

Center Valley Animal Rescue

Formerly Second Chance Ranch of Jefferson County

no kill animal sanctuary and rescue



www.centervalleyanimalrescue.org

11900 Center Road, Quilcene, WA 98376 (360) 765-0598

Spring 2010



Letter from the Director

Sara Penhallegon

Summer is almost here, so it's project time again. Whether it be animal care, gardening or fence-building, much is happening here at the ranch. Although we continue to have need for more volunteers, the crew we have is dedicated and hard-working. Thanks to them, operations are running smoothly, and all the animals are happy and content. We recently poured concrete for the barn stalls, rebuilt our quarantine pens and started cross-fencing some of our larger pastures to help with better pasture management. This summer, we plan to build a new chicken coop with a concrete floor for easier cleaning (our old one is falling apart). We also intend to finish fencing the other side of our property for 16 acres of more grazing land, which will help us cut back on hay costs.

We continue to work with many other shelters and rescue centers to help them with their hard-to-place animals and difficult medical cases. This includes a few shelters in our area recently forced to close their doors, leaving the animals with no place to go.

We have been so very fortunate to have people like you who believe in us and our work, blessing us with donations of time and money. After dealing with so many abused and neglected animals hurt by people, it amazes me how many truly wonderful people are out there who care so deeply for the animals and the work we do.

Our goal is to use your donations wisely and effectively so we can benefit the animals here at the ranch and those to come. I thank you all. We are so grateful for all of you and would not be here without you.

Why Are We Here? For the 'Blue Moons'

The story of a cat named Blue Moon was a heart-wrenching example of why we founded CVAR. It began on the third day of April – which is Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month.

Heading out on errands, a CVAR volunteer and a friend pulled up to a stop sign when they saw a small cat jump out of the vehicle in front of them. It wasn't until they were able to catch the cat that they saw the tremendous abscess swelling over half its face. The cat was emaciated and had a horrible odor. When the owner showed no interest in taking the cat to a vet, the volunteer convinced the owner to turn it over to CVAR.

Immediately, caring medical attention was focused on the young feline. She was covered in lice – more than we had ever seen on a cat before. She was cold and severely dehydrated. Her coat, which should have been a soft black and white, was instead brownish and reeked with the odors of urine and infection. Her whiskers and foot pads showed evidence of being burned ... all this in a cat that appeared to be just over a year old. For this little girl, the road to health would be long. She was given the name Blue Moon, a name that signifies a rare occurrence. We hoped that meant she would beat the odds and pull through.

We've seen miracles before at the ranch. A horse brought to us with a seriously neglected wound was given little chance to live, but it now grazes peacefully in the pasture with the other



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Blue Moon

Center Valley Animal Rescue Board of Directors

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Dr. Tony Rogstad

Dr. Robert Nathan

Dr. Jan Richards

Dr. Kathy Roellich

Pro-bono Attorney

Jennifer Arterburn

Newsletter Editor: **Dave Cunningham**

MISSION STATEMENT

Center Valley Animal Rescue is 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Our mission is a commitment to providing safe harbor and rehabilitation for unwanted domesticated animals, thereby decreasing the number of unnecessary euthanasias performed. We believe all creatures have inherent value, a right to life, and are entitled to have their basic needs met in a kind and caring manner. Center Valley Animal Rescue is dedicated to finding loving homes for all adoptable animals in our care and offering permanent sanctuary to the animals that cannot be adopted.

Blue Moon ... Continued from Page 1

horses. We all hoped strongly that Blue Moon would regain health so she could experience the love that so many people had to give her.

Blue Moon was very weak but seemed willing to fight for life. When food was offered, she immediately placed both front feet in the bowl, pulled it toward herself and gave a look that defied anyone to take it away. She devoured everything in the bowl, and she gained 1½ pounds in the first week.

