
Happy Tales

FALL
2021

A Publication
of Happy Tails
Pet Sanctuary



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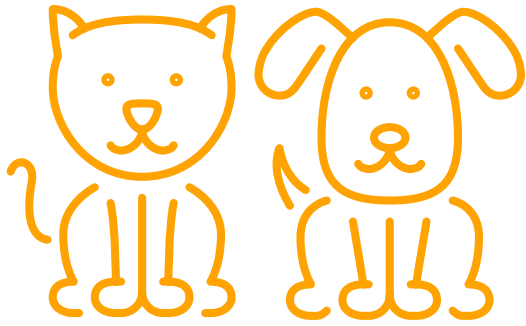
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Greetings, once again, Happy Tails supporters

Although 2021 has continued to be a challenging year due to the continued pandemic, we are happy to report that adoptions at Happy Tails remain in full swing! We have even reopened our doors to the public, although with limited hours to ensure the safety of our volunteers and the public. Most adoptions continue to take place by appointment. As of August, Happy Tails has taken in 365 cats and dogs this year, and we found loving homes for over 370 animals! You will hear about just a few of the animals we have helped in the stories below.

We are particularly excited to announce a new partnership with Pet Express in Roseville. We had our first “kitten palooza” adoption event on August 28. It was a huge success as we adopted 12 kittens that day! The plan is to continue to have these adoption events and incorporate adoptions of adult cats and dogs.

Happy Tails has also been doing its part to help those affected by the devastating wildfires in Northern CA. Happy Tails volunteers collected and delivered food and other supplies to the El Dorado Animal Shelter that has been aiding evacuees.

Looking ahead, we remain dedicated to our mission of providing compassionate care and shelter to homeless animals. We continue to work to end overpopulation and the mistreatment of cats and dogs. For those of you who can, please consider being part of the Happy Tails team through your donations. You can donate at any time on our website. Mark your calendars for another way to support us on Giving Tuesday, November 30 – more information to come!

Warmest Regards,

Happy Tails Board of Directors



Happy Tails hires new center manager

by Pat McConahay

Devyn Everett wanted a job where he could make a difference in the lives of pets and people. And he believes he found that at Happy Tails. The Board of Directors hired him as center manager. He joined our rescue and sanctuary in June after Venus Hocking accepted a job with Sacramento County. We thank Venus for her three years of service.

As manager, Devyn oversees day-to-day operations, including our dedicated volunteers. “I’m impressed by how devoted our volunteers are to the animals. Volunteering at Happy Tails is an important way to help with the homeless pet problem in our community.” Devyn comes to our organization after five years at VIP Petcare, which operates affordable, preventative pet clinics. He began as a clinic assistant, eventually joining the management team where he supervised 30 to 40 employees.

“I’ve worked in the veterinary field since I was 18 and have always loved animals.” He has two cats of his own, Nova and Draco. Nova was abandoned by her mom at two weeks and a friend found her in a lawn mower bag in someone’s backyard. Two years later the friend gave her to Devyn. “She is spoiled beyond belief and has a lot of catitude.”

Devyn and his mom moved to Sacramento from Santa Rosa when he was eight-years-old. When he’s not working at Happy Tails he pursues a number of hobbies, including mountain biking, paddle boarding, kayaking and hiking.

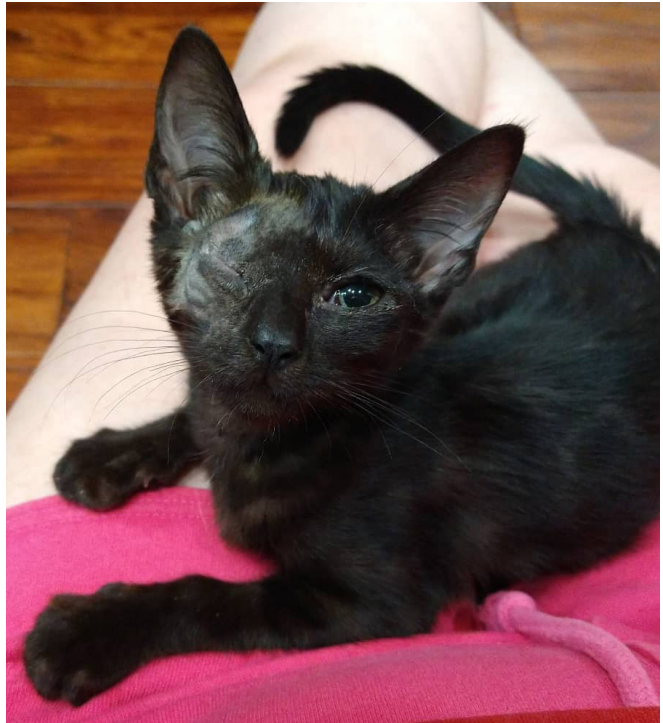
Moira overcomes the odds

by Melina Anne Pembor

Sometimes an animal walks in the door, and even the most experienced animal rescuer's heart clenches. As you take them in and start caring for them, there's a part of your heart that is already preparing for the worst. And while many times your heart ends up breaking, sometimes, with intense care, a strong will to live, and a little grace from St. Gertrude, you have a case like Moira.

