



PAW Shakes

The Newsletter of the Partnership for Animal Welfare
WINTER 2006

P.O. Box 1074, Greenbelt, MD 20768
www.paw-rescue.org

Sydney's Second Happy Ending

by Janet Drazek

Sydney came into PAW about six years ago. She was a middle-aged cat then, estimated to be about seven years old. She didn't have much trouble finding a home – she's a gorgeous and lovable cat who asks for nothing more than lots of lap time and head butting and conversations. She and her adopter were happy together for years, and it seemed to be another PAW adoption success story.



Unfortunately, the adopter experienced some tough times recently. She went through a divorce and several moves. Eventually she could no longer afford to rent an apartment by herself, so she decided to move to a group house. She looked around for a place where she could have a cat, and she found a nice house where all the housemates had pets. She gave up her current apartment and was scheduled to move, when one of the housemates was diagnosed with severe allergies to cats. He had a cat himself and had never been allergic before, but over the years his immune system had changed until being around cats was now a risk to his health. Luckily, his family was able to take his cat in, and the other housemates scrambled to find homes for their animals, but Sydney's adopter was between a rock and a hard place. She had nobody to take Sydney for her, she didn't have time to look for another house, she had just signed a year's lease which she couldn't afford to break, and her old apartment was about to be rented to somebody else. She had no choice but to return Sydney (continued, page 4...)

“Dear PAW...”

Letters from Adopters

Kizzy's New Pals

Adopter Kristin Dandrea sent this letter to her dog's former foster parents...



I just thought that I would give you an update on Kizzy. She is doing really well and has adjusted smoothly to our household. She really enjoys being outside and playing with Jake and her toys. [...]



No fights have occurred and Kizzy is no longer protective of her food or water bowl. Attached is a picture of Kizzy with Jake, Diamond and her cousins Miss Tag and Molly. We traveled to Birmingham, Alabama for the holidays. She is actually teaching Diamond and Jake to sit still in the car.

Kristin

Photos: Top: From left to right, Kizzy, Diamond, and Jake. Bottom: From left to right, Molly, Kizzy, Diamond, Miss Tag and Jake. Molly and Miss Tag are Kristin's brother's dogs and both are rescue dogs. Miss Tag is a rescued racing greyhound.

Letters continue on page 3...

Special Homes Needed

Rocket: Is He an Ugly Duckling? Not to us!

Poor Rocket. Nobody seems to want him. Rocket was rescued as a stray last year. Some potential adopters have commented that his looks are nothing special, but he looks just wonderful to us.

Rocket adores people and is very affectionate. He likes to ride in the car and would do best as an only pet in an adult home. Rocket needs desperately to find his forever home with an experienced dog owner. Because of his activity level and exuberance, **Rocket would thrive in a home with an ample, safely fenced backyard where he could run.**

To adopt, foster, or for more information about Rocket, please email Mike at uncle_bouki@yahoo.com.



Fiona

Have you ever seen such an expressive face? Fiona seems to be saying, "I'm SO glad to be off the streets this winter! And I LOVE spending time with these nice PAW folks... But where is that special family I've been dreaming of?"

Fiona is ready to meet them and play with them and love them. She is a one-year-old lab/shepherd mix who was found scared and abandoned, desperately in need of food, shelter, and love. She is an affectionate dog who loves to give hugs and kisses. Fiona is very active and curious about the world and would do well with someone who could work with her on training—she'd love to learn.

Fiona needs an experienced dog owner and needs to be the only pet in an adult home. She would thrive with someone who would work with her to show her the kindness that she has missed out on for her first year of life. Might that person be you?



To adopt, foster, or for more information about Fiona, please email DOGS@paw-rescue.org.

Contact PAW

PAW is a private, nonprofit, and all-volunteer pet rescue group. We do not have a shelter; instead, we keep dogs and cats in foster homes and in temporary kennel space until permanent homes are found.

Here's how to meet our adoptable pets:

- **ADOPTION SHOWS:** Visit one of PAW's weekend adoption shows, held at participating pet supply stores throughout the Maryland/DC area. For information on our next adoption show, visit our website, call the number below, or see our ads in the *Washington Post* Classifieds under *Pets:Dogs* and *Pets:Cats*. We usually have an ad every weekend listing the show location, date, and time.
- **WEBSITE:** To see photos and descriptions of all of PAW's adoptable animals, plus a list of upcoming adoption shows, events, tips, volunteer information, and more, visit our website at: www.paw-rescue.org.
- **CALL 301-572-4PAW** (301-572-4729) for listings of upcoming adoption shows, volunteer information, donation information, and more. (Since PAW is all-volunteer, we can't always return phone calls as quickly or in as much detail as with e-mail. Please visit our website for photos and information on our adoptable pets, since we may not be able to return such calls as quickly.)
- **E-MAIL:** For cat questions: paw_cats@yahoo.com. For dog questions: dogs@paw-rescue.org. Other addresses are listed on the website.

