

# KITTY REVOLUTION

Kitty Revolution is an all volunteer, no-kill cat rescue in the Twin Cities, MN metro area that seeks to save the unwanted, the misunderstood, the less-than-perfect, and to help change the way the world sees cats through community education and outreach.

Kitty Revolution was founded by a group of passionate, dedicated cat enthusiasts who are devoted to saving and improving the lives of the overlooked and otherwise discarded cats in our community. Rescue isn't just about cute kittens; it's about the scared, shy, dirty, unwanted cats, too. The older ones. The ones whose spirits have been broken, who have forgotten or maybe never learned how to trust, the ones who need time and patience and then more time. It's about the ones with serious medical needs and chronic illnesses. It's about meeting cats where they're at and understanding how far they can go.

#### MEET OUR STAFF

#### Volunteer Leadership Team

Robin Holland, Executive Director Selma Saba, Adoption Coordinator Marina Hedge Yoder & Danielle Menuey, Intake Coordinators Erin Lerwick, Medical Coordinator

#### **Board of Directors**

Elizabeth Thompson, President
Penny Gronbeck, Secretary (Pending Election Results)
Julie Doherty, Board Member at Large
Rayvn Gibbs, Board Member at Large
Michelle Robison, Board Member at Large (Pending Election
Results)
Selma Saba, Board Member at Large (Pending Election Results)



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#### LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR

It's always a struggle to decide what to write about each year. I can talk about this rescue all day long... and I often do. I am so proud of the volunteers who keep this tiny rescue operating with so much heart. I look at our stats and am just giddy. Look at all those cats we saved! I know I often look at my own fosters and fret about what would have happened to them if we hadn't taken them in. We've been able to continue to rescue so many cats this year because we have amazing supporters.

Let's talk about our supporters! November 18, 2021 was Give to the Max Day. It's the largest donation day of the year in Minnesota. There are pros and cons about this day. One drawback are the fees taken out of the donation (but the donor can choose to cover those fees so that the rescue gets the entire donation). One of the best things about this day is the chance to win one of the monetary prizes GiveMN awards plus the donor matches we can secure. This day is pretty important to a small rescue. This year our donors gave us \$16,000! And the icing on that cake? We were #8 in the small non-profit category in MN. There are over 1700 charities in that category and we were number eight. How awesome is that?

Let's also talk about our volunteers. Check out pages 15 to 20. These pages showcase how truly wonderful our volunteers are. We have a lot of fun in this rescue. But in addition to the goofy and fun things the volunteers do, they also keep this rescue going in more ways than I think even they truly know they do. Every time they wear a Kitty Revolution logo T-shirt out in public, they're spreading the awareness of this rescue. Simple and yet so affective. Every time they post on social media and tag Kitty Revolution they're drawing attention to the cute faces that they helped rescue. Every time they participate in and attend one of our events, they're helping to put a face to our cause.

One of the truly most shocking ways our volunteers help the rescue is with their own donations, donations they may not even be aware they're giving us. It's called "gifts in kind" donations. Many of our volunteers purchase their own food and litter (and toys and beds and scratching posts and treats). Some do it because it's a little easier than driving to our one location with supplies. But mostly they do it because they realize that by covering those costs, we then are able to take in more cats. To give you an idea of how generous our volunteers are, last year we had \$111,000 in veterinary costs. That's astronomical!!! And yet with all of that, we only spent \$11,000 on food. That's paltry!! This means our volunteers covered most of the food expenses themselves. We were able to take in 192 cats in 2021. If we didn't have the donations from our volunteers, we would have only been able to take in two-thirds that number.

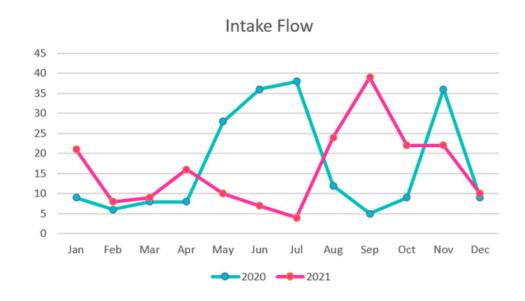
Our supporters give us breathing room. Our volunteers breathe life into this rescue. Together they are a breath of fresh air. I am so thankful to have so many people believe in this rescue, what we do, what we can do, and what we will do. 2021 was a pretty good year. I'd love 20 more just like this. Together we can save cats. And that's what this is all about.

