



Island Cat Resources and Adoption  
P.O. Box 1093  
Alameda, CA 94501

Change Service Requested

NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
OAKLAND, CA  
PERMIT#4353



**Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Works! ... Contact Us for Information & Resources**

*Long-Term Foster Cats Who Need Loving Homes!!*

**ANGEL** Bio# 1828 DJ



The photo doesn't do this six-year-old Siamese mix justice. Playful and affectionate, Angel needs a friendly cat pal - she adores littermate, **Sister**. Shy to start but warms up quickly. Struggles with change and can be quite the drama queen, but that's the Siamese coming out. She needs a quiet home with kids 10+ and she tolerates dogs.

**SISTER** Bio# 1829 DJ



What a wonderful personality! Sister loves everybody and everything. Dogs are OK, too. A loving, playful 6-year-old cat with THE sweetest disposition. She needs another mellow cat friend and is especially fond of her sister, **Angel**. Easy going, social, and so good natured, Sister will make a great family cat. Children 10+ should be OK.

**SADIE** Bio# 1989 MB



Sadie is a calm, sweet-natured girl. Found near Jack London Square, this 12-year-old 'tortie' loves to sit on your lap and purr contently when petted. Shy to start with strangers and new situations. She would prefer a quiet home and could be fine as an only pet, but she gets along well with other cats.

**'Tis ALMOST the Season ... Why Not Let These Three Beauties Help Spread Holiday Greetings to Friends and Family?**



**\$5 for 10 cards with envelopes  
A GIANT CARD DEAL FOR HARD TIMES!!**

**Merry, merry and support ICRA**  
To purchase ICRA Holiday Cards, e-mail us at [info@icraeastbay.org](mailto:info@icraeastbay.org) or come by Petco on Saturdays 12-4pm

# The ICRA Catalyst

A Publication of Island Cat Resources and Adoption

Summer 2009

[www.icraeastbay.org](http://www.icraeastbay.org)

(510) 869-2584

## ICRA's Long-Term Foster Cats Good Things Do Come to Those Who Wait

Anyone who wonders what happens to the cats in ICRA's adoption program need only read Amber and Opal's story to understand that we stick with them as long as it takes to find the right homes. This sweet mother and daughter duo spent **7 ½ years in foster care** before being adopted in January to a wonderful home in the Oakland Hills that would make any cat envious. They were very lucky to have found someone willing to take them both, especially since they had formed such a close bond over the years. Amber has always been the bolder of the two, with Opal content to follow mom's lead - which remains the case as these middle-aged kitties carve out a new life under the watchful eye of guardian Thalia D. and her cat-friendly, 12-year-old pit bull named 'Shadow.' Like many of our foster cats, these two endured so much, not the least of which were countless stressful days at the adoption site and a gentle slide into obscurity as they lost precious cage space to cats and kittens who *show* better in public. It's frustrating and it's sad to see such beautiful little souls essentially grow up in foster care simply because they are 'too' something to so many people - *too shy, too imperfect, too ordinary, too big, too small...too old*. But Amber and Opal are proof that the right people are out there for all of our long-timers, people like Thalia who'll give them the love and patience they need to adjust to a whole new world. Thalia knew her girls were completely at home when she found a cat toy in the water dish they now share with 'Shadow.'



Mom Amber (f. Priscilla) and daughter Opal (right) waited years for their perfect home. Adopted in Jan 2009 by Thalia Dorwick and 'Shadow' the pit bull.

*Long-Term Foster Cats Who Need Loving Homes!!*

**TOBY**



Toby and Sydney were rescued as feral kittens in 2001. Toby is such an easy going, playful, bouncy, and increasingly cuddly kitty. He sleeps under his foster mom's arm at night, snuggling and purring. Toby loves attention and loves to be with his person. Mild-mannered and gentle with new people. He's also a drop-and-roll kitty who will throw himself at your feet to be petted. Toby will need a buddy like his brother Sydney and probably would be OK with a dog. He needs a calm household with children 12+, as he's a bit of an escape artist. **Bio# 1364 DJ**

**SYDNEY**



Sydney and Toby were rescued as feral kittens in 2001. Sydney is such a quiet, gentle, and good-natured boy. He's a happy little kitty despite his perpetually worried expression. Shy to start but warms up quickly. He loves attention and back scratches and will "trill," head butt, and pace back and forth until he gets his fill. He likes other cats and would probably be OK with a dog. He will need a buddy like Toby and a calm household. Sydney does require daily medication that's inexpensive and easy, but he's a healthy guy. We will discuss details with interested adopters. **Bio# 1364 DJ**

