



# Olympic Mountain PET PALS

Promoting  
Spay & Neuter in  
Jefferson County  
Spring 2015

## Bella Finds Her Forever Home

**W**hen Pet Pals started our TNR (trap-neuter-return) program nearly 20 years ago, we were determined to help the many feral cats living in our county. We had no idea that we'd end up helping just as many tame cats. That's why the program is now called "Community Cats." So many of the cats we spay and neuter are not the least bit feral. Sometimes they are simply lost and frightened.

That was definitely the case with Bella, a little black cat who was found hiding beneath the porch of Pet Pals supporter Lori Oberlander. "This little cat was hungry, thirsty and afraid," Lori said. "She hid under our porch, day and night and, when she wasn't hiding, she was running."

Lori couldn't get close enough to determine Bella's gender but she was concerned about the obviously homeless cat. "Stray cats don't live very long in our neighborhood — surrounded by wood and wild animals." Lori and her husband started putting out food and water for the kitty and wondered what was going to happen next. If the cat was a female, was she going to show up one day with kittens? How were they going to catch a cat who ran every time she got even a glimpse of a person?

Fortunately, Lori knew about Pet Pals. She called and explained the situation to board member Donna Regester who coordinates our Community Cats efforts in Port Hadlock. Donna brought a humane trap to Lori and demonstrated its use. Donna also called ahead to

the Hadlock Veterinary Clinic to let them know that Lori would be (hopefully!) bringing them a feral cat for spay or neuter and that Pet Pals would pay for it. Everything was in place. Lori just needed to get the cat into the trap. She put the trap on the back porch where she and her husband had been feeding the little kitty and luckily, she was hungry enough to walk into the trap the first day. Bella spent the night in a quiet corner of the garage until the veterinary clinic opened in the morning.

The little cat — only about six months old — turned out to be already spayed. Obviously she had a home at one point. And one thing was clear: Bella was not the least bit feral. Once she realized she was safe, she showed her true nature, that of a sweet and loving cat. And the best part was that she had found a forever home — with Lori and her husband. Lori says that Bella loves to sit on her lap and lick her face. "We are so grateful to Pet Pals for helping us get such a great member of our family."



**Bella at home**

Photo credit: Lori Oberlander



**Bella**

Photo credit: Lori Oberlander

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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.ompetpals.org](http://www.ompetpals.org)

## From the President

I've been reading this week about organizations like Wings of Rescue and Pilots N Paws, volunteer aviators who donate their time and resources to transfer unwanted rescue dogs from overcrowded shelters to those less overburdened.

I like these stories for several reasons. Of course it is always heartwarming to see people who care about animals making a difference. The number cited for pets euthanized in the U.S. every year is still a horrifying four million, but we know that has gone down more than 50% in the last 20 years. Another heartening fact is that there are many more shelters doing well enough to take in dogs (and hopefully cats) who are transported from other areas.

I firmly believe that such progress has been made as a direct result of spay and neuter programs that mirror ours. If every county in the U.S. had an Olympic Mountain Pet Pals, the euthanasia rate would be dropping far more quickly. Your understanding of this direct link between spay/neuter and the elimination of homelessness for pets keeps us going and we are ever grateful to our supporters for that.

Local efforts are the key and together we can set an example that will inspire others. My hope is that in another few years this newsletter column will celebrate the fact that all shelters can concentrate on finding forever homes for adoptable pets rather than trying to figure out how to make room for them all.

- Pam Kolacy



Pam and her dog, Gus

## Praise for TNR Programs

Pet Pals supporters know that trap-neuter-return is the most effective and humane way to control populations of feral cats. And it looks like we aren't alone in our appreciation for TNR. A national survey commissioned by Best Friends Animal Society found that Americans are overwhelmingly supportive of this approach. Among the more than 1,000 people who answered the survey, more than 68% preferred TNR to euthanizing these cats or doing nothing.

Public support means that more cats receive help. In fact, programs supported by Best Friends and PetSmart Charities have found that 80% of cats who are helped through community TNR programs are found because of calls from concerned citizens as well as neighborhood canvassing efforts.