# 2021 Program Stats

We grew over the years from 2018 to 2019 to 2020. 2021 had a minor dip in numbers. We had several cats with large medical bills and spent a few months on intake hold. We also had filled all of our caregivers' homes with foster cats and could not take in more cats since we had no open foster homes.

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Intake	27	124	204	192
Adoptions	4	47	184	153
Deaths		5	12	6

Our adoption numbers also dipped slightly. This was due to the timing of our intake hold. We weren't able to take in pregnant momma cats during Spring because we had no caregivers who were willing to take a momma cat. As a result, our "born in foster care" kittens were significantly less than the year before.





OCT 17,2018

Kitty Revolution is 3 vears old!

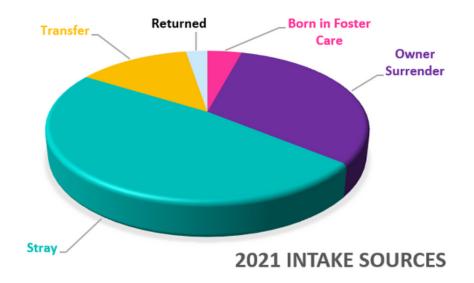
#### 2021 PROGRAM STATS - CONTINUED

Year over year shows a big swing in where our cats come from. We only took in a few owner surrenders in 2019, but it was the largest growth category for 2020 and 2021 due to COVID.

Because we're growing, we anticipate the number of returns to increase a bit each year; however, our adoption team's screening process has kept those numbers low.

#### Year Over Year Intake Sources

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	2021
Born in Foster Care		16	33	8
Owner Surrender	3	5	44	61
Stray	13	80	86	92
Transfer	11	23	31	26
Returned _			10	5
_	27	124	204	192





# ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS

Stripey, Raindrop, Purrnelope, Starbuck Persephone, and Purrincess Wrinkle Squish

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

In spite of a global pandemic, our supporters were more generous than ever. We added more Chip and Clip Clinics and tried some new fund-raising opportunities. We enlisted the help of volunteers to drive cats and kittens to low-cost spay/neuter appointments in western Wisconsin. And we'll continue to look for more opportunities to raise money and minimize costs so we can save even more cats.

#### **Statement of Financial Position**

Assets Cash and Cash Equivalents Total Assets	2020 39,652.46 39,652.46	<b>2021</b> 28,944.63 <u>28,944.63</u>
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>		
<u>Current Liabilities</u> Total Current Liabilities	0.00	0.00
Net Assets Unrestricted Net Assets	39,652.46	28,944.63
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	39,652.46	28,944.63

87%

of our expenses is for veterinary care



#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW - CONTINUED

#### **Statement of Activities**

Support and Revenue Adoption Fees Contributions Merchandise Sales (Net of Cost of Goods Sold) Total Support and Revenue	2020 28,662.50 73,400.68 1,526.90 103,590.08	89,578.89
Expenses Veterinary Care Food Insurance Sales Tax Miscellaneous Expenses Bank Processing Fees Total Expenses	8,167.07 1,633.00 997.00 858.11	622.26
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	13,172.66	-10,707.83
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	26,479.80	39,652.46
Net Assets at End of Year	39,652.46	28,944.63

#### Sources of Revenue

	<u>2020</u>	2021
Adoption Fees	27%	18%
Contributions	70%	77%
Merchandise Sales	3%	5%

3,793

That's the number of pairs of shoes we collected in our Shoe Drive fundraiser.



# CAFE MEOW



Cafe Meow is opening a second location in New Hope

Guess which rescue was chosen to partner with the new Cafe Meow location in New Hope? Here's a hint: It's us! Okay. That wasn't a hint. That was an actual tell. We couldn't contain ourselves. We're just so excited to be working with them!

The owner of Cafe Meow reached out to us last April and asked if we'd like to have Kitty Revolution cats at the future second location. She selected us because she likes our mission. We jumped at the chance! This is an opportunity to save more cats, grow as a rescue, and get noticed more by the public.

