



# Forgotten Ones Cat Rescue

## Newsletter

Fall 2022

### TIME TO PAWS AND REFLECT



Forgotten Ones volunteers have helped thousands and thousands of cats over the years and, in doing so, have obtained invaluable information about what is critical for the physical and emotional well-being of the cats we have cared for. In addition, our

mandate as an organization has been to educate the public by sharing the knowledge we have gained. Since the beginning of our charity, we have promoted certain topics, including the benefit of regular veterinary checkups and the harm caused by cat obesity and declawing.

Over the years, dental problems in cats have become increasingly recognized as a major health issue. In fact, dental disease is now one of the most common medical conditions seen by veterinarians. Gingivitis and periodontitis can cause cats serious pain and discomfort, which can have significant negative impact on their quality of life. Every year, dozens of cats entering our adoption program need dental cleanings or surgeries, and this expense—

vital to the cats' welfare—makes up a large portion of our veterinary costs.

Feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) is another health issue we have learned a great deal about in the last decade. Cats infected with the virus can have a weakened immune system and, in the past, they were considered unadoptable. Fortunately, through research, as well as our own experience, we now know that infected cats can live long, happy, healthy lives, and we are witnessing that a cat being FIV+ is now a non-issue in adoption.

The impact of a cat's environment on overall well-being is another topic we have become knowledgeable about. A cat's level of comfort with its environment is intrinsically linked to its physical and emotional health. We recognize that every cat has a distinct personality. Our volunteers spend a great deal of time finding an adoptive family home that will meet the animal's needs, as we believe it is crucial to a happy pet–family relationship.

Our volunteers have strived to continually educate themselves on anything that relates to the welfare of cats. This ongoing and evolving process contributes a great deal to the health and happiness of the cats we help.

~ Laura Wyatt, Director, Forgotten Ones Cat Rescue

### ADOPTION ALUMNI - Jazzy



We are big advocates of adopting black cats and when we saw Jazzy's profile on your website, we fell in love with her little fluffy face instantly.

She was very shy and it took her about a week to venture out of her bedroom. She explored in small spurts and, after another week or so, she was

comfy. She got nervous when my husband put on a suit jacket, so he had to put it on in the car for the first few months!

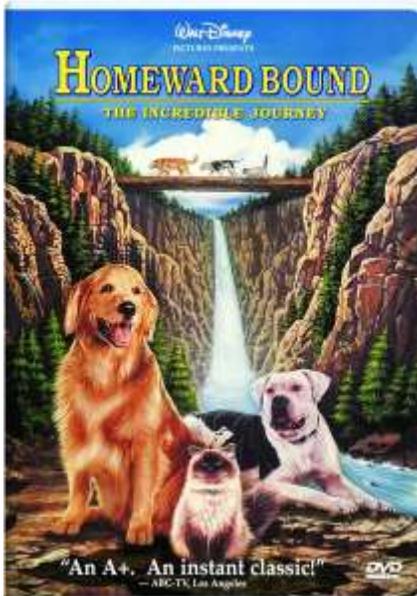
She is a very curious cat and methodically sniffs everything. Every. Single. Day. She sniffs all her humans thoroughly when we return from the outernet. We cannot leave plastic shopping bags out, as she thinks they make a nice, light snack. She has 36747895 boxes and uses them all! Her favourite toys are packing paper, tunnels, and reflections on the walls. She leads us to her food so we can pet her while she eats, and she has her own spot on the couch, where she has created a perfect cat-shaped groove.

Jazzy has such a sweet and gentle nature. She has a very special and unique bond with each of us. She communicates beautifully and we talk to her all day long. She is a very loved and content kitty. We are so lucky to have her! ~ Debbie & Family



### **A Timeless Dog–Cat Story!**

*Homeward Bound* is a popular 1993 movie, based on the book *The Incredible Journey*, about three household pets—a bulldog, a Himalayan cat, and a golden retriever—trying to find their way back to their owners. The film was a hit at the box office and it received an 87% aggregate critic approval rating.



