



Olympic Mountain PET PALS

Promoting
Spay & Neuter in
Jefferson County
Fall 2014

Chimacum Students Raise Money by Socializing Feral Kittens

When Pet Pals board member Phyllis Becker saw that the Chimacum High School Band needed to earn money for a trip to Honolulu, she had just the job for them. Petting feral kittens!

The two kittens along with their mom had been found in a lumber storage building at Hadlock Building Supply. When Phyllis heard about them late one evening, she changed out of her PJs, grabbed a feral cat trap, and headed to the storage building. In less than two days, mom cat and the two female kittens were safely housed in feral cat dens at Phyllis' home.

Phyllis chose to house the kittens separately from the mom, who was shy, but tame. She was spayed through Pet Pals Community Cats Program, and sent to the shelter where she found a good home.

In the meantime, the two kittens needed a little more work. Both were weaned, but Phyllis notes that they were tiny little spitfires who had no experience with humans. "I would pick them up with gloved hands, ignoring their hissing and spitting, getting them used to human handling." Then she fed them canned food treats while they were on her lap.

But as Phyllis made progress with the kittens, she realized that they would benefit from widening their social circle. Interaction with new people would help them become more tame and comfortable with humans. That's when she learned that the Chimacum High School Band was trying to finance a trip to march in this year's Pearl Harbor Day Parade in Honolulu. According to the story in the Peninsula Daily News, the kids were willing to do odd jobs to raise the money. "Boy, did I have an odd job for them," Phyllis said. "Socializing kittens!"

She hired three students who spent a combined 15 hours over two weeks, sitting with and petting the kittens. "The kids were really good with them, and enjoyed the job."

As the kittens thrived and gained weight, they were ready to be spayed and moved to the shelter. They weren't the usual gregarious, cuddly kittens, according to Phyllis, but they had come a long way from their feral behavior. Within a week they were adopted together.

It was a happy ending to the story for this little family of homeless cats, thanks to Pet Pals and the Chimacum High School Band.



Chimacum Cowboy Kittens

Photo credit: Paul Becker

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Olympic Mountain Pet Pals is a 501(c)(3) (non-profit) organization whose mission is to prevent the birth of unwanted pets and feral cats through our spay and neuter programs. We are funded by donations and grants.

For more information about Olympic Mountain Pet Pals, visit our website at www.ompetspals.org

From the President

Olympic Mountain Pet Pals is proud of our ever-growing outreach programs, READto ROVER and Pets to People. Although our primary mission is prevention of unwanted litters, we are very proud that we are helping kids to understand how deeply they can connect with our wonderful READ to ROVER dogs. We hope they will carry this love forward to their own lives and understand the indelible connection between animals and people. Pets to People addresses the other end of the spectrum as elderly people realize they may never have another pet of their own and are grateful for the sweet doggies that visit them in their retirement communities.

I recently saw a "60 Minutes" special on research regarding the brains of dogs. No surprise to us that dogs are empathetic to humans and that when they look into your eyes they are NOT just asking for a treat!! Research into cats will be more complicated but I think we know that kitties too are extremely in tune with their humans and add in an extraordinary way to the quality of lives of their humans.

OMPP strives in all ways to make sure that these amazing, empathetic, spirited and loving dogs and cats are never overbred, unwanted, or thrown aside. Our local shelter is struggling to keep up with the number of animals surrendered or found on their own hoping for food and shelter. The effort never ceases to help these sweet creatures to find the loving homes they deserve and that can never happen when "supply" exceeds "demand."

As I write this in mid-October, I have received commitments from OMPP Board members for \$2500 in funding for a challenge grant this year. The amount will grow and final pledge results will be available on our website and in an e-mail to our members. Our commitment remains strong to provide spay and neuter services to low income residents of Jefferson County and to community cats. It is the ONLY way to keep the shelter population stable and to assure that every pet has a chance at a loving "forever" home.

Please help us to help the animals. Your donations to Olympic Mountain Pet Pals go entirely to local families and local animals in Jefferson County. Our all-volunteer organization strives to keep costs down and funds flowing to those who need it most. Please consider giving from your heart this year in support of our efforts. We love our family of contributors and promise to continue our efforts to provide needed services that will help all pets in our community. We are thankful for you this holiday season.

Pam Kolacy



Chimacum Creek School Shows Its Appreciation for READ to ROVER

Photo credit: Carla Ellis

Our Community Cats Program Works: Here's the Proof!

Spay/neuter is the most effective way to help homeless cats in our community. We see the results of our programs every day at the animal shelter. There are fewer feral cats arriving at the shelter as a result of our TNR (trap-neuter-release) program. Our community is not alone in seeing these benefits. New research at the University of Florida shows just how powerful TNR is.