How does this work? In order to qualify for life at Cafe Meow, a foster cat must be at least six months old, fairly social (shy and hiding are totally okay), and have all their medical tasks completed. We will have caregivers temporarily foster cats that we'll be moving to Cafe Meow. During those few short weeks in the foster home, the foster cat will be scheduled for all of the cat's medical procedures - distemper vaccinations, rabies vaccination, dewormer, tested for FeLV/FIV, spayed/neutered, and microchipped. Once the cat has completed the medical tasks, as soon as there's an opening at Cafe Meow, we'll move the foster cat there.

We've spent the past year thinking about how we want to approach this partnership. We've written some internal policies that will help guide us and keep everyone on the same page. We've pondered over how to successfully manage our medical requirements and the timing of transfer to the Cafe. We're working to make this process flow smoothly. There will surely be kinks to work out but if it means we get to keep saving more and more cats, those bumps will be worth it.

The New Hope location doesn't open for several more months. We're still looking for more temporary foster homes to help ensure the success of this partnership. If you're interested, email info@kittyrevolution.org to start your application!



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Foster Caregivers, Event Volunteers, TEMPORARY Foster Homes for Cafe Meow cats



## PUPPY BOWL!!!

We know what you're thinking - what does Puppy Bowl have to do with cats (and what is Puppy Bowl)? Puppy Bowl is a TV show on Animal Planet that airs on Super Bowl Sunday. It's a tongue-in-cheek game that features rescue puppies playing a version of football. Come for the cute puppies, stay for the hilarious commentary. In years past, there was also a Kitten Bowl but that was cancelled this year. Instead, there was a Kitten Half Time Show.

An Animal Planet casting coordinator reached out to us in January to ask if we'd like to participate. Heck-a-rooni yes indeed! They chose us because we were a small rescue in a big metro area. We just got super lucky.

Animal Planet required complete secrecy. We weren't allowed to announce our participation publicly until a few days before the Super Bowl. They asked us to feature one kitten that would be about 12 weeks old at the time of the Super Bowl. The kitten needed to be fully ready for adoption - vaccinated, spayed/neutered, tested for FeLV/FIV, and microchipped. We were asked to send several photos and several video clips of our chosen kitten. We also needed a bio for the kitten, just like what is featured in our normal adoption postings.

We were fortunate enough to be very well acquainted with Kris Kaiser, who is Minnesota's Number One Pet Photographer of 2021!!! When we asked her to lend her

talent, she was incredibly fired up to tackle this project. We had originally chosen Rudy based on her first photo shoot with Kris but JD stole the show at the final photo shoot.

After the segment aired, JD received well over 100 adoption inquiries from all over the country. We'd say that was a success!

PUPPY BOWL XVIII featuring JD





# PUTTING THE "FUN" IN FUNDRAISER

Our Events Committee is amazing. We can't stress it enough. They spend countless hours researching different ideas for fundraisers. We have a motto at Kitty Revolution - it doesn't hurt to try something once!

In addition to researching, they also spend hours upon hours planning the events. And if that wasn't enough, they also staff the event themselves. Their hard work helps get our name out to the public. And that work also brings in a lot of donations and sales from our crafts.

Each month we hold a "Chip n' Clip" where people bring their cats to us for a nail trim at two Chuck & Don's and two Pet Supplies Plus locations. If their cat doesn't have a microchip, we can implant a chip. We also hold a "Meet & Greet" each month. Our adoptable cats and kittens make an appearance as do our crafts for sale.

In addition to these recurring events, we have other events each month. Chipotle, Papa Murphy's, and 50th Street Malt Shop each hosted a fundraiser where they donated to us a portion of a diner's total meal costs. We pitched a canopy at Minnehaha Art Festival, the Cat Video Festival, the State Fair, Veg Fest, and TCCF Cat Show. We gave Mother Earth a lending paw by hosting several events that featured recycled goods - like a garage sale, a shoe drive, and a bike sale and tune-up. Our generous parters also came to our aid. Maplebrook Pet Care Center hosted a Halloween Open House. Half of the donations received that day went to us (the other half went to their other favorite charity MN Pocket Pets). Pet Supplies Plus had a Facebook promotion and donated a pound of food for every page like. And finally, the ever popular Butterbraids made TWO appearances on our sales list.

We couldn't have done so well in 2021 without all of the Events Committee's fun ideas.

