

BISCUITS AND TOEBEANS: THE ANGELS WITH PAWS NEWSLETTER

Vol 3 Issue 1
April 2023



Hello and happy spring kitty lovers and Angels With Paws supporters! Spring is a time of reflection, and we want to be sure to thank all of our loyal supporters, staff, board members, volunteers, fosters, vet partners and adopters. We couldn't do it without you!

Spring is also a time of rebirth, renewal and looking ahead. As the shelter staff, volunteers, and cats all look to the promises that tomorrow hold, we hope that you will too!



**TOTALS FOR
2022:
296 INTAKES
294 ADOPTIONS**

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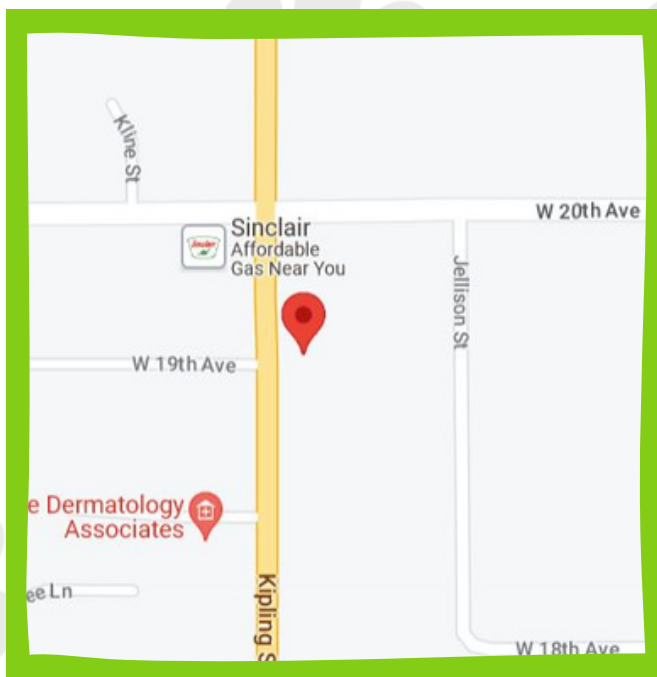


Big News!

Angels With Paws has purchased a building for our shelter in Lakewood. Our new building is larger and will allow us to help even more deserving kitties.

We will be looking to you, our devoted friends, for help in getting our new shelter move-in ready. We will need help completing renovations and general building repairs in April and May so we can start moving in June. Financial donations are also appreciated!

Check out our social media for updates on how you can volunteer or help.



Our new address will be: 1970 Kipling Street
Lakewood, Colorado
80215

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On Tuesday April 11th from 3:00pm-8:00pm, the Texas Roadhouse in Arvada will donate 10% of food purchases to AWP! Present the flyer at the end of this newsletter to participate.

Join us between 3:00-4:30 to meet our kitty ambassadors!

Score your AWP merchandise today! We have water bottles, lanyards, t-shirts and magnets! We also have reusable bags to help you save that \$.10 fee when you shop.

Cat/Kitten Adoption Fees:

Under 1 Year - \$155.00
1 - 4 Years - \$105.00
5 - 9 Years - \$80.00
10+ Years - \$55.00

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President's Column

Board President Diana Richett shares her perspective and introduces a couple of cats available for adoption.

Some of you know that I am passionate about special needs animals. I have adopted and cared for paralyzed/incontinent kitties, diabetics, kitties with cerebellar hypoplasia, cats with feline leukemia and seniors with health issues like chronic renal failure. This is why I am involved with and support Angels with Paws.

Angels with Paws is a small shelter but has the biggest heart. Not only do we have a very dedicated and caring staff who go above and beyond to ensure our cats have the best care but we champion the "undercat"----those cats who require extra care, the diabetics, cats with Feline Leukemia Virus and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus, seniors, the scared and timid cats and the paralyzed/incontinent kitties.

We have been featuring some of our special needs kitties on our facebook page in hopes of finding them a permanent loving home. Two of our longest special needs residents, who have been with us for over a year, also are looking for that special caring person who will give them the home that they deserve. Meet Blackie and Brad.



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Blackie who is usually out and about at our shelter is twelve years old. He came from one of our rescue partners in Texas. Blackie's mom had been hospitalized and this senior was put out by a family member to fend for himself. He was picked up by animal control and landed at the Greenville animal shelter. Knowing he was at risk for euthanasia when the shelter is full because of his age, we tagged Blackie. The Texas vet who sees these kitties prior to transport to Colorado did a blood panel and found that Blackie had chronic kidney issues. In the interim, Blackie's owner was released from the hospital and she requested Blackie back. However, when the vet explained to the owner his medical condition and the care he needed, she decided she did not want the responsibility of caring for him.