## **Faithful Friendships**

“Fighting like cat and dogs” is an idiom that that means to fight or argue in a forceful or angry way. The expression is based on the myth that cats and dogs are natural enemies—which is far from the truth.

Cats and dogs are different species with different distinctive personalities. Just as two cats might not get along, a dog–cat relationship might not always be harmonious, but it isn’t a given that it will be hostile.

It not uncommon for dogs and cats to become good companions and to form fast friendships, but creating an amicable “blended family” of companion animals requires planning and patience. There are specific steps that should be followed when introducing cats and dogs, and there are many websites and books that provide guidelines so that the experience isn’t overwhelming for any family member—be it a person or a pet.

### **Making the Right Match**

To create a dog–cat family is not a decision that should be taken lightly and many factors should be taken into consideration.

- Of great importance is the temperament and energy level of your current pet. For instance, a fearful cat is not an ideal match for a hyperactive, playful dog.
- Young pets tend to be more receptive to new animals, but small kittens and puppies are vulnerable and may become hurt by a larger dog or cat that likes to play rough.

- Older pets are often set in their ways and resistant to new animals. A young, active animal might frustrate or overwhelm the resident senior pet and cause behavioural issues.
- It is best to avoid getting a second pet if the resident pet has a serious illness or behaviour problem. Once you are able to successfully treat the current family pet's issues, then consider another pet.
- If possible, adopt a pet that has already had positive interactions with the other species. Many animal adoption groups know a pet's history or have tried the pet with other animals to determine their compatibility with other pets, either of its own species or another.
- Finally, some dogs and cats will never learn to accept one another, and you could find that you can have only dogs or only cats, but not both.

### Cats Rule – But we always knew that!

A 2018 study published in the *Journal of Veterinary Behavior* determined that, in most cases, it was the cat's comfort level that influenced the success of a dog–cat relationship in a home.

Exposure at an early age was important for both dogs and cats, but more for cats. Additionally, the cat being first to arrive in the household seemed to lead to a greater sense of well-being on the part of the cat. The study also found that, typically, the cat appeared to be the main controller in determining amicability in the relationship.

### IrRUFFutable Friendships

Providing help and support through all of life's hardships is the sign of a true friend and a loyal companion. Ruth and Idgie and Spike and Max are animal pairs that leave no question that, just like people, dogs and cats can have devoted friendships.

### Ruth and Idgie

In October 2013, Ruth, a tiny black-and-white kitten, and Idgie, a chubby Dachshund, were found abandoned beside a busy Central Florida highway. When Seminole County Animal Services arrived to take the animals into their care, the responding officer struggled to move Idgie, as the dog tried to stay firmly in place, not wanting to leave Ruth's side.

When the pair were assessed by the animal services staff, it was determined that Ruth was a kitten of approximately seven months and that she was paralyzed in her hind legs. Idgie was thought to be about two years old and appeared to be in good health, other than that she was covered in ant bites. Staff speculated that Idgie did not want to abandon Ruth and, rather than moving away from the ants that were attacking her, she remained by Ruth's side and endured the discomfort of being bitten by the insects.

The veterinary exams confirmed that neither animal was suffering from malnutrition, which indicated the pair had previously had a

One vital benefit of raising a puppy and kitten together is that they will most likely be the best of friends for life.



Ruth and Idgie (below) were named after the memorable main characters from the movie *Fried Green Tomatoes*. The classic film's story centres on two women who had one of the greatest friendships in Southern fiction.



Thanks to Iddie's constant support, Ruth's paralysis did not prevent the pair from doing everything together.



Spike's severe cataracts were very evident when the pair were taken into the care of the Saving Grace Animal Shelter. It was also very evident that, as Spike's vision had deteriorated, his good friend Max had come to his aid as his support animal.

home and a family that took care of them. Inexplicably, no one ever came to claim them.

While the pair were in the care of animal control, veterinary efforts were made to treat Ruth's mobility issues, but they were unsuccessful. It was decided that the best option for Ruth was for her to be adopted along with her friend Iddie. Fortunately, the two found a loving home with pet groomer Jacqueline Borum.