\$1,723

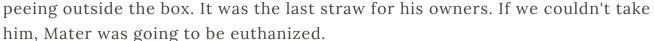
The amount we netted in donations from our shoe drive.



## OUR 2022 SPOKESKITTY

Our 2021 Spokeskitty Winston passed off his crown to Mater in a glorious coronation ceremony on New Years Eve. There was a lot of catnip and tuna with glitter balls everywhere. Okay, so that didn't truly happen. But the title did pass on to Mater in a unanimous vote.

We chose Mater because of the condition he arrived to us in. Mater was an owner surrender. He had a medical condition that was undiagnosed. The owner had spent time and money to help Mater but couldn't spend any more of either. To top it off, Mater was



Mater was surrendered because of chronic severe skin irritation. He was scratching himself raw and was very miserable.

In our care, Mater has had many tests to see just what was causing his issues. He was tested for ringworm (yikes). It came back negative (enthusiastic cheer!). Then



skin scrapings were taken, and a biopsy was done. This ruled out an autoimmune disease but found evidence of bacterial infection as well as findings most consistent with eosinophilic syndrome which may occur secondary to allergies. He began treatment with antibiotics for the infection and Atopica (immunosuppressant) for the allergies. His diet was switched to a hydrolyzed protein food. He showed quick improvement with this. It's assumed that food is a culprit for the allergy, but we don't know for sure.

Because he's a senior kitty, he had a blood panel done at his first vet appointment. That test would tell us that Mater had hyperthyroid disease. Mater recently had Radioiodine therapy (I-131). Radioiodine treatment avoids surgery, anesthesia,

#### OUR 2022 SPOKESKITTY - CONTUNUED

and thyroid medication. A single treatment of subcutaneous I-131 cures 95% of cats. For those of you wondering, yes, Mater was actually radioactive, well, at least his waste was. Any iodine not absorbed by the thyroid is excreted out. Because of this, Mater had to stay at a nuclear medicine ward for a week. Once home, his caregiver had to limit her contact with him and specially dispose of his litter box contents.

We were fortunate enough to receive a grant to cover this treatment as it is quite costly. We are incredibly grateful for this assistance.



As if all of this weren't bad enough, just wait. There's more. During his preprocedure exam, it was discovered that Mater has a heart murmur. This poor guy cannot catch a break! He will be going in for an echocardiogram in a few weeks.

And THAT is why we chose Mater as our 2022 Spokeskitty. Mater has been a bit of



of a medical mystery. He's had a dozen vet visits – and several more planned. Every time he's at the vet, we discover more ailments. And we treat those ailments. He's recovering from everything because everything is quite treatable. Expensive. But treatable. We won't give up on Mater. We're here for him. Some rescues may add up his medical expenses and question whether it's prudent to spend all that on one cat when that money could be used to rescue more cats. We can't look Mater in the eye to tell him he's not worthy. He wants to live. We want him to live. We can't change the world but we can change this one cat's world. It's what we do.

P.S. In case you were wondering, Mater has not had one single litter box mishap since coming to our rescue (the primary reason for his surrender).



# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Ford -- along with his sister Dakota -- came into rescue at another organization at a week old, after being found in an abandoned stolen vehicle. As Ford started to wean, it became obvious that something wasn't right: He was much smaller than his sister. He had trouble going to the bathroom. He was timid and uncomfortable. A vet visit confirmed an intestinal stricture that would require extensive medical treatment. The rescue organization deemed Ford unadoptable and scheduled euthanasia.

Thankfully, Ford's fosters had more faith in this little guy. They advocated for him and contacted Kitty Revolution for help.

Kitty Revolution took over Ford's care. He had frequent vet visits, multiple medications, and emergency enemas. Sometimes he suffered from constipation. Sometimes he had explosive diarrhea. He had an ear infection and a chronic upper respiratory infection. He was diagnosed with stomatitis. But Kitty Revolution and Ford's team of advocates never gave up.

Ford was able to see an internal specialist at the University of Minnesota. He received excellent, highly personal veterinary care from Dr. Amberleigh Barker at Maplebrook Pet Care Center. On March 11, he underwent a successful balloon procedure at the U, and on March 29, he will have a full extraction for his stomatitis.

