

cat tales

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FELINE FRIENDS NETWORK

The Cinderella Fund

Named after one of FFN's first supporters, "Evelyn's Fund" exists for those cats in our care (or sometimes in the care of another organization) who need extra medical aid – anything from extra medication to surgery. This issue of *cat tales* features the stories of four cats supported by Evelyn's Fund in 2015. They – and we – would like to thank our FFN donors so much for helping make them well again.



POPSICLE

Popsicle was making use of a feral shelter in 2014 and was eventually trapped by his caregivers and entered FFN's TNR program. Like most of the cats FFN has seen lately he proved not to be feral but only extremely frightened. His caregivers were able to gain his trust eventually and brought him into their home for further socialization.

Poor Popsicle always had a sad look on his face and his caregiver was concerned for his health. A vet appointment indicated that he had some dental problems so he was taken to the East Village Animal Hospital (EVAH) clinic in London for a pre-dental check up. Dr. Martha sent Popsicle home with pain medication, antibiotics, and an appointment for further dental

continued on page 2



Cats in the country

UPDATE FROM JANICE AND ED'S BARN

Sadly, the tiny barn kitten pictured in the "Cats in the country" story in the October issue of *cat tales* was very ill and had to be put down. Her sibling did survive, however, and is doing well.

On a brighter note, drop-offs Belle and her son Ninja (pictured below) found forever homes this past Saturday at the Paws of Perth County adoptathon at Global Pet Foods. Hurray! A big thank you to POPC for taking these two on and to their adopters.

But for all the good news ... the drop-offs continue. As of the writing of this newsletter, a friendly mother cat with two kittens has shown up at Janice and Ed's ...



continued from page 1

work. Popsicle will have dental surgery within the next month thanks to the Cinderella Fund and EVAH.

Popsicle's caregiver also reported that she thought he would be an ideal candidate for our adoption program so he was moved to a wonderful foster home. The new foster reported that thanks to the medication Popsicle's eyes have a sparkle in them and he is playing more. As you can see from the picture above the article, he also loves his belly rubs! FFN featured Popsicle on our Facebook page and we're happy to announce that his adoption is pending. Yay!



FLUFFY

Fluffy was trapped by her caregiver as part of our TNR program this past September. At the vet clinic, it was recommended that she have her eye removed due to trauma. She was also covered in fleas and lice, was very thin, and was having a difficult time surviving outdoors. Fluffy's eye surgery at EVAH in London was a great success.

The original plan was to release Fluffy back outdoors and she was ear-tipped in preparation. But while she was at EVAH, the vets observed that Fluffy was not aggressive and did not show feral tendencies but was very frightened. She was sent home for some TLC with foster mom Marg Usprech, who began the process of socialization by stroking her with a feather. As Fluffy gained confidence, Marg moved on to combing her. Eventually Fluffy crawled into Marg's lap and started purring. With her one surviving sibling, this sweet soul entered our adoption program. We are thrilled to announce they have both been adopted!



LUCKY

"Lucky" didn't start out so lucky, except that he went to the right house to ask for help.

When he appeared at Lorelei's country home, she couldn't believe what she saw – an emaciated cat with half of his front leg gone. She could find no one to assist or advise her on what to do for him until she phoned FFN. Thanks to EVAH, emergency surgery was quickly booked and Lucky's leg was removed. The picture above shows the shape Lucky was in while he waited on the operating table.

Lucky was returned to Lorelei's care. At first he continued to live outdoors but since the first snow, he has decided that living inside might be so much better! From the picture on the next page, you can see that Lucky is enjoying the indoors and has

continued on page 3



continued from page 1



adapted superbly to his missing leg. We are still all amazed that he managed to survive in the condition he was in until we could get him help. Cats are truly amazing!



JEREMY

by Michelle Kyle

In July 2015, a very thin cat appeared on our rural property near Monkton, eating the chicken feed. I began including him in daily Animal Reiki, and putting out cat food. He was afraid, wounded, and dirty. Weeks later, I trapped him in an FFN

trap and put him in a large kennel in a separate room from our other 22 cats, who share our home with access to outdoor enclosures.

Jeremy had difficulty breathing but we gave him antibiotics and he stabilized. He was an aggressive “lefty” who spun his body counter-clockwise and attacked with claws. Over time, as he lived in the kennel, he began to respond to an interactive cat toy, learned to meow, and put on weight.

