

The SCRATCHING POST



FURRY FRIENDS 🐾 Helping homeless and abused cats

May 2015

WANTED

Volunteers Extraordinaire!

We have some openings that need to be filled. If you have any questions or are interested in any of these opportunities, contact Alice Duff at volunteers@furryfriendswa.org

- We still need someone at Hazel Dell PetSmart Adoption Center on every other Thursday evening, and every other Friday evening. These kitties need love and attention, too!
- We need someone to transport the cats at the PetSmart Adoption Center to the Halfway House on Tuesdays, anywhere between 10 AM and 3 PM. Must be able to fit up to five carriers in your car.
- There are still openings on Friday and Saturday for phone message retrieval. You can do this from home, any time. We provide training and resource materials.
- We will be having a group from Hewlett-Packard at the Halfway House Tuesday, May 19th, from 9 AM to 1 PM. They will be doing yard work and/or deep cleaning and/or painting. You are welcome to join them.

PLEASE
Donate
www.furryfriendswa.org

Halfway House: Our Building Fund Update

Glen Aronson of Iron Gate Storage believes in the mission of Furry Friends, and he's been happy to show his dedication to the organization that helps kitties by donating \$10,000 to the Furry Friends for a new halfway house for cats. Glen first gave \$5,000 in 2013, and last year, he gave another \$5,000.

Glen's not the only donor. Furry Friends has collected a total of more than \$16,000 for the building fund. This year, South Pacific Rum Bar & Grill in downtown Vancouver has generously offered to hold a fundraiser on the second Saturday of each month from noon–5 p.m. with proceeds going directly to our building fund.

History of our Halfway House

Since it began rescuing cats in 1999, Furry Friends has moved several times. We first lived in a small corner of an old one-window commercial building where we washed dishes in the bathroom sink. From there we went to a larger open space with a couple of big windows—and mold in the walls—and later we went to another small office suite with limited windows and space.

In 2012, we signed a lease for an older three-bedroom home where we still live. Volunteers and kitties alike were challenged by the move. Getting the house ready for our kitties took many hours of hard work. We removed old carpeting, painted rooms, built a large screened area for the

cats, replaced bedroom doors with screen doors, and built a patio. One of our older cats, Tasha, had trouble getting around, and she had been kept in a windowless room because of lack of space. When Tasha moved into our current halfway house, she could go out to the patio. She was so happy to be outside, to see the birds, and to feel the warmth of the sun. She has since passed away, but during her final days she was content and loved, and we are all happy she had her time in the sun.

Why should we buy?

We need a permanent home. Each time we move, it costs us money and time. We clean and restore the place we are leaving, and then have to prepare and set up the new halfway house. It is exhausting work. We must use our resources more wisely, and we need to eliminate the worry of having a lease expire. Often property managers do not want to allow as many as 25 cats in one building. The Executive Committee is now researching ways that Furry Friends as a non-profit can purchase a permanent home.

How can you help?

Please help us take this big step by joining us on the second Saturday of each month at South Pacific Rum Bar & Grill, 1109 Washington Street, downtown Vancouver. You may also donate a lump sum or budget a monthly amount for the building fund. The kitties will thank you! 🐾



Volunteer Spotlight

Katherine Tucker

Katherine Tucker loves the kitties so much that she's happy to share a cage with Callie during a recent adoption event at PetSmart.

When she saw that Callie had become somewhat upset, Katherine crawled into Callie's cage to comfort her. Katherine's kind ways were calming to the kitty. A long-time, enthusiastic and dedicated volunteer at Furry Friends, Katherine also sings occasionally to Peggy Sue at the halfway house. There's not much that Katherine won't do for her kitties.

A flight attendant with Delta Airlines for 31 years, Katherine wasn't always a cat person. She adopted her first cat, 4-year-old P.J.; later came Galley, and today Katherine shares her home with Monty from Furry Friends and Cassiopeia, who is called "Cassie" by her family and friends.

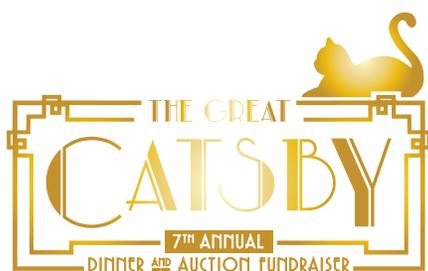
Katherine moved to Vancouver in 1997 and retired shortly thereafter. She learned about Furry Friends when she was visiting a friend at a local retirement home on a day when Furry Friends and a couple



of cats were offering pet therapy to residents. From there, we can say, "the rest is history." The dedicated volunteer has been with us for almost 10 years—and last year she logged an amazing 393.25 hours of cleaning, feeding, scooping, sweeping, driving, singing, and

herding cats. When she's not playing or working with her kitties, Katherine enjoys reading mysteries and science fiction.