He has been through a lot, but thanks to his medical treatments, he is happy and thriving. At eight months old, he now weighs more than 7 pounds and is on his way to being a very big boy. He has a strong appetite, enjoys wrestling with his foster brothers and sisters, and charms everyone he meets. It is hard to imagine a world without this beautiful, gentle, fluffy boy.







# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Martin & Floyd came to us as 3 week old kittens. They couldn't eat on their own so they were bottled fed. As time went on the kittens began suckling on each other. Their caregiver separated them so they wouldn't continue this behavior. But Floyd & Martin learned to suckle on themselves. Their caregiver noticed that they weren't using the litter box like normal kittens do. They were obsessed with litter boxes and would jump from box to box, crying, and heading to another box while leaking a trail of urine.

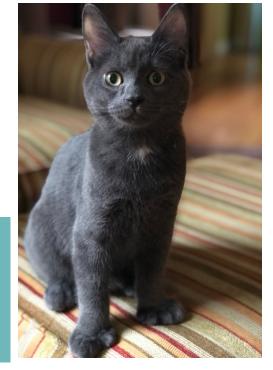
At 9 weeks old, they were seen by our veterinarian with concerns about constipation. They had distended abdomens. Both kittens were found to have swollen

prepuces (skin surrounding the penis), enlarged bladders, and undescended testicles. Both kittens were diagnosed with Phimosis, which is the inability to extrude the penis from the prepuce and is almost exclusively associated with an abnormally small preputial orifice. Our veterinarian was unsure if this was a congenital, acquired (trauma induced from suckling) or a combination of both. It was recommended that both kittens have surgical intervention to enlarge the prepuce opening. If their Phimosis wasn't corrected, both kittens could develop infection, tissue damage, pain, or even die.

This type of surgery is extremely expensive - \$2500 per kitten. Martin & Floyd together had vet bills over \$5000. To some, spending \$5000 on two kittens may seem outrageous.

We could have rescued 10 cats for that amount. But Floyd & Martin needed that surgery. Can you imagine having a full bladder all of the time and just not being able to urinate it all out? That has to be super uncomfortable! They needed someone to help give them the best life possible. We'd gladly do that over and over again. They were good kittens that deserved a chance. We're happy they came to our rescue.







# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Nessie arrived in foster care on 4/23/2019. No, that's not a typo. Nessie has been with us for almost three years. When she arrived, she was very scared. She had lived on the streets for a few years and had delivered many litters outside. She gave birth to seven kittens just a few days after coming into the rescue.

Nessie did not like humans. Didn't trust them. When her kittens were still in foster care, the only reason Nessie's caregiver saw her was because if she didn't come out to eat, her kittens would eat it all. If her caregiver would make the slightest move, Nessie would hiss and retreat under the nearest bookshelf. Once her kittens were adopted, Nessie

played the waiting game with her caregiver. She knew her food would be waiting for her. She didn't have to eat with her caregiver in the room. Two years went by. Nessie was not getting any friendlier. Her caregiver tried all sorts of tricks. Nessie didn't fall for them. Then one day, her caregiver gave her some treats. Of course, Nessie waited until her caregiver left the room before she tried them. She liked them. The next day, the caregiver gave her treats. Nessie heard the treats hit the bowl and poked her head out. A Nessie sighting! A few days later, Nessie greeted her caregiver at the door of her foster room. "Got any treats?" Little by little, Nessie started coming out of her shell. She greeted her caregiver at the door with a medley of happy chattering. "Treats! Treats! Treats! Her caregiver decided to be a little bold. She ran a hand down Nessie's back, lightly petting her. Nessie hissed. She darted away. But... but... there were still treats!

Nessie returned. Her caregiver petted her again. Nessie hissed. Little by little, Nessie started tolerating being petted. There was a power in those treats!

Fast forward a year. Do you want to hear something amazing? Not only does Nessie LOVE to be petted but she's now an avid lap cat. Nessie cannot get enough lap time. She purrs up a storm and is one very happy cat. It only took 3 years. And that's okay. It's what we do. We give them time. We never give up hope. We owe them that.





