

cat tales

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FELINE FRIENDS NETWORK

A tale of two rescue cats

by Cheryl Simpson



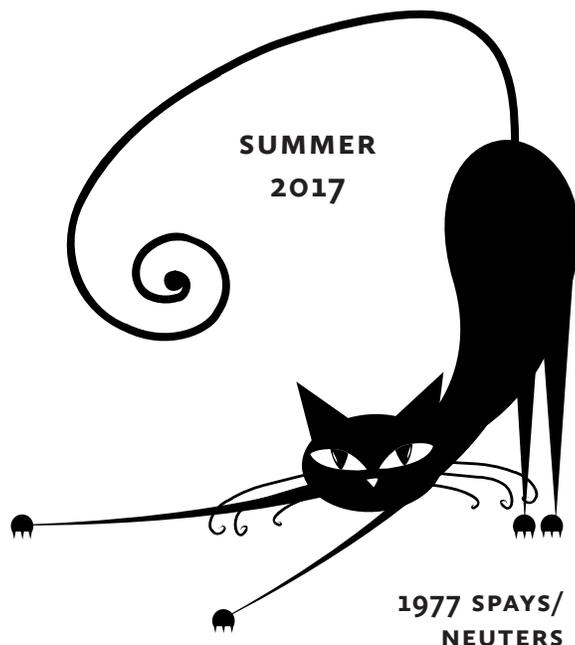
Horatio in his later years

Wayne and Dianne Yundt are long-time members of Feline Friends. It all started with a little feral cat nine years ago ...

In 2009, a young and very frightened stray tabby was being fed by Evelyn Saley.* After Mrs. Saley's death that same year, her neighbours, the Yundts, took on the caretaker role, making arrangements with FFN for his trap/neuter/return.

When the surgery was over, the little guy – now named Horatio – was returned and Wayne and Dianne began the hard work of earning his trust. It took many months of gradual

* Evelyn Saley was a very early FFN supporter, and our Cinderella Fund – Evelyn's Fund – is named after her.



cajoling, but finally Horatio agreed to come and live with them – as long as he was allowed access to the great outdoors that had been his home for so long. Under the Yundts' care, the scruffy little fellow blossomed into a truly magnificent cat, with an incredible personality to boot.

/continued on page 2



Anyka bears a startling resemblance to Horatio

/continued from page 1

Sadly, earlier this year, Horatio had to be put down as he had developed hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (a disease not uncommon to Main Coon-type cats). Dianne and Wayne were devastated.

It did not take long, however, for the Yundts to realize how empty their home was without a feline presence and they started looking for another cat who needed them. Thanks to a tip from Nancy Hotson, they soon found one.

At the local Pet Valu, FFN had a very young mother cat up for adoption. She had been living for months with her older kittens on a farmhouse porch. And she looked just a little bit like Horatio ...

Wayne and Dianne took her home, and tiny Anyka quickly made her way into their hearts. Really still a kitten herself, she delights them daily with her antics, as well as learning too just how wonderful snuggling can be!

Of course, the Yundts still miss Horatio every day. But they also recognize that adopting another homeless cat is a wonderful way to honour and celebrate his memory.

THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN ...

to Stratford Pet Valu staff and customers for raising \$3,701 for FFN during their May Pet Appreciation month. Shown in the photo is FFN president Paul Simpson receiving the cheque from Pet Valu manager Kimberley Kempen.



Wayne and Dianne Yundt with Anyka



Horatio when he was still living outdoors

If you would know what a cat is thinking about, you must hold its paw in your hand for a long time.

– Jules Champfleury

Cats, like butterflies, need no excuse.

– Robert A. Heinlein



Feline Film Festival 2017

Thank you to everyone who made FFN's 5th annual Feline Film Festival on 9 June such a great success ... Approximately 185 people attended, and we raised just under \$5,000!

2017 Wine Raffle

FFN's biggest annual fundraiser – the wine raffle – is coming together and this year there is a slight twist! First prize will be a combination of wine and LCBO gift cards totaling \$1,000. Second prize is 4 festival theatre tickets and 2 dinners to downtown Stratford restaurants plus a nice selection of 8 bottles of wine. Third prize – a set of two CR Plastics Adirondack chairs and table in your choice of colour, with a picnic basket including selection of cheese and biscuits and a nice bottle of wine.

Tickets will be available in mid-August.

Please contact Holly now at 519-284-2649 or holly@felinefriends.ca to help make the raffle a success by selling a few books of tickets. Arrangements will be made to get tickets to you when they come back from the printer.



Who needs television when you have cats? – Lori Spigelmyer

The cat is above all things, a dramatist. – Margaret Benson



Canada Day

It may have been a slightly soggy day, but the FFN booth had lots of visitors. And Puddy Products creative wonder Pat Burnell took in \$250 – all of which goes to help the cats!

And then....

Pat took her beautiful wares up to the Goderich Festival of Arts and Crafts (7-9 July), raising another \$700!!

THANK YOU PAT!!



NEWSLETTER EDITOR
garet markvoort