Veterinarians at the UF School of Veterinary Medicine conducted a study to measure the impact of TNR in one community with a high number of community cats. Over two years, volunteers humanely trapped a little more than half of the estimated community cat population in the designated area. The cats were spayed or neutered and then were either returned to a safe environment or adopted.

At the end of the two year period, the researchers counted the number of cats coming into the shelter from this area and compared it to an area that didn't use TNR. They found that the TNR program had cut the number of cats taken to the shelter by more than two-thirds. And in the neighborhood that didn't use TNR, euthanasia rates were 17 ½ times higher. Proof once again that spay/neuter of community cats saves lives!

The Study: **Effect of high-impact targeted trap-neuter-return and adoption of community cats on cat intake to a shelter** by J.K. Levy, N.M. Isaza and K.C. Scott. *The Veterinary Journal*. Sept 2014.



photo credit: Deja Webster, Deja View Photography

Thank You

Olympic Mountain Pet Pals Thanks These Local Businesses for Their In-Kind Contributions:

- **Kathy Stanger of Macs Macaroons** for making our READ to ROVER scarves and tasty dog treats
- **Ranie Keithahn** for design of our logo.
- **Nina Noble** for design of our website.
- **Lucky Dog Training Center**, owned by Georgia Towle, for therapy dog testing
- **OlympusNet**, owned by Kate and Ned Schumann, for hosting our website
- **Olympic Mailing Service**, owned by Caroline Stuckey, for handling the mailing of our newsletter.
- **Uptown Nutrition** for carrying our Pet Pals Palate Pleasers cookbook, our Max Grover mousepads, and greeting cards.
- **SOS Printing** for printing our newsletter and brochures.
- **The Food Co-op** for carrying our Pet Pals Palate Pleasers cookbook and including us in their Beans for Bags program.
- **Uptown Dental Clinic** for including us in their patient

donation program.

- **Helmsman Financial** for help with our accounts.

Thank You to the World's Best Veterinarians!

So far in 2014, our vets have donated time and services to perform nearly 325 spay and neuter surgeries for community cats and pets in low-income families.

Thank you to **Dr. Ginny Johnson** and **Dr. Cindy Alexander** of Hadlock Veterinary Clinic and **Dr. Jeff Highbarger** of Chima-cum Valley Veterinary Hospital for providing the low-cost surgery that makes these programs possible.



photo credit: Deja Webster, Deja View Photography

New Port Townsend Youth Services Librarian Praises Our READ to ROVER Program

New Youth Services librarian Kit Ward-Crixell is no stranger to dogs in the library. When she worked at the New Braunfels Public Library in Texas, the library hosted a successful after-school reading program called Paws to Read. Kit told us that “when the program was first introduced it took a while for people to understand what it was - they didn’t realize what a “therapy animal” was or why dogs would be in the library at all!”



**READ to ROVER dog, Sunny
listens to a good story**

Photo credit: Carla Ellis

But, after a process of publicity and education, Paws to Read became one of the library’s most popular ongoing programs, with kids of all ages - from pre-readers up through middle school students - coming to read and visit with the animals (including one cat!).

When she came to Port Townsend, Kit was excited to learn about our READ to ROVER program. She wanted to bring the program to the Port Townsend Public Library during the school year, rather than just during the summer. “The school year is when many parents are looking for ways for their child to practice reading. And there is no better place than the library to share with children a love of reading.”

According to Kit, READ to ROVER gives our library a special feel, too. “I love having dogs in the library and I think it’s a great way to make it a warm, welcoming space.”



**READ to ROVER dog, Oly, shares a
picture book in the Port Townsend Library**

Photo credit: Carla Ellis

Fall Gardening Helps Local Animals

Late fall in the Pacific Northwest is a great time to add a few new plants to your garden—especially since Mother Nature will do the watering for you! And if you shop for your plants at Secret Gardens Nursery in Port Townsend you can help prevent animal homelessness and save money on your plant purchases at the same time.

For the third year, Secret Gardens is raising money for three animal welfare groups including Pet Pals. Make a \$10 donation and you’ll get 30% off your entire plant purchase. A \$20 donation earns 40% off your purchase and if you donate \$30, you’ll get 60% off your entire purchase of plants. The fundraiser runs through the end of the year and all donations and plant purchases must be cash or check.

