



**FieldHaven
Feline Center**

**Happy
Holidays
from all of us
at FieldHaven!**



Contact Info and Hours

M, W, Th, F 10 am - 4 pm
Tue 10 am - 6 pm
Saturdays 12 - 4 pm
2754 Ironwood Lane
Lincoln, CA 95648
Phone: 916-434-6022
www.FieldHaven.com

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Feline Focus

Holiday 2013

“Patience is the art of hoping.”

Luc de Clapiers

By Joy Smith, President, FieldHaven Board

Two tiny kittens with the most dreadful case of ringworm we’ve ever seen. How many patient days of hoping does it take for them recover and find a home? An elegant black princess survived Superstorm Sandy then moved to California to begin a new life. How long did she have to wait for her special person to come along?

It was 313 and 321 days, respectively to be exact. We must often be patient with hope at FieldHaven. But we find the reward worth the wait.

On September 21, 2012 a call came into FieldHaven asking if we’d be willing to take a pair of kittens who had ringworm. They had been found in a garbage can and taken to a veterinary clinic by a Good Samaritan. Our first look at them found two tiny, nearly hairless

(Continued on page 4) Patience



Superstorm Sandy survivor Charlotte patiently waited 321 days for Carol to sweep her off her paws and take her to her Forever Home.

What Are the Dogs Doing at FieldHaven?

By Peri Oldham, Outreach Coordinator

We all know that cats don’t have nine lives – even though cat lovers wish they did – and dogs are not color blind. A lot of falsehoods about cats and dogs are mistakenly accepted as fact. For instance, the perception that cats and dogs won’t get along has been a long standing myth. Not all dogs and cats fight. In fact, when properly introduced, cats can often get along better with dogs than other cats because they’re not competing for the same things. Dogs are concerned about their status in the family pack, whereas cats care about control of a territory.

Initial problems, when cats and dogs meet, happen because they don’t have a shared body language that can lead to misunderstandings. For example a dog wags its tail when it’s happy, but to a cat that is often a sign of anger. Dogs will raise a paw to initiate play, but when a cat raises its paw to another cat it’s a warning that they are about to pounce on their opponent.



FieldHaven canine volunteer Roxy at “work”.

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Dogs At FieldHaven

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FieldHaven is an adoption driven organization that is always looking for innovative ways to increase each animal's adoptability. FieldHaven Feline Center's unique location provides for the option of utilizing some very unique volunteers. These volunteers are dogs named Tamra, Bracken, Brichelle, Roxy and Stanley.

Their primary function is to expose the residence cats to dogs that are not necessarily interested in them or their territory. Roxy and Stanley also have the privilege of attending adoption and outreach events to demonstrate their skills with the cats to the general public. We explain that they are cat socializers and follow-up with "it's up to the cat if it wants to be dog social".

FieldHaven staff make observations on each cat and document the cat's interactions with the dogs. Throughout the process, the cat may be determined to be "friendly to cat friendly dogs", "dog tolerant", "appears stressed by dog" and/or "aggressive towards dogs". This information is noted in the cat's file along with other personal attributes like what kind of food they like, what kind of toys they like to play with, and whether or not they are good with children. Adoption counselors then utilize that information to help families pick the perfect cat for their home and lifestyle.

We also provide counseling and literature on how to introduce their new cat into its new home, how

to introduce a resident cat to the new cat, and/or how to introduce the resident dog to a new cat. FieldHaven also provides follow-up calls on all adoptions so that we learn how the cats are adjusting to their new home environment. These conversations can address any behavioral issues during the adjustment period, keeping more animals in their forever homes.

See fun Dog and Cat Facts on the back page!



Cats like this one are introduced to dogs at FieldHaven in a safe, controlled environment.

FieldHaven Saves Lives 24 Hours a Day

By Scout Valentine, FieldHaven Board Member

Cats in our community may need help at any hour of the day. To accommodate the increased need for services in Placer County, FieldHaven has extended its public hours from four hours a day to six hours a day. But we all know, emergencies always seem to happen after-hours. Such was the case with sweet, senior kitty Pearl.