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Editor/Designer: Kathleen Summers

Partnership for Animal Welfare, Inc.
P.O. Box 1074
Greenbelt, Maryland 20768
(301) 572-4PAW (-4729)
www.paw-rescue.org

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“Dear PAW...”

Letters from Adopters, continued...

Shadow: Not Just an “ABC” Anymore

PAW took in Shadow (then known as Jeanne) last year when



her days were dwindling at a county animal shelter. Jeanne was only about 8 months old at the time, and had been found as a stray.

Although Jeanne was a young, healthy dog barely out of her puppyhood, her days were numbered. She had been overlooked for adoption again and again. The shelter volunteers agreed that Jeanne had been overlooked for two common reasons:

One, she was very frightened about being behind bars, and some visitors mistook her sadness



for unfriendliness. Two, she suffered from what some shelter workers sometimes refer to as “ABC” syndrome: “Another Black Canine.” Unfortunately, black mixed-breed dogs are more than plentiful in animal shelters. They just don’t stand out in a crowd, and sadly, their lack of eye-catching markings often leads to their never finding a permanent home.

Fortunately, Jeanne was one of the lucky ones, and soon became a PAW dog. She was then adopted by a lovely family, who sent in the photos above, along with a donation that will help other ABCs.

Below are some excerpts from the letter from Shadow’s new adoptive Mom, June:

As I send along this donation to you, I wanted to take a few minutes to update you on Jeanne’s progress. After a week of following me around so closely that I tripped over her every time I turned around, we renamed her Shadow, and it seems to suit her better than Jeanne. She still follows me everywhere, but she is getting more comfortable being alone (especially after I get out of bed and she has it all to herself). She loves to build a nest with the pillows and comforter and bury herself in the middle of it all.

She is a very active dog, and loves to play. She goes through about \$30 worth of dog toys a week.

She was quite shy when she first came to live with us, but she has since made herself truly at home. [In one of the photos] she is napping with her best buddy Peanut after a long day of play.

We really love Shadow and we hope she loves us too. Thank you for letting us adopt this joyous creature to love and take care of.

Katie and Raven

Katie and Raven are two former PAW cats who were probably

born outside. The two cats had spent their whole lives depending on one another, and were very shy with humans. They were finally rescued by a PAW volunteer who gave them a loving foster home with warmth, medical care, and plenty to eat. Katie and Raven had been rescued, but because they were so shy, they didn’t do well at adoption shows and had trouble finding a permanent home.

They ended up staying in their foster home for years. They finally found a loving and understanding home with Kyle and Alan Bell of Alexandria, Virginia. Kyle writes:



Katie and Raven came to us on December 5, 2004. As you can tell from the pictures, they are still shy with humans, but they continue to make progress. They are socializing with our other cats, especially our 7-year-old, Honey, and our 19-year-old, Snow. In fact, Katie “calls” me if the bowls she and Raven share with Snow need refills! Happy Holidays!

Many thanks all of our adoptive families for creating happy endings for animals like Shadow, Katie, and Raven.

Sydney's Second Happy Ending, continued...

to PAW. It just about broke her heart, but at least she knew Sydney would be safe and that she would have a chance to find a new home.

Sydney had been losing weight lately, and her adopter thought it was from their lifestyle changes. But the vet who vaccinated her and checked her out was concerned about it and suggested a blood test. It turned out that Sydney had hyperthyroidism. This is a very treatable condition, but it does require twice-daily medication. There are other options (surgery, radiation), but since they can be risky or expensive, most people try the medication first. If that works, which it does for many cats, it's the preferred choice of treatment for most people. But Sydney now had two strikes against her – her age and her medical condition. And Sydney doesn't like other cats at all, so that made it especially hard to find a home for her. Anybody willing to adopt a cat like Sydney would have to be a real cat-lover, and most cat lovers have other cats.

So there Sydney sat at the vet hospital. PAW volunteers visited her regularly and soon fell in love with her funny personality. We didn't give up hope for Sydney, but we knew it would be a challenge to find just the right place for her.