And be sure to say hello to Rufus while you’re there. He’s the former community cat that the nursery adopted through Pet Pals. Rufus traded in his feral ways for a cozy bed next to the cash register. (He also provides a little rodent control for the nursery.) Thank you once again to Secret Gardens for supporting local animal groups.



photo credit: Deja Webster,
Deja View Photography

It's Raining Cats and Dogs

That's the message that Spay/Neuter Program Coordinator Pam Gray took to the Food Co-op this fall. She talked with shoppers about how our programs reduce the number of homeless animals in our community.



Pam Gray at her booth in the Food Coop
photo credit: Ginny Messina



Pam's colorful design raises awareness about the problem of unwanted litters
photo credit: Ginny Messina

Helping Animals: Easy Ways to Give

We have two easy ways for you to help animals and they will both make you smile!

If you're a patient at the Uptown Dental Clinic, be sure to fill out their charitable giving form the next time you are there. Choose Olympic Mountain Pet Pals as your favorite charity, and the clinic will make an end of the year donation to us.

If you shop at amazon, choose their Amazon Smile website at smile.amazon.com. You'll have a chance to choose Pet Pals as your favorite charity. Then, every time you shop, 0.5% of your purchase will be donated to our lifesaving programs for animals



Help Us Help Animals with Your Fundraising Skills

Pet Pals is looking for volunteers who can put their creative energies to work in raising money for our programs. We have some ideas for fundraisers and want to hear yours, too. If you'd like to head up a committee or work with other volunteers, email us at ompetpals@gmail.org.

DONORS

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Uptown Dental Clinic
John Watts
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Taylor Worth
Nancy Wyatt

IN HONOR OF...

Carolynn Moody
Noah Harrison
Dr. Virginia Johnson
Maureen Huff and Karen Crouse
Meribeth Reed
Kate and Ned Schumann
Viv, Evyan Abookire and Robert Horton
Marsha Wiener
Libby and Nick Reid
Lisa Enarson and Randy Kraxberger
Phyllis Becker's Birthday
Dolores Harvey
Sarah Becker
Marsha Wiener
Selden McKee's Birthday
Marsha Wiener

"Outside Kitty"

Nancy Stickney
Our beloved dog Piper
Corine de Boer and Jak Mang
My Cat Smoke
Maria Holtgrave
Wonder Dog Allie of Andy McGregor
Kim Pratt
Wonder Dog Dilly of Carla Ellis
Kim Pratt
Wonder Dog Onyx of Georgia Towle
Kim Pratt
Wonder Dog Yoshi of Jan Darnall
Kim Pratt
Beloved dog Zyp
Peg Furey

IN MEMORY OF...

Will Jones, Husband of Emmy Jones
Diane Johnson
Roy Hicks husband of LeVerne Hicks
LaVerne Hicks
Jim and Debbie Dodd
Michael Gohn, husband of Candice Gohn
Shirley and George Williams
Virginia Ryning
Robert Farley
Jan Schroeder
Erica Springstead
Linda Jeannotte
Katie Whitman's dear gentle dog, Josie
Kate and Ned Schumann
Al Wagner's beautiful Gigi
Madelyn Curll
Ray and the Serans' Bella who lived up to her name in every way
Madelyn Curll
Bootsie, pet of Bernice Martell
Bernice Martell
Brady, beloved dog of Marsha Wiener
Marsha Wiener
Kate and Ned Schumann
Ginny and Mark Messina
Phyllis and Paul Becker
Roger and Susie Contor
Brandi, a sweet girl and special dog of Caroline McNulty
W. Dwight Oberholtzer and Ellen Ostern
John and Betty Kuller



Photo credit: Deja Webster of Deja View Photography

Beloved cat Brandie
Claudia and John Davis
John and Claudia Davis' beloved cat Baby Kitty
Madelyn Curll
Buster, beloved cat of Cindy and Joe Lesh
Diane and Clinton Hurd
The Lambkins' and Campanolis' rescue dog Chloe
Madelyn Curll
Cleo, Best Kitty
Nancy Stickney
Connie and Jeff Graham's beloved dog Little Bit
Donna Regester
The Silver family's glorious Dakota
Madelyn Curll
Gretchen and Emily Wambach's cute and brave Duncan
Madelyn Curll
Gambit
Stephen Morris
Gigi, who lived with and inspired Al and Jane Wagner
Madelyn Curll
Hershey, beloved cat of Shirley and George Williams
Taylor Worth
The Hundley's dearly loved Corgi Jackson, who was brother to Jillie
Madelyn Curll
Beloved dog Joey
Kenneth and Christine Hohman
Jose, adorable pet of Debi and Bruce Olsen
Madelyn Curll
Kali, a joyful READ to ROVER dog of Pat Swain
Carla Ellis

