

Four Paws to Love Newsletter 2015



Four Paws to Love

Saving Lives
Joining Hearts

Dear Friends and Family,

We are celebrating 2015, our second year! This year we rescued 242 animals which is 64 more animals than our first year. These animals came from all over Northern and Central California, including Santa Cruz, Monterey, Santa Clara and Kings Counties. All of these animals were at risk of euthanasia, and Four Paws to Love was able to foster them in loving homes, provide socialization and medical care then work at finding the purrfect forever families for many of them! Some are still waiting for that forever family to come along!

We would like to thank all of the volunteer staff at Four Paws to Love: Kim, Emily, Adrienne, Jenny, Mark, and Jenifer for all of their hard work and dedication to our life-saving mission! We also appreciate our volunteers that help with our Adoption events! Without our dedicated staff, foster parents and volunteers we would not be able to keep Four Paws running. Of course, there are the wonderful shelter workers on the front lines that work so hard to get the animals into our care to save their lives.

Some of the most valuable volunteers in our organization are our Foster Parents! They are the ones who take the animals we rescue into their homes and make them the wonderful companions that are adopted into forever families. We can always use more foster parents to help expand our lifesaving work.

Thank you all for being part of the Four Paws to Love family.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2016,

Four Paws to Love Board of Directors

Annette Hogue
Christine Kiuchi
Terry Marino

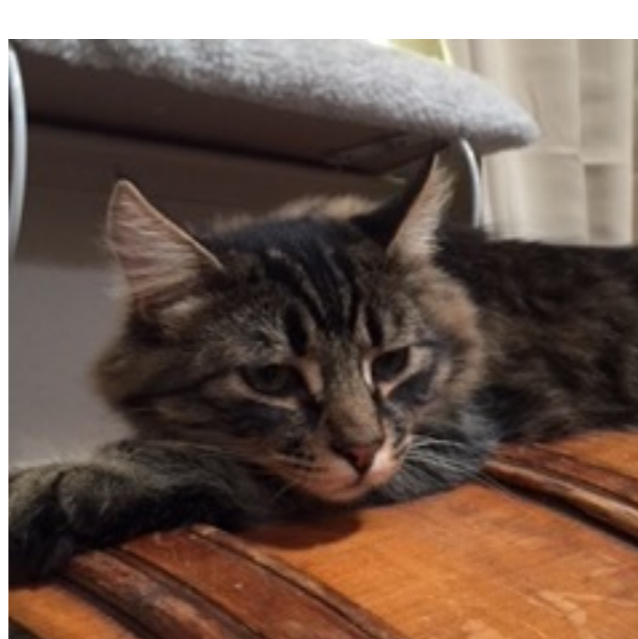
Donations

We want to thank our adoptors and generous donors who helped us save and adopt out so many animals this year. Donations and adoption fees are what keep Four Paws to Love running; we receive absolutely no government funding. In addition, all of our staff and Board members are unpaid volunteers. If you are able to give even a small donation at this time, it will help us start 2016 stronger than ever, and increase our ability to rescue even more animals in the year ahead. We are a non-profit 501(c)(3), so your donations are tax-deductible.



FPTL Stories from the year

Teddy



Teddy came to Four Paws to Love as a tiny pre-wean kitten with his three siblings in September, 2015. They were all small for their age and definitely had some health problems, including severe colds and diarrhea. Their foster mom Terry cared for them day and night hoping that the medicine we were giving them and the extra care would help them pull through. Two of Teddy's siblings gradually improved but sadly one didn't make it and Teddy continued to have the diarrhea. We gave fluids and medications. He began to improve ever so slightly and was eating on his own and gaining weight. Through all of this he was the most loving kitty ever!

Then something wonderful happened... Kim and James came into Teddy's life. They had lost their cat Thunder in January 2015. The loss of their kitty was devastating and they wanted another kitten. Kim went on Petfinder and there he was this cute picture of her favorite breed the Maine Coon. Kim was thrilled and wanted to take him home right away. Kim was given pills and a paste to give him for the next week then we would retest. Kim brought him home and they both fell in love with him. He was six months old and a little small due to his illness. He slept with his new mom and dad and unfortunately the next morning they woke up to an accident on the sheets! The second round of medication was finished! James took a poop sample for re-testing. A first for him! The test came back positive... Ugg! So onto round 3 of medications. Once again James delivered the poop sample and we were all so very happy to see that the test was negative!!

