



FELINE FUZZ

*Forgotten Felines and Fidos Quarterly Newsletter
Spring 2023*

We are a no kill , all volunteer 501c3 shelter



Amazing Rescues

Alexandria is a 7 year old brought to Forgotten Felines in October 2022 after being found as a stray. When the medical team examined her, they found she had several missing teeth, dental disease and alopecia. She also had some gastrointestinal issues including frequent vomiting. The medical team started Alexandria on several medications as well as prescription food, and this quickly helped with her GI issues. They also confirmed ringworm was not the cause of the alopecia, and her fur has now grown back beautifully! Lastly, they performed a dental procedure where they removed multiple fractured teeth. She has recovered from her surgery and is now ready to be adopted! Thanks to your generous support, Forgotten Felines will continue to care for Alexandria including any additional surgery, medications or specialists she may need while she waits for her forever home.



Monroe is a young silver tabby boy who came to us in December 2022 as a TNR patient. He is one of the sweetest, friendliest and cutest cats you'll ever meet! He was only 8 months old but he had a very noticeable head tilt. Although his head tilt is ridiculously adorable, it often means that there is an underlying medical condition. In Monroe's case, the medical team was suspicious there was a polyp present deep within his ear, behind his ear drum. Polyps are benign growths that can develop in the nose, at the roof of the mouth, or in the ear canals. Thanks to our generous donors, we were able to send Monroe to specialists who were able to use advanced imaging (a CT scan) to locate and confirm the problem. Afterwards, Monroe had a special surgery called a Ventral Bulla Osteotomy. This surgery involves removing some of the bone to get deep within the ear chambers to clean them out. Thankfully, Monroe did great and has an excellent prognosis! He will be ready to go to his forever home as soon as he's finished recovering



Mr. T came to Forgotten Felines in February as a very sweet TNR with several wounds. He was feeling so ill he walked right into a carrier for his colony keeper, as if asking for help! His colony caretaker realized the extent of his injuries and brought him to the shelter, where he was examined by our medical team and started on multiple medications for his severe front leg wounds. Our volunteers fell in love with his sweet nature and his caretaker signed him over to us for continued treatments in our critical care ward. When Mr. T first arrived at the shelter, he was so reluctant to use both front legs that he often posed like a kangaroo. X-rays were taken and while there were no broken bones, Mr. T did have a severe bone infection in both front legs. This required months of medical care with pain management, multiple antibiotics and lots of TLC! He is now able to use both front legs, he has made a full recovery and is now available for adoption.



Adoptables

All of our adoptable cats are spayed/neutered; vaccinated, FeLV/FIV negative, microchipped, and are current on their shots

Luigi and Yoshi are one-year old brown tabby boys looking for their forever home! They came to Forgotten Felines in March 2023 along with their brothers Mario & Toad after being removed from a hoarding situation. Fortunately, these healthy boys show no ill effects from their previous living situation. The brothers currently reside in the shelter rooms where they enjoy playing with string toys and climbing on cat trees. Luigi and Yoshi get along with other cats and would love to have a buddy to play with...you can adopt one or both! They are wonderful family companions.



Coop - Recipe for a good cat: 4 cups of playfulness, 2 teaspoons of cuteness, 3 tablespoons of cuddles, 1 quart of love, 5 ounces of curiosity

Mix all these ingredients together and the result is our sweet boy named Coop! He is a handsome and outgoing 7 year old male who is looking for his forever home. He loves to be the center of attention and would be a great addition for someone who can shower him with affection. He would prefer to be the only cat or in a home with a non assertive female cat. Coop is neutered, FeLV/FIV negative and microchipped. So come adopt him today so that he can say he "flew the Coop"!



Jefferson is a very sweet and affectionate boy with gorgeous black fur. He can be shy at first, but when he warms up to you, he is a loving boy. He was found as a single kitten on a country road not far from the shelter in Sept 2022. He was in very bad shape when he came in and had to battle several health issues, but he is fine now. He had an excellent foster mom and vet care. Jefferson is incredibly laid back unless he's chasing after a treat! He especially loves playing with different sized bottle caps plus his favorite hedgehog toy. He also plays with the laser light and any kind of wand toy. He does have a habit of sounding like a pug sometimes (due to his sinuses being damaged by URI's when he was young kitten) and from behind resembles a baby bear cub. He also likes being brushed. DOB: 6/17/2022