Linda and Bill Tanner's beloved dog, Kiska

Madelyn Curll

The Boggs family's Kobe a lap dog dressed like a healer

Madelyn Curll

Liberty, beloved dog of Georgia Towle and Patty Greeny who loved READ to ROVER

Carla Ellis

Lilly, beloved dog of Don and Juanita Campbell

Kim Pratt

Lyle Ruskin's dear pet Little Boy

Madelyn Curll

Lucky, beloved pet of Ilana Smith

Jamie Reudink

Madelyn Curll

Lucy and Meidi, beloved dogs

Sally Rodgers

The Sterritts' well-loved dog

Lucy

Madelyn Curll

Joanna Sanders

Ludlow beloved pet of Kori Ward and Marcia Dean

Madelyn Curll



Photo credit: Deja Webster of Deja View Photography

Lulu, pet of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Eagan

Madelyn Curll

Shadow of Velda Burrows

Sandy Guinup

Maxine a grand 15 year old of Susan Bishop and Randy Harker

Madelyn Curll

Missa, she had several families, but she last lived to a ripe old age with Mea Graham

Madelyn Curll

Molly, a good girl and special dog of Jennifer and Norris

Johnson

W. Dwight Oberholtzer and Ellen Ostern

Murphy, beloved dog

Diane Golden

Beloved cat Nika

Carolynn Moody

The Martin Family's cat Nina

Madelyn Curll

Beloved dog Hope of Ken, Helva, Chris and Maria Clow

John Watts

Pepper, beloved pet of Randy and Jamie Deering

Madelyn Curll

Paul and Becky Wrench's marvelous Phoebe

Madelyn Curll

Rhonda and Steve Scharf's beloved cat Samantha

Debra Andrews

Eva Ahlson

N. Scharf

Beloved dog, Riley

Jennifer Carl

Beloved dog Rowdy

Betty and Joe Plaskett

Ruby, our beloved Corgi

Nancy and Richard Schneider

Remembering Our Pets

Losing a beloved pet can be devastating but it helps to know that others care about your loss. Contributing a memorial gift to Olympic Mountain Pet Pals in honor of a friend's dear companion both expresses your sympathy and helps local animals. When we receive a gift in memory or in honor of a pet or person, we acknowledge that gift to the family with a personalized Olympic Mountain Pet Pals card. Please include the name of the pet or person to be remembered and the name and address of the person who should be notified of your donation when you make your contribution. Your kindness will be greatly appreciated.

Sam, beloved dog of David, Sheri and Nick Glass

Judith and Ken Collins

Sebastian, beloved Labrador of Lisa Pritchard and Justin Stout

Madelyn Curll

Shelby, beloved dog of Karen and Chuck Russell

Judith and Ken Collins

Stuart Little, beloved cat of Jennifer, Kevin and Donna Regester

Phyllis and Paul Becker

Beloved cat Takai

Sandra Flaherty

Tigger, heartily-loved by Peter and Helen Leenhuts

Madelyn Curll

Trini and Bear

Joyce Malloy

Trooper, given ten beautiful years with Yvette Stairrett and Ron Straub

Madelyn Curll

Tulip, Laura Burn's dear sweet READ to ROVER dog

Kate and Ned Schumann

Willie Bob, best buddy to Nancy Fitch

Cathy and Steve Tucker

Yarrow who survived to be 15 years 10 months old due to the loving understanding of The Mitchells

Madelyn Curll

Maria and David Timmons' beloved horse Commander

Steve and Peach Stebbins

Pam and Keith Kolacy

Deb Hammond's sweet cat Gracie

Catherine McNabb

Jan Schroeder's sweet dog Cayenne

Pam and Keith Kolacy

Linnea Patrick's dear cat Dandelion

Pam Kolacy



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Double Your Year-end Gift

We are thrilled that a group of loyal Pet Pals supporters has made our annual Challenge Grant possible again this year. They have offered to match donations made by December 31, 2014 (up to a still growing pledge amount).



photo credit: Ned Schumann

As you know, our major focus and expense is to provide spay and neuter veterinary services for the pets of low-income residents in our local communities and to prevent runaway population growth of homeless “community cats.” You can count on Pet Pals volunteers to use your contributions wisely and efficiently.

Please give as generously as you can this holiday season to help us meet this fundraising challenge. Your money will go twice as far, helping us move toward the goal of reducing the population of homeless and unwanted dogs and cats in Jefferson County. We thank you on behalf of the local families and the local animals that your support will help.



photo credit: Deja Webster,
Deja View Photography

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Olympic Mountain



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