



Volume 15
Issue 1

The Cat's Meow

Spring
2015

Storm's young life was fraught with pain and uncertainty. He was rescued by MHAA with a fever, ear mite infestation, and a swollen and badly twisted leg. Storm was rushed to the ER where fluid was drained from his leg and antibiotics administered. Further testing revealed additional fluid build-up indicating infection in his leg and blindness in his right eye. It is uncertain how long Storm's leg had been mangled and infected, but amputation was the best option for his full recovery.

Despite Storm's pain and physical limitations, he is a sweet boy who shows his gratitude all day. After Storm's leg had been amputated, he fought off an upper respiratory infection and recently got his stitches removed and found his forever family.



www.midhudsonanimalaid.org

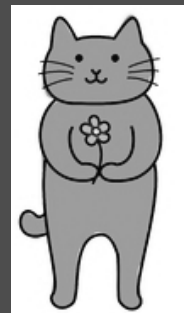


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This issue of The Cat's Meow features several stories from past adopters and what a joyful impact their feline family members have made in their lives. Feel free to send us your stories and photographs. To our community of supporters and volunteers, friends and family, it is your compassion for homeless animals that inspires us and lifts us up to meet the challenges we face each day.

*With gratitude,
Don Petruncola, MHAA President*

**TO ADOPT A HOMELESS FELINE
IS AN ACT OF LOVE.
TO ADOPT A SICK, INJURED,
HANDICAPPED OR SENIOR CAT
IS A WAY OF THANKING GOD
FOR ALLOWING YOU TO BE
AN ANGEL ON EARTH!**



Our mission is to rescue. Our dream is that some day we won't have to.

Shea Phelan may be young, but she already has made an impact on her community and the hearts of all the cats at MHAA. For her ninth birthday, she requested that instead of gifts for her, that donations be made to MHAA. She recently delivered \$235, fifty eight cans of Friskies cat food and some cat toys to the shelter and visited with our residents. Shea is not new to organizing events to benefit our cats. Last summer she also donated money from her lemonade stand.

How fortunate we are to have such a remarkable and compassionate young lady supporting us. Thanks Shea!

**Foster families are the backbone of animal rescue.
Can you find room in your home for one more cat?
Email foster@midhudsonanimalaid.org**



Murphy (Pennywig)

By Mark Rosengarten



Fourteen and a half years ago, I adopted a wonderful cat from MHAA. I had just lost my cat Jake after a long battle with diabetes, and none of the cats in the shelter quite clicked with me. As I was about to leave I saw this fine orange fellow lying by the door. I looked at him, he looked at me, and I knew. His name was Mister Pennywig. I took him home and named him Murphy and

loved him with his companions Mina and Milo. Mina and Milo left me last fall and, after a long but mostly successful battle with an abdominal tumor, I lost Murphy recently. His ashes came back today and I laid him to rest in a beautiful wooden urn with his fur, whiskers, pawprints in clay and his favorite toys. I miss him so much. Thank you for giving me the years I had with him. Murphy gave as good as he got. He was my door-greeter. His feet were the first thing I saw from under the basement doors every day when I came home. We snuggled under the blanket at night. He laid on me as I read in the living room. He draped himself across my chest as I sat at the computer desk and he went crazy over his toys. I could spin him around on my kitchen's hardwood floor. He would lick my nose and then give it a light nip. His purr was legendary. Everyone who knew him loved him. He was a great guy and, as everyone who has ever loved a cat knows, there is no number of years that could ever be enough to share that love.

A cat doesn't have to be perfect to be beautiful.

Most rescue stories have a sad beginning. It is up to us to give them a happy ending.