Over the next few days, medical exams and procedures focused on the most severe and immediate injuries. The huge abscess on her face was draining into her mouth and possibly her lungs. She had fluid buildup in her chest and had an internal infestation of multiple types of worms. A large mass was also detected in her abdomen. She was treated for the lice and worms, given warm fluids and vitamins, and had her wound drained. X-rays revealed broken ribs that had healed.

During her second week, fluid was drained from her chest. The procedure was repeated over the next couple of days. She clearly had spirit and spunk. She just needed her poor, abused body to match her spirit. Blue Moon was given constant care and attention. Volunteers visited her daily and gave her soft words of encouragement. No matter the outcome, she would know that not all people are bad, and there are many who love her.

Blue Moon died after a two-week struggle. She passed with volunteers petting her, lots of love surrounding her and a warm, full belly. When we said our goodbyes, we promised Blue Moon that her life would have more meaning and impact than anyone imagined.

The Rest of the Story

The Jefferson County Animal Control and the Jefferson County Sheriff's department can prosecute pet owners for animal cruelty.

You can help. Recognize the signs and symptoms seen in many cruelty cases (tips on how to recognize animal cruelty can be found at www.ASPCA.org). Know whom to call to report animal cruelty. Here in Jefferson County, you can contact Jefferson County Animal Control (385-3292) or Jefferson County Sheriff (385-3831).

You can also call or write your local police department and Sheriff's office and tell them that you believe that investigating animal abuse should be a priority. Animal cruelty is a crime!



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Our Critters Become Works of Art



Artwork has given a visual lift to Center Valley Animal Rescue. The totem pole (left) was carved by Rob Jesionowski last summer. His works, which include Native American faces and a life-sized bald eagle, can be seen at the Olympic Art Gallery in Quilcene. New murals both inside and outside of the building were designed and painted by Bvll Timbul Cahyono ("Bull"). The outside mural (below) portrays several of the animals here at the ranch. Come see the artwork and the animals here at CVAR on Fridays between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. and the first Saturday of each month from 11-3. You can check out Bull's artwork on his website (www.bvllart.com).



Using the Force: Can Pets Read Your Mind?

By Pat Todd

In her article "Talking with Animals," Betty Lewis claims the most basic type of communication, common to all species, including humans, is telepathy.

"Telepathy is defined as the transfer of pictures, thoughts and feelings using mental energy," Lewis writes. "This is how geese know when to change leads in their flying formation, or how your dog knows when you're going to the refrigerator. Have you ever noticed that the cat who always comes home for breakfast stays away on the day of his veterinary appointment? All of these animals are simply focusing or tapping into the thought process of another."

Perhaps that's how they're able to understand us when we tell them what our plans are or when we

express our concern about them.

Duchess, one of the ranch's young cats, was adopted by a wonderful couple and their dogs, Zookie and Rider, at the beginning of the year. On a follow-up call about two weeks after the adoption, we learned that Duchess was spending most of her time behind the couch or hiding in the office. After months of this, the family talked about bringing her back to the ranch. Perhaps she was not happy or missed the ranch. "She must have heard our conversation," Sheri said, "because it was a day later that she came out from hiding and joined the family!" Duchess is playful and energetic. She, Zookie and Rider became great friends. Duchess now runs the house and never misses a chance to be in a lap.

If you don't already talk with your animals, give it a try. Let us know your results.

Adorable Adoptables...



Elvis — Talk about a big, gentle guy with a big heart! It's hard to hide such a sweet heart - and hard to hide such a big fellow. He does try to squeeze into the kitty tubes. Elvis is up-to-date with routine shots, house-trained and neutered.



Sparkler — This cute little filly is about 9 months old and very gentle. She is halter-broken and does well with other horses and people. She is a red dun and 12:2 hands tall right now. Mom is an Arab, dad a quarterhorse.

Skittles — This handsome little 1½-year-old is a paint/Arab/pony cross and very sweet. He is being trained and is halter-broken and catchable. We have also just started to pony him out behind the other horses on trails. He is 13:1.5 hands now.