See more *Long-Term Foster Cats* on page 3

## One Person CAN Make a Difference

Last year, West Oakland resident Ron was feeding strays in his neighborhood. With little money and nowhere to turn for help, Ron soon had A LOT of cats and kittens on his hands. They were unfixed and unvaccinated...some were dying from distemper. An accidental meeting with a friend of an ICRA volunteer alerted us to Ron's situation. Within two months, over 30 cats were spayed-neutered, vaccinated, and put up for adoption. Some were nursed back to health.

Ron continues to feed strays but has an edge because of what he learned through ICRA. He is humanely trapping new cats, which we help him spay, neuter, and vaccinate. Adoptable cats enter our adoption program, while the ferals (those too wild to be adoptable) are returned to live out their natural lives under Ron's care. This collaboration has helped over 70 cats and kittens to date, all because **one person cared enough to learn and get involved**. No, Ron couldn't do it all himself, but with ICRA's help he gained control of a sad and potentially overwhelming situation, giving many innocent cats a fighting chance to lead healthier lives.

Thanks to people like Ron, feral cats can have a better place to call home. Unfortunately, many of you may find yourselves as overwhelmed as Ron once was. Our website is filled with information you can use to help one cat or dozens. Don't wait for your problems to multiply...literally! Strays need much more than food. They need your help to stop producing more unwanted kittens who end up sick, dead, or wallowing in overcrowded shelters where they stand a good chance of being euthanized before finding a safe home.

**Care - Learn - ACT - Set the Example in Your Community!!**

**We need CAT FOOD AND LITTER more than ever!!** Our foster homes are struggling. Also, we are receiving many more requests for food assistance from caretakers who simply want to continue their work. Every donation helps. Thank You!!

## ICRA Board Members

<b>President</b>	<b>Vice President</b>
Merry Bates	Gail Churchill
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Directors-At-Large</b>
Mary Sper	Heather Hanly
<b>Treasurer</b>	Gretchen Whittier
Rachna Rajan	



Island Cat Resources and Adoption  
P.O. Box 1093  
Alameda, CA 94501  
Tel: (510) 869-2584

Island Cat Resources and Adoption (ICRA) is a 501(c)3 all volunteer non-profit humane organization. ICRA's federal Tax Exempt number is 94-3225519. All contributions, donations, and gifts are tax-deductible. ICRA does not sell, share, or rent names, addresses, or mailing lists to any other organizations or affiliates.

Visit us Online  
www.icraeastbay.org

Web Administrators  
Rena Fourkas and Heather Hanly

Visit our Adoption Sites  
Saturdays (except holidays) at PETCO in Alameda Towne Centre from Noon-4pm.

First Saturday of the month at Petfood Express on Blanding Way in Alameda from Noon-3pm.

For more information e-mail ICRA at info@icraeastbay.org or call (510) 869-2584.

**Our Mission:** We are dedicated to reducing the suffering of abandoned and feral (wild) cats and to empowering the local community to aid them in their plight. We provide low-cost spay/neuter, vaccines, and medical treatment to all of our cats, and resources for people willing and able to help themselves. We provide foster care for tame or socialized cats until they can be placed into quality, permanent homes through our adoption program. We return feral or unsocialized cats back to their colonies if in a safe, managed environment. We strive to educate the public about responsible treatment of animals and the need for spay/neuter to reduce the number of unwanted kittens.

## New Venue, Same Spirit Spark Silent Auction ...Thanks for Making This Our Best Ever!

Over 200 cat lovers, adopters, and supporters gathered for ICRA's Champagne Silent Auction on April 26th to help us celebrate 15 years of helping stray and feral cats in the community. Our fears about changing the venue for the first time, on top of a shaky economy, were allayed quickly by a fantastic turnout and everyone's enthusiasm in **helping us raise almost \$19,000**, our best effort to date!! With expenses kept to a minimum, over 94% of the proceeds will go to the kitties in the form of veterinary care, spay-neuter, and adoption.