Thank you, Katherine, for loving and caring—and sharing cages. 🐾



Our 7th annual dinner & auction will be on Saturday, September 19th, 2015, from 5–9pm at the Firstenburg Community Center. Can't wait to see you all there in your costumes! More details are on our website: furryfriendwa.org

We are still accepting donations for the auction. Contact Kat Hulick at auction@furryfriendswa.org

WISH LIST



- 🐾 Bleach
- 🐾 Paper towels
- 🐾 Laundry detergent (liquid, fragrance-free, no HE)
- 🐾 Tall kitchen garbage bags
- 🐾 Integrity scoopable litter

Look for Furry Friends in Vancouver, Washington on Amazon Wishlist (amazon.com/gp/registry/search) and purchase much-needed items to be shipped directly to Furry Friends!

Financial Gifting

Give a gift of financial securities, including appreciated securities. Significant tax benefits may apply to the donation of appreciated securities. Please contact us to learn more.

CAT SHOWS



Hazel Dell PetSmart
316 NE 78th St, Vancouver WA 98665
First Saturday of the month
Second & Third Sunday of the month
Noon - 3:00 pm

Upcoming Events

Come out and support Furry Friends!



South Pacific Rum Bar and Grill is donating 10% of their proceeds to Furry Friends on **the second Saturday of each month, from 12pm to 5 pm!** Enjoy a delicious lunch, happy hour items, bar drinks, or an early dinner with friends and family. Click the link on our website to download and print a flyer to bring to the restaurant.

South Pacific Rum Bar and Grill, 1109 Washington Street, Vancouver, WA 98660 • www.sprumbar.com



Star Wars Stormtroopers are making a special appearance for the kitties on **Saturday, May 16, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at Big Al's Bowling, 16615 SE 18th Street, Vancouver, WA 98683.**

Have your picture taken with these elite troops for a \$5 donation!

Join us for a night of food, fun and live entertainment

Saturday, July 25, 2015, at the Vancouver Eagles Lodge,

107 E. 7th Street, Vancouver, WA 98660.

5:00pm–6:00pm Social Hour • 6:00pm–7:00pm Dinner
7:00pm–10:00pm Live Entertainment by Mickey & Diane

\$10 cover charge goes to fund a permanent halfway house for the cats.

Optional dinner is only \$10 per person. Your choice of Parmesan chicken or a vegetarian dish, salad and dessert.

Great raffle prizes!!!!



Events at Esther Short Park West 8th & Columbia, Vancouver, WA 98660.

Recycled Arts Festival

June 27–28, 2015 • 10am–3pm

Visit the kitties on the north side of the park.

Purchase whimsical recycled art created by our talented volunteers.

Peace and Justice Fair

September 12, 2015 • 10am–3pm

Visit the kitties on the north side of the park.

Purchase peace-themed jewelry created by our talented volunteers.

Looking for a FURREVER HOME

adoption@furryfriendswa.org

[Browse more available cats at furryfriendswa.org](http://furryfriendswa.org)



Crimson is good with well-behaved toddlers, enjoys belly rubs, and is a fabulous family cat. Petting her is like putting your hands into a thick bundle of velvet.



Gatsby is an easy going and loving boy who likes to roll over and ask for belly rubs.



Kinko is a darling kitty who's as affectionate as can be. He loves snuggling quietly in his bed and soaking up attention from our volunteers.



Mau Mau likes to observe what is going on around him. He comes and goes as he pleases and mostly leaves the other cats alone unless they challenge him. His favorite place to be is in the sun.



Marius & Oliver are a bonded pair. These two boys have just recently arrived at Furry Friends, they are bonded and need to stay together. They are both affectionate and enjoy lap time and are good with children and strangers.



Whiskers is very entertaining when she plays. Tossing toys, skittering around, and grabbing her little scratching post to scratch with her back legs, she is very fun to watch. She loves treats, fresh greens, and catnip, but she doesn't like to be picked up.



Nemo is an adorable little love-bucket who absolutely loves attention! Some of her favorite pastimes include watching birds and squirrels through the window, and chasing toys on a string.



Princess is a beautiful older kitty that enjoys soft chin scratches, and though she isn't a lap cat she will sit next to you for pets.