



# The Feline Network

*A Kindhearted Approach to Feline Overpopulation*

P.O. Box 526, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

(805) 549-9228

[www.felinenetwork.org](http://www.felinenetwork.org)

Spring 2017

## Kitten Season Springs into Action

Spring is upon us once again and litters of kittens are making their way into the arms of Feline Network volunteers as we gear up for another busy and long rescue season. The Feline Network is actively working to alter the stray and feral cats that come to our attention, and our certificate program continues to help numerous people spay and neuter their cats who would otherwise be unable to do so. The Feline Network has been responsible for spaying and neutering over 1100 cats per year, on average, for the last 11 years. This has only been possible because of your donations. You have also made it possible for us to care for our rescued kittens. Last year we rescued and adopted out 301 kittens!

Our foster program is by far our most intensive and expensive work. Every season we take in many litters of bottle-feeders that require around-the-clock care. We also take in



Bon appetit, little one!

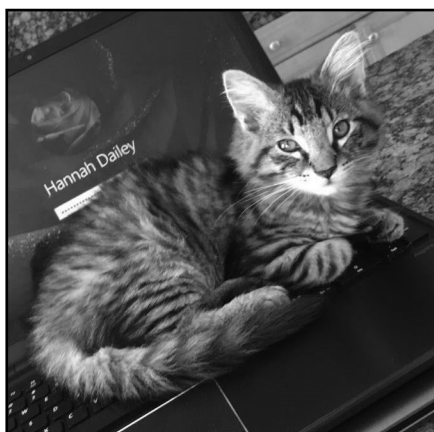
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## The Star Wars Kittens' Wild Ride



Han

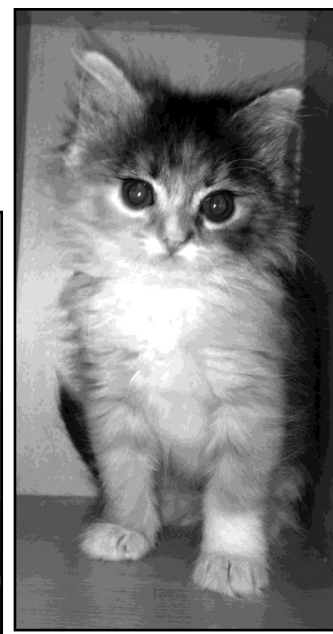
A litter of six newborn, very sick kittens was brought to the Feline Network on August 1, 2016 by a good Samaritan. Their very young mother had died at birth, and one kitten was deceased upon arrival. The litter was plagued with severe diarrhea, and they were holding onto life by a slender thread.



Chewbacca



Princess Leia



Rae

The five kittens were placed with Sue Dailey and family, an experienced foster home, when they were three weeks old. They were bottle-feeders and were not taking their formula well. They were still being treated for diarrhea. One kitten died when he was five weeks old. "He died snuggled up in my daughter's loving arms and we were happy we could be there to hold and comfort him," said Sue. The remaining four kittens grew stronger and healthier, but they were still in for a wild ride. They were named after Star Wars characters...Chewbacca, Han, Princess Leia and Rae."

In early September Sue noticed watery eyes and occasional sneezes. The kittens were started on antibiotics, but their symptoms worsened and they became very congested. A veterinarian diagnosed a respiratory herpes viral infection, and said he felt they

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**Yogi and Buster  
best friends before.**

## Reunited and it Feels so Good!

A sign reading "Lost! Solid black cat named Yogi. Please call Gary and Sue. We love him dearly!" was posted near one of Annie Dreizler's feeding stations in Oceano. Soon after she noticed the sign, Annie spotted a black cat at her feeding station. She called Gary. The cat turned out to be a sweet male but, sadly, it was not Yogi! He was chipped, and Gary and Sue tried diligently to find the owners. They discovered that the owners had moved away over a year ago and changed their phone number. Gary and Sue decided to keep this cat that looked so like their Yogi and named him Buddy. Buddy ultimately became best friends with their orange tabby Buster.