We have so many of you to thank, particularly the individuals and businesses without whose time and generosity we could not host such a grand event year after year. First, we owe a debt of gratitude to Alameda's Elk's Club and Deanie and Pete, who made it possible for us to use their large event space and kitchen. The elbow room was a breath of fresh air for our guests and our workhorse food prep volunteers DeAnne Jarvis, Kecia Leonard, Rachna Rajan, and Frances Sharp. Our hats are off to Dan and Ginger Roberts for donating the lovely wine selection for which we received many compliments this year. We owe a special thanks again to Terrence Brewer for the ambience provided by his unique jazz guitar stylings.



### BUSINESS DONORS

Acme Chophouse \* Alameda Athletic Club \* Alameda Ballet Academy  
Alameda Bicycle \* Alameda Civic Light Opera \* Alameda Theater \* Applebee's  
Aroma Restaurant \* Asena Restaurant \* Bacar Restaurant \*  
Bette's Oceanview Diner \* Bip's Broiler \* Bistro Boudin \* California Canoe & Kayak  
Califorina Shakespeare Company \* Camino Restaurant  
Chuck Corica Golf Complex \* Citizen Canine \* Curves for Women  
Dig's Bistro Dog Bone Alley \* Dr. Cynthia Boyd @Symmetry Chiropractic  
DuVin Wines \* Farmstead Wine & Cheeses \* Gold Coast Grill  
Grand Lake Theater \* Havana Restaurant \* Harrah's Lake Tahoe  
Infineon Raceway \* Julie's Coffee & Tea Garden \* La Pinata Restaurant  
LaVal's Pizza \* Lauren's Closet \* MyJewelrySource.com \* O Spa  
Oakland Athletics \* Oakland Raiders \* Ole's Waffle Shop  
Pacific Heating & Sheet Metal \* Park Centre Animal Hospital \* Piedmont Grocery  
Pier 39 & Aquarium of the Bay \* Pillow Park Plaza \* Rebecca at Salon 1322  
Safeway \* San Francisco 49ers & Roger Craig \* Scott's Seafood  
Starbuck's Coffee \* Steve Kurtz Photographics \* Tiki Tom's \* Tomatina  
Trader Joe's \* Virago Theater Company

### INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Annie VanNess \* Barbara Greenstein \* Bev Chamberlain  
Bruce & Jean Elerick \* Cats Meow Toys & Fashions and Jackie Barnett  
Chris Bacina \* Claudi DeChow \* Art & Claudia DeLaRosa \* Deana Lorman  
Debbie Damele \* Debbie Sharp \* Denise Cahalan \* Ellen McGinn \* Eloise Hill  
Emerito Lopez & Eileen Calahan \* Francie Farinet & Sunny Beans Coffee  
Gretchen Whittier & Peter Andrea \* Heather Hanly & Dan Purcell  
Helen Krayenhuff \* Jannie Chan \* Jim & Gail Churchill \* Jim Mead  
Joan Turmaine \* Joe McHenry \* Joyce Slim \* Julia Illescas  
Karen Naves & Dan Rietz \* Kristen DeLauer \* Leslie Cobb \* Leslie Hernandez  
Lisa Mangiante \* Merry Bates \* Muriel Whitcomb \* Nancy Rudolph  
Natasha Leschinsky \* Nicole Ferrera & Ryan Braby \* Pat McCall \* Pat Wood  
Patricia Still \* Patty Rose \* Peggy Harding \* Ron Rebello & Carol Knight  
Sandy Sher \* Sarah Backes-Diaz \* Sarah Lickiss \* Selda Heavnur  
Shelly Patterson \* Steve & Pam Rechter \* Tracey Rhys \* Tricia Schaller  
Veronica Vodopich \* Virginia Cafaro

Times are tougher than ever for non-profit groups like ours, so THANK YOU for sticking with us. Don't miss the fun in 2010 — we hope to see you next spring!!