Photo credit: Deja Webster of  
Deja View Photography

# HTB Family Fund Awards Grant to Pet Pals

**P**et Pals is thrilled to announce that we've received a grant from the HTB Family Fund to support our efforts to combat overpopulation of dogs and cats in our community. We are grateful that we were given the opportunity to write a proposal describing our volunteer organization, the work we do, and our track record of results. Our past successes, enabled by our many loyal donors, apparently made a compelling case for a grant allowing us to do even more.

The award letter from the HTB Fund Administrator, said "Your phenomenal spay/neuter statistics and low overhead (due to your many volunteers) are commendable. We are pleased to inform you that your organization is the recipient of \$8,000.00 to help with your Spay Neuter Program and Community Cats Program."

This money will all go toward veterinary services to help spay and neuter the dogs and cats in low-income families and to support our TNR (trap-neuter-return) program for cats who have reverted to a wild existence.

We certainly agree with the sentiment expressed in their letter: "Together we make a difference." It is wonderful to have a generous partner like the HTB Family Fund who shares our concern about animals in our community.



## 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.
- **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!

In 2014 our vets donated time and services to perform nearly 400 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**, **Dr. Jeff Highbarger** of **Chimacum Valley Veterinary Hospital**, and **Dr. Madelyn Curll** of **Oak Bay Animal Hospital** for providing the low-cost surgery that makes these programs possible.

### Thank You to the Local Businesses that Display Our Flyers

We work hard to get the word out about our spay/neuter programs. Often the information travels by word of mouth; our clients say they heard about us from their landlord, from friends who have used our programs in the past, or from one of Pet Pals supporters. But we also post flyers throughout the county and online to make sure that anyone who needs our help can find us. These are a few of the places where people found out about our programs:

- Animal Shelter of the Humane Society of Jefferson County
- Public Health Clinic
- Kitsap PAWS
- Olycap
- Pet Pals website
- Pet Town
- Chimacum Valley Veterinary Clinic
- Quilcene Food Bank
- Hadlock Veterinary Clinic
- Dove House
- Boiler Room
- Center Valley Animal Rescue
- Dept of Social and Health Services
- Facebook
- Oak Animal Clinic Bay
- Port Hadlock Post Office
- Chimacum Post Office
- Cenex



Photo credit: Deja Webster of  
Deja View Photography

# Meet Tonzo, a READ to ROVER Dog with an Illustrious Past

**B**efore becoming a READ to ROVER dog, Tonzo worked as a sled dog in Denali National Park. Larry Montague was in college, working a summer job in Denali, when he met Tonzo and fell in love with him. When not leading field courses for Alaska Geographic, Larry found a volunteer opportunity to exercise the sled dogs at the Denali kennels. He would walk Tonzo every chance he got. At that time, Tonzo was 9 years old (the usual retirement age for working sled dogs) and had logged 8760 miles, patrolling the park with rangers in the winter. He was a “wheel dog” which meant that he was placed right in front of the sled and responsible for pulling much of its weight. Tonzo was big and powerful, but it was his gentle and loving nature that attracted Larry.



**Then: Tonzo enjoying the Alaskan snow**  
Photo credit: Local Guides, LLC

The sled dogs in Denali are not racing dogs, but instead are traditional freight dogs, enabling rangers to patrol for poachers and transporting researchers and supplies into the interior of the park in the winter. Along the trail, sled dog teams may encounter wolves, caribou, moose, and hungry bears waking up in the spring. In the summer, the kennels become a tourist attraction, with the dogs on display and petted by hundreds of visitors - good experience for a future READ to ROVER dog. The dogs also do pulling demonstrations for the tourists using a sled on wheels.

At the end of that summer, Larry was informed that Tonzo would indeed be retired and he was encouraged to adopt Tonzo. This proved to be irresistible, in spite of logistical problems with transportation and housing at his upstate NY college. Upon moving to Port Townsend after graduation, Larry and Tonzo were certified as an OMPP therapy dog team.

See more photos, find out more about Tonzo's former life as a Denali sled dog, and hear an interview with Larry and Ned Schumann at <http://ompetpals.org/read-to-rover>.