"Their story is something right out of a Disney movie," their new owner said. "They're pretty much inseparable, and the dachshund absolutely loves this kitten. Whenever Iddie gets a new toy, she always takes it over to Ruth. They share pretty much everything."

Borum worked at Hollywood Houndz Boutique & Spa and she started taking her pets to work with her. The twosome were extremely endearing and they immediately received lots of love and attention from the staff and customers. Ruth and Iddie became so popular in their community that people would drop by the store just to visit with them.

Sadly, Ruth passed in 2016. Borum poignantly described how Ruth and Iddie's relationship provides a lasting lesson: "Their friendship has so much to teach us as humans about love, selflessness, loyalty, and the ability to look beyond our differences."

### **Spike and Max**

In June 2021, a dog named Spike and his feline best friend Max were surrendered to Saving Grace Animal Society in Alberta after their owner realized they could no longer care for them. The animals were both eight years old and had been together their entire lives.

Saving Grace executive director Erin Deems recalled her first



encounter with Spike and Max: "It was absolutely adorable. When we walked up onto the property, there was this tiny igloo shelter, and they were just cuddled in there right together."

The pair received a veterinary exam as soon as they arrived at Saving Grace, and it was discovered that Spike had advanced cataracts. The condition was painful for him and the only option was to remove his eyes. Fortunately, Spike had Max to help him through the challenging experience, and Max quickly came to the aid of his friend and took on the role of support cat.

Amanda McClughan, Saving Grace executive director, described the pair's bond: "Max just provides a level of comfort and support for Spike. It's a pretty cute sight to see a dog and a cat with such a friendship."

The shelter staff noted that both Spike and Max had easy-going temperaments and were quite calm and quiet. Max the was more adventurous and loved to explore while Spike was happy just being by the staff's side and asking for pets.

Once Spike recovered from his eye surgery, the shelter featured the pair on their Facebook page in an effort to find Max and Spike a new home. The shelter described Spike as "a happy-go-lucky boy who loves life and is happiest when he has a lap nearby where he can rest his head."

"Max is the yin to his yang," the post said. "He is the constant that Spike has known throughout his life, and, because of that, it's imperative they be adopted together. Max is such a character and he's sure to keep you laughing!"

The sweet post garnered thousands of likes and shares, and within 11 days the shelter found a family for the bonded pair.

The final post on February 20, 2022, was the happiest: "Spike & Max have officially been ADOPTED and they are on their way home with their new mama! We are wishing the best of luck to this adorable duo." 🐾



Spike and Max experienced major life changes together, including adjusting to an indoor lifestyle.

Going through the upheaval side-by-side made it easier for both of them and, as you can see, Max was very laid back about the transition.

Forgotten Ones  
Cat Rescue



Forgotten Ones Cat Rescue is a non-profit, 100 percent volunteer-based charity. We have been coming to the aid of cats in need for more than 22 years.

We rely on financial contributions to continue our mission of finding loving homes for abandoned cats and kittens. Every dollar received is used for the needs of the animals in our care.

To make a much-appreciated donation, simply click here [canadahelps.org](https://canadahelps.org).

Thank you!

## REVEALING REMAINS

The map below shows the location of Dzhankent and other archaeological sites in Kazakhstan.

The Dzhankent settlement, where the remains of the cat were found, was located along the Silk Road, an ancient network of important caravan routes that connected Central and East Asia with the Mediterranean region by land.

Over the period of more than 270 years, Dzhankent has been examined by generations of explorers, researchers, and excavators.

The discovery of a nearly complete cat skeleton on Kazakhstan's Silk Road has led researchers to theorize that cats might have accompanied Kazakh herders as pets more than 1,000 years ago. In studying the cat's remains, researchers were able to reconstruct the animal's life, and they published their findings in the July 2020 issue of the *Journal of Scientific Reports*.

