

Forgotten Cats News

July 2023

June Status:

In June, we sterilized 1896 cats and placed 113 cats into loving forever homes.

Patience - A Happy Ending Worth Waiting For!



Being an incontinent cat - we knew it would be challenging to find Patience a forever home. But one thing we've learned is that there IS a HOME for EVERY CAT. Through the powers of Facebook, we met Patience's new mama in lowa!

So, now that we had a new home for Patience in Iowa how would we get her there? <u>Imagine Home</u> is an amazing non-profit organization that coordinates long distance transports to save special needs kitties. Their volunteers all came together to pick up a leg of the 19-hour trip (including an overnight stay at a volunteer's home!).

Patience departed from the Willow Grove clinic bright and early July 8th and arrived at her new home in Iowa on July 11th. Pictured below are pictures of Patience in her new home.







Upon her arrival, Patience immediately began exploring her new home and getting to know her new mama. She loved all the extra snuggles and pets. She also seemed particularly excited about her new fancy cat fountain!

We checked in with Patience's mama to see how she is doing. Patience is doing good - she is on a new diet and medication and things are heading in the right direction. She's not fond of having her bladder expressed but is getting better at accepting help from her mama. She's still adjusting to her new siblings, but her mama is spending extra time with Patience and her group so that she knows she is safe and will still get plenty of attention, even among her siblings. Patience is very affectionate and is a fiend for treats!

Thank you again to Imagine Home and all of the volunteers involved for making this transport possible. Thank you to Patience's mama for opening her heart and home to such special kitties. And thank you to our volunteers who have provided Patience with the best care and love for the last six months!













Your Help is Needed Answering Phone Calls and Scheduling Appointments on Saturdays and Sundays



We need your help answering phone calls and scheduling appointments, from people asking for help with homeless cats and kittens. At this point we do not have anything close to adequate coverage, and that means that there will be many kittens and cats who we will not be able to help.

Your help can make the difference between a life of misery and a life in a home with a loving family.

This volunteer position can be done from home. The only requirements are:

1. You have an internet connection, and you

will need a PC, tablet or laptop.

2. You need to commit to answering the phone over a 2-day successive period (SATURDAYS and SUNDAYS) throughout the day. Calls will be forwarded to you so that you can do this at home.

Average time commitment is 4-5 Hours a Day for Saturday and Sunday.

Please reply to <u>info@forgottencats.org</u> if you are interested and INCLUDE YOUR PHONE NUMBER so that we may reach out to you.

Thanks,

John Fedele, Vice-President Forgotten Cats, Inc.

Our July Spotlighted Volunteer is a Real Asset at the Brandywine PetSmart – Marsha Traub

By Mary Ann Emely

Marsha Traub is the friendly, welcoming face that can be found at the Brandywine PetSmart Adoption Center on Friday and Sunday afternoons working her usual Forgotten Cats shifts. She can also be found there at other times because she fills vacancies as they arise. She also volunteers at special adoption events and is an adoption counselor!

It was just about ten years ago that



Marsha on a Mediterranean cruise vacation.

Marsha began her role as a Brandywine PS volunteer. In this role she prepares cages for new cats coming into the center, she takes care of the cats while they are there awaiting adoption, and when they leave for their new forever homes, she cleans their cages to get ready for the next arriving kitties. She particularly enjoys meeting and speaking with potential adopters, learning about them, and helping to make good matches between prospective cat parents and their adoptees.

As an adoption counselor, she processes the adoption with the new owners, completing the paperwork and more importantly, telling them how to properly bring the cat into their home, taking into consideration any other pets in the home and the usual family routines for individual families.

Marsha says "I really enjoy seeing the cats find their forever homes, especially those who have been at the center for an extended stay. Of course, the COVID shutdown was the most challenging, but in some ways it was also the most rewarding. We worked through the obstacles and managed to get many cats adopted. It was during that time that I also had an opportunity to interact with the volunteers at the Trainer clinic."



Misty and Tilly

Marsha said she got her first cat when she bought her own home back in 1993. Two kittens had been found along the road in the Poconos and, with her mother's reference, she was able to adopt one of them on the spot. That cat was Misty, a beautiful black girl who lived to be over 20 years old.

Her second cat, Simba, was found in her sister's back yard in 1994, and she inherited her next cat, Sophie, after her father passed away. Sophie had been adopted by Marsha's mother as a 3-year old cat, but, unfortunately, her mother only lived a few months after the acquisition of Sophie. Marsha's father, who was not a cat lover, kept Sophie for the next five years, until he died. Marsha said "I knew that I could not give Sophie back to the Cat Angel Network as she



Sophie

was 8 years old and would have had a hard time getting adopted. I didn't want my mother to haunt me!"