Pearl was found wandering around a residential area of Lincoln. It seems, though, she knew where to go because she found the home of Tami Martinez, a dog trainer and rescuer. Tami said that others had reported seeing a thin grey cat "hanging around" their neighborhood that was likely eating at one of the locations where neighbors fed feral cats. But Tami knew that Pearl needed help. She was extremely thin, hungry and had what looked to be a large abscess on her side. Not knowing what to do, Tami posted a plea for help on the Facebook page Anything Pet Lincoln. It just so happened that Joy Smith was on Facebook that night and read the post.

Joy talked with Scout Valentine to see whether FieldHaven should intake this cat even though it was late Saturday night. They agreed they should bring her in to assess her need to go to emergency that night or to see if she could wait until Sunday morning. Tami was at the shelter within minutes and Joy and Scout had their first look at this sweet girl. Purring as she came out of her kennel, Pearl was happy to see all three of us. The large lump on her side was determined not to be an abscess and thankfully Pearl didn't need to be taken to emergency that evening.

The next step was to scan Pearl for a microchip. She had one, but unfortunately both contact numbers were disconnected. Determined to find her owners, Joy put out a plea the next morning to FieldHaven volunteers to see if anyone knew them or where they might be. One of our volunteers did an Internet search and found a contact number for Pearl's



Pearl was rescued by FieldHaven volunteers late on a Saturday night.

(Continued next page) 24 Hours a Day

We have a Thrift Shop! How did that happen?

In the immortal words of Walt Disney, *"If you can dream it, you can do it. Always remember that this whole thing was started with a dream and a mouse."*

Well, sort of, FieldHaven started with a dream and a cat, but you get the point.

After several years of research and planning another dream has come true. **SNAP It Up Thrift Shop** officially opened on October 9, 2013 and thanks to the unending dedication and support of our FieldHaven family we are a success!

Once again, we were blessed to find just the right person to pull it all together. Manager Jennifer Kliever accepted our challenge and ran with it in a big way.

Jen K, as we affectionately call her (we have no shortage of Jen's at FH!) grew up in Lincoln and is not shy about her love for this community. Shortly after meeting her we knew that she shared our vision, that SNAP It Up should not be just another thrift shop but a true partner in the future of Lincoln.

The term "whirling dervish" doesn't really describe how Jen met this challenge head on. In just a little over a month she organized our wonderful volunteers (and her beautiful 2 year old daughter Aleecia!) and together they readied a mountain of donations, supplies and displays. And they managed to transform a travel agency office



SNAP It Up Thrift Shop

**560 McBean Park Drive
Lincoln, CA**

Mon - Sat 10am – 5pm

916-434-0622

into one of the most beautiful thrift shops in Northern California.

The Lincoln Chamber of Commerce organized our official ribbon cutting and we were off! Since then we haven't had a slow day. The response from our community has been amazing.

"This place is magic in a lot of ways", Jen says. "It seems like all I need to do is notice that we need something and somehow it walks right in the door. We have been blessed that way since we opened the shop. It's incredible."

And true to her spirit, Jen has already begun spreading a little of that FieldHaven magic of her own. Recently SNAP It UP received a donation that included 300 boxes of crayons and 200 boxes of brand new pencils. "Crayons and pencils are really for kids. I knew we could eventually sell those boxes for a dollar or two each. But then I thought that there was a real need for them at the First Street School. I know they often run low on supplies. So I packed up most of them and took them to Principal Reuben Ayala. He was so thankful and grateful and I know that those crayons will be used to make beautiful (and priceless) works of art for families in our community. But I also know that Principal Ayala will tell the families of those kids that SNAP It Up will help where we can and that by shopping with us they help us help the animals who need us."

24 Hours a Day *(cont.)*

owners. Sadly we learned that the wife had passed away leaving the husband, who now lived in Phoenix, to try and place over one hundred cats! It became clear that Pearl was staying with FieldHaven.

