



DUNE KITTY



Java

My morning started like any other, grabbing those great last moments in bed with my kitties cuddling. I reach for my cell, turn it on, and start scrolling through Provincetown Community Space Facebook page, not for all the gossip, just for missing or found cats. There I saw a plea for a found exotic cat (later to be established as a pure bred Tonkinese) at a dune shack! Quite surprising to say the least. Contact with the poster was established and a plan was made to lend them a trap (CASAS has many at our disposal for the community to borrow). For those of you who do not know, the dune dwellers live way out on the Backshore, necessitating many machinations to be able to come back into Town proper. Haste was made, and they had a trap to take back into the dunes. I was prepared to stay late, it was summer, and the light lasts. Imagine my surprise when I got the call that they had the cat, a mere 90 minutes since they left with the trap. They drove the cat back to the Shelter, where Dave and Anita were able to whisk it to the Veterinary Wellness Center of Provincetown for a quick exam. Scanning for a chip also took place, and bingo, the cat had one! After many attempts, a relative of the owner was located (note to pet owners, if you change your phone number or your address, please update your information with your microchip carrier). The cat had escaped from a house in Truro nearly 3 months prior,

and had traveled at least 10 miles! The reunion with the owner, needless to say, was a happy event. This was truly amazing, especially considering all of the coyotes out and about, especially in the Dunes.

A huge thank you goes out to Mildred Champlin, her daughter Andrea, and all the family members of the Mission Bell dune shack for reaching out and for their willingness to go back and forth to help make sure this kitty, *Java*, was reunited with his owner.

BUDDY



One of the hardest parts of our work at the shelter is trying to reassure a cat whose owner has passed away. Their whole world is turned upside-down and everything is wrong. *Buddy* is one such cat.

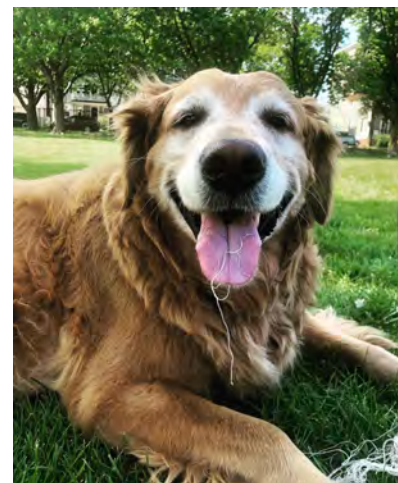
Buddy's owner was in a hospital for several weeks and he was cared for by neighbors. *Buddy* is a shy cat and his caregivers never saw him so he didn't have any human contact for an extended time. When his owner passed, we were called to get him out of the house. Of course, we searched everywhere for him but there were a lot of hiding places. We set up a Have-a Heart trap and crossed our fingers. No other food was available to him and two days later he went into the trap. For him a scary car ride ended in a place that smelled of other

cats and certainly was not his home. After a few days, *Buddy* began to explore his room, enjoy his meals, and use the litter box. I sat on the floor and chatted with him while he spent a lot of time washing his fur; it had been neglected and now was the time to get it clean. In this way I got to know a sweet and gentle cat and made up a limerick about him:

There once was a cat named Buddy.
He did not like to get his feet muddy.
Immaculately clean,
Not a bone that was mean.
Just a cat who wished not to feel
cruddy.

My friend *Buddy*, now a more trusting cat, has been adopted and shares his new home with another gentle boy cat. I wish nothing more for him than good food, good living, and good sunny spots to wash his glorious fur in.

GOOD DOG GUNNER FROM PROVINCETOWN WINS 2ND ANNUAL CASAS BEER LABEL CONTEST!



Gunner, a Golden Retriever beat out 63 entrants to win the 2nd Annual CASAS pet photography contest, and now graces the label of a special, limited edition Amber Ale produced by the **Provincetown Brewing Company (PBC)**. *Gunner* was a dog about Town, who unfortunately passed away during the contest said his owner, Michael Bruning. He will be forever immortalized with his own label.