### The Site

The bones of a domesticated cat were unearthed at an archaeological site located along the ancient Silk Road trade route, in the medieval city of Dzhankent in southern Kazakhstan. The Silk Road is a network of routes between Europe and East Asia that was used by traders for more than 1,500 years. The term also serves as a metaphor for the exchange of goods and ideas between diverse cultures.

The Dzhankent settlement had been populated by the Oghuz, a Turkic tribe of nomadic herders. Arab sources referred to the town as the capital of the Oghuz empire. Dzhankent was a centre for cultural exchange due to its location on the crossroads of two trade corridors: the east–west trade of goods along the Northern Silk Road and the north–south slave trade.



### Findings from the Discovery

DNA extracted from the bones found that the cat was male. While its species could not be ascertained, its genome most resembled that of the domestic cat.

Examination of the bones showed that the cat was no younger than one year old at the time of death, and bone wear suggested it was quite a bit older. The skeleton was well-preserved, with no weathering or signs that the bones had been marked, cut, or gnawed on post-mortem, which indicated the animal had been buried. Radiocarbon analysis of the femur returned a date range of 775–940 A.D., making it the earliest domestic cat found on the Silk Road.

X-rays and 3-D imaging of the tomcat's skeleton revealed astonishing details about its life. Dr. Ashleigh Haruda, a zoo archaeologist at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, reported that there was evidence that the animal had suffered a number of serious fractures that had healed, indicating that humans must have looked after the animal while he was unable to hunt.

Isotope analyses provided the team with information about the cat's diet. Compared to the remains of dogs found during the excavation and of

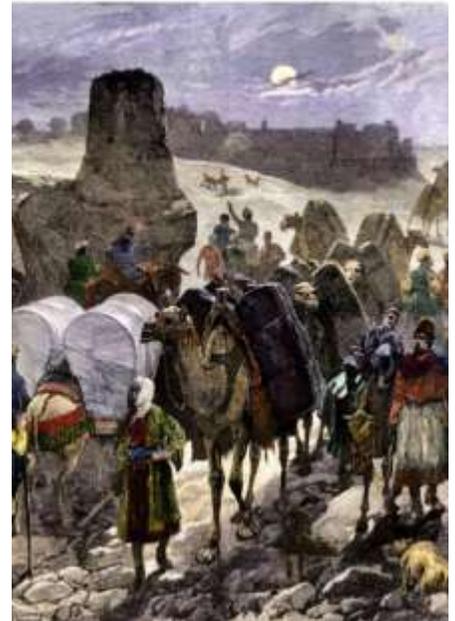
other cats from that time period, the tomcat's diet was very high in protein. The animal had lost almost all its teeth toward the end of its life, which led the researchers to determine that it must have been fed by humans instead of hunting and devouring whole prey. "All of these things together tell us that the cat was cared for and would have had a hard time surviving on its own," Haruda said.

She further noted that it is remarkable to find cats being kept as pets by the nomadic Oghuz as early as the eighth century. "The Oghuz were people who only kept animals when they were essential to their lives. Dogs, for example, can watch over the herd. They had no obvious use for cats back then," explained Haruda.

### Implications of the Discovery

The discovery of the cat's bones has provided researchers insight into the cultural and urbanization changes in Dzhakent, as well as the timing for the changes. The skeleton was a surprising and informative find, not just because of the infrequency of archaeological cat burials, but also because widespread cat ownership in Kazakhstan had been believed to have started in the 19th century.

Researchers surmised that cats might have been seen as a novelty item—a kind of exotic pet—and that this cat, and possibly others, could have been acquired on the Silk Road. This points to cats as a previously unknown item of cultural exchange between regions along the trade network. The discovery also indicates that the acquisition of cats as exotica or pets happened in the Central Asian steppes much earlier than is conventionally assumed. According to researchers, "the cat skeleton is evidence for a fundamental shift in the nature of human–animal relationships" within this region. 🐾



From 130 B.C until 1453 A.D., caravans of traders traversed the network of routes known as the Silk Road. Researchers believe that cats might have been considered as "exotic pets" and were one of the goods exchanged in the Dzhankent region.



