

# Three Abandoned Kittens Find Help

by Phyllis Becker

When Devon Carney, an employee of the local animal shelter, (Humane Society of Jefferson County) got the call about three 8-week-old kittens abandoned at an Indian Island park, she knew just what to do. Devon contacted Olympic Mountain Pet Pals’ feral/ community cat coordinator. She knew she could borrow humane traps to catch the kittens, who were semi-feral and afraid of humans. They were also very hungry. After work, she set the traps with canned cat food.



One of three kittens happy to be on his way to a better life.  
photo credit: Devon Carney

After a week, checking the traps night and day, all three were caught. They all needed some socialization, but it was clear that they had been with humans before. How they got to Indian Island is a mystery. They all got spay/neutered and are now in their forever homes. (The concerned citizen who made the call adopted two of them!)

The Feral/Community Cat Program’s goal is to reduce the number of feral/free-roaming cats through spay/neuter. It has provided assistance this year to residents in Quilcene, Chimacum, Port Hadlock, Port Ludlow, and Port Townsend. The program has been responsible for spaying/neutering over 2,300 feral/ community cats since its inception in 2001.



Devon Carney setting a trap on Indian Island.  
photo credit: Phyllis Becker

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## WHO'S WHO IN OLYMPIC MOUNTAIN PET PALS

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Pam Kolacy, President  
360-385-5694, [pamkolacy@gmail.com](mailto:pamkolacy@gmail.com)  
Randi Winter, Vice President  
360-379-2695, [rlwintin@gmail.com](mailto:rlwintin@gmail.com)  
Kay Adamson, Treasurer  
360-301-3682, [kjadamson98368@gmail.com](mailto:kjadamson98368@gmail.com)  
Phyllis Becker, Secretary  
360-437-9085,  
[phyllisbecker@cablespeed.com](mailto:phyllisbecker@cablespeed.com)  
Carla Ellis  
360-385-3950, [carla@cs.duke.edu](mailto:carla@cs.duke.edu)  
Connie Graham  
360-379-1798, [connie@accmeals.com](mailto:connie@accmeals.com)  
Pat Swain  
360-301-9025, [pwswain@gmail.com](mailto:pwswain@gmail.com)

### Program Contacts

#### COMMUNITY CAT PROGRAM:

Phyllis Becker, program coordinator, and area coordinator for Chimacum, Port Hadlock, and Marrowstone Island, 360-437-9085  
Donna Regester, Port Townsend, 360-385-1385

**NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE:** Carla Ellis

**PETS TO PEOPLE:** Lana O'Neill,  
602-400-7890, [oneilltm@aol.com](mailto:oneilltm@aol.com)

#### READ TO ROVER PROGRAM:

Port Townsend: Laura Joshel, 360-461-9506  
Chimacum: Carla Ellis

Quilcene: Alicia Johnsen, 360-765-2942

#### SPAY/NEUTER ASSISTANCE:

360-301-8142

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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 community 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 love collecting quotations and articles about pets. I was just reminded that Mark Twain said "When a man loves a cat, I am his friend and comrade, without further introduction." I can relate to this since my cat Ollie makes a beeline for my husband's lap every time we settle down to watch a movie (no matter how much I beg her sit on mine). Frank Bruni, columnist for the New York Times, wrote an opinion piece called "Dogs will fix our broken democracy" – in it, he notes that when two people with dogs meet, conversations are easily started without regard to religious, political or social status. "Because we love dogs, we can't be all bad" is the initial assumption. And maybe that's a start for promoting some civil conversations in our increasingly polarized world. On a more

humorous note, Hollywood stunt man Tim Brown has been quoted as saying that having both dogs and cats is the perfect balance "Because dogs teach you about unconditional love, and cats teach you that it's not all about you."

We at OMPP are firm believers in responsible pet ownership. We know how much animals can contribute to our daily lives in so many ways – teaching us, exercising us, loving us in good times and bad. We also understand that medical expenses can come as a shock to folks who have acquired a dog or cat for all the right reasons. It is gratifying that our financial support for spay/neuter services is so gratefully received by those we help. We get many comments like these:

- Thank you so much. We've been struggling to get her this surgery for years. You've helped us greatly!
- Great news! Thank you so much!
- Thank you very much for your group. Helping all of us.
- Thank you so much for your help. My wife and I really appreciate it! The two kitties have a really good home here and are given tons of love.
- When I get back on my feet, I plan to make a contribution!