## Donations In Memory Of...

- ☛ Akbar from Naida Verbeek
  - ☛ Baby, much loved kitty of the Temple Family from LD and YA Temple
  - ☛ Bad Boy the Cat from Meredith Florian
  - ☛ Caylee Anthony from Julia Ann Illescas
  - ☛ Ceil Wood from Michael & Margaret Starnes
  - ☛ Crystal & Sandy from Margaret Wehinger
  - ☛ Dave & Peggy's precious Patches from Gail, Natasha & all your friends at ICRA
  - ☛ Domino from Robert Kuhn
  - ☛ Elmer from Bruce & Jean Elerick
  - ☛ Mr. Gregory Watson from Scarlett Ho
  - ☛ My mother, Helen K. Margold, from Jane Margold
  - ☛ Irving and Henry from Ellen McGinn
  - ☛ Irving and Rose from Harlyn Trayer
  - ☛ Jerome from Robert Hagedorn
  - ☛ Jim Ashley, late husband of Linda Kay Ashley, from Arthur & Patricia Still
  - ☛ Lovey, RIP 3/08, from Jo Bomser
  - ☛ Mattie from Michael Neessen
  - ☛ Max, for Gretchen and Peter, from Heather Hanly & Dan Purcell
  - ☛ Mona from Margaret Baldwin
  - ☛ My beloved Nemo from Karen Seritis
  - ☛ Nola Breese from Beth & John Baker
  - ☛ Oscar from Lori Nelson
  - ☛ Panther and Grizzly Bear from Vivian & Timothy Davis
  - ☛ Picassa-Picasso from Adele Louise Bertaud
  - ☛ Princess from Lois Leverone
  - ☛ Princess from Merry Bates
  - ☛ R. Nancy Regan from Rebel, Red & Rascal
  - ☛ Raj, Mary Sper's kitty, a rescue from a far away place, from Margitta
  - ☛ Reka from Billy & Julia Weese
  - ☛ Riley, Debbie & Gary's kitty, from Margitta
  - ☛ Robert Millican from Bingham McCutchen LLP
  - ☛ Smokey from Thomas & Petrenelle Smith
  - ☛ Teddy from William & Robyn Jagust
  - ☛ Tilly from Leslie Krongold
  - ☛ Zachary from JoAnna Holsman
  - ☛ Zola from Kathryn M. Caulfield
- ## Donations In Honor Of...
- ☛ Anne Montgomery from Deborah Mazzolini
  - ☛ Bradley Anderson from Kathleen Hughes Anderson
  - ☛ Bruce from Gary & Stella Moser
  - ☛ Catherine Pagano from Jean Wolslegel
  - ☛ Charlie from Sheryl Martin-Moe & Gregory Moe
  - ☛ Charlie Dirksen from Heather Hanly & Dan Purcell
  - ☛ Cochran Car Co. CTAs from Richard & Susan Cochran
  - ☛ Cognac from Isabelle Lavedrine
  - ☛ The Crazy Cat Ladies of Central Avenue from Sarah Veters
  - ☛ Elsie from Michael Litwin
  - ☛ Fluffy and Coco from Lori Nelson
  - ☛ Fudge from Joanne Chen
  - ☛ Ginger, Tootsie, and Casey from Mary Dynan
  - ☛ Gretchen Whittier from Alita Dolloff
  - ☛ Heather Hanly's birthday from Donna Hanly
  - ☛ Heather Hanly from Anonymous
  - ☛ My friend, Heather Hanly, and my cat, Socrates, from Christina deRoos
  - ☛ Heather Hanly from Charles Dirksen
  - ☛ Heather Hanly and Dan Purcell from Sallee Purcell & John Murray
  - ☛ Helen Mohr Thomas from Mark & Marcia Hutchins
  - ☛ Jim Mead from Jimmy & Josefina Inocencio
  - ☛ Joanie Turmaine's birthday from Margitta Gardner
  - ☛ Kathryn Cauldfield from Melinda Ramm
  - ☛ Kristen Lee from Kelley Moran
  - ☛ Kristin Soo's birthday from Kristin Soo
  - ☛ Kristin Soo's birthday from Danielle Fernandez
  - ☛ Kristin Soo's birthday from Maya Lee
  - ☛ Kristin Soo's birthday from Alexandra Dang
  - ☛ Linda, Gary, and Molly Soulages from Allan Massinghill & Ann Bracci
  - ☛ Lisa from Christine Geoghegan
  - ☛ Lisa Haage from Madeline Field
  - ☛ Mamba from Catherine Veters
  - ☛ Marian and Dave Kolm from Frank Colligan
  - ☛ Mary Sper from David Radi
  - ☛ Maverick, Goose, and Monkey from Clay Chan
  - ☛ Morris from Suzanne & Donald Lesuer
  - ☛ Nancy Brandt from Julie & Chris Van Buhler
  - ☛ Nicholas Sher & Monica Lundy from Gavin Tritt
  - ☛ Ranya from George & Larry Ford
  - ☛ Ron Kamangar from Dolores Kelleher
  - ☛ Sarah Veters from Catherine Veters
  - ☛ Stewie from Ray Ortega
  - ☛ Sugar and Magic from Jacquelin E. Heyward
  - ☛ Rocky Bobcat from Mary Ellen Bauer
  - ☛ Terry Lang from Christina Baer
  - ☛ Tim, a wonderful black cat, from Donna Hanly