Cleo

Marsha then adopted white-furred Tilly from Faithful Friends after Simba died, so at one point she had 3 cats. In 2015, she adopted her current cat, Cleo, from Forgotten Cats. "Cleo is now 8 years old. She was a young mother when I adopted her" Marsha adds.

Marsha works part-time at Garnet Valley High School as a cafeteria monitor and a library assistant. "I have been there since January 2016. It's the best job, I work 3 hours a day. My commute is very short and of course I don't have to work nights, weekends, the summer, holidays or bad weather. What could be better!"

Marsha has a degree in Political Science from the University of Maine, and she spent a semester studying as an exchange student at the University of Kent, in Canterbury, England. From there she went to Aberdeen, Scotland for her first post-college job. There were a lot of American companies there at the time, due to the oil boom in the North Sea. She lived and worked there for about 5 years.

When she returned to the US, she went back to school and obtained a Master of Science in Computer Science from West Chester University. "Going back to school after an absence of about six years, and to do something so different was definitely a challenge. But technology was unquestionably the industry to go into in the 1980s" she tells us.



Season Ticket Holder Marsha

Marsha started out working for Burroughs as a software tester, then became a programmer, and finally a Program

Manager with the Bank of America. She says there were many interesting stories over a 30+ year career in technology, having had the privilege of working with a lot of interesting and very talented people, working as great teams. "To this day, one of my departments gets together about once a year – something I enjoy very much" she adds. Marsha retired from her full-time career in technology in 2015.

Aside from spending time with Forgotten Cats, Marsha is a season ticket holder for the Philadelphia Flyers and an avid theater goer with a subscription to the Walnut Street Theater. She also goes to the Candlelight Dinner Theatre a couple of times each year. She says she loves to travel and usually takes a couple of overseas trips each year. "For now, I just plan to continue working at Garnet Valley part-time and volunteering for Forgotten Cats and enjoying my semi-retirement" says Marsha. And Marsha, Forgotten Cats is very happy that your fu-

ture plans include us! Thank you for all you do!

Trainer Facility at ZERO Intake . . . Can You Help?



This is the time of year when we bring in hundreds of cats and kittens every week. Currently, we are inundated with nursing mothers and babies. If fosters are not available, we are forced in most cases, to return the mom and kittens to where they were living outside. We would prefer to put them in foster homes and then, once old enough, into our adoption centers. The kittens we would like fostered range in age from a few days old to a few weeks. We also have "bottle babies".

Please consider opening your home to foster a mom and kittens.

They can be kept in a large dog crate which we will provide. All you need to do is provide food and water for the mom and clean her litter box once/day. They can stay in a basement, bathroom, or any spare room in your home. The crate is about 2' X 3' and can sit on the floor or table. The kittens will be ready for adoption in a few weeks' time and at that point we will take mom and kittens back.

They are the cutest little balls of fur. You will get so much enjoyment from watching them develop and knowing that they will be going to homes where they will be cared for the rest of their lives.

If you want to foster or if you need more information, please contact info@forgottencats.org and include your phone number and we will be in touch very soon. Or complete our foster application at: https://forgottencats.org/foster-

Please share this email with anyone who can help!

**We are also seeking fosters for adult cats as well.







On behalf of our dedicated volunteers and the cats and kittens that we serve, many thanks to everyone that entered and/or donated to the Home Run & Summer Fun Raffle! Thanks to you, we raised close to \$10,000 - your generosity is what makes our mission possible.

Our sincerest thanks to the

following people that donated all of the amazing raffle prizes: Kenny & Sabrina, Jen, Sandy, Deana, Marge, Charlotte, Dawn, Patricia, Brenda, Kimberly, Tracy, Carol, Deb, Joe & Cindy and an anonymous donor.

And last, but certainly not least, our thanks to the businesses that donated to the raffle: The Phillies, Ashley's Restaurant & Bar, Winterthur Museum & Gardens, Breakthru Beverage Group, and Giant (Feasterville & Richboro).

https://www.mlb.com/phillies https://www.winterthur.org/







Stay tuned for our next raffle, starting mid-August! We've received some really nice raffle prizes from generous supporters, including 2 more sets of Phillies tickets, raffle prizes from local wineries, cat themed basket, Vera Bradley & more!

Upcoming Events





Clear the Shelters 2023

STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS - Forgotten Cats will be participating in Clear the Shelters 2023 - August 25 - 27.



Sweet and social - Patton!







Sweet and social! Dog and Cat-Friendly! Meet <u>Patton</u> (FCID# 12/22/2022-510). This big boy had a rough start in 2023 but is feeling 100% these days! Patton was found in late December with severely painful and ulcerated eyes. He spent the next four months recovering in the care of Forgotten Cats and is now ready for his furever home! I mean, just look at this ADORABLE face!