OMPP makes every effort to prevent situations where animals are overbred, unwanted, or thrown aside. Our local shelter continually struggles 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."

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 and her cat, Ollie



# Pet Pals is Grateful for Community Support

Pet Pals is grateful to the **Quilcene-Brinnon Garden Club** for approving our grant proposal to provide additional funding for low cost spay and neuter services for residents in the Quilcene - Brinnon area. We will be attending their luncheon meeting on November 21 to formally thank them for this funding.

Thanks also to the generous support for our Read to Rover 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration (see article on page 6) provided by the following local businesses: Hadlock Building Supply, The Car Wash, the Food Coop, Don's Soda Fountain, the Pizza Factory, and Easy Times Espresso.

## Thank You

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

- **Keith Lazelle Nature Photography**, owned by Keith Lazelle and Jane Hall, for donating a photo book, calendar, and notecards for our volunteer appreciation door prize.
- **The Gathering Place** for a discount on treats given out to all of our volunteers.
- **Creature Comforts**, owned by Ginny Diamond, for offering a discounted dog bed as a door prize for our volunteer appreciation event.
- **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.
- **Helmsman Financial** for help with our accounts.

### Thank You to the World's Best Veterinarians!

Our spay/neuter programs depend on the generous help of our veterinarians and their staffs:

**Dr. Ginny Johnson,  
Dr. Kristen Pitsenbarger,  
Dr. Melissa Steinmetz and  
Dr. Rachel Strohmeyer** of  
**Hadlock Veterinary Clinic,**

**Dr. Jeff Highbarger**  
of **Chimacum Valley  
Veterinary Hospital,**

**Dr. Madelyn Curll** of **Oak  
Bay Animal Hospital**



Photo credit: Deja Webster of  
Deja View Photography



Photo credit: Deja Webster of  
Deja View Photography

- **Deja View Photography**, owned by Deja Webster, for providing photos of shelter dogs and cats for the newsletter.
- **Bishop Hotel** for providing space for our Board meetings.



# Meet Daniel the Spaniel

## As relayed by his human, Mark Getzendaner

**M**y friend, and Read To Rover buddy, Lumie, said that I should introduce myself.... Well, my name is **Daniel the Spaniel**, and I am a 55 pound, liver and white, English Springer Spaniel. My name comes from the fact that I naturally “spring” at game and flush them out of the tall grass for the hunters. My breed was officially named by the 1902 British Kennel Club, but spaniels have been recognized for over 300 years. Although I am bred to hunt birds, I personally love birds and won’t even chase the



**The non-hunting life is the life for me**  
Photo credit: Mark Getzendaner

seagulls off of my deck. Furthermore, I don’t like water, nor getting my feet wet, so my original owner/handler in Yakima turned me loose to fend for myself, because he was a hunter and I was not interested in hunting. A farmer took me in and turned me over to the Springer rescue people. Two really nice people from Discovery Bay found me on the internet and adopted me.

It was a rough beginning as I had had a run in with a skunk and it took 5 trips to the groomer to make me smell better. But, I was already trained and we adjusted to each other very quickly. My vet thinks that I was 2 or 3 at the time and that was nine years ago. I must say that I am in pretty good shape for my age save for some arthritis in my hind quarters.

I met Kim Pratt at the elementary school and she suggested Read To Rover.

Now, it is my favorite thing. Each Friday, when my master, Mark, puts on his red shirt and my red scarf, I began to sing and make all kinds of dog noises. Some other times, it has been my privilege to be a therapy dog to some kids that have had a really stressful experience.

Another time, Kim had a reunion at the elementary school. I was afraid that no one would remember me, but I was wrong. Lots of kids gave up their recess to come and see me. Especially, Allie and Kyla, they just loved on me and made me feel so special.

I really love R2R just as much as I love going for walks with my Master and Mistress and I would encourage any other canines to suggest to their owners to ask for information on this program that so benefits the kids in our community as well as the owner handlers.....just ask any of them.