Burials of domestic and wild cats remain a rarity, especially in comparison to dogs, which are recovered frequently.

Archeologists were elated to unearth a nearly complete cat skeleton during the excavation of the medieval settlement of Dzhankent. The extraordinary discovery included the cat's entire skull, lower jaw, parts of its upper body, legs, and four vertebrae.

## Feature Volunteers – Steven & Sandy

Sandy and Steven have had a compassion for all creatures great and small since they were children. As adults, they have promoted animal welfare in their personal and professional lives. Sandy describes the many challenges and rewards that she and Steven experienced as they navigated the world of animal advocacy, fostering, and adoption.



When Steven and I met as young adults, we bonded over the fact that we had both grown up with rescued pets, despite being mildly allergic to them. When we settled into our first home together, I brought along Tom, a burly, ginger street cat I had adopted from the Humane Society as a teen. Steven adored Tom and his larger-than-life personality, and he was more than willing to put up with some sneezes and sniffles for him.

### The Catless Years

Shortly after we lost Tom Cat, our second child Joe was born with several major health issues, including a severe allergy to cats. Our older child Jorden, through osmosis or genetics, was already a full-out animal lover and pet person, so we opened our home to

as many non-feline rescued critters as we could—rabbits, gerbils, hamsters. Steven began offering his legal services, advocating on behalf of neglected animals and on behalf of the people and organizations that work so tirelessly to help them.

In 2006 we welcomed a golden retriever named Goldie into our family. Having a large-breed rescue dog introduced us to a whole new aspect of pet parenthood and animal rescue. Dog life was all-encompassing for us, and it seems like our family had found its niche in the rescue world. When Goldie passed at the age of 14, Steven committed, in her memory, to devote part of his law practice to pressing animal welfare issues. Particularly moving to him were the countless stories of senior dog and cats finding themselves homeless at the most vulnerable stages of their lives. He had long been ensuring that pet provisions be included in his clients' estate planning, but he wanted to do more to spread the word. He offered presentations, media kits, and blog posts relating specifically to pet guardianship issues, while continuing to donate his time and legal services to various rescues, worthy causes, and initiatives.

### The Cats Come Back

In early 2020, when shelters and rescues were desperately seeking

### Strays and Blue Jays...

have been the ties that bind. Sandy and Steven have shared the joys and ordeals that have come from advocating for animals in need. Additionally, the couple have experienced the ups-and-downs of being fans of the Toronto Blue Jays baseball team.

experienced foster homes for all kinds of animals, with a particularly strong need for feline foster homes, we decided to welcome needy cats back into our home, at least temporarily.

Unfortunately, in our zeal to re-enter the feline rescue world, we didn't do our due diligence and ended up having some bad experiences with disreputable rescues, unethical shelter staff, and internet scammers.

We almost gave up on the idea of helping cats again until several trusted friends and rescue colleagues directed us to Forgotten Ones. Forgotten Ones seemed to be everything we were looking for in a responsible rescue: local, grassroots, having priorities in the right place, and dedicated to the welfare of the neediest ones without the need for fanfare.

In the spring of 2020, we were already fostering Benji, an ill 12-year-old dog, and we welcomed Halsey and Cortana, our first Forgotten Ones fosters into our home, a lovely mother-daughter calico duo. We thought the gorgeous calicos would be easily and quickly adopted, but that was not the case during COVID, so Steven endured mild allergy symptoms for months.

In the fall of that year, our son Joe returned home. Due to his allergies and the presence of the cats, he had to barricade himself in his tiny bedroom with every air filter and medication possible. While we all enjoyed the girls' presence in our house and our lives, when they finally found their forever home around Christmas 2020, both Joe and Steven quite literally breathed a sigh of relief. It was bittersweet parting because we knew it was quite likely that these would be the last cats ever welcomed into our home. Or so we thought...

### Enter Patch

We ended up adopting our palliative foster Benji, going back to being dog people and thinking we had put cat rescue efforts behind us. But a few months later, we were asked if we could foster a pair of cats for Forgotten Ones. The pair were in an out-of-town shelter that was unable to provide the veterinary care they urgently needed. The shelter had been told that the owners had passed away and the bonded siblings were being surrendered as there was no family member to care for them.