## Donations With Thanks...

- ☛ For all you wonderful work on behalf of cats in our community from Kathy Condron & M.D. Pozner
- ☛ To Gail from J. Bruhn & T. Klump

- ☛ To Gretchen & Peter, for doing TNR for 11 cats, from Carlos Martinez
- ☛ To Heather, et al., for your work looking after kitties on Lusk Street, from Kevin Dwyer
- ☛ To ICRA, for all you do, from Mohammed & Donna Khatib
- ☛ To ICRA, for all you do, from Susan Cornell
- ☛ To ICRA from Selda Sarigol & Scott Heavner
- ☛ To ICRA, with gratitude for your caring and support, from Kathleen Pelayo
- ☛ To ICRA from BRN
- ☛ For our forever home! from Stewart and Hermes, fostered by Gail Churchill
- ☛ To Sue Covello from Marilyn Saunders

## Donations to Aid...

- ☛ All the handicapped, abused, neglected, unwanted, needy cats from Sandra Ramois

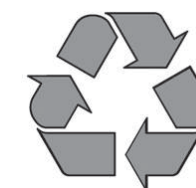
### In Memory of Mattie

"She was a beautiful, sweet, and loving companion for 9 great years before succumbing to breast cancer. Thank you for what you do and bringing Mattie into my life." - Sincerely, Michael Neessen (Boston, Mass.)



**Mattie**  
(f. Martha)

Beloved kitty of Michael Neessen  
Adopted in October 1999



Turn your rinsed recyclable plastic soda & water bottles and aluminum cans into **CASH for the CATS!!**

Drop them off with our Petco Adoption site staff (Saturdays 12-4)

## ICRA Garden Cats

continued from page 4

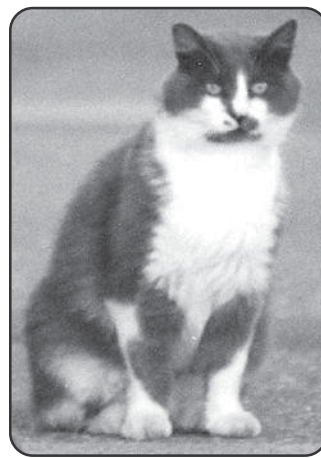


**WILSON** (White & orange), 3 yrs old. Wilson is laid back and loves to drape himself in yoga-like poses and to slumber in cozy places. He gets along with all types of cat personalities. He is a sweet-natured cat but was born to a feral mom and not captured young enough to tame completely for adoption as a house pet. He will allow some petting once he gets to know his caretaker. **Good pairings:** Fern, Fleur, or Mia

**MIA**, 4 yrs old. Mia is not semi-feral, but she cannot easily be held or petted. Rescued as an adult, we do not know if her history would explain her paranoia in this regard. She seems to want attention but doesn't know how to accept it. We think she would enjoy a garden or yard where she could establish a relationship with humans and another cat, but on her own terms. **Good pairing:** Wilson



### A Special Plea for Adolfo



**ADOLFO** (Grey & white), 11-12 yrs old. This handsome senior is all that remains of a feral colony which had called Alameda's Coast Guard Island home for over 20 years. ICRA trapped, tested, and fixed Adolfo and his colony mates ten years ago to curb a chronic cat overpopulation problem on the island and to improve the quality of life for the existing cats there. Unfortunately, their fate and that of their loyal caretakers repeatedly has been threatened by the misinformed

judgments, broken promises, and prejudices of different commanders over the years. Last fall, things took a sudden turn for the worse when the base command decided that all feral cats must be removed from the island. They did agree to stop trapping the cats and taking them to the Alameda shelter - a *certain death sentence for feral cats* - long enough for ICRA to humanely trap and relocate them with identified caretakers. We need help finding a safe garden environment where Adolfo can enjoy the rest of his natural life. He is okay for now under the watchful eye of a feeder, but lessons learned on Coast Guard Island mean that **Adolfo is living on borrowed time**. Although feral, Adolfo is accustomed to the presence of humans. He is smart and cautious in his approach but trusts his feeders and will hang around once he feels safe. Adolfo was somewhat of an aloof colony patriarch, but he does find comfort in the security and company of other cats. **Please help us save this cat** from any further uncaring, inhumane actions!