Cinnamon

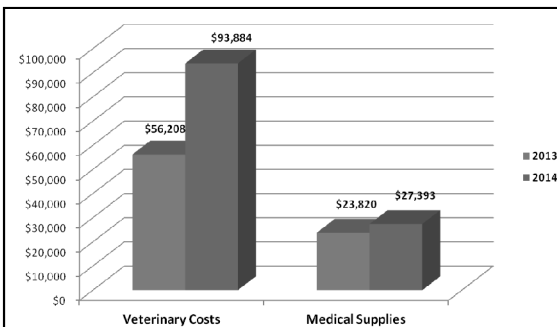
By Mike Fletcher

I met Cinnamon when I started volunteering at MHAA in 2004. She was always cranky and made it be known that she did not like the other cats. We started a pattern every Sunday after I finished my volunteer work. I would sit on a bench in the Great Room and she would race over and get on my lap. She hissed and swatted away any cat that got near us. I spent as much time with her as I could - even during the hot, summer days when she would sit by herself on the back porch. I already had one cat, Maggie, but after a year, I decided to adopt Cinnamon. At that time, she had been at MHAA for about six years. I was excited that she would finally be getting a new home, my home. When I arrived on Sunday to adopt her, I found out that another family had adopted her earlier in the week. I waited too long. I was sad, but happy for her. The only thing I knew was Cinnamon was living in a place on Main Street in Beacon. Over the next few weeks, I thought of her when I drove down the road and hoped that she was happy. Cinnamon was returned to MHAA after a few weeks and I jumped at the chance and adopted her on October 11, 2005. I relocated to Arizona in 2008. Cinnamon made the trip with me to JFK and then on to sunny Phoenix. She was an amazing traveler and never made a sound.

Over the last six years, she enjoyed the warmth and sunshine, took lots of naps, and was feisty as ever. During the last two years, she fought chronic kidney disease. On November 11, 2014, she lost that battle. Her little kidneys just couldn't keep up anymore. I stayed with her the entire time and she went peacefully at her vet's office. My wonderful and supportive friend, Kristin, was there with us and helped so much. She loved Cinnamon, too. It hurts to type these words, but I wanted to express my appreciation for MHAA. I don't know how Cinnamon originally ended up there, but it was a good, safe place for her until I got there. It was my privilege to care for her and be there in the end for her. At 16 years old, she had a good life. I will rest well knowing that she was loved.



Cinnamon on her adoption day, over nine years ago.



MHAA is grateful to our many donors who support our work throughout the year. We are pleased to report that we had a record number of 236 adoptions in 2014! This is a 28% increase from 2013. In 2014, we also experienced an increase in the number of animals needing our assistance. This led to a significant increase in our veterinary care and medical supply costs. Our ability to operate and provide necessary care to animals in need depends completely on our generous supporters, like you.

The journey of life is sweeter when traveled with a cat.

CATOFERFEST 2015 will be held on September 27th at The Hop Beer Garden in Beacon!



Mid Hudson Animal Aid, Inc.

Essie Dabrusin Cat Sanctuary
54 Simmons Lane
Beacon, New York 12508
Phone: 845-831-4321
info@midhudsonanimalaid.org

To charge your donation, take a moment to fill out this form and return it to MHAA
Please notify us if your address has changed.

Name _____

Email _____

Please indicate donation amount: \$ _____ Phone: _____

Visa MasterCard Acct. No. _____ Exp. ____/____

Signature _____ Date _____

All contributions to MHAA are tax-deductible. Receipts are sent out for gifts over \$250.

PARS FORE PURRS!

6th Annual Charity Golf Tournament to benefit Mid Hudson Animal Aid

Monday, June 29th, Beekman Golf, 11 Country Club Road, Hopewell Junction, NY
\$160 per person / \$620 per foursome (before June 1) includes four person team scramble, green fees, cart fees, boxed lunch on the turn, beverage and snack cart, cocktail hour, hors d' oeuvres, buffet dinner with dessert plus two drink tickets. Prizes will be awarded to winning teams and players. Silent auction, raffles and 50/50. \$30 dinner only option is also available.

For more information, Sponsor / Donor / Registration forms can be downloaded at:

www.mhaagolf.com



Looking to volunteer in 2015? There are many volunteer opportunities available with MHAA, both inside and outside the shelter. Currently we are looking for help with our fundraising events, as well as organizing food and litter drives for the shelter. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact MHAA at volunteer@midhudsonanimalaid.org

Featured in our September 2014 newsletter, **Mustard** came from an owner abandonment environment, crowded with 25 other cats. Mustard and his cellmates were victims of malnutrition, severe flea infestation, and respiratory infections.



Made possible through your donations, Mustard's life took a turn for the better when he was brought to MHAA. He and his friends reveled in the comforts that all cats deserve: regular feedings, clean water, medical treatment and lots of treats and hugs. Mustard found his true forever and loving home this March.

While ours are safe at home, there are so many out there homeless, hungry and alone.