It turned out the pair were anything but bonded, and very unlikely siblings either. They were emaciated, yet refused to eat. The female tortie Nola, although half the size, seemed to dominate and terrorize her dilute calico "brother" Patch. Their first vet visit

Steven has been active in the animal rescue community for more than 20 years.

It seemed only natural that he and Sandy would foster and then adopt Benji, a gentle soul who had been abandoned at the age of twelve simply because he got too old.





Carrying on the family tradition of helping animals in need, Joe contributes in his own invaluable way. His bond with Patch has been instrumental in improving the cat's overall well-being.



Love, patience, and time have helped Mina overcome her aggressive behaviour.

confirmed that both were indeed malnourished. Patch turned out to be a senior with severely rotten teeth. Forgotten Ones arranged to have his dental work done immediately, and things improved slightly for him, but there still seemed to be something “off” about his mannerisms and general appearance. So, despite the allergy situation at home, we didn’t feel Patch should be moved again just yet. The younger tortie Nola, however, quickly bounced back from her traumas and was placed in a forever home. Amazingly, as soon as she left, all Steven’s and Joe’s allergy symptoms disappeared.

Joe was thrilled to be able to safely pet a cat for the first time in his life, and when he did, Patch immediately responded. Patch would flop over for Joe and allow him to rub his belly, and he began to follow Joe everywhere. Patch began to eat more, but only if Joe stayed to watch. Patch would sit outside Joe’s bedroom waiting to get in, so we installed a cat door so Patch could come and go while Joe maintained his privacy. Patch stayed at the foot of Joe’s bed most of the time, leaving only to eat, use the litter, and herd Joe back to the room when he left.

We agreed with Forgotten Ones that when Benji crossed the bridge, we would re-evaluate Patch as an only pet. But if his strange ways, lack of resiliency, and obsession with Joe continued, he would likely best stay as our forever foster.

### **An Unexpected Addition**

The day of Benji’s inevitable passing was chaotic and COVID complications required us to use the services of a veterinary clinic we had not been to before. As we were bringing Benji inside, we noticed a cat carrier beside the clinic doors. In our frazzled state, we didn’t give it much thought. But when we emerged some time later, that carrier was still there and inside the crate was the most terrified-looking ginger cat, cowering in the back, with no food or water. We learned later the poor thing had been there for at least six hours!

We turned the cat over to the clinic, and went home to mourn our Benji, but we couldn’t get that poor cat out of our heads. It seemed like some kind of sign, given all the circumstances, that we were meant to discover and help it. Obviously, we couldn’t keep or foster it, because of allergies, space, and Patch’s needs, but we could at least help get it back home if it was lost, or transported to a shelter if it was a stray.

When I returned to the clinic, they had determined that she was an unchipped, unaltered, FIV-negative, sweet and timid young adult lady. She had a healthy coat and teeth, and beautiful markings. There were limited options for her care through the clinic, so we got in touch with Forgotten Ones and arranged to foster the cat and have her enter their adoption program. Hours after saying goodbye to Benji, we brought his namesake Benjamin (Mina) home, just for the weekend. Or so we thought. From the second we brought her home, it was clear Mina was NOT “sweet and timid.” Mina would leap without warning from

across the room and dig her nails in, clawing deeply before we had a chance to know what was happening. She was wild and vicious, and attacked us with an intent to harm. We reached out to experienced cat people within Steven's rescue network, who began to suspect she might be feral or semi-feral, and her seeming docility at the clinic had just been shock. They warned that domestication could take months, if it would work at all. Unfortunately, we did not have the skill set, expertise, or home environment to properly rehabilitate her.

We desperately reached out to every rescue and every cat connection we had to get Mina the chance we knew she deserved. Of course, it was Forgotten Ones who stepped up. They helped us navigate fostering two very different cats with very different needs in a very small space, and they amazingly arranged for Mina's timely spay surgery.