And then Sydney's picture and description ran in a *Washington Post* ad, thanks to an anonymous benefactor who donated the cost. A true cat lover saw the ad and was immediately touched by Sydney's story. Michelle had recently lost her elderly cat, Tocaya, and he had had hyperthyroidism for years, so she knew all about the disease and how much of a commitment it would take on her part to keep Sydney healthy. But she never hesitated. She emailed us about Sydney and sent in an application. When we contacted her vet hospital, the staff remembered her very well and gave her rave reviews. The word "wonderful" was repeated over and over, in reference to both Michelle and Tocaya. And to make it even better, there were no other cats; Sydney would be the only pet.

So we scheduled an adoption visit, and Sydney went off to her new home in Arlington. The PAW volunteer who accompanied her (Sydney doesn't drive) could hardly believe their luck. In fact, she asked to check the closets to see if somebody was hiding in there, ready to jump out and yell "Just kidding!" But no, it was for real. Sydney knew it was, immediately. She started claiming the house right away, rolling on Tocaya's old spots and checking out all the rooms. But then she had to stop and claim Michelle, because she realized that her new mama was even more special than her new house. She rolled and rubbed and announced her approval in no uncertain terms. Michelle started digging out Tocaya's old toys and beds, and before you know it the tidy living room started

to look like a happy cat playground.

So Sydney stayed in Arlington with Michelle, and the PAW volunteer went on home, smiling all the way. Later follow-up emails revealed that Sydney was doing great and had slept in the bed with Michelle from the very first night. She was as vocal as ever and loved playing with her catnip "snake." Her appetite was great and she had gained back most of the weight she had lost.

There was never any doubt in Sydney's mind that this was the right home for her, and it seems Michelle was pretty sure about it too, from the minute she laid eyes on that picture of Sydney in the *Post*. Sometimes the fates seem to conspire to put the right cat with the right person, and this was definitely one of those times ... and one of our happiest endings ever.

***New United Way/ CFC
Number: #8156***

Your workplace contributions make a huge difference! Please remember PAW at open enrollment time.

Little Bites...

Pet Foster Homes Needed

The need for dog and cat foster homes is always urgent. Without them, PAW cannot save the lives of dogs and cats who have run out of time at local shelters. Foster pets share your home until they find their "forever families." You provide food, love, and gentle training; PAW provides all necessary medical care, and can loan crates and other supplies.

To read more about fostering for PAW, go to: <http://www.paw-rescue.org/foster.html>.

To discuss fostering a dog, please contact dogs@paw-rescue.org, or for cats, contact paw_cats@yahoo.com. Thank you!

Volunteers Wanted

PAW always needs new volunteers to help with pet adoption shows, fundraisers, exercising and visiting with kennel dogs, and many other activities. For more information or to sign up for an orientation session, please contact Kathleen Krebs at krebs-paw@comcast.net.

Gingko: PAW's Mascot Finds His Home

by Amy Bleich

For those of you who follow the continuing sagas of our furry charges, we have a happy ending that was a long time in coming. In November, 2004, we took in a young Husky mix with amazing blue eyes named Gingko. He came from one of the local shelters with a sad story of tragic loss. He soon became a favorite of many PAW volunteers, but somehow or other, people would spot him, comment on "those eyes," and choose someone else. When the summer of 2005 rolled around, Gingko was still with us, enjoying weekly outings on the trails and visits from his PAW friends, but still lacking a permanent family.

Gingko was named the mascot of our PAW-Prints in the Park event, representing all the adoptable dogs needing homes. His beautiful face graced our publications and flyers—yet still no luck. But this fall, his luck changed—and here is the happy ending for which he waited so long.

Gingko writes:

Hi everyone, remember me, Gingko? That's right, it's me, and I have a new home for good now. I have lots of friends here too. My pal Dakota and I love to run around in our big back yard playing tag with each other, or just simply barking along with my neighbor's friends as well. I even have two feline friends, named Kharis and Roscoe. Kharis likes to run circles around me, and I know he's trying to tell me something but I can't quite figure it out yet. But he's fun to watch.

In my new home I get lots of dog biscuits and bones, and toys to play with. My family takes me for walks on the trails and for car rides.

When it snows out we all go outside and play in it and have a blast.



Gingko's new "Mom," Tisha, writes:

Having Gingko as the new addition to our home has really been a blessing and a joy. He is so sweet and so gentle with kids and people. He loves to snuggle, and he loves to play tug and ball and chase as well. He's great to sit with when watching a movie or nice to snuggle with in bed. He always shows a very hardy appetite for anything, and has grown to love both Mike and myself very very much. We love him so much and are so very, very thankful that we are able to give him the life he truly deserves—one enriched with kindness, love and plenty of attention.