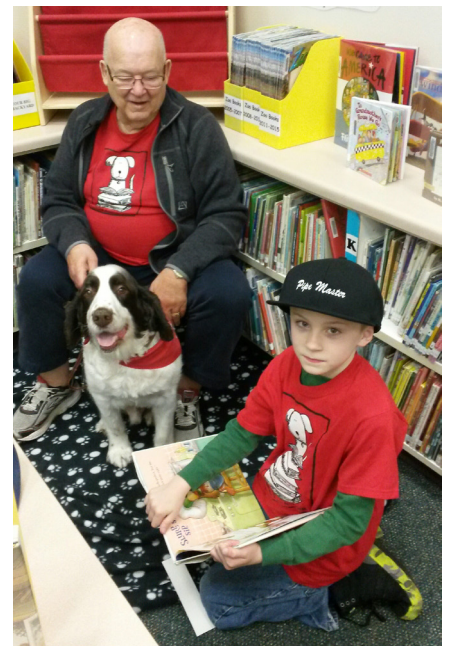


**My Master and I are Sports Fans**  
photo credit: Chris Parsons

Regards,.....Daniel the Spaniel



**This is me, Danny**  
photo credit: Chris Parsons



**Read to Rover is the job I love**  
photo credit: Chris Parsons



# Pet Pals Loves our Volunteers

On Saturday October 19<sup>th</sup>, Pet Pals hosted a party to show our appreciation for all the great things our volunteers do in the community. The human members of our active therapy dog teams who visit assisted living homes in our Pets to People program and help kids learn to love reading in our Read to Rover program were invited. It was held at the charmingly rustic Fred Lewis Boy Scout Cabin. The event involved lots of warm and wonderful conversations, good food from San Juan Taqueria, yummy desserts, and attractive door prizes. Thanks again to *all* our volunteers for contributing their time and energy and for sharing their dogs with the many lives they touch.



**Lots of good food**  
photo credit: Rick Floyd



**A gathering of heroes at the Boy Scout Cabin**  
photo credit: Rick Floyd



**Connie Jump, Pam Kolacy,  
and Helen Williams**  
photo credit: Rick Floyd



**Raffle prizes (Bonita's gift card,  
Keith Lazelle photo items,  
Creature Comforts dog bed) and  
Gathering Place treats for all**  
photo credit: Rick Floyd



**Kim Pratt and Jane Hall**  
photo credit: Rick Floyd



**Carla Ellis shares stories from 5<sup>th</sup> graders,  
remembering their R2R dogs from 2<sup>nd</sup> grade**  
photo credit: Rick Floyd



# Celebrating Ten Great Years of Read to Rover at Chimacum Creek Primary School



**Karen Newman and Kim Pratt (with her bookends)**  
photo credit: Carla Ellis

The annual end-of-year Read to Rover party at Chimacum Creek Primary (CCP) School this May turned into something very special, a Celebration of our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! Over ten years ago, **Kim Pratt**, then on the faculty at CCP, was so inspired by the Read to Rover program that **Kate Schumann** had created in Port Townsend that she was determined to bring the opportunity to read with dogs to second graders in Chimacum. She convinced the school administration to partner with Pet Pals and the program began in 2009 with four teams (four humans with their five certified therapy dogs). Over the years, the program expanded to allow every second grade student to come every week and now, even first graders are offered the chance to participate on a rotating schedule. Enthusiastic supporters of the program, most notably **Karen Newman**, board member of the Friends of Chimacum Schools, have made it possible to give every second grade student a red Read to Rover tee shirt to identify them as a member of the community of readers.

The party was full of fun surprises. Kim created a memory book with hundreds of photos from across the years. She also went over to the 3rd-5th grade classes at the Elementary School to encourage alums of Read to Rover to write about their experiences with their dogs. One fifth



**Kate Schumann with her husband, Ned**  
photo credit: Carla Ellis

grader wrote: "To be honest, ever since Read to Rover, I've been a better reader. So once again, I must thank you." Another wrote: "It must feel so good to know you have been helping children achieve their goals. I loved to read to the dogs. It helped me so much."

The teams came together to get a special gift for Kim. We commissioned a set of bookends from **Diane Gale**, a local potter and one of the original four Read to Rover volunteers (with Raven). Diane was excited about the challenging project and characterized it as a labor of love.