CARRIE A. SEAMAN ANIMAL SHELTER
PROVINCETOWN

CASAS
Carrie A. Seaman Animal Shelter
5 Sandy Hill Lane
P.O. Box 1374
Provincetown, MA 02657-5374
508-487-4243
www.casasanimalshelter.org

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Chaka came in second and **Charlie Girl** placed third. They were both of the canine persuasion. Close to 20,000 votes were cast in this terrific fund raising event for the Shelter. The release party, featuring the can with label created by artist Scott Meriam, was held at the PBC to kick off Pet Appreciation Week. We would like to thank the PBC for partnering with us to make this contest happen. **Erik Borg** and his team at the PBC embody the philanthropic spirit of Provincetown.

We would also like to thank CASAS volunteers **Rob Sheffele**, who was our liaison with the PBC as well as our PR person, and **Rachael Sokolowski**, who engineered the photo to contest.

PET APPRECIATION WEEK 2023

We started off PAW on Sunday with our opening party at the **Provincetown Brewing Company**, where the winner of our beer label photograph contest was announced. The weather was gorgeous and many canines and their people came out to enjoy the al fresco event. Pampered pooches received a bandana and doggy treats especially made for the occasion.

Friday night brought us to the Fabulous Fish Fry fundraiser at **Bayside Betsy's**. Thank you **Tony Valentino!**

The following Saturday started out rainy, windy, and raw. After monitoring the radar and seeing the long term forecast, we unfortunately had to make the call to cancel the Parade. We were all quite disappointed, but brightened up when the Reverend of **St. Mary of the Harbor Episcopal Church** said we could do the Blessing of the Animals in the Church Hall. The animals were blessed by **Reverend Brian Raiche**. His husband **Loren** and their dog **Chloe** also greeted everyone who came out for the Blessing supplied us some very nice refreshments.

The **Boatslip Resort** hosted Pet Tea Dance and it was amazing how many pets and their people came out to have a great time.

Many thanks to **Jill Botway** of the Boatslip. **Austin Tyler** did a wonderful job of emceeing the ceremony as people and pets seemed to really en-

joy themselves. The costumes were amazing!



On Sunday we drew the winning ticket for our raffle. Our very own **Colin Brown** won the first place cash prize. Congrats and thanks so much for donating the full amount back to the Shelter.

Hope to see everyone next year for our largest fund raising week!

KITTENS!!

Recently, we have had kittens up to our mittens! In August, seven very fun and active four month olds had the run of our isolation area. Talk about chaos!! Trying to deliver meals became an Olympic event, and none of us are spring chickens. But, as happens, all were adopted and we were lonely for more. We didn't have to wait long. Two older kits and their mom were spotted near a volunteer's home. The kittens were trapped and a few days later two more kittens came. The next day the mom was finally brought in. Guess what? She was pregnant and two weeks later she had EIGHT babies. My, oh my!



We love watching babies grow and learn and slowly become smaller versions of the mature cats they will be. But it comes at a very real cost to us-- medical exams, vaccinations, and 20

spays or neuters all needed to be paid for. That's where you come in. With your help we can continue to do this much needed work that means so much to us all. Without your generosity these cats would continue to reproduce and many of them would fall victim to the terrors of living out in the world. Now they are all safe but many more need our, and your, help. Please donate.

ODE TO CLEVE

On a white-out New Year's Eve 15 years ago, Charles and I were determined to bring **Cleve** and **Harvey** home. The barely plowed roads of Provincetown, the tire tracks, were a game to follow in my trusty Volvo as though we were the sled heading to Grandmother's house caroling all the way. We were actually heading to CASAS, that North Star for cat lovers, a safe haven, the shelter from the storm. The movie *Milk* had just been released and it being a different time, a time when gays like us grabbed onto and inhabited every movie that portrayed our kind of love, we easily chose names for our new babies. **Cleve Jones** and **Harvey Milk**. Our gay activist cats. Cats that would change the world, a world that still said we weren't a true family. And that they did.