Pearl was lucky that cold Saturday night that Tami found her and knew to seek help. When she was examined, Dr. Mira Sanchez found that several of her teeth were missing, which is why her little pink tongue sticks out, and that she was hyperthyroid. Pearl is now receiving life-saving medication and will be closely monitored. When she is healthy enough, Pearl will have the cystic mass on her side removed and be available to purr contently in a new, safe and warm home.

It is comforting to know that although FieldHaven's doors are only open to the public during the day, someone is always watching over the kitties that need our help.

Patience is the art of hoping.



When rescued the girls had a distinctly “alien-esque” look

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bodies with tufts of orange hair poking out between the ringworm lesions. In spite of their alien-esque look they were happy, purring kittens.

Not to be daunted by a simple fungus we rolled up our sleeves, donned rubber gloves and invested in gallons of lime

sulphur dip, the smelly but tried and true treatment. During treatments we would find ourselves casually humming the Friends’ song “Smelly Cat.”

Nearly 300 long and (im)patient days later the ringworm was declared cleared up. Kealani and Leikela were fast-tracked to finally get



After 300 long and (im)patient days Kealani and Leikela are beautiful and healthy girls.

spayed. And then – Oh Happy Day when Linda and Tom came to adopt them after spending 313 days in the caring arms of FieldHaven.

Poor Charlotte and her sister lost their human mom in devastating Superstorm Sandy. They were taken to a shelter with hundreds of other animals left homeless in the storm. Charlotte’s deceased mom had a relative at FieldHaven so plans were made to relocate Charlotte and her sister, plus several other homeless cats to California. When Charlotte showed up with her sister and 5 other storm refugees at Sacramento International Airport a month later she hid under her green blanket in complete fear. That green blanket was her safe haven for several days before she began to peek out.

Charlotte went off to spend a month in a foster home with Bob and Shirley where she overcame the traumatic events of the past several weeks. Charlotte then moved

into the Adoption Room at FieldHaven where she became a mascot for the C.A.T. (Community/Cat Assistance Team) volunteers. She reveled in the attention and love each day. When things got too noisy or hectic for her she’d walk to the kitchen, paw open a cupboard door, slink in letting the door close behind her and escape from the madness. Smart girl!

Charlotte, along with all of us, kept hoping. All her Superstorm Sandy mates, including her sister, had long ago been adopted. It was October 23rd, just one week short of a year that Charlotte’s world was blown apart Carol walked in the door of FieldHaven, scooped her into her arms and carried her off to her home. Carol understood what Charlotte had experienced. She had recently moved to Lincoln from Pennsylvania where SS Sandy had made her presence known.

I’ve always been an impatient person. My mother would always tell me that “good things come to those who wait”. I’m more of the theory “why wait? Do it now!”

Everyday at FieldHaven we have opportunities to practice my mother’s advice. We’ve learned that patience and hope are virtues we experience daily at FieldHaven simply because sometimes we have no other choice. Patience is essential when treating diseases like ringworm. Hope is the key to believing that an adopter like Carol *will* come along to sweep Charlotte off her paws. I guess my Mother was right after all! Maybe I should have called this “Mother Knows Best”?

We Love our Cats and Dogs!

Although dog households outnumber cat households, there are more cats (64.1 million) than dogs (63.8 million) in the U.S.

Cat owners tend to have more animals than dog owners on average – 2.1 cats compared with 1.5 dogs per household.

Cat and dog owners feel strongly about the role of animals in their family.

- Nine in ten pet owners surveyed say they consider their pet a member of the family.
- 63% of dog owners and 58% of cat owners surveyed said they give their pets presents at Christmas.
- Americas spend about \$5 billion on holiday presents for their furry friends.
- 40% of dog owners and 37% of cat owners hang Christmas stocking for their pets.
- About 25% of both dog owners and cat owners sign their pet’s name on greeting cards or notes.

Facts provided from Petfinder.com