We recognized the contributions of

all the volunteers, but especially those who have been with the program for five or more years. These long time volunteers include Felecia Allen, Carla Ellis, Mark Getzendaner, Connie Jump, MJ McCulloch, Maurene Morgan, Lana O'Neill, Tim O'Neill, Pam Rogge, Maggie Smith, Pat Swain, Phyllis Taylor, Georgia Towle, Laura Tucker, Shelly Webb, Shirley Williams, and Helen Williams. Thank you all for your dedication!



**The dogs in the first year of Chimacum Creek Read to Rover, Rudy, Liberty, Onyx, Raven, and Sunny**  
photo credit: Carla Ellis



**The program has grown to 19 regular teams and a host of active subs. These were the 2018 teams.**  
photo credit: Carla Ellis

The list of 2019 donors will appear in the Spring 2020 issue.  
The list of "In honor of" and "In memory of" gifts is current as of October 20, 2019.

## IN HONOR OF...

**Beloved dog Rusty**  
*Sandra Flaherty*

**Finn, our rescue dog**  
*Diane and Clinton Hurd*

**Rudy, Phyllis Taylor's beloved dog and original Chimacum Read to Rover dog**  
*Carla Ellis and Rick Floyd*

**Scout**  
*Sandy Guinup*

## IN MEMORY OF...

**Greg Boling**  
*Nancy Wyatt*

**Michael Gohn**  
*Candice Gohn*

**Animal advocate Janet Harker**  
(2/5/33 - 7/10/18)  
*Sharon Gyovai*

**My dear hubby "Huey"**  
*Eva Ahlson*

**Rose Lowenstein**  
*Jay and Cheryl Lowenstein*

**Bella, our beloved dog**  
*Jim and Noreen McCarron*

**Bella, beloved dog of Kay Adamson**  
*Carla Ellis and Rick Floyd*  
*Pam and Keith Kolacy*  
*Sarah Becker*  
*Christina Griffin*

**Bella, my dear cat**  
*Maria Holtgrave*

**Laura and Bernard Rosenberg's beloved and brave Big Cat**  
*Karen and Tony DeLorenzo*

**Buddy, beloved dog of Tom and Cindy Myers**  
*LaVerne Hicks*

**Charlie, beloved Read to Rover dog of Pam Parker**  
*Carla Ellis and Rick Floyd*

**Chanti, sweet and beloved dog of the Ferrero Family**  
*Carl and Kay Jensen*

**Cinnamon, Queen of Shebas, beloved dog of the Richmond Family**  
*Jan Schroeder*

**Daisy, beloved kitty of Phyllis and Paul Becker**  
*Ginny and Mark Messina*

**Gus, beloved Quilcene Read to Rover dog of Rosalyn Roberts**  
*Carla Ellis and Rick Floyd*

**Gus, beloved dog of Suzanne and Bob Eggleston**  
*Pam and Keith Kolacy*

**Kitty Gus**  
*Nella Ludlow*

**Krisi and Mori, beloved dogs of Dr. Ginny Johnson**  
*Ginny and Mark Messina*

**Lucy, beloved dog of Steve and Irma Davison**  
*Maggie Smith*

**Murphy, our beloved dog**  
*Nancy and Ray Steinberg*

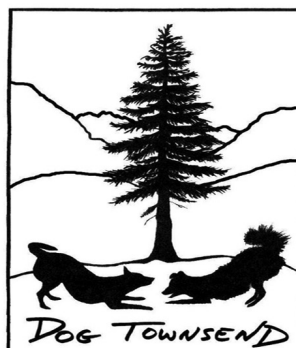
**Diana Gale's beloved dog Raven, one of the original Chimacum Read to Rover dogs**  
*Carla Ellis and Rick Floyd*

**Jan Stein's beloved dog Reggie J., "poodle rock star!"**  
*Pamela Rogge and Ted Barkhoefer*

**Mary Rome's beloved dog Sassy**  
*Sally Rodgers*

**Sandy, beautiful labrador retriever of Ron and Melinda Hayes**  
*Susan and Mort Robinson*

**Glenda and Jerry Wetherbee's beloved dog Tess**  
*Nancy and Richard Schneider*



## DOG TOWNSEND

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## 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.

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# Summer Read to Rover at Jefferson County Library



**Russ Stamp and  
Martha Ashenfelter**

**Laura Joshel and Chico with  
Addyson, an enthusiastic reader**



**Christina Pivarnik and Shawnigan with  
McKenna, a young library visitor**

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