Kim and James had wanted to get another kitten so that Teddy wouldn't be alone. So she contacted Terry, FPTL's foster/rescue coordinator, and arranged a time for a meet and greet with the Maine Coon mix kittens she was fostering!! Kim and James took Teddy down to meet and pick out his new BFF. Kim fell in love with a cute little boy kitten and kept trying to get Teddy to notice him. He had other ideas... he had his eye on a cute little coon mix girl. It was up to Teddy so they adopted the girl and named her Willow.

Teddy in the meantime was putting on weight and growing to catch up to his age. Willow came to join the family and she and Teddy have been best friends ever since. They absolutely love each other. They do everything together!

Teddy and Willow are a fantastic pair of Maine Coon mix cats. Kim and James absolutely adore them and can't imagine life without them. Teddy suffers from IBS as a result from his long-term giardia infection and medications. He gets special food that helps him. Teddy is now a beautiful 10 pound Maine Coon mix healthy boy! He and Willow run and play with each other and snuggle at night time. They are both still growing and thriving and have a wonderful life.

As a post-script to this story, because of Kim's love of animals and the care and compassion she saw in the staff of FPTL, she has joined us as a staff member. You will see her at our Cabrillo or PetSmart events, but her biggest job is that she ensures that all the medical histories for the animals we receive are entered into our database. Of course she also fosters other kitties that need help too! We are so very grateful that Teddy brought us all together.



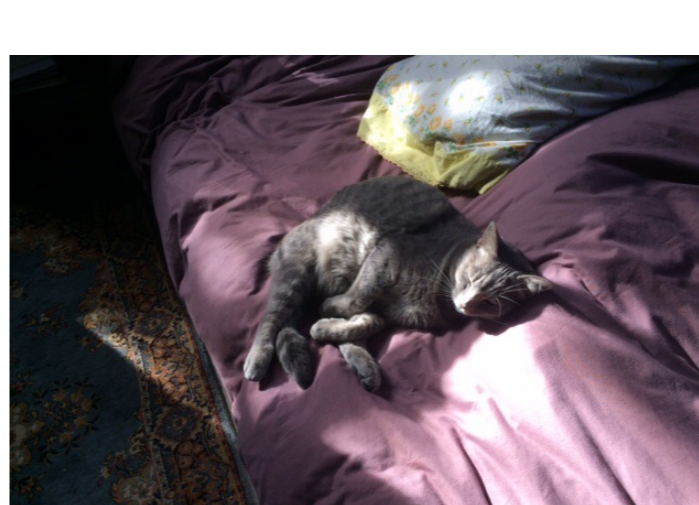
Kono

About a year ago, we were approached to help rescue two strays that were "porch kitties." The person wanted to get them out of the cold winter. Our wonderful foster parent Jenny agreed to take this mom and son pair in. Josie (about four years old) and her son Kono (about three years old). Josie was very friendly but Kono, having lived outside his whole life, was very shy. It took several months, but eventually he loved to being brushed, was out among the other cats and playing occasionally with his foster mom Jenny. Reintroducing Kono to the outside world was the tough part. While Josie was perfectly comfortable going in and out, Kono was scared and would hide under the deck and not come out. Determined to not let him be a "porch kitty" again, Jenny slowly trained him to come inside for his food and then would very slowly close the door behind him. Both Kono and Josie came to the PetSmart adoption fairs every week for months. They were beautiful but black which means they were often overlooked. After about eight months Josie was adopted from the PetSmart adoption fair by an awesome couple! Around the same time Kono had an interested family -- from Arizona! They immediately knew that Kono was the kitty they were looking for! By this time, he had gone to Terry's house for a change of scenery so his socialization had improved even more. Finally after a few months of trying to get schedules coordinated to pick up Kono, it happened! When Jim met him, it was definitely love at first sight. Kono immediately took to him, letting Jim hold him and pet him. They were going to have a long drive together and it seemed that Kono knew he was on his way home. Just a few days later, Kono (now named Huercky after one of Jim's army buddies that was killed in combat) was in his new forever home, meeting his new mom Karen, Sookie (their other black cat) and their 5 dogs. Huercky was happy and content in his new home right away. Kono and Josie are two of this year's great success stories!



Peggy Sue

An adorable kitten that came into a Shelter as a stray at 3 months with a severely fractured front leg that had to be amputated. We were amazed at how well she healed from her injury. A wonderful family that has another 3 legged kitty has adopted her! She is now very happy and playful in her own home.



Deja

Beautiful Mom cat that had all her babies adopted and then took on another litter of tiny day old kittens and raised them as her own. Deja has now been adopted into her own home and is now the Queen of her castle!



Hammond

A very special Momma cat that survived a fire in Salinas. After the traumatic experience of being caught in a house fire she was still just so sweet and did a great job raising her babies. She has now found her own incredible home! Although we do still have one of her babies available for adoption, O'Neal!