Blackie is a sweet and independent boy who has his favorites among the staff/volunteers at the shelter. He also likes being with one of our special needs foster kittens. He gets fluids every day and is much more tolerant of getting fluids than when he first came to us. Other than a specific diet, administering fluids is the only special care he requires and it only takes minutes to do. We at Angels can also show you how to give fluids.

Brad is five years old. He was trapped by one of the feral rescues but clearly was not feral. He was injured and not neutered and was scheduled to go with a foster based rescue rather than be released. Once it was discovered that he had feline immunodeficiency virus, Angels with Paws was contacted to see if we would take him.

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) is a retrovirus that compromises a cat's immune system, however, these cats can live for many years without symptoms. The virus is typically transmitted to other cats only through deep bite wounds. It is not spread by mutual grooming or sharing water and food bowls. FIV kitties can live with other negative cats with minimal risk of transmission of the virus as long as they are not aggressive and do not fight to the point of biting.

Brad is a handsome and robust boy who can be feisty at times but also has a very sweet side. He likes pets on his terms and would do best in a calm home.

Please consider coming to Angels and meeting these two boys. They are so deserving of a home. Our staff will be glad to answer any questions you may have about them.

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Two is Better Than One!

AWP Currently has several bonded pairs of cats available for adoption!



Bonded Pair: Valentina & Cholula



🐾 Bonded Pair: Tommy and Lucy 🐾



🐾 Bonded Pair : Sampson and Lily 🐾



BONDED PAIR: FLUFFY AND MOSEY

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Whisker Tales Success Story: Harry

By: Diana Richett

Many of you remember our Handsome Harry who was featured in our November 2022 newsletter. Harry was our diabetic kitty who had acromegaly. This endocrine disease is caused by the abnormal secretion of the growth hormone in the pituitary gland. Cats with this disease require high amounts of insulin. Left untreated, the disease will cause enlargement of the heart, resulting in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, and enlargement of other organs. Like people, cats eventually die from complications with the disease.

Thanks to you all who shared Harry's story and contributed to the costs of treatment, Harry had his lifesaving treatment (stereotactic radiation therapy) in mid-December 2022 at Colorado Animal Specialty and Emergency (CASE). Thanks to you all he is doing very well. After his treatment at CASE, Harry returned to AWP where our staff diligently monitored his blood glucose levels. Testing before administering insulin is necessary for any diabetic but it is critical in Harry's situation. As the tumor slowly shrinks so does the cat's need for insulin. Too much insulin can cause the blood glucose to drop to dangerously low levels (hypoglycemia). As Harry's blood glucose levels dropped, the amount of insulin administered had to be adjusted accordingly.



And in more good news for Harry. At the end of December 2022, I adopted Harry. I had said that if Harry is at our shelter for a year (he came to us in December 2021), I would adopt him.



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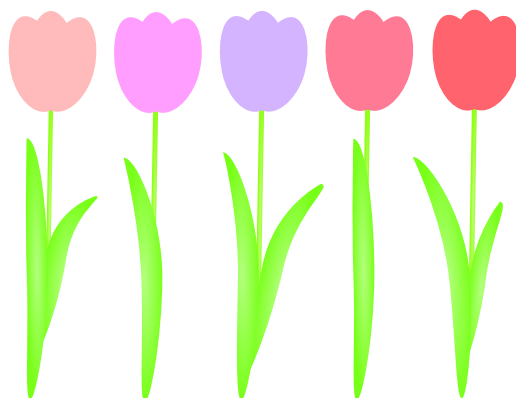


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Since October 2012, I have adopted diabetic cats through Diabetic Cats in Need and as luck would have it my first adopted cat through this organization turned out to have acromegaly. (Bella Kitty was successfully treated at Colorado State University in 2013.) I had no hesitation that I could provide the on-going care that Harry needed and provide him with a good home that he deserved. After adopting Harry, I switched his insulin to glargine. He was initially testing high and still needed between 3-4.5 units of insulin twice a day. By January he was testing in the 200s and 300s on 3.5 units of insulin. By February his blood glucose levels were in the 100s and low 200s. In March he has consistently tested in the 100s on 1-1.25 units of insulin twice a day.

It is unknown whether Harry's diabetes will go into complete remission but he is doing so much better. Being such a lay-back, easy going cat, he has adjusted well to my other cats. Hopefully, this twelve-year old will live many more years. Harry and I are thankful to Angels with Paws and the community for saving Harry's life. And many thanks to CASE who provided the life-saving treatment and took such good care of him while he was at their hospital.