Thanks, everyone at PAW, for blessing both of us with someone we both needed, and for giving him the chance to hang around long enough for us to find each other.

Special Donations...

In Honor of People

In honor of Charles R. Greco, by Vincent Barile

In honor of Dorothee Riederer, by Iris Rainone

In honor of Dr. Barbara Henderson, by Nancey Parker

In honor of Dr. Robyn Zeiger, by Linda George

In honor of Gerald Margulies' 90th birthday, by Rita Bleich

In honor of Iris Rainone, by Gary Mummert

In honor of Jake Ransom, by Liz Bolin

In honor of Janet Drazek, by Doris Bitler

In honor of Janet Drazek, by Ruth Zeller

In honor of Mark & Haleh Brandau, by Joan Brandau

In honor of Mike Courlander and Chris Lord, who went the extra mile for a certain little dog "in trouble," by Susan Tipton

In honor of our anonymous benefactor, who donates the Washington Post ads, with sincere thanks from all the cats who found homes, by Janet Drazek

In honor of Robin Soslow Tierney, by Janet & Isadore Soslow

Continued, next page...

Special Donations, continued...

In honor of Rosanne Greco & Higley Harmon's wedding, by Maryann Inman, and by Mary Rozmus-West

In honor of Susan Elizabeth Hamby, by Dawn & James Powell

In Memory of People

In memory of Alice M. Stello, by Eugene Stello

In memory of Caulder B. Morris, by Marjorie Gallagher

In memory of Debbie Breuer, by Carol Broadhurst

In memory of Dr. Jacqueline Rost, DVM, vet of the Rader beagles, who went over the Rainbow Bridge in December 2005, by Marsha Rader

In memory of Emma Courlander, by Janet Drazek, Lori Simmons, Amy Bleich, and Paul and Emily Singer

In memory of Eric Nelson, by Robert & Sara Hart

In memory of Heather Anne Florence, by Marianne Jensen

In memory of John Lloyd Gibbons, by co-workers at the U.S. Census Bureau

In memory of John Seelaus, by Dr. Robyn Zeiger and Dori Steele

In memory of Kathy Llewellyn's mother, Jean Marie Llewellyn, by Susan Flashman and Dick Bissell

In memory of Louise Wilding, by Angie Gittles

In memory of Louise Wilding, friend of all animals, by Amy and Rita Bleich

In memory of Marcus Filippi, by Judith Mullen

In memory of Mark Richman, by: Lynne Keffer, Home Instead Senior Care, Mike and Phyllis Courlander, and Liz Dietz

In memory of Maurice T. Hart, by Eloise Rubincam

In Honor of Both People and Pets

In honor of Christmas, by Lisa, Luis, Joanne, & Peg Robinson

In honor of Coakley, our pal from PAW, and Suzanne, her rescue mom, by Wendy & Jay Smith

In Honor of Pets

In honor of Baron, by Sherryl Johnston

In honor of Black Beauty and in memory of Lil Bit, by Vernon and Frances Poole

In honor of Bojangles, by Allison Sykes

In honor of our dog, Cheyenne, adopted in February 2001, by Charlotte & Charles Trainor

In honor of Danny, Howie, and Truman, by Susan Stayer & Wendell Albright

In honor of Katie and Raven's one year anniversary, by Kyle & Alan Bell

In honor of Lulu and Molly, by Cornelia Gelissen

In honor of Reggie and Milly, by Marsha Rader

In honor of Troy, our PAW dog, by Nancy Sturm

In honor of Woofie, my beloved cockapoo, by Michael Weiss

In honor of Zeus, by Greg & Stefani Watterson

In Memory of Pets

In memory of Arthur, by Monica Suchdeo

In memory of Blackie, the oldest and most loved pet of Jennifer's, by Junia Tomb

In memory of Brigitte, Samba, Omar, and Spice, by Mary Ann Hoffman

In memory of Bud, by Pat Terry and Katie and Rusty

In memory of D'Artagnan, by Sherryl Johnston

In memory of Nancy & Ilene's dog, Foster, by Deena & Mark Bleich

In memory of Jet, by Jackie Threatte

In memory of Kanawha, by Dr. Robyn Zeiger

In memory of Keegan, by Debbie & Harry Segal

In memory of Kona, by Dr. Robyn Zeiger

In memory of Mattie, beloved dog of Glenda & Dennis Beal, by Carol Rathburn & Diane Geiman

In memory of my sweet foster girl, Miss Daisy, much missed by everyone in PAW, my dogs, and me, by Amy Bleich

In memory of Mittens, by Margaret Sheetz

In memory of Moosie, one year gone, and in honor of Max & Leo (our PAW kitties), one year home, by Marlene Cimons

In memory of Nikki, a sweet tabby adopted from PAW, by Christina & James Young

In memory of PAW dogs Popeye, Miss Daisy, and Milo, by Suzanne Mattingly

In memory of Pooter, my kitty companion of 18 years—I miss you, by Suzanne Mattingly

In memory of Snoopy Altmann, by the Leadman family, Cindy Stock, Larry Rutledge, and Karen Eason

In memory of Sunshine, by the Snowden family

PLEASE NOTE: Some gifts may have been received after the deadline for this issue. They will be printed in the next issue.