**Buddy, one  
lucky boy .**

Gary and Sue moved to a suburb of Phoenix, and their daughter Simone moved into their Oceano home. Out of the blue, one year after Yogi went missing Gary was contacted by SLO Animal Services. A black cat had been turned in that had a chip with Yogi's number. Surprise! Yogi had been found 10 miles away in Nipomo. Gary and Sue theorized he may have inadvertently hitchhiked to the Nipomo Mesa in a truck that belonged to a neighbor. Simone jumped in her car and brought him home. Amazingly, Yogi settled right in and acted as if he had never left. If only cats could talk!

Simone drove five hours with Yogi and met Gary and Sue halfway in Banning, and then Yogi had to ride another five hours to his new home in Arizona. Finding Yogi was truly a miracle, but the most astonishing part was the reunification of Yogi with his best friend Buster. The two cats instantly recognized each other, and Yogi started jumping over Buster's back like the old days and getting cozy on a chair.



**Buster and Yogi together again!**

Unfortunately, Yogi and his replacement, Buddy, did not get along. Gary and Sue arranged separate play times for Buster with Yogi and then Buster with Buddy, hoping they would work out their differences over time. What Buddy does not seem to understand is that if it weren't for Yogi, he would not be in the loving home where he is today and instead could still be roaming the streets of Oceano!

Yogi was very lucky that he was found. He had barely been reunited with his family when he developed a life-threatening urinary tract infection and had to be rushed to the vet. \$2,500 later, he was back at home recuperating. Yogi was quickly using up more of his 9 lives.

Is there a moral to this tale....oops, tale? Get your pets chipped! This simple procedure has united countless lost pets with their owners nationwide.

## Star Wars Kittens

*(Continued from page 1)*

would probably not survive. "By this time, they were all sitting up, open-mouth breathing as they were unable to breath lying down," said Sue. "I put them in the bathroom and set up a humidifier. We gave them subcutaneous fluids four times a day, plus other medications." Miraculously, the kittens improved, began eating better and became less lethargic. Princess Leia, however, had an infected eye that continued to worsen until it swelled almost shut. An eye specialist diagnosed a herpes lesion and said there was a chance she could lose the eye. At one point Princess Leia was being administered medication 26 times a day. Fortunately, her eye gradually improved and ultimately healed completely.

With the kittens now healthy, the Daileys started advertising the kittens for adoption, but the wild ride was not over yet! Sue noticed a suspicious lesion on Rae's paw and took her to the vet. RAE HAD RINGWORM! Soon they all had ringworm. A seemingly endless cycle of sulfur dips and anti-fungal baths, oral and topical medications began and continued into December, when they were finally declared ringworm-free.

"Throughout all this, these kittens became part of our family and we were only going to adopt them to perfect families," said Sue. She was put in contact with Wasini and Jim Jaurdine, who were looking for two kittens, one for each of their girls. They said they would be interested in them regardless of medical issues. The Jaurdines came and met the kittens and the entire family made an instant connection. They decided they could not split the kittens up after they had gone through so much together and they would adopt all four. "We cried letting them go, but we knew we could not ask for anything more, these four siblings would be together forever with the most wonderful family we could imagine."

Last fall was unique in that there were two other amazing families that were unwilling to split up littermates and adopted litters of four kittens each. We are awed and inspired by so much kindness!

## TO HONOR AND REMEMBER

### In Loving Memory of

**Pearl Adams**, by Diane Hendrickson.

**Marie Davis**, by James Davis.

**Fr. Michael O'Sullivan**, by Barbara Cross

**Kirby Price**, "my mother," by Elaine Genasci.

**Emmo**, "our sweet boy," by Nic Gaudiuso & Toni Erpenbach. "He was much loved, and we got him from Feline Network."

**Kitty and Kitty Kitty**, by Linda Burris.

**Leo**, "the best cat ever," by Pat Benson. "He was a wonderful companion who was very young for his 14 years. I miss him terribly every day."

### In Appreciation of

**Lynette Crane**, by Karin Groteluschen. "Thank you so much for all your help in finding baby boy a home. His name is Oscar, and he seems to be settling in well. Very sweet kitty, and so neat. I am very happy that he chose me to be his forever mom."