# AWARD WINNING VOLUNTEERS

Kitty Revolution turned three years old in October of 2021. We were able to reach this milestone because of all the amazing volunteers who put so much of their heart and soul into this rescue. To honor our wonderful volunteers, we knighted them with a title that describes all the astonishing and quirky skills our volunteers bring to this rescue. Some are tongue in cheek. Some are just plain silly. But all of them are sincere. Here are just a few of the volunteers we bestowed awards to:









#### **CERTIFICATE**

MOST AMEOWZING NOMENCLAWTOR

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

#### **Michelle Levy**

for her incredibly clever cat name puns



#### **CERTIFICATE**

BEST HOTEL & SPA

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

#### Sarah Gamble

for the hostess with the mostest, providing fosters with a wonderful 4 star extended nights stay



#### CERTIFICATE

BEST SHELTERLUV WRANGLER

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

#### **Danielle Menuey**

for her amazing ability to navigate around, tailor settings, and coax data out of an ill



BEST FELINE PATIENT ADVOCATE

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

#### Terri Hecimovich

for her amazing perseverance in seeking proper diagnosis and care of her fosters



#### **CERTIFICATE**

MOST SELF-VACCINATED

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

#### **Peggy Summers**

for the countless times she stuck herself with a needle but still kept smiling



#### CERTIFICATE

BEST CATNIP DEALER

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

#### Caia Johnson

for keeping cats well supplied with the good stuff, cleverly disguised in a beautifully knitted mouse body











# CERTIFICATE BEST FOSTER BUTT THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO Erin Warhol for assiduously fostering not one but two fosters with booty issues yrd Birthday OCTOBER 17, 2021















#### **CERTIFICATE**

MOST LIKELY TO WORK FOR HALLMARK

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

#### Liz Hawley

for donating the most exquisite handmade cards



#### **CERTIFICATE**

BEST SECRET SHOPPER

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

#### Jill Meidinger

for looking... but not looking... and having a soft spot for FIV+ cats



MOST ORIGINAL INTERVIEW LOCATION

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

#### **Bonnie Shoebottom**

for thinking outside the box and into the bathroom... of Chuck & Don's



#### CERTIFICATE

MOST RAW SUPPORT

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

#### MaryAnn from Woody's

for the best care and food a cat could hope for in a home away from home



#### **CERTIFICATE**

MOST NEVER ENDING INTAKE

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

#### **Kelly Sisk**

for taking in three, five, six, seven, eight fosters in terrible need of love and care



#### **CERTIFICATE**

BEST FOSTER INDUCED REMODELING

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

#### Celia Goodwin











# CERTIFICATE BEST CINEMATIC FOSTER THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO Liz Lamae for fostering the wonderful Stroker Ace stroker Ace 3rd Birthday OCTOMER 17. 2021



## ADOPTIONS 2021

Bennie, Nakita, Annabelle, Mist, Bruce, Winston, Bader with Ruth & Justice, Phoenix & Gemini, Luna, Romeo, Tic Tac Toes, Granger, Corina & Pricklepants, Paris, Bon Bon, Twinkle Toes, Cricket & Fireball, Izzy, Bengal & Sparkles, Max, Gideon, Peda, Drusilla, Pepperoni Jones, Pepper, Kamala with Joe & Harris, Pixie, Cleo, Holly & Elf, Miss Hiss, Oliver, Sunshine & Storm, Ikora, Schwartz, Loona, Willow, Bell & Habanero, Oreo, Harriet, Larry & Kiki, Bella, Ginger, Granger (again), Albert & Simone, Bruce (again), Tigger with Winnie the Pooh & Eeyore, Maggie & Ebony, Sophia, Kodiak & Whittier, LoKitty of Meowsgard & Yeowlcon, Marble & Elektra, Lena & Lucille, Genevieve & Nigel, Bob, Budgie & Bee, Miss Marple & Miss Fisher, Milt, Wally, Emmett, Sorsha & Clyde, Martin & Floyd, Amber & Caterina, Mishi, Grimm & Perrin, Laz, Sebastian with Wren & Sparrow, Meadow & Raven, Wayne & Cass, Americano, Thunk & Eep, Jiffy Pop, Tucker & June, Rougen, Benny Bear, Cleopatra & Grizzly, Magdalene, Frankie & Indy, Valerie, Percy, Floki & Sanduhr, Maude, Cappuccino & Macchiato, Meowdonna, Willie, Punky Mewster, Gunther, and finally Ringo