## More ALUMNI PHOTOS & NEWS

continued from page 5



Active, petite **Gracie** (f. June) and laid back, 'big-boned' **Murphy** (f. Charlie) found their forever home at the Montclair adoption event last summer. "They are such a joy to have around and I am so glad that I found them through ICRA. Just thought you'd like to know they are doing well and are getting plenty of love." Adopted Jul 2008 by Mary D., Piedmont.



**Wilson** (19 lbs.) and **Clancy** (13 lbs.) are much more to love than the little nine-week-old kittens we delivered to their forever home seven years ago. Says their mom, "I'm so glad you rescued them!" Adopted Jun 2002 by Karen R., Alameda.



We learned from **Beau's** family that he enjoys watching football from the comfort of his dad's lap and the companionship of his new four-legged friends - "He is a good fit." Adopted Fall 2008 by Paul & Joanne H., Hayward.

### Long-Term Foster Cats Who Need Loving Homes!!

#### LUCY LOU



Bio# 1715A MB

This sleek, black beauty is a real doll! Curious, playful, and affectionate, Lucy Lou especially enjoys one-on-one time with you when she can be close, rub cheeks, and cuddle. Just short of tricks, she will do just about anything for a canned food treat! Gets along well with other cats given proper introduction and time to adjust. She finds change very difficult, so will require a special regimen to ensure a successful transition to her new home. We will discuss details with interested adopters. Lucy Lou is wonderful and well worth it! She should be fine with children 8+ and calm dogs. She was born in mid-2003.

See more *Long-Term Foster Cats* on page 8

## St. Joseph's Elementary "Goodies for Good" Helps ICRA



We were truly honored that Mrs. Radecke's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class at St. Joseph Elementary School in Alameda chose ICRA as the recipient of proceeds from their school-wide "Goodies for Good" fundraiser in January. They worked very hard to raise **over \$450** to help many deserving cats and kittens. Many, many thanks to Mrs. Radecke and her students for their generosity, community spirit, and the opportunity to speak to them about our mission. **You earned a big A+ from all of us at ICRA, especially the kitties!** Missing from the class photo is **Hillary Kitten** (f. Princess Cleo), who was foster mom Gail Churchill's co-spokeswoman for ICRA's presentation to the class. This lucky girl found her forever home soon thereafter with guardian Lacey R. of Oakland, who reports that this kitty's new favorites include doing laundry and studying for the LSAT - "unlike me."



Hillary Kitten, ICRA spokesperson turned stay-at-home kitty, was adopted in Feb 2009.

### Don't Let Their Size Fool You... KITTENS are HARD WORK!!



Rosie knows what kittens are capable of ... do you???

Kitten season chugs along, and those little bundles of cuteness are hard to resist. ICRA has many kittens looking for great homes, but our number one concern is making the right match. 'Rosie' Churchill was ready to tackle kitten care, but are you ready for *kittenmania*??

\* **Do you have the energy, and patience to enforce house rules** that ensure kittens grow up to be well-adjusted family members for the next 15-20 years? Kittens require constant supervision and teaching - almost like human babies do.

\* **Can your mind and body handle unpredictable mayhem?** Kittens are high-energy! When they want to romp, play, run under foot, and get into things, your feelings on the matter mean very little to them.

\* **Do all household members - especially small children - know how fragile kittens are?** Rough handling can lead to serious injury (to all parties) and bad human-kitten bonds.

\* **Looking for a sure thing?** There's no guarantee that your personal kitten-rearing efforts will produce that adoring lap cat of your dreams.

\* **Is one your limit?** Think very, very carefully unless you already have a youthful, well-adjusted cat in your home who is willing to teach the kitten acceptable feline behavior. Learn from the mistakes of former skeptics out there who fell victim to 'single kitten syndrome' - the seemingly uncontrollable wrestling, running, climbing, ambushing, scratching, toe and hand-biting, pants leg climbing, you name it. Make life easier and adopt two.