Monaco is a very sweet and affectionate gal. She was found as a single kitten outside in a dangerous area, at only 3 weeks old. She had to battle several health issues these last few months, but she is fine now. She had an excellent foster mom and vet care. Monaco is a ball of energy! She loves to play with all kinds of toys, especially playing keep away from her foster brother, Jefferson from another mother lol. Her most favorite activity is jumping on her foster mom's head to groom and play with her hair. She plays with all kinds of toys and loves jumping on pillows. She also has a great time playing inside any kind of tunnel toys. If at all possible, she would like to be adopted with her foster mate, Jefferson, a sweet black short hair male. Both love temptations treats, and Monaco also likes to eat soft treats, too. Jefferson likes curling up by the window whereas Monaco prefers a pillow. DOB: 8/29/23



Phineas is a very sweet and social guy. He loves human attention. He was rescued from the outdoors the first week of March 2023. He was born Feb 2022. He came in with a condition called "pillowfoot", where the pads of the feet are swollen, usually from an autoimmune issue. He is better now, due to antibiotics. He also tested positive for crypto sporidium, a microscopic intestinal parasite. Transmission is usually fecal-oral. Symptom is diarrhea, where this parasite is shed. There is no definitive treatment to eradicate the parasite, so many cats remain asymptomatic carriers. We recommend he be the only cat in the home. If you have another cat, there is a possibility of them getting crypto sporidium as well. It is also recommended that there should be no immune compromised persons in the home. He is the most affectionate and lovable boy ever and deserves a loving forever family.



Forever Grateful to Forgotten Felines

Submitted by Mary Ann

My story starts back in late January of 2004 when my father passed away. He had 3 cats that were Leukemia positive that the veterinarian suggested we put down. I couldn't accept this since they looked perfectly normal and acted normal. I didn't have the ability to take them. So, in February one of my friends from work suggested I call Forgotten Felines and Fido; she was a volunteer at the time that helped make cat toys. I reached out and was able to speak with Therese, she said she would get back to me after she checked into whether there was room for the cats. Unfortunately, there wasn't any space for them. It was okay since we had to sell my dad's house, we had a spot to keep them safe until they could come to the shelter.

Therese and I played phone tag a lot over the next 5 – 6 months. It was a long wait and by the time they could come in we had only 2 cats left. But, by mid-August, we were able to bring Baby and Whitey to FFF. The Leukemia cottage was still full, so Sue allowed these two boys to stay in the basement. I was a total wreck the day I had to bring them in, I loved these boys, and they were a connection to my dad. I asked Sue if it would be okay if I came back to visit them and she replied yes. I left that night crying because I had to leave them in a strange place but happy that I could visit them. I visited for a few times and felt guilty that I would just sit there visiting the cats when everyone was running around like crazy so I asked Sue if I could help with anything.

Therese started me out with cleaning Baby and Whiteys area. Finally, the day came when there was space for them to move to the Leukemia cottage, I was so worried about them readjusting to yet another place. They had their own room for a while and then started mingling with the rest of these wonderful cats. To my surprise they were very happy in their new home. It was at this time that I started cleaning the leukemia cottage and fell in love with these wonderful babies. I sometimes would bring my adult son, younger son, daughter in law or my grandson to help clean. I would usually clean on Tuesday or Thursdays since that was usually my day off from work. Unfortunately, we did end up losing both boys to this disease about 1 ½ - 2 years after they came in. Baby first, I was there on the day we lost him and when it was time for Whitey to cross the rainbow bridge Sue called me to let me know and I went to see him the night before he passed. Sue gave me some alone time with him and then Sue and I both cried together. As hard as it was to return to the cottage after their loss I did it because I loved the other babies that were there. Eventually I became a member of the board of directors.

I served as the volunteer coordinator for a couple of years and currently am still serving on the board as the secretary. I will always have a soft spot in my heart for the leukemia cats. If only people would understand how important it is to spay/neuter their cats not only to help control the cat population but to help contain the spread of this horrible disease. I will be forever grateful for the home FFF gave my dad's 2 cats and to Sue, Therese and all the wonderful volunteers for their help during a rough time in my life and for educating me on feline Leukemia. Over the last 18 plus years I made a lot of friends at the shelter that all have the same thing in common their love for cats and a willingness to help.

Phil's Story

Submitted by Liz and Caroline

Phil was found at our work in roughly January 2022. It is an industrial park area with warehouses and trucks, and feral cats are common in the area. We TNR feral cats found there and feed and monitor them. Phil started as a shy TNR, but afterwards he slowly started to hang out on our back dock and began approaching the workers for food and attention. He had an old bus seat that he liked to sleep on and where we provided food, and he began staying there almost all the time. We really wanted to try to bring him inside, but he was still very skittish and nervous. It wasn't the best spot for him not only due to the trucks, but also the foxes, raccoons, and traffic, and we created a hut he could use for shelter. He started to trust us more, and by December 2022 he let



some of us pet him but was still very skittish, and he came one morning with a wound on his tail. We decided we needed to bring him inside despite not knowing how he'd react to it, and to our surprise he did very well. He was kept in one room and adapted quickly, using the litterbox right away, sleeping in beds and on blankets, and even jumping right up and sitting on our laps. With how easy he took to a home we believe he was possibly someone's cat at one point, or at least had human interaction when he was younger. Phil had many bumps and scabs of unknown origin, possibly from ticks or fights, that we worked off him.

