an affectionate black-and-white boy. These beautiful, loving cats are sure to find forever homes now.