The spay did seem to help her temperament and, with Forgotten Ones' guidance and advice, she and Patch began supervised interaction. Mina was not feral after all, just severely traumatized. Every day, she became more domesticated, although she still displayed random bouts of aggression to humans that made us leery of adopting her out.

Shortly after Mina's spay recovery, Steven had an accident resulting in a severe concussion. Mina did not leave his side during his three days of bedrest. And during his recovery phase, she followed him everywhere around the house and howled protectively when he dared to venture outside. She seemed fiercely protective and empathetic and, ironically, by the time Steven was completely healed, Mina seemed well on her way to overcoming her past trauma as well.

Now, she cries each day Steven leaves for work, waits for him by the door, spends each evening curled up on his lap and each night sleeping at his feet. It appears that she, like Patch, has chosen her person. The only thing the two cats have in common is that somehow, miraculously, neither one of them triggers allergic reactions in any of us!

### **A Cat Family Again**

Obviously, Patch and Mina were simply meant to be here, together, in our home! They are not bonded, but they coexist. Patch is still very much Joe's cat, and Mina is 100% a daddy's girl. I'm the odd pet parent out right now, but I'm okay with that. We're a cat family again!

One day, hopefully, Joe will take Patch with him as he embarks on his new family life, and the circle will be complete. Until then, we'll each keep doing what little we can to help further the cause of the rescue and care of all our furry friends! 🐾

### **A Bonded Pair**

When Steven suffered a severe head injury, Mina was there to provide him with comfort and support. And Mina has definitely been comforted and supported by Steven.

They are proof positive that humans and pets can share a special, mutually beneficial connection—including bonding over the Blue Jays!

Each of them proudly wears attire featuring their favourite baseball team's logo.





Sanchez, Pauncho & Freckles

### Sanchez, Pauncho & Freckles – Adorable Amigos

In September 2012, a suspicious cardboard box was found in a parking lot outside a Rona store. As the carton was shaking, a concerned citizen called for the police to investigate. It turned out the movement of the box was caused by 10 abandoned kittens.

The kittens were brought to Forgotten Ones, where they received veterinary care and adoptive homes were found for all of them. Heather and Chris adopted three of the kittens, and we have this update.

“I learned about the kittens from a co-worker and, originally, we were only going to adopt two of the kittens—Sanchez and Pauncho. We were asked to foster Freckles as she had stopped eating when her brothers were adopted, but, once she was with us, we soon knew she just had to stay with her brothers permanently. Keeping the three amigos together was the best decision we ever made.

“When we brought them home, they immediately adjusted to life with us—it was seamless. They all get along so well! They

eat together, play together, and snuggle together.

“They have the best personalities ever! They are all so talkative. We love how they sit at the counter and are a part of our lives. They know when we have had a bad day and snuggle in to make us feel loved. We are so incredibly grateful we found them!”~ Heather & Chris



### Mayonnaise – Not to be Ignored!

We learned about Mayo through Forgotten Ones’ website. We had very specific requirements, based on our two previous cats that were both male, older, all white, and big. So that is what we were looking for again. Mayo fit that bill exactly, but it did take us a while to find him.

Although he is big and somewhat bold, we found he was very skittish and it took him a while to adjust to our home. It was almost a week before he was comfortable enough to move out of the furnace room and into the house. And it took him a long time before he would let my husband pet him. But he settled in and gradually came to love being picked up and held close—he will sometimes fall asleep like this.

As you can see in the jigsaw photo, he now likes to be the centre of attention. In fact, if you do not pay attention to him in a timely manner, based on his timeline, he will bite your ankles.

And when we first took him to our vet, he suggested his name should be Horseradish instead of Mayonnaise, because he was a bit spicy!

Mayo likes to be chased around the house or through the garden, and he enjoys lying in the windowsill to look outside or sleep. He is always at the door waiting when we come home, so we believe that he misses us.

He is now entering his third year with us, and he is extremely affectionate. Cats like Mayo are deserving of all the love we can provide to them. ~ Cheri & Tony