Petey — About 4 years old, this iguana gets along well with other iguanas and lizards but isn't fond of people. He had an abscess on the tip of his tail that had to be amputated, and he liked people even less after getting daily antibiotic injections. He might mellow out.



They Shoot Dogs, Don't They? Not This One ...

By Sara Penhallegon

Our winter open house was almost over when the phone rang. A woman on the other end was crying. Her dog, Maya, had just been hit by a car and had a badly broken leg. Maya needed urgent medical care, but the woman had no money for a vet. In the background, I could hear someone saying something like, "We should just take her out back and shoot her."

We get calls like these often. If we're able to help in situations like these, it's our policy to have the animal signed over to us. We then absorb the cost of surgeries and care, and then try to get the animal to a loving family better equipped for pet ownership. After long and desperate pleas, I convinced the lady to bring Maya to us.

The cute little 18-month-old sheltie was in shock and had a broken femur protruding about 3 inches out of her skin. I rushed her into our medical room with Kathy, one of our volunteer vets visiting from Seattle. We treated Maya her for shock, adminis-



tered pain medication, stabilized her leg and cleaned her other wounds. She didn't utter a peep while we treated her.

Knowing the dog would need orthopedic surgery, we called Dr. Tony Rogstad of Chimacum Valley Veterinarian Hospital, and he graciously volunteered to pin the leg in hopes that it could be saved. She sailed through surgery beautifully, but only time would tell if the damage was too great to heal. She faced a long recovery, but she seemed grateful to be alive.

Sally Grewell, a receptionist at Chimacum Valley Vet, volunteered to foster her over Christmas, and as I suspected, Maya never returned to the ranch ... in a good way! Maya has had to endure more surgeries on her leg, but I'm happy to report that she is doing well and continuing to be well loved in her forever home with Sally!

"What a wonderful blessing she has been!" Sally said. "She has a very sweet and shy disposition. Although her bones are still healing, she takes her role as 'watchdog' very seriously, alerting me to odd sights and sounds. She loves belly rubs, and when asked 'who's the pretty baby,' she paws at her face as if to say, 'aw, shucks, that's me.' She enriches my life beyond words."

ADOPTION REPORT**You Can Go Home Again**

By Pat Todd

Garfield is a senior, ginger-colored cat. His back legs seem a bit stiff, and he moves slowly with his old age. We heard that he'd had his wild times as a kitten in Colorado. He came to the Ranch because the woman who had him passed away, and the family had no one who could take him. A daughter, Stella, was living in Viet Nam at the time.

A few months after Garfield's arrival, we got a call from Stella. She and her husband were back in the U.S. They wanted to come visit Garfield. Stella told us that when she was young, she and her mom were at a vet's office and saw Garfield. Stella convinced her mom that they needed to take Garfield home.

By the end of that week, Stella was here at the ranch, introducing Garfield to her husband. The cat and the girl reconnected. Stella remembered where Garfield's sensitive spots were. He seemed to remember Stella from his younger days.

And just as it was when she was a young girl at the vet's office, Stella knew she needed to take Garfield back home again.

Chuck Finds Heaven on Earth

Angie, who adopted **Chuck the Duck**, reports that he's in heaven: "He doesn't like to be outside, so pretty much just hangs with everyone and follows them around in the barn. About the only time he's outside is when we make him go out and help in the garden. He's really wonderful and gets all the attention he needs. He's completely safe because he's in all the time – we don't have to worry about him. He's obviously very relaxed. Chuck is very protective and controls our cat. He's a character."