Our pets can be symbolic, so often coming into our lives at moments of change and of truth. Moments when our world shifts and tilts us onto a different path. **Cleve** and **Harvey** were that. They were, as I imagine so many children can be - furry, hairy or otherwise - the mortar that solidified Charles and my relationship. While we had been together for several years, it was still a long distance relationship. With him in NYC, I was

struggling being alone in Provincetown and decided on getting a kitten. That decision quickly and naturally morphed into "we" were going to get a kitten, which morphed into kittens. And there it was. The moment "I" became "we" and a family was born.

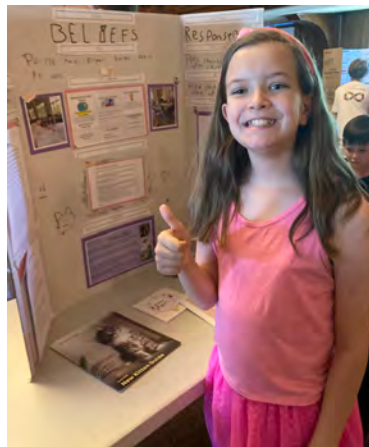
Cleve and **Harvey** were born to **Foxie**, a feral cat living at the horse farm which sits 100 yards away from where **Cleve** spent his 15 years with us, the only home he's known and the place in which he gently let go this morning just minutes after watching a chipmunk scatter in front of him through the window.

Spencer Keasey 10.29.2023

PROVINCETOWN IB SCHOOLS PYP5 EXHIBITION

I was contacted by **Kasey Cox**, a 5th grader at the Provincetown IB schools, to help with her project on teaching others about taking care of cats, her chosen theme for the Exhibition. This Exhibition is a culminating, collaborative experience in the final year of the IB Primary Years Program.

The Exhibition took place at Provincetown Town Hall in June where I was able to see all of the poster board presentations from the students, as well as listen to each one present their topic from the main stage. Kasey did a fantastic job, and I know all those in attendance had some great take away points about caring for domestic animals, cats in particular.



Kasey also came to visit the Shelter and got to meet all of our resident cats at the time, and pet and play with them.

Thanks Kasey for reaching out to CASAS and for your excellent presentation.



CAT CHAT: SIGHT by Roz Goldstein



First, if you have ever wondered why that little furball wakes you at 4-5 AM and whizzes around just as you settle in to watch your favorite TV show, it is because of his instinctive hunting schedule. Cats are not truly nocturnal. They see best at dawn and twilight (crepuscular). This is when most small rodents emerge. They see colors best in purple and gray ranges since these are the colors of dusk. They are indeed adapted to see in very low light but not complete darkness. Their eyes have evolved a lining in the back of the eye which is reflective and greatly enhances any light penetrating the pupil. This lining is called the tapetum lucidum. This is what gives the cat the appearance of eyes which "glow in the dark". Another adaptation to low light is the pupil shape. Unlike our round pupil, the feline pupil is a vertical slit. This allows for maximum opening of the pupil in the scant light and controllable closing in higher light so as to not injure the sensitive lining.

Another adaptation of their vision to how they hunt is they see best close to them. Also their vision is motion sensitive. These traits allow the cat to see small prey near them well as well as sense small movements. There is some research suggesting that feline vision can see into the ultra violet range. This may explain their staring into space when we cannot see anything.

All the feline senses are geared to his hunting abilities. A happy cat is one with visual and physical opportunities to practice these. Small toy mice, balls, ball tracks, etc. keep his mind active and you sane.

In Memoriam

Donations made in memory or honor of a beloved pet or person



Sherry Brec & Susan Connolly
 In memory of Paul LaFrance
 He gave a loving and stable end of life home for many cats and dogs over the years. When he crossed over, he was smothered in welcoming paws.

