

HOARDING *Means Never Letting Go!*

A W5 investigation in animal hoarding aired in March in their piece entitled "When keeping pets turns from caring to cruelty". With all the hoarding shows permeating the TV airwaves, we have become enlightened to this illness and its far reaching effects. One of the hardest things to do when working in animal welfare is to let your foster animals go. We ask ourselves will kitty truly find a good, forever, home; or if perhaps it would be better off remaining in our care? While most foster homes end up keeping some of their charges, they eventually come to the realization that if they are going to continue fostering they must let their charges go. Multi animal homes can be rewarding but there is a limit dependent not only on actual roaming space but also on the time an owner can dedicate to their pets. How fair is it to animals when owners must divide their attention and financial resources to twenty or more animals? The W5 investigation asks when do you know a person is crossing the line from rescuing animals to hoarding animals? Hoarding means never letting go. I personally believe that hoarding can be identified by the number of "adoptions" or "placements" a rescuer facilitates. One of the people interviewed in the program maintained she wasn't a hoarder but I was struck by all the exotic breeds she was in possession of. I saw Siamese, Cornish and Devon Rexes and a Sphinx! Anyone affiliated with a shelter or true rescue knows you would have potential adopters lining up like kids at a Lady Gaga show for a chance to adopt these breeds. Hoarding is a problem, even here in Winnipeg, RESCUE Siamese has been called on more than a few times to rescue Siamese crosses from a hoarding situation. Sadly when a hoarder is "cleaned out" it's the animals that suffer, many are in ill health, undernourished, dirty and lacking social skills, most are euthanized. Many of our volunteers work very hard to look after their own animals and in addition also look after unwanted or discarded pets of irresponsible owners –sometimes our numbers are overwhelming but we do what we can and strive to give each and every one of the cats in our shelter's care the very best forever home we can find them, you have to learn to let them go! ☑

SPECIAL *thanks*

RESCUE Siamese would like to extend a special thank-you to all members and participants of the Manitoba Cat Show. Our rescue is truly honoured to be part of this event each year and we cherish the educational imprint the club has to offer. ☑

EVENTS

June 26: Annual Yard Sale
July 2 & 3: MB Cat Show
August 18: River Ride for Animals
October TBA: RESCUE's 15th Birthday Bash!

Please consult our website for full details: www.rescuesiamese.com

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING
A DONATION TODAY!



DONATIONS

Cheques and Money Orders may be dropped off at our store location at 960 St. Mary's Road or mailed to:

RESCUE SIAMESE
960 St. Mary's Rd
Winnipeg, MB
R2M 3R8

**ADOPTIONS, RELINQUISH
INFO CALL:**
204-255-6896

E-MAIL:
rescue_siamesewpg@hotmail.com

WEB: www.rescuesiamese.com

RESCUE

SIAMESE & STRAY CATS

ABOUT RESCUE

RESCUE Siamese is a non-profit, feline rescue for Siamese crossed cats located in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. The shelter was started in October of 1996 and continues to operate through a volunteer base of committed supporters. RESCUE

Siamese supports itself through fundraising efforts and sales of its line of Raw pet food diets. 100% of the proceeds from these sources go directly back into caring for the cats.

Most of the Siamese crossed cats we take in are relinquished into our care from the Winnipeg Humane Society. Siamese cats are among the top recognized breeds of cats that make up much of the population of abandoned animals left at Humane Societies and SPCAs. The Siamese temperament does not lend itself to quick and easy placement, so many of these wonderful cats would routinely be euthanized rather than adopted. At RESCUE Siamese, our experienced volunteers and foster homes are equipped to work with this temperament and after some much needed time to adjust, our Siamese cats flourish and become sought after and desirable pets. Typical Siamese traits include extreme loyalty, distrust of strangers and sometimes react aggressively, vocal, like heights and climb, and tend to bond with only select people in a household.

SUMMER 2011

RESCUE *wish list*



- Kitten Food (dry & canned)
- Litter (clay or clumping)
- Canned Food
- Cleaning Supplies (paper towel, garbage bags etc)
- Hanging stainless steel dishes
- Printing or office supply coupons
- Canadian Tire Money

RESCUE Siamese offers a comprehensive adoption package consisting of spay or neuter, tattoo and/or microchip ID, vaccinations, deworming, FIV/ FeLV screening and a veterinary health exam. We offer a two-week health/ adjustment period and maintain a life-long commitment to all our cats, whereby we will readmit any previous ward at any time. Our foster homes enable us to establish a sense of the individual cat's temperament and needs which allows us to place them in homes within a near perfect success rate. ☑

thank-you to all of you who continue to help support RESCUE Siamese! You all mean so much! ☑

SPECIAL *thanks:*

Academy Road Spay & Neuter Clinic, Anderson Animal Clinic, Dakota, Catryss and Southglen Veterinarian Clinics, Petvalu, Private Supporters, RESCUE Volunteers ☑