**CVAR Calendar**

Summer Open House: Saturday, July 17

BBQ at Marina in Port Ludlow: Sunday, Aug. 29

Holiday Open House: Saturday, Dec. 4

CVAR is open Fridays and the first Saturday of every month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Life of a Volunteer**Happy Endings Keep Me Coming Back**

By Cheryl Halverson

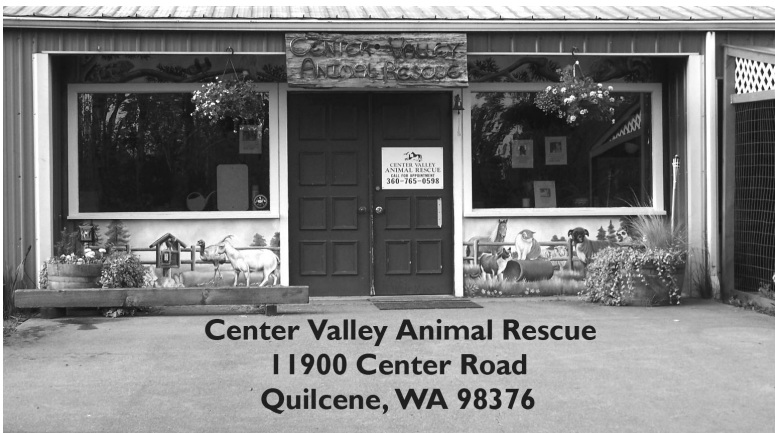
I'll admit it: I was afraid to volunteer. I pictured caged cats, paws poking through the bars. I'd want to take them all home. It would be heartbreaking and depressing. Besides, I rationalized, I contributed by sending cash donations. One day in December, 2008, it occurred to me that I could indulge my fear and stay away or choose to make a difference in the lives of innocent creatures who had been abused, neglected or were simply unwanted. A week



later, I was trained as a cat caregiver at Center Valley Animal Rescue and immediately discovered that my fears were unfounded. The cats live in clean, comfortable rooms with windows, cozy cubbies, toys and access to protected outdoor spaces. They are provided with medical care and the daily human contact they crave.

I discovered that happy endings far outnumber the tragedies at this no-kill shelter. Director Sara Penhallegon takes on "hopeless" cases and goes the extra mile to provide a second chance for animals who would face euthanasia at most shelters. Many find new homes.

After a morning of feeding, cleaning and laundry, I always go home feeling energized by the animals, who give of themselves in so many ways. I'm particularly drawn to the new arrivals: terrified, confused and badly in need of extra TLC. Here's the real payoff: fundraising is important, and donations are essential to the shelter, but from this volunteer's perspective, nothing beats the deep satisfaction of hands-on, face-to-furry-face contact, along with friendships forged through a common passion for animals.



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How You Can Help the Animals

- Volunteer your time in a variety of ways at CVAR. For more information or to start volunteering, call Joanne at 379-3960.
- Donate stocks or securities (we can work with your broker on the details).
- Make a bequest to CVAR in your will.
- Make a cash donation. You can mail a check or make a secure online donation with your credit card on PayPal or go to our website at www.centervalleyanimalrescue.org and click on the Donate button.

Pet Food Bank

Thanks to your donations to our Pet Food Bank, we have been able to nourish over 30 dogs, 25 cats, 10 rabbits and provide assistance for hundreds more through the Port Townsend, Chimacum, Coyle and Brinnon Food Banks.

Help us keep our community animals fed. Bring your pet food donations to the ranch or drop them off at one of our official drop sites: Bonita's Four Legged Friends or Pet Town in Port Townsend; Del's Feed and Supplies in Sequim; and Superior Pet Foods in Poulsbo.

Donor Privacy Policy

We are committed to the rights of our donors. We will not sell, trade or share our donors' personal or contact information with anyone else, nor will we send mailings on behalf of other organizations.

Our Wish List

CVAR seeks donations of:

- A decent stock trailer
- Horse water tubs
- Costco black metal dog kennels
- Horse feed and good quality hay
- Wood chips
- Wood pellets
- Straw
- Alfalfa & Timothy Pellets
- Barn kit or barn builder
- Clumping cat litter
- Small TV/VHS or DVD combo, and wall mounting units for small TV/VHS or DVD combo

Many thanks to Marsha Hensel for donating a deep sink with a cupboard.