**Lynette Crane & Janet Sally, DVM**, by Evelyn Major. "I've been rescuing cats for the past 25 years and just took advantage of your wonderful program in 2016. Working with Lynette, her lovely volunteers, and Janet Sally, DVM, has made it so much easier. I currently have a feral male "Oscar" that I am working to rehab. The last one took three months, but was so worth it. Thank you for what you do."

**Dr. Janet Sally**, by Karen White, "for all she does for cats."

**Anna Stewart**, by Glori Keech. "She is kindness personified."

**Clint Whitney**, by Suzette Morgan & Tony Williams. "Thanks Clint! Our kitties are all happy and healthy!"

### The Feline Network

By Jamie Bell and Brandon Creath. "We adopted Hagrid (Chuck) one year ago today (12/5)! He has brought so much joy to our lives and to our other kitty Nemo. Thank you for all you do!"

By Jean Rotta. "Our ranch cats which we acquired from you are wonderful for gophers and mice. Thank you so much."

By Alice & Bob Thorp. "Our pets have brought us love and laughter each day! We love our black beauties!"

### In Honor of

**Roxanne Bohn**, by Karen Ellis.

**Annie Dreizler**, by Patricia Allen Dreizler.

**Terrie & Jim Dummit**, by Jim Maino & Lisa Kilburn-Maino.

**Edith Kahn**, by Jim Maino & Lisa Kilburn-Maino.

**My mom**, by Kerry Wood. "She loves cats so much."

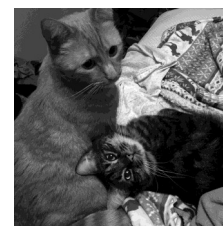
**Kittens**, by Debra & Jeff Barringer, "from Cody."

**Morris and Marmalade**, by Diane Kessler.

**Morrison**, by Carolyn Underwood.



**Annie Dreizler**  
comforts shy Milo

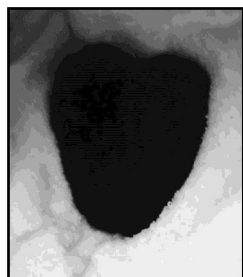


**Nemo and Hagrid**

## Spring Kittens

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many litters of feral kittens that require endless hours of socialization. Many of the kittens we take in are sick and require veterinary care. We spay or neuter, test, vaccinate, de-worm and treat all kittens for any medical conditions they may have prior to placing them for adoption. When kittens are ready to be adopted, many of our volunteers spend their Saturdays at our Adopt-a-Cats at Petco in San Luis Obispo.



**Two Tiny Kittens**  
Form Heart for You

We are grateful for your donations. You are an important part of our effort. Without you our work would be impossible. All donations go directly to help the cats, as we do not have a formal shelter or any paid staff. Again, thank you for your generosity.

## Dear Tabby...

By Reggie Grothe

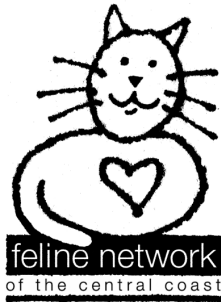
*What Toys should we have for our new Kittens and our Cats who think they are still Kittens?*



**Tabby:** Do not bother spending a lot of money on toys they will not use. Instead find an open box that is not too tall and cut circles in the sides. The Kittens can then play 'Bop the Kitty' and you, the Reader, can play 'Bop the Kitten Paw!' You can even line the inside bottom of the box with some soft fabric or a used baby blanket. That way the Kittens can play AND nap in the same box.



**No Apple Boxes - TOXIC!**  
Apple and Banana boxes are BAD for our Critters.... if you can smell the box, then you don't want your Fur Family anywhere near it.



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**Walter Cerny, Sean Woods, Kellen Ellison, Dennis Rizzo**  
**Not pictured: Sean Askins and Christian Ramirez**

## **Still Frothy Team Surfs Again to Support The Feline Network**

The Feline Network is extremely honored to be one of the beneficiaries of the fundraising associated with local surfing contests sponsored by Still Frothy, a non-profit organization founded by Walter Cerny. Pictured are members of the team that represented Feline Network in the Non-Profit Challenge at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Billabong and FGR's Still Frothy Surf Festival last September. The next event is the Wine, Waves and Beyond Surf Contest to be held June 4<sup>th</sup> in Pismo Beach. Please come out and cheer our team on!