



# The LITTER SCOOP

A quarterly newsletter for members and friends of FosterCat, Inc.

Vol. 17, No. 3 September 2016

## It Had to Be You!

This is the story of a man and a cat. The man and the cat had lived their lives in total ignorance of each others' existence until their paths crossed at the South Hills PetSmart last spring. That's when their eyes met; that's when the spark ignited; that's when their story began.

The cat's name is Allie (formerly known as Eirwen). Allie had endured a lifetime of neglect in a horrendous hoarding situation when the Homeless Cat Management Team rescued her and asked if FosterCat could display her for adoption in one of our cages at PetSmart. Allie was estimated to be about 10 years old, so we didn't have high hopes that she would be adopted, but felt she deserved a chance after all she had been through.

The man's name is Ed. Ed and his wife, Dianne, are lifelong cat lovers who were currently sharing their home with two male feline companions: Lucky, who had been with them for 17 years and Bootsie, who had been part of the family for 5 years.

One fine day last April, Ed went to the PetSmart to buy cat food. Ed had no intention of adopting another cat, but, for no reason whatsoever (as Dianne put it) he visited the Adoption Center just to look at the cats. As he surveyed the cats, which he did not intend to adopt, he spotted a small, dirty-white cat staring out of her cage with sad green eyes. He tapped on the glass to acknowledge her and was rewarded with a meow and an outstretched paw. He left hoping that someone would adopt the sweet little cat.

A few days later, Ed's curiosity got the better of him and he went back to see if the little cat had been adopted. When he saw that she was still there, he asked one of the PetSmart employees about her and was told that she was a very shy 10 year old cat, who had come from a hoarding situation and that she didn't like to be held or snuggled. To Ed's surprise, however, when he asked to hold her, the little cat responded to him immediately. Ed watched the little feline's eyes following him as he left the Adoption Center. The spark had been kindled. That night Ed told Dianne about his connection with the kitty.

On his third visit to the store, Ed took Dianne with him. He went directly to the little cat's cage and told Dianne that they "needed" to give this little kitty a home. When she saw the love in her husband's eyes, she agreed without hesitation. The next day Allie was in her new home, getting to know her new family and learning for the first time in her life what it meant to be loved.

When I called a week or so later to see how Allie was doing, Dianne told me that she was settling in well. The vet had prescribed an antibiotic for an infected tooth and discovered that some teeth were missing, had cleaned her ears, and pronounced

her to be otherwise in good health. Dianne said that she was eating well, which was good, because "she needed to put on a pound or two". She was enjoying lap sitting and belly rubs (on her terms, of course) and Lucky and Bootsie, though still a little standoffish, were getting to know their new sister and seemed to be accepting this newest member of the family.

Last month, when I told Dianne that I wanted to feature Allie in an upcoming newsletter, she was happy to supply some recent photos and bring me up to date on Allie's assimilation: "You would hardly know she is the same cat. Thanks to her grooming efforts and a healthier diet, her coat is now sleek and white and her green eyes glisten. She guards her bowl, always knows when its time to eat and she never turns down any kind of food, despite her missing teeth. She loves to play and will even fetch. Yes, I said fetch. Ed throws a little toy and she brings it right back to him. She follows us from room to room, loves to give nose kisses and talks to us in her monotone meow."

Sadly, not long after Allie joined the family, her 17 year old brother, Lucky, passed away. "Allie seemed to sense that he was sick and would lie next to him, to offer comfort to him in his time of need. We have sometimes wondered if she had offered the same comfort to some of the other kitties who had suffered with her in her life before she came to us."

Dianne hastened to add that Allie had also been a comfort to Ed and her as they mourned the loss of their long-time companion. "We have two cats now. We call them our Salt and Pepper Duo... one furry white cat and one furry black cat bringing love and joy to our home."

I can't say that I am totally convinced that there really is such a thing as "love at first sight" or that we all have a soul mate out there somewhere that we just have to keep looking for until we find him or her. But one thing is for sure: when Ed met Allie something happened. Something clicked. A connection was made. And so it seems to happen, at least from time to time, where matters of the heart are concerned. We are so glad that this was one of those times.



### 11th Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>

5:00 P.M. To 8:00 P.M.

St. Catherine of Siena Church

1907 Broadway Avenue, Beechview, PA  
(McCann Hall, lower level of church)

Adults \$9.00 • Kids 5 & Under \$5.00



**Saving Lives . . . one cat at a time.**

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### Mission Statement

Our mission is to develop and sustain an organization to provide temporary foster care for cats and kittens in private homes until permanent homes can be found.

*FosterCat, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.*

## Happy Tails!

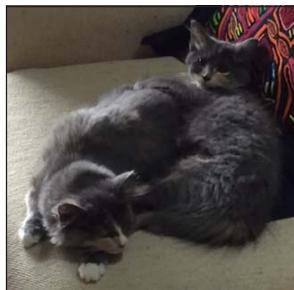
Thanks so much to all of you who have taken the time to send updates and photos of your adopted kitties. We love getting them and sharing them with all of our readers.

Jasper and Julius: I can't tell you how happy we are that we decided to adopt these two kittens together. They are so sweet and affectionate. Their little personalities are so entertaining. T.S.



Rose (formerly Reese) is a super sweet kitty. She has become a great friend to all of us. She keeps right on purring as she sleeps on top of us. Thank you so much for sheltering such an amazing animal and allowing us to make her a part of our family. S.K.

Cutey Kittie (formerly Dobbie) is the perfect addition to our family. She was right at home the moment her paws touched the floor. We all love her very much. S.V.



Serena and Venus (now Princess Cecelia and Princess Gianna) are doing great. They settled in very quickly. They are eating well, using their scratching pads and playing a lot. They are both very cuddly and affectionate. L.P. & R.L.

Jax is settling in well. He eats a lot. He is actually doing better with the dogs than with the other cats, but they are making progress every day. He is a very sweet boy. D.W.



Bogie and Basil (formerly Benji and Sergio) are clearly best buddies. They are constantly together, playing, wrestling, eating, even sleeping. I can't imagine anyone adopting only one of them; I think either one would be lost without the other. We are really happy to have them as part of our family. P.D.

Violet has fully integrated into her new home. She and the pup chase each other around the house and have a great time. The other dogs have basically ignored her since they gave her the initial sniff and decided to accept her into the family. She sleeps right between our pillows at night, so we now share our bed with the pup, our Black Lab and Violet. She is so sweet. L.G.



Here are some photos of Morgan and Eastman hanging out on the back of the couch watching birds and catching some sun with Bobby. Thank you again for introducing these lovely and loving kitties to our family. D.G.

Please mail to: FosterCat, Inc., P. O. Box 23414, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-6414



**Yes! I want to support FosterCat's life-saving efforts for cats like Allie.**

Enclosed is my contribution of:

\$100  \$50  \$35  \$25  \$15  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please credit my contribution towards:

Membership  General Support  
(Annual membership: Family \$25.00 • Adult \$20.00 • Student/Senior \$15.00)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to become a FosterCat volunteer.

I would like to become a foster parent.

*All contributions are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.*

The official registration and financial information of FosterCat, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999.

Registration does not imply endorsement.

**Check out our website:  
www.fostercat.org**