Patton is a vocal kitty that is happiest in the company of his people, whether its time spent playing, chilling or sleeping - he's not picky. While not a fan of being held for long periods, his purrs and circular struts tell us he loves back scratches and having his coat brushed. Patton is a muscular powerhouse weighing in at 12 pounds! He also enjoys playing with his catnip mice, colorful balls, wand toy and laser with intermittent periods of rest. His favorite spot to nap is by a window, soaking in the fresh air and sunshine.

Patton is roughly three years old and FIV+, but FIV+ cats can live long, healthy lives and co-exist with FIV- kitties. Besides lots of love, he only needs medication weekly in liquid form to maintain the health of his eyes. He takes it easily and unknowingly, mixed in with his broth liquid treat!

Patton has adjusted to being around other cats in the shelter and also adapted well to a calm, medium-sized dog while in a foster home.

Patton is in our Trainer, PA clinic shelter and would love to be in a home environment. Submit our no-obligation application to adopt: https://forgottencats.org/adoption-application/.

A day in the life of cat rescue . . . Pillow Foot



"Pillow Foot" - it certainly sounds benign and even a little cute. We all know how adorable cat's little toe beans and foot pads are, but "Pillow Foot" is anything but cute.

The clinical name for "Pillow Foot" is Feline plasma cell pododermatitis (PCP). While it is something that can be seen in indoor cats, it's more often seen in stray and feral cats and it can be painful and debilitating to them. If left untreated, secondary infections can

set in and it can also be fatal as it can affect other organs.

Pictured above left is Puffin - as you will note, he is favoring his right paw. Puffin is a feral from Newark that someone was caring for - his caretaker contacted Forgotten Cats for help.

According to PetMd.com, "The flesh of the paw pads is invaded by plasma cells, causing the pads to swell, resembling a pillow." You can see that Puffin's paw pad is significantly swollen, causing him pain and discomfort and also leaving him vulnerable to secondary infections.

Sadly, Forgotten Cats sees more cases of "Pillow Foot" than they'd like because it's more prevelant in strays and ferals due to their increased exposure to environmental factors.





So how is "Pillow Foot" treated? That really depends on the severity of the case. According to PetMD.com, "Treatment is aimed at reducing swelling, pain, and discomfort and addressing any secondary bacterial or fungal infections."

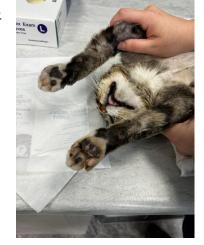
Treatment can consist of steroids, antibiotics, or immunosuppressives. But in severe cases, surgery may be required. In Puffin's case, a 14-day course of doxycycline plus surgical removal of the growth was required.

In Puffin's case, the growth was successfully removed, and Puffin is now free of the discomfort he was experiencing. His little paw is almost back to normal!

Thanks to your support, we are able to help cats like Puffin that require medical and/or surgical intervention.

To learn more about Feline plasma cell pododermatitis (PCP) (aka "Pillow Foot"), click on the following link:

https://www.petmd.com/cat/conditions/skin/pillow-foot-pododermatitis-cats





Chewy Wish List

It's never been easier to give back! Help our animals in need by shopping our Wish List on Chewy to donate muchneeded pet food and supplies directly to our organization. Just click on "Chewy Wish List" above.



Wish List!

Amazon Wish List

Unfortunately, Amazon has decided to discontinue their Amazon Smile donation program. But please keep in mind that we also have a Wish List on Amazon for much needed items - just click on "Amazon Wish List" above. This makes it super easy to help Forgotten Cats by donating much needed food and supplies to our organization.

We Want to Hear from You!

If you have an idea for an article or a story you would like to share about a rescue, special volunteer, your adoption center or recent adoptions from Forgotten Cats, please send story and photos if possible to: info@forgottencats.org

Our Corporate Sponsors

We would like to thank WSFS Bank for their Bronze level sponsorship of our Onward & Upward Campaign!

Forgotten Cats offers so much more than the standard spay/neuter clinic. For most cats, their visit to our clinic is the first and only time they will ever receive medical care in their life. Sadly, many of these cats are discarded pets that are now homeless and struggling to survive on the streets and they come to us traumatized both mentally and physically.

For that reason, we are expanding so that we can help more homeless cats and provide the necessary lifesaving care they so desperately need. WSFS Bank's sponsorship will help us to increase our lifesaving services and significantly improve the lives of cats.

We value the commitment of community businesses and when they partner with us, they partner in our lifesaving efforts. Click the following link if you are interested in learning more about our sponsorship opportunities: https://forgottencats.org/services/capital-campaign/

VSFS bank

We Stand For Service®





Forgotten Cats offers a variety of sponsorship levels - if you are interested in learning more about our Sponsorship Program, please visit: https://forgottencats.org/corporate-sponsorship/

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