If you answered 'YES' to all of these questions then kitten adoption may be for you. If not, consider adopting a mature cat as your companion. We have plenty who struggle getting noticed this time of year. We are highlighting some of long-term foster cats in this issue. You can visit others at our adoption site or search our website under "Adoption."

### Long-Term Foster Cats Who Need Loving Homes!!

#### BOB Bio# 2548 MB



A stunningly handsome 3-year-old with personality plus, Bob needs a home looking for a lot of cat! Bob is formidable in stature and demeanor. He comes off a bit strong with other cats, and sometimes new people, but is truly a sensitive, loving boy. Bob winds up easily but in his calm moments is sweet and affectionate. He will do best in a home with a cat-friendly dog or a young cat or

two who can stand up to physical "in your face" play. Since he tends to 'play bite' when excited, Bob wouldn't be a good match for small children under 5. He needs interaction and stimulation to be happy, so a work-at-home guardian would be ideal.

#### PIPER Bio# 2660 FG



This gorgeous 3-year-old has a wonderful personality! Lady Piper is an all-about-people kind of girl who loves to sit by your side or on your lap for loads of love and affection. She will be very loyal to the love of her life - YOU! She'll start out shy, but when comfy with you and her new home she's a super cat. Could be a solo kitty and shouldn't mind children 8+ or a calm dog.

See more *Long-Term Foster Cats* on page 6

### GET INVOLVED ANY WAY YOU CAN!!

Cat-caring Mills College students rallied last fall against the administration's trap, remove, and kill approach to controlling the feral cat population on campus. They reached out to local animal rescue groups, including ICRA, to help meet with the administration and negotiate a humane feral cat management program agreeable to all parties. Negotiations have slowed recently, but we are hopeful that a fully supported formal plan will be implemented before year's end.

## ICRA Garden Cats Don't Ask for Much ...

If you can provide a safe yard, shelter from the elements, nooks and crannies for hiding and exploring, daily food and fresh water, and the security of 'home,' consider becoming a guardian for one of the grateful kitties featured below and on page 6. Most were kittens or adolescents who did not socialize enough to be happy as house cats in close contact with people. Although semi-feral or feral, they aren't aggressive, just very shy...and no less capable of stealing your heart than a lap cat. We'd love to relocate one or more of them to your garden where they can live safely under your caring and watchful eye. We will guide you through the process of acclimating them to their new environment and supporting you if problems arise. Visit our website or call for more information on making a difference for these cats.

**BIG RED** (Red Tabby), 4 yrs old. Big Red is most handsome and quite large...not fat...just a big boy! Trapped as a feral adolescent, he did not tame enough to be considered an adoptable house cat but has been living in foster care for most of his life. He would love a yard or garden in which to romp and play and call his own. He is quite curious and loves to watch birds and chase bugs. He will make a wonderful and entertaining garden cat. When eating, he allows his caretaker to pet him. Sister Sakura is another garden cat candidate. **Good pairings:** Sakura or Quinn



**QUINN** (Tortoiseshell), 2 yrs old. Quinn is a funny, entertaining, and engaging semi-feral. She's a gorgeous mix of 'tortie' colors. An athletic cat who is curious about her surroundings and the people caring for her. Trapped as an older adolescent, she has not allowed herself to feel comfortable being touched or picked up. But, you can catch her sniffing or even touching your hand or foot when she thinks you're not looking. She will make a nice addition to any garden. She enjoys romping with other cats. **Good pairings:** Big Red or Max



**MAX**, 1 yr old. Max is still a youngster. This handsome guy likes attention and will be wonderful garden cat, especially to a person or family that spends a lot of time outside. Trapped as a feral kitten in Oakland's Chinatown, he was one of six in his litter and tamed to the point that he can be picked up at times by his trusted caretaker. **Good pairings:** Fern, Fleur, or Quinn



**SAKURA** (Flame point Siamese mix), 4 yrs old. Sakura is beautiful and, like brother Big Red, a large cat, particularly for a female. She has the typical crossed blue eyes of a Siamese but is clearly a mixed breed. She's quite timid and did not tame enough for adoption as a house pet. Sakura is not as bold as Big Red and will stay close to her garden spot and not venture far. **Good pairing:** Big Red

**GRAYSON** (Grey & white), 3.5 yrs old. This fella is a rather petite adult. We trapped him as an adolescent but could not tame him enough to be a house pet. He is known to climb straight up a wall or leap to high spots effortlessly. So, climbing a tree or maneuvering around a garden would make him quite happy! Curious and playful, he enjoys the company of other cats. **Good pairing:** Jett