RESCUE Siamese Shelter Update

☑ BELOW: RENEGADE - FEMALE BLUE



RESCUE Siamese is turning 15 years old! It's hard to believe we have been rescuing stray Siamese cats for this length of time. In the last 15 years, the shelter has much to be proud of from our spay and neuter mandate to the over 2000 lives saved! We started from the humble roots of a basement shelter processing adoptions at a Petvalu store on Meadowood, and eventually graduating to a store front at our current location in 2001. Our Funny Face FIV fund (F4) was named for our first FIV positive mom and kittens. The mother and one of her two surviving kittens tested positive for this virus, tragically the kitten "Funny Face" died after surgical complications when she was just 10 months old and the program was born. Incidentally, her FIV positive mother, a beautiful tortishell named Jamima, turns 18 years old this year! The F4 program has allowed us to take in and place FIV positive cats who may need additional medical care, it has also allowed us educate owners on how to protect cats from contracting FIV and how to live with FIV+ cats. ☑

Our Trap-Neuter-Release program was started in the Summer of 1997 –although to date we have yet to “release” any cats back, some were released into safer environments but most were neglected house pets that quickly readjusted to indoor living. We hope over the 15 years we have been a positive force on Winnipeg's stray cat population and we believe we have successfully educated many adopters about the Siamese breed, which had suffered quite a negative betrayal over the last 30 years. Although we were once the only Siamese rescue in Canada, a few years ago we were made aware of another Siamese rescue that was started in Ontario. This was a welcome relief for us as we continue to receive contact from all over Canada for breed specific assistance. The last 15 years has been a series of high and lows, but throughout the years, the shelter has kept going through the sheer determination of our exceptionally bright and hardworking



☑ ABOVE: JUDE - MALE, LYNX SNOWSHOE



☑ ABOVE: TINY, MOM AND BROTHERS

volunteers as well as our steadfast and loyal supporters. Thanks everyone and please check our website for the dates of a very special 15 year open house celebration this October! ☑

Kijiji Watchers

We are very pleased that Kijiji now offers general information to potential adopters of advertised animals as well as not allowing the posting of underage animals. We hope in the future they will ban all posters who cannot prove licensing or affiliation with a shelter or develop an accreditation system. Kijiji has been an important source of advertising for a lot of shelters in the city. Remember a cat without papers is not a purebred and should not be bred. When you purchase from a backyard breeder you are putting “pure profit” in their hands, purchase an adoption package from a shelter instead! ☑

ELECTION TIME IN MANITOBA!

The province of Manitoba is desperately inadequate in terms of animal welfare and there is much work to do. Get to know your local MLA candidates and ask them how they stand on these issues. Our biggest peeve is with the provincial loophole that allows over-breeding of non-breeding quality cats. A few dollars and an online application buys anyone the right to breed cats of any quality. Most of these licenses are granted outside the city, but the unwanted cats quickly find their way into the city to become a city problem. Backyard breeders within the city limits are able to bypass the City of Winnipeg mandatory sterilization bylaw by holding one of these provincial Hobby Breeder licenses.

Our provincial tax dollars pay for rural pounds, the provincial veterinary services and investigations while a portion of our city taxes fund Animal Services which in turn pays the WHS to manage the city cat numbers. We believe the province should not grant any licenses without applicants submitting pedigree of the cats they intend to breed and the province should schedule regular inspections of breeding facilities and breeding homes. Breeding should be left to serious breeders who aren't in the game for the money, rather to better the breed. There should also be some mechanism in place to ensure “for-profit operations” are filing regular taxes. Get informed and exercise your right to vote! ☑

Kittens Galore!

Its kitten season again and thankfully the numbers are down this year which is a welcome relief from the explosive populations of the two previous years. We have seen our usual mixed litters or Siamese cross kittens which include some pointed kittens as well as solids and tabbies. Melody (see picture page 2 under Shelter Update) was found in an abandoned warehouse with a group of other cats. She is in need of socialization with people and can be quite a ferocious mom if she thinks her kittens are in danger. Her kittens are four boys, one of which appears to have a growth deficiency and may possibly be a dwarf (we have named him Tiny Tim), he has consistently remained one third of his brothers' sizes but appears to be developing normally otherwise. We called mom Melody because she is constantly singing to her kittens in an effort to coax them back into her den. After the kittens are fully weaned, we will spay Melody and work on socializing her into the lovely pet we know she can be. Tragically all the other warehouse cats and kittens were euthanized at the WHS because they were skittish or they were infected with upper respiratory virus. It breaks our heart that we can't save them all. ☑



☑ ABOVE: “KOSMO” IN HIS NEW HOME!

WORKING TOGETHER

This past Spring RESCUE Siamese and the Himalayan Rescue were contacted by the WHS about a group of Himalayan cats. They had been turned over, five adults, 3 older kittens and eight nursing kittens, by their owner who had been breeding. When a large group comes in its always a struggle for any shelter to be able to care for all the cats in the short time frame allotted, however by working together, our two rescues were able to save the entire group. RESCUE Siamese took the two torti-seal point moms and their kittens who were torti, blue, seal and flame pointed. Once the kittens were weaned we were able to quickly find fantastic homes for everyone. The two flame point male kittens were adopted together by a wonderful family who sent us the picture above. ☑

RESCUE Siamese
turns 15 years old in October!

RESCUE Siamese is always looking for volunteers to help in many different ways, if you are interested, please don't be shy, we can put you to work right away! ☑