Upon Phil's intake to FF&F, it was discovered he had an issue with his left ear. The medical team got out a lot of compacted ear wax buildup, and they could not locate an ear canal. He was taken to a specialist at Eastern PA Vet in Allentown, where a CT scan discovered extensive damage to his ear canal, including a polyp, either due to a birth abnormality or an injury. He underwent surgery in April 2023, where the specialist removed the polyp and also removed his damaged ear canal. Phil now has that ear sealed, but it does not seem to affect his personality. He remains very happy and seems very content just to be inside, warm and well-fed. He has a slight head tilt and unsteady walk due to his surgery, which the specialist hopes will lessen with time. He also has a slight eye twitch which he has had since being outside, possibly related to his ear injury. We feel his tilt and twitch only add to his cuteness.

Phil is a very sweet boy, believed to be about 2-3 years old. He loves snuggling in his bed, attention, and also loves playing with jingle balls and toy mice. He has a lovable and relaxed nature. We will likely never know where Phil came from or how he ended up with his injury, but we all love him and are surprised how happy and friendly he remains despite all he has clearly been through. Phil seems to prefer a slightly quiet house, and while he doesn't mind kids, may likely do best with older ones. We do not know how he would be with a dog, especially not knowing where his injury originated, but he does fine with other cats and does not seem to mind them. He is such a sweet and lovable boy!

Keeping Up with the Care of Our Not-Forgotten Felines

When the founders of Forgotten Felines and Fidos purchased our current property in Germansville back in January 2000, there was only a single-family house and a small shed on the 27-acre property. The house was quickly turned into a cat residence with the former garage and a couple of upstairs bedrooms becoming home for a few dozen cats along with a resident operations manager. Construction of the primary cat residence – The Barn – was finished on Christmas Eve of 2000 and immediately became the primary home for our cats. Later, the Leukemia Cottage was constructed, providing a safe residence for Feline Leukemia positive cats.

Over the years, our ambitious volunteer maintenance workers have done an amazing job at keeping the campus buildings in excellent condition and making various upgrades such as construction of the ‘bunk beds’ in each of the rooms, condos for housing 1-2 cats needing their own ‘space’, and catios for outside time for many of the rooms. We are now nearing the completion of a few significant upgrades begun in 2022 as we continue to adapt to the needs of our feline population and our dedicated medical team. Two primary areas of focus have been the surgery room and the upstairs bedrooms in the house.

The surgery room in the Barn, is used heavily for spaying and neutering both domestic cats as well as trapped outdoor cats (part of our TNR – Trap, Neuter, Release – program). The medical team also conducts a thorough medical review of all cats taken in and periodic checkups to our cats in the shelter and in foster care. Earlier this year, we installed a combined heating and air conditioning unit dedicated to this room. Medically, this now assures that the air temps are closely regulated to protect the vulnerable cats.

Late last fall, we began to renovate the House upstairs bedrooms. The master bedroom has been completely renovated and will now be a ‘transition room’ for cats taken in that are uncomfortable in the small cages in the quarantine room, as well as cats needing some quiet space during times of stress. And the other three bedrooms in the house will receive improved lighting, new or refreshed cat trees, new curtains and other amenities to make their lives more enjoyable and to accommodate a few more residents.

Other recent campus improvements include upgrading the outdoor spotlights with LED lights on dusk-to dawn timers for improved energy efficiency and safety. We also recently replaced the washer and dryer in the Barn, which sees heavy use with an average of six large loads of dirty linens, beds, and cage pads seven days a week.

These upgrades have only been made possible through the very generous donations of our supporters. We are extremely fortunate to have an amazing group of donors who provide funds – either designated for specific needs such as the washer and dryer, or for use at our discretion where we feel it will best benefit the care of our beloved cats. We thank all our current donors and encourage others to join this special group.





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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

6022 Mountain Road
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Adoption hours:
 Saturdays 12pm—4pm



All other days by
 appointment only
 Please call
 Paula: 484-330-1664
 To set up an appointment

Board of Directors

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Tenth Gate Tattoo Fundraiser

Once again we'd like to thank the great people at Tenth Gate Tattoo in Palmerton for their wonderful fundraiser for FFF. They raised \$2,742 for our cats! Thank you also to our volunteers Shandi, Cheyenne, Bailey and Cindy for representing the shelter.