Shannon Cooch
 In memory of Chuck Griffeth from the Frisbie-Cooch family

Marsha & Jeffrey Rappaport
 In memory of Jacoby Falvey, loyal companion and best friend forever of our dear friend Mr. Brian

Kit & Diane Williamson
 In memory of Bella

Bob & Sharon Fodor
 In memory of Dorothy Mineo

Bob & Sharon Fodor
 In memory of Henry Simon

Bob & Sharon Fodor
 In memory of Jose Mamaclay

Katherine Hornyak
 In memory of Shirley Crowley

Anne Irwin
 In memory of Marla Perkel

Tony Johnson
 In memory of my husband Kevin
 9/17/1958-5/11/2020

Marge Piercy
 In memory of Xena

Helen Valentine
 In memory of Tommy Peres

Fred & Joy Long
 In memory of Tommy Peres

Helen Valentine
 In memory of G. Gladeau

Fred & Joy Long
 In memory of G. Gladeau

Janet Rose
 In memory of Gracie

Jennifer & Rebecca Augur
 In memory of Sunshine Tangelo

Sandy Mitchell
 In memory of Stella

Jeanne Pedulla
 In memory of Janey

John & Patricia Roderick
 In memory of Kevin



Pearl

Susan Gonda & Susan Cayleff
 In loving memory of our Pearl, Cayless, Gonda, Jake and Honey

Antonio Guerreiro & Lee Ann Morris
 In memory of Catherine Pierce

Ellen Banash
 In memory of Paul LaFrance

Daniel LaFrance
 In memory of Paul LaFrance

Sandra Smith
 In memory of David Smith

Jeannette Bragger
 In memory of Oliver

Brenda Haywood
 In memory of Mystic-Spirit
 Matthew & Joy McCrosson
 In memory of Mickey

Susan Rosen
 In memory of Sammy, a dear cat

Susan Goldberg
 In memory of Smitty and Simon

Carole Shander
 In memory of Penny and Pearl

Edwin & Lisbeth Berrio
 In memory of Ray and Dutch

Lois Bartels
 In memory of Oliver,
 beloved pet of Jeannette Bragger

Marillyn Wright
 In memory of Paul LaFrance

Steven & Joanne Cove
 In memory of Tiger,
 thank you for 21 years of affection and cuddles

Nicole Barnum
 In memory of Marie Deffino

Jeannette Bragger
 In loving memory of Bo and Benson

Theresa Raphael
 In memory of my uncle,
 Paul LaFrance

Janet Bebe Wunderlich
 In memory of Alice Bens



*John Dunn
In memory of Renee and Joey*

*Theresa Billow-Supple
In memory of Chuck Billow*

*Patience Wales
In memory Alice Bens*

*Margaret Lorden
In memory of Chuck Griffeth,
from a former student*

*Brian Harrison
In memory of Chuck Griffeth,
a wonderful teacher and friend*

*Lane Keltner
In memory of Alice Bens
from the Thistles*

*Lynne Foerster
In memory of Alice Bens,
she loved her kitties from CASAS*

*Jane Weissman & Mary Lou Bell
In memory of Jade*

*Gus Curran
In memory of Rose Liptak*

*Helen Valentine
In memory of Stephen Score*

*Fred & Joy Long
In memory of Stephen Score*

*Bettejean & Ron Seymour
In memory of Chuck Griffeth*

*Mary Bens
In memory of Alice Bens*

*Martha Murphy
In memory of Alice Bens*

*David Jones
In memory of Izzy*

*Sandra Smith
In memory of Mary Smith*

*Irma Ruckstuhl
In memory of Maureen Voke's
wonderful much loved dog Jack*

*Donna Vaillancourt & Robin Reid
In memory of a most excellent dog,
Rufus*

*Bob & Sharon Fodor
In memory of Dennis Fowler*

*Bob & Sharon Fodor
In memory of Jax,
a dog for all seasons*

*P. Dodds & J. Diggs
In honor of Judy Miller's birthday*

*Roni Siegal
In honor of Anita and Dave*

*Hazel Warner & Klaus Betten
In honor of Ruth Ann Cowing*

*Pauline Albrecht
In honor of Fitzzy Mullen-Ryan*

*P.Dodds & J. Diggs
In honor of Cindy Bingham's birthday*

*Frank Reiner Dunau
In honor of Rhonda Fowler*

*Lorie Ward
In honor of
Mark Weinress and Timmy Simmons*

*Martha Doyle
In honor of Faith, Patchs and Tiger cats*

*Susan Goldberg
In honor of Gulliver*

**Memorials are printed in each
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more will be noted with a spe-
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\$100 or more we will be happy
to include a photo.**

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