Moira was rescued after being abandoned in a park. Colony caretakers saw her a few times. However, they couldn't get her until suddenly one day she was found gravely injured and terribly sick. It's unclear what happened to Moira. Her eye was destroyed. Her face, feet and chest were injured – leaving her unable to eat, drink or fend for herself. Moira was rescued just in time, barely clinging to life. She spent a week under 24-hour care with our most experienced fosters and volunteers. She was less than a pound and so weak she could hardly walk.

In spite of the odds, Moira made an astounding recovery. She tolerated numerous vet appointments, medications, and treatments, including having her injured eye removed. Moira transformed into an absolute lovebug! We are thankful to everyone who helped this tiny girl survive. She will live on to smother her future family with so much love and affection!"





Dog foster perseveres

by Kelly Cunningham

Eli came to us through a local shelter partner. Although he was gentle when his new foster met him, she knew in the first few days that his journey to adoption would be a long one. Eli was afraid of most everything around him. He was particularly afraid to cross through thresholds from room to room. Of all the scary things, the doorway was the worst! It wasn't easy, but foster Nina was undeterred.

She worked with him for almost six months on gaining confidence, accepting kindness, leash training and playing. She learned techniques to engage him at home, then slowly, in the park and public spaces. Eli learned walks could be fun, bolting was not so much, and that swimming in the river with his dog housemate, Quits, was something to look forward to. Nina learned training methods with a flirt pole, to encourage recall, and pushed through periods of nervousness with new people and situations with positive patience. We're grateful she did. By the time he was adopted, he had come around by leaps and bounds! It was a long journey, but he finally crossed through the door on his own in her home.



On "adoption day" he went through the doorway of his new home. The young woman was a great match for him. Some dogs take only a few days to acclimate, but some take more time, patience, training and love. What Nina saw in Eli at the shelter was that he had the potential to become a great companion. We're so grateful that she did, and then committed so much time and love to get ready him for adoption. We're also glad his adopter was willing to work with a rescue and continue to work with him in his new home. Join our foster team and find out for yourself how rewarding it can be to watch dogs like Eli transform.

Volunteer spotlight with Aria Galletti

by Venus Hocking

Aria has been a part of the Happy Tails family for about three years. She grew up in Allentown outside Philadelphia where she attended high school, then graduated from Pennsylvania State University. She studied multiple languages and today teaches English to new English speakers. Aria also coaches group fitness and is a personal trainer.

When she moved to Sacramento in 2018, Aria found our website and decided to attend Happy Tails' new volunteer orientation. Upon seeing a cat roam around the meeting room and another cat carried in a baby Bjorn, she knew she found her people. Aria is an adoption counselor, feeder and picture taker. If you follow us on Facebook and Instagram you may have seen some of her photos capturing various cats doing silly cat things.

Aria's dedication to our cats is part of what makes the Happy Tails family so special. "Staff members are all so great," Aria said. "I can see how hard they work to give the cats the very best life they can have at the center and in their forever homes." Recently Aria expanded her role and is also the Kitten Foster Coordinator.

In the future when it is safe to travel again, she hopes to visit Thailand and New Zealand. Aria is mom to Captain Maxwell Wiggle "Wiggles" a 13-year-old male cat who insists he be the only pet.





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Happy Tails Pet Sanctuary

Mission statement

Happy Tails values the life of every cat and dog by providing compassionate care and cage-free shelter for homeless animals and working toward ending overpopulation and mistreatment.

Board of Directors

President: Sarah Farias
Treasurer: Kim DeVincenzi
Secretary: Paul Concannon

Members

Leslie Giovanini
Becky Maclay
Pat McConahay

Cat Adoptions by appointment only. To request a pre-screening email full name and phone number to centerassistant@happytails.org.

Dog Adoptions – Please start with the application on our website happytails.org

Happy Tails

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Please donate at happytails.org