In August, with FFN’s help, Jeremy was neutered and received blood tests showing he did not have feline leukemia. This welcome news meant that he could join our cat family permanently. We also learned that he was between five and nine years old and that his teeth were rotting. The Cinderella Fund paid to have his teeth removed. His nails were trimmed at the same time and he began grooming himself.

In September, I released him indoors with the rest of our cats. After a number of standoffs, he gained everyone’s respect, showing his dominance without hurting any of the others. Jeremy is now a handsome, confident long-haired cat, living harmoniously with 22 other cats, who actively seeks as much human affection as he can get!



Jeremy, now fully recovered and very handsome, enjoys a nap with his best buddy Max, another “formerly feral” cat who was shot by a pellet gun before being trapped and neutered with FFN’s help. They often snooze together and Max grooms Jeremy.



Wine raffle raises \$7,600

by Holly Roulston

FFN's 6th Annual Wine Raffle was a huge success again this year – we printed 2,350 tickets (200 more than previous years) and sold EVERY SINGLE ONE to raise over \$7,600! This success was only possible because of our hardworking ticket sellers – you know who you are! I know I say it every year but the wine raffle absolutely would not be the success it is without all of you – ticket sellers, prize donors, and those who support us by purchasing tickets).

Our 1st and 3rd prize winner this year was veterinarian Robert Close. Dr Close is without a doubt FFN's biggest supporter. This year alone, he purchased 10 books –that's 150 tickets! And the odds paid off.

Our 2nd prize winner was Bill Whittemore – and his winning ticket was purchased for him by FFN member and ticket seller, Ann Cook.

Dr Close offered to donate his 3rd prize back to FFN, asking us to use it to raise more money. The board of directors has decided that the prize will be used at the silent auction of our annual Feline Film Festival. So watch for those great Adirondack chairs and table next June. And thank you Dr Close for your generosity!!



2nd prize winner Bill Whittemore



1st prize winner Dr Robert Close, pictured with Mary Kelleher and his winnings

Paws of Perth County Adoptathon

Saturday, November 28 | 10 am to 3 pm
Global Pet Foods (684 Ontario Street)

For further info, contact Paws of Perth County
519.949.1695 | 519.272.0848 |
pawsofperthcounty@gmail.com

Please note that Paws of Perth County will not be having an adoptathon in December due to the holiday season, but they would be more than happy to arrange home visits with the fosters for anyone interested in adopting.

The mathematical probability of a common cat doing exactly as it pleases is the one scientific absolute in the world.

– Lynn M. Osband



Giving even a little can mean a lot to our feline friends

Giving Tuesday is taking off in Canada and Tuesday, December 1, 2015 will mark the second time FFN has participated in this “day of giving” campaign. We are excited to announce that FFN has TWO matching partners this year.

Thanks to the generosity of CR Plastic Products and Mike Vancea of Vancea Financial, donations made online through Canada Helps or by cheques dropped off at the Simpson residence (47 Britannia Street, Statford) on Tuesday, December 1, 2015 will be matched 100% by our matching partners up to a maximum total of \$500 each. That’s \$1,000 extra that we can possibly raise for FFN!

We are also working on some exciting incentives for our Giving Tuesday social media campaign so stay tuned to our Facebook page for more info in the coming weeks!! If you have been waiting for the right time to make your annual donation to Feline Friends Network, now is that time! Every donation counts!

If you can’t make a financial donation on Giving Tuesday, please consider donating your time by volunteering with FFN. We could help so many more cats if we had a few more volunteers to help organize and work on trapping (TNR program), drive cats to vet appointments, or provide foster homes for the friendly strays that find their way to our feral colonies!

www.GivingTuesday.ca



December 1, 2015



And speaking of gifts ...

Start your Christmas shopping early with these cozy FFN hoodies. Not only do they make fabulous gifts, the proceeds from every sale go to help our feline friends.

The hoodies are available in two styles – zippered or pullover – in either black or grey. Sizes range from small to 2XL. The hoodies are available for the suggested donations listed below:

- zippered \$25 /member; \$30/non-member
- pullover \$23/member; \$28/non-member

Supplies are limited!! So please contact us as soon as possible at info@felinefriends.ca to place your order.

THANK YOU!

To Kim and her staff at the Stratford Pet Valu in the Sobey’s Mall who have been holding a food drive for FFN during the entire month of October ...
Once again, the cats are smiling!

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
garet markvoort