**Tonzo and Larry at the Port Townsend Library**  
Photo credit: Ned Schumann



**Now: Tonzo's new job as a READ to ROVER dog in the Port Townsend Library**  
Photo credit: Ned Schumann

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HTB Family Fund  
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Nancy Wyatt



Photo credit: Deja Webster of Deja View Photography

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Linda Martin and Mike Cornforth

**Roy Hicks**  
LaVerne Hicks

**My sister, Rhonda Scharf**  
Debra Andrews

**Carolynn Moody**  
Deborah Hammond

**Dr. Curll**  
Al and Jane Wagner

**Dr. Robert Nathan "Thanks for helping Jeeves!"**  
Pamela Rogge and Ted Barkhoefer

**Banjo, beloved dog of the Glasts**  
Lilianne Glast

**Beloved dogs Hans and Fritz**  
Elizabeth Tobin

**My Puppy Cooper**  
Leslie Wake

**My cat Mimi**  
Lynne Teveliet

**Our cat BC**  
Rosanne Kramnicz and Doug Anable

**Tabitha, beloved cat**  
Brigid McCarthy

**Therapy dog Sunny**  
Lenetta and Everett Johnson

## IN MEMORY OF...

### Huey Ahlson, father of Rhonda Scharf

Rhonda and Steve Scharf

### My Beloved Mama, Mary Ruth Stewart

Katie Whitman

### Ruth Hubbard, Mother of Penney Hubbard and Grandma to Granddog Abby

Carolynn Moody

### Steve Hamm

Joel and Rose-Ellen Leonard

### My 5 wonderful cats

Sandy Guinup

### Beloved Samoyed, Aimee

A. Kay Thoreson

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Carla Ellis and Rick Floyd

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Gail and Ed Colburn

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### Bella belonging to Cynthia Wilhelm and Ernest Damon McCorkle

Madelyn Curll

### Bonny, beloved dog of Jack and Jan Forrest

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Bernice Martell

### Brady, beloved dog of Marsha Wiener

John Bodger and Selden McKee

### Bubby, beloved rascal dog of Gerard Boutier and Mary Prince

Kathleen Mitchell and Scott Landis

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Kathleen Mitchell and Scott Landis

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Priscilla Jensen

### Charlie, much loved by Joan Michaelledes

Priscilla Jensen

### Cyrus, beloved dog of Gayle and Bill Kaune

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### Dee O Gee, beloved dog of Jerry Gill

Donna Regester

### Jan Schroeder's beloved dogs Doolin and Zena

Pam and Keith Kolacy  
Jan Schroeder

### Dory, much loved pet of Kris Morris and Brig Knauer

Madelyn Curll

### Dudde, beloved dog of Phil Rome

Dog Townsend

### Gigi, beloved dog

Al and Jane Wagner

### Gigi, beloved dog of Sharon and Clinton Ross

Dog Townsend

### Granite, beloved dog of Jan Schroeder

Jan Schroeder  
Pam and Keith Kolacy

### The Fujimotos Darling cat Hana

Madelyn Curll

### Hanna, precious pet of Vila Knapp and Brian Hopkins

Madeline Curll

### Harry, beloved cat of Bonnie and Nelson Ludlow

Madeline Curll

### Hugo, beloved dog of Lucy, Charlie, Harper and Lark Hanson

Dog Townsend

### Our beloved dog Ike

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### Lucy, beloved cat

Stephen Morris

### Lucy, beloved dog of Wendy and Norman Stevens

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### Lupi, beloved dog of Caroline and Craig Erickson

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### Mac Allen, beloved kitty of Diane Allen