**FLEUR**, 1 yr old. A youngster who almost crossed the line from semi-feral to tame but just couldn't make the final jump. She's OK being close to her caretakers and will sit on your lap or against your legs if you stretch out on the ground under a blanket. She then will cuddle up to your legs. She will be a wonderful companion to a garden cat family on her terms. **Good pairings:** Max or Wilson



**JETT**, 3.5 yrs old. Jett is not only beautifully jet-black in color but can jet up from the floor to a shelf or from a high shelf to the floor effortlessly. An athletic girl, she also loves to cuddle with a cat companion on cold nights. She is sweet-natured and gets along with any cat personality. **Good pairing:** Grayson



**FERN** (Torbie with White) 1 yr old. Fern is a beautiful torbie (tabby and tortoiseshell markings). She bonds with and looks up to mature male cats, so she would love to have one as her garden cat companion. She is a sweet-natured girl, but quite timid. **Good pairings:** Max or Wilson

More ICRA GARDEN CATS on page 6

## ALUMNI PHOTOS & NEWS

Your humorous and always heartwarming vignettes on the new lives of our ICRA alums keep us going and may inspire others to enrich their lives through adoption. We wish we could fit them all in one issue!! Please be aware that we reserve the right to use your photos and comments in our newsletter or on our website to update the community on our work.



Former fostermates **Coco** (r) and **Zane** (l) are a purrrfect pair. Quite a change from Coco's days as a kitten trapped in a car engine...comatose. Adopted Nov 2008 by Alison T., Oakland.



"...**Frankie** is doing fantastically well and still as charming as ever ... he even got into the holiday spirit this year!" Adopted Mar 2008 by Ryan C., San Francisco.



**Emi's** new mom wrote, "I wanted to personally thank the foster home who introduced us to our new family member and allowed this kitty to come into our lives...Emi has been such a joy to have in our home. I truly love Emi more than I can say." Adopted Oct 2008 by Amy R., Alameda.



**Claude** and **Chloe** (f. Chelsea) are building confidence to move about their new home and enjoying the companionship of their human. Claude may consider legal action, however, to contest her claim that he "meows like a girl." Cheap shot, Mom! Adopted May 2008 by Dawn R., Oakland.



**Montana** ("**Tana**") strikes an alluring pose. She apparently has trained mom that "meow" means playtime. "She is a joy to have. Thanks for rescuing and taking care of her." Adopted Apr 2008 by Rebecca F., Berkeley.



Despite their different personalities, **Daisy** (l) and **Peppers** (r) share a favorite hobby – sitting for hours on the cat climber by the sliding glass door to watch birds at the neighbor's feeders. "I think they are super happy cats." Adopted Jul 2008 by Jennifer C., Alameda.



**Huckleberrry** (f. Barry) and **Henry** (f. Zsu-Zsu) (r) aren't surprised at all that their new humans "love them to bits!" Who wouldn't?? Adopted Nov 2008 by Roxane C. & Jennifer H., Alameda.



**Blackie** and **Grayling** "are both doing well and we love having them as part of our family. Thanks for introducing us!" Adopted Sep 2008 by Katja H. & Family, Alameda.



**Merlin** (f. Benny) and **Cosmo** (f. Andre) are proof that having cats and babies is a good thing. Happily, "both cats have bonded with their human kittens" – the family's newest members, daughters Miranda and Zoe. Here's Cosmo with Miranda and her??? stuffed animals. Adopted Oct 2005 and May 2006 by Laura D., Alameda.



**Meesa** (f. Gia) cuddles next to her new pal, **Charlie** (l). Her guardians report: "We just love her. Thank you for taking such good care of her. We are very lucky and happy parents." Adopted Aug 2008 by Jennifer & Christopher D., Livermore.



**Scrapy** (f. Blue) and **Zack** enjoy the view better from inside their front door than the other way around. Says their guardian, "These guys were my favorite 2004 Christmas present to myself." Adopted Nov 2004 by Lorraine S., Alameda.



Here's **Cookie** reportedly "doing what she does best!" in her digs in sunny Arizona. You go, girl!! Adopted Oct 2006 by Ellen L., Surprise, AZ.

More ALUMNI PHOTOS & NEWS next page