PAW Shakes to...

- **NATE AND GINA LOWE** for their unequalled dedication and wonderful assistance with PAW's adoption shows.
- **KRISSY AND GEORGE DeSHETLER** for jumping in with both feet and for their generous help. Meows and bow wows!
- **PAW'S FUNDRAISING VOLUNTEERS** who helped raise money with Entertainment Book sales, Basket Bingos, Pawprints in the Park, and Baysox concessions staffing. Your hard work really keeps PAW going.
- **PRESTON COUNTRY CLUB FOR PETS**, for boarding some of our homeless pets at reduced rates. Wags and woofs!
- **THE POTOMAC ALMANAC** for featuring an adoptable PAW dog and cat every week in their paper. Paw shakes and tail wags!
- **GAZETTE NEWSPAPERS** for featuring a promotional spot for PAW in some of their weekly editions. Meows and woofs!
- **PRINTING IMAGES of Rockville**, for printing this newsletter at reduced cost. Bow wows!
- **WUSA TV'S PETLINE 9** for featuring an adoptable PAW dog periodically on a live TV spot on the Saturday morning news.
- **VETERINARIANS AND STAFF at Beltway Referral Associates, Beltsville Veterinary Hospital, Chesapeake Veterinary Cardiology Associates, College Park Animal Hospital, Family Veterinary Clinic, Gaithersburg Animal Hospital, Hyattsville Animal Hospital, Kenhaven Animal Hospital, Laurel Park Animal Hospital, Metropolitan Emergency Animal Clinic, Nebel Street Animal Hospital, St. Charles Animal Hospital, St. Leonard Animal Hospital, VCA Veterinary Referral Associates, Watkins Park Animal Medical Center, and Wheaton Animal Hospital** for providing reduced-cost vet care to PAW's homeless dogs and cats. Woofs and wags!
- **PAW's FOSTER and ADOPTIVE FAMILIES.** We couldn't save lives without you. Slobbers and slurps!
- **LAST BUT NEVER LEAST**, Maryland-area

Membership/Donation Form

Partnership for Animal Welfare, Inc., P.O. Box 1074, Greenbelt, MD 20768

www.paw-rescue.org 301-572-4PAW

PLEASE CHECK AS MANY AS APPLY:

___ **Membership:** **Single** (\$25) **Family** (\$45)

___ **Renewal:** Please check here if this is a renewal membership.

___ **Additional donation:** I am enclosing an additional gift of \$ _____

___ I enclose an additional donation **in memory of:**

A person: _____ A pet: _____

___ I enclose an additional donation **in honor of:**

A person: _____ A pet: _____

___ **Volunteer:** I am willing to help in the following capacity:

Total Enclosed: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please make checks payable to the Partnership for Animal Welfare and mail to the address above. The animals thank you.

PETSMART and PETCO stores, for hosting our weekly dog and cat adoption shows. Paw shakes and purrs to all.

PAW Basket Bingo *Sunday, March 5th!*

When was the last time you did something fun... and were able to help homeless pets at the same time? All funds netted at Basket Bingo help provide life-saving veterinary care and other services for sick, injured, and homeless pets. First-time players are welcome; all instructions will be provided.

WHAT: Play bingo and win a valuable



Longaberger® basket filled with an assortment of surprise gifts. Door prizes and special games are also included. Refreshments are available for purchase.

WHERE: The Bowie Elks Lodge, 1506 Defense Highway, Gambrills, Maryland (see the map link on our website at www.paw-rescue.org).

WHEN: Sunday, March 5th, 2006. Doors open at 1:00 pm; 1st bingo game begins at 2:00 pm.



ADMISSION: \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door.

Donations are always appreciated to help fill the baskets with

goodies. For more information, please see the PAW website or email: amyb@radix.net. See you there!

*Longaberger® and the other basket and collection names are the property of the Longaberger® company. This fundraiser is in no way connected with or sponsored by the Longaberger® Company.



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