Priscilla Jensen

### Magic, my beloved dog

Scott Walker

### Max, beloved dog of Kris Nelson

Pam and Keith Kolacy  
Dog Townsend



Photo credit: Deja Webster of Deja View Photography



Photo credit: Deja Webster of Deja View Photography

**Maxx Grande, beloved dog of Joan and John Grande**  
Christine Adams

**Beloved dog McDuff**  
Catherine McNabb

**Mia, Alisa's Cat**  
Phil and Marian Meany

**Misty, beloved dog of Ron and Barb Way**  
Dog Townsend

**Molly, my beloved dog**  
Janice Hodge

**Moxie delightful wonder dog of the Weaver family**  
Madeline Curll

**Mr. Floyd rescued feral cat of Ken and Judith Collins**  
Madelyn Curll

**Our dog Josie**  
Katie Whitman

**Nicky, beloved cat of Ginny and Mark Messina**  
Kate and Ned Schumann

**Nika, my beloved cat**  
Carolynn Moody

**Oreo, beloved 17 year old dog of Mort and Susan Robinson**  
Taylor Worth  
Shirley and George Williams

**Oreo, beloved dog of Sheila Hunt and Franz Witte**  
Dog Townsend

**Ozzie, beloved dog of Leslie Wake**  
Dog Townsend

**Pinto, a great READ to ROVER dog of Donna Bodkin**  
Carla Ellis and Rick Floyd

**Princess, beloved cat of the Atkins**  
Madelyn Curll

**Pumpkin, my beloved cat**  
Judy Smith

**Raja, sweet cat of Carol Laase**  
Madeline Curll

**Riggs, beloved dog of Liz Stone**  
Christine Adams

**Rosie, beloved dog of Mardee and Jim Prince**  
Becky and Alan Horne

**Rosie, beloved dog of Phyllis Miller and Kate Schottman**  
Randi and Lynne Winter

**Ruby, beloved dog of Dick and Nancy Schieder**  
Dog Townsend

**Sabina, beloved dog of Scott Landis and Kathleen Mitchell**  
Kathleen Mitchell and Scott Landis  
Mildred and James Mitchell

**Samantha, the love of my life cat**  
Rhonda and Steve Scharf

**Sandy, beloved dog of the David Krabill Family**  
Jane Krabill

**Sasha, beloved cat of Nancy Scharf and Doug Hansmann**  
Eva Ahlson  
Rhonda and Steve Scharf

**Scooter, beloved dog of Marlene and Jim Newman**  
Catherine and Keith White  
Donna Regester

**Shadow, beloved dog of Eric and Abby Jorgensen**  
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**Shellie, beloved dog of Dan Magnuson**  
Dog Townsend

**Slick, a darling cat of Tracy and Wayne Kier**  
Madeline Curll

**Smoke, beloved cat**  
Maria Holtgrave

**Stubby, last of the furry four**  
Madeline Curll  
Michael and Janet Mortenson

**Sukie, beloved cat of Tom and Linda Dacon**  
Karen and Tony DeLorenzo

**Sweet Sabina, cat of Kathleen Mitchell**  
Kathleen and James Gilmore

**Takai, beloved cat**  
Sandra Flaherty

**Tasha, beloved boxer of Jill and Tim Copsey**  
Jan Schroeder

**Tuvik, beloved dog of Laurie Calderhead and Arthur Fournier**  
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**Ursa, beloved dog of Jim and Linda Meyers**  
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**Windsor, beloved dog of Matt and Pat Lyons**  
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**Winston, my beloved dog**  
Donna Regester

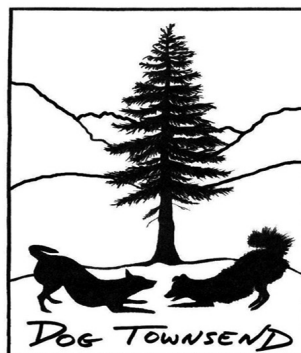
**Wooly, beloved dog of Dana Nelson and Kurt Munnich**  
Dog Townsend

**Zyp, a beloved READ to ROVER dog of Peg Furey**  
Carla Ellis and Rick Floyd  
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# READ to ROVER in the Rhody Pet Parade

It has become an annual tradition for our READ to ROVER teams to march in the Pet Parade during Port Townsend's Rhody Festival with our student READers from Grant St. Elementary and Chimacum Creek Primary schools.



Otis asks you to read to him

photo credit: Rick Floyd

Teams from Grant Street

photo credit: Ned Schumann



Forward march!

photo credit: Ned Schumann



Teams from  
Chimacum Creek

photo credit:  
Rick Floyd