Harry After his Treatment



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Foster Q&A: Kyoko, Foster for AWP



Princess Lilian



Elsa

Q: Have you ever fostered before? If so, how long and how many kitties or animals have you fostered?

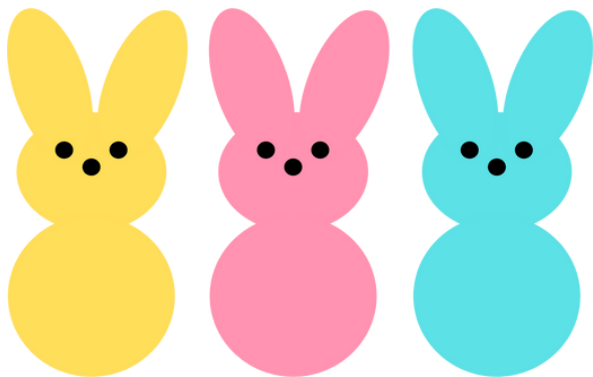
I have not fostered through an organization prior to AWP, but being the 'animal lady' in our neighborhood, I have cared for many strays. Prior to that I have fostered kittens who were found on the job, and foster failed to raise 2 of these littles from days old well into their late teenage years. And, I have also bottle-fed/raised many other kitties along the way. Other animals I have cared for in foster situations include a corn snake, domestic rabbits, macaws and Amazon parrots.

Q: What got you interested in fostering?

Fostering provides an animal with a safe place to land, and settle into a space which may be more conducive to healing, thriving, or improving their overall well-being. It may provide just enough courage for a shy animal, a safe place to recover from illness or injury, or even provide a home setting for an animal's final days. I want to be able to provide a loving and quiet environment for the animals who need this.

Q: What are the challenges? What are the rewards?

Challenges vary with each individual animal, but within these challenges are lessons to be learned. Finding new strategies to give medication, discovering the right balance of alone and socializing time, determining the best ways to tamp down spiciness. Each challenge you face helps to make you a better foster. The best reward is when the animal in foster goes to their forever home. It really is a tangible love, in knowing that you did your best for them, and they will thrive going forward.



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Foster Q&A: Kyoko, Foster for AWP

Q: Have you ever fostered special needs? If so, what type?

I was initially was fostering Norman. He was just days old with his umbilicus still attached. Bottle feeding every couple of hours was hard work, but that was just the beginning of his trials and tribulations. At just a few weeks old, it was discovered that he had improperly developed eyelids, blind in one eye, kidney issues, as well as a heart murmur. Thankfully he walked through life for 16 years seemingly unaware that he was not supposed to make it past kittenhood.

Giving subcutaneous fluids to help a cat with kidney issues seems to be fairly common, and with 3 of the last 4 cats (Norman, JiJi / Munchkin, and NooNoo / Cupcake) in our home with kidney issues, also now including our current foster, Shoshana Beans, it is almost second nature. It is one of the easiest things you can do to support a kidney cat (far easier than giving oral medication!). If you have seen videos online thinking that it can't be that easy, really, it is. The initial setup for the bag of fluids and line takes longer than the actual giving of subcutaneous fluids, but once you have your setup, it really is easy peasy. Since the injection is just under the skin, you don't have to worry about hitting nerves or bone, and the support it provides is obvious with minutes.

Q: What are you encouraging words for anyone on the fence about fostering?

If you are considering fostering, very few things should stop you from taking the next step. You can be part of the journey for an animal's path to its forever home. There are few things as satisfying as knowing that YOU made all the difference in an animal's life.



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YOUR SUPPORT KEEPS US GOING!



Angels With Paws: Cat Rescue and Adoption Center



@AngelsWithPaws



@angelswithpawscatrescue



**CHECK OUT OUR DONATION
WISH LISTS ON AMAZON AND
CHEWY!**

**CHOOSE US FOR KING SOOPERS
COMMUNITY REWARDS**

**JOIN US AS A VOLUNTEER
OR FOSTER!**



DINE TO DONATE! FUNDRAISING NIGHT



Support
**ANGELS WITH
PAWS**
TUES., APRIL 11
3 - 8PM

10%

DONATION NIGHT

Support Angels with Paws by presenting this flyer to the Arvada, CO location and Texas Roadhouse will donate 10% of your total food purchases to Angels with Paws!

Join us at Texas Roadhouse to support Angels with Paws Cat Rescue and Adoption! Stop in early from 3-4:30 to show some of our feline friends some love!

(303) 423-1185
5515 VANCE STREET
ARVADA, CO



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