

**TWO
ADOPTIONS
IN THIS ISSUE!**

More Books for the Book Sale!

The Society's Annual Book Sale ran from May 24th to May 30th (inclusive of the set-up), at the Lethbridge & District Fish and Game 'Hut'. There was a sombre novelty to the sale this year: it was the first without Joan Fiddler, PAW's late fund-raising director. But members and volunteers rose to the challenge of taking over Joan's duties, and it's likely she would have been pleased at the result.



A photograph of a room filled with numerous books and board games, likely a library or a game store. The books are arranged on shelves and in large stacks on the floor. A person is partially visible on the right side of the frame.

This is reflected in the revenue generated. Books and puzzles brought in a total of \$3,618.35. This is in excess of

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More Books for the Book Sale! *(continued)*



Thanks must go out to all those who contributed their time and effort to the sale. This is an event which demands a large number of people to make work, and the membership did not disappoint.

"It is very physical work," remarked Audrey Audette, PAW's treasurer. "The sale was, as usual, incredibly well organized. Saturday pack-up went like clock-work."

Indeed, loading up the unsold books and taking them to their destination requires not just bodies but vehicles. It went so well those participating were surprised when it was completed.

Because it pays to plan ahead, PAW has already secured the Hut for next year's Book Sale. It will be held June 6th to 12th, 2027. Mark that on your calendars, for we'll need volunteers - and you might want to start setting aside the books you read in the meantime; we'll need them, too.



last year's amount, though it was necessary beforehand to pay expenses (event insurance and rental of the Hut), which reduced the amount. Nonetheless, the final net total - **\$3,050.90** - is very impressive and very welcome. Added to this must be an amount raised specifically to assist in neutering and spaying PAW's recent in-take of nine kittens and two mother-cats. This fund-raiser within a fund-raiser brought in another **\$933.60**. All together, the week netted almost \$4,000: an excellent result.

Society's Calendar to Go Ahead

It's a pleasure to announce that the 2027 PAW calendar will be published. A full quota of adopted PAW cats has been secured, and Tanya Plonka, professional photographer, has finished her work capturing their images. The calendar is being designed and will be for sale by September; watch for our sale venues listed in later issues of *PAWPrints*.

There is one more spot available for advertising. If any reader would like to advertise his or her business or endeavour, please contact PAW at 403-328-6700, and leave a message.



Two wonderful adoptions to report this month!
See page 3 and page 5.

Differences for Marcie

ADOPTION

Unlike many households, Danielle and Wayne's had no other pets when the couple decided to adopt a cat. This brings responsibilities that a home with resident pets might not impose so strongly. A young cat needs a lot of attention, playing often, and without other pets, this task falls upon the humans. These differences can represent a challenge; Danielle and Wayne took up that challenge and were equal to it.

Danielle had cats in her family when growing up, but none of her own. She loves them, though, and "wanted a little buddy around". That's when she and Wayne started looking. When they found Sunny, Danielle, thinking of her prospective new friend, said to herself, "that was pretty much her."

Sunny was not a kitten when she came to her new home, but she was, and is, a youngster, estimated to have been born in January, 2025. Despite having been lost or abandoned, then fostered by strangers - albeit the kindest - Sunny was a bright and happy cat. She brought that personality with her to her new home.

Re-named Marcie, she was initially shy, and hid, but only for a couple of hours. "By evening, she was out".



In her new home

Soon, Marcie was following Danielle about the house, and when Wayne came home from work, the newcomer seemed to recognise his smell from her surroundings.

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Marcie



Marcie, perhaps ready for a nap

**The new PAW calendar - for 2027 - is a go!
Look for it to be on sale in September.**

Differences for Marcie *(continued)*

It turns out that Marcie isn't far removed from kittenhood.

"She is very, very active in the morning, and rarely lets us sleep in," Danielle said, adding that Marcie will walk right across her to make sure she's awake. The first activity following breakfast is playing, and then napping. When her humans return home in the evening, it's time for more playing.

"She loves to play," explained Danielle...

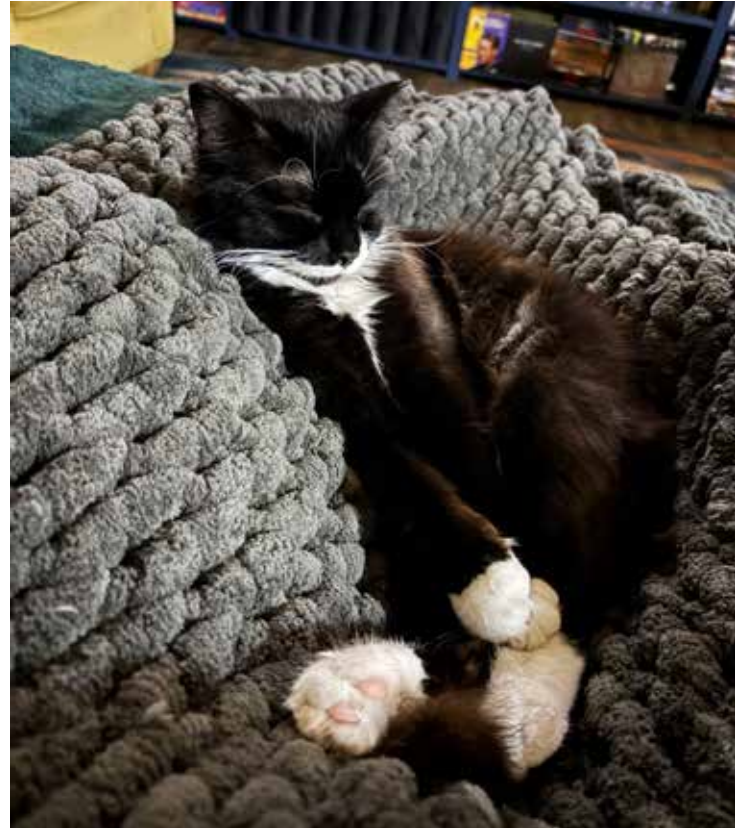
Marcie's favourite toy is a ribbon-toy, with which she 'goes fishing', though she likes pom-poms, too. A stick with feathers on it, however, is more relaxing: she lies still and lets the feathers brush over her.

At night, Marcie will sometimes sleep on the bed - the bedroom door is left open for her - but will often leave later.

She is "very friendly" with visitors, and likes people, being a "little love-bug."

As successful as her new life has been, Danielle does not rule out bringing in another cat, a "friend for her".

Yes, a home with an only-cat has certain differences from a multi-pet household. But, considering her reaction, those differences seem to be just fine with Marcie.



PAW Casino Days Staffing Complete

The PAW Society's Casino Days - **June 26th and 27th** - now has enough staff. PAW is grateful to all those who will be volunteering their time.

There is, however, the possibility of cancellations at the last minute. Due to injuries or illnesses which cannot be avoided, they occur almost every year that PAW has its Casino Days. This is a worry for organizers, as there are currently just enough who have come forward to fill the available positions, but no more. There is no margin for error.

What the Society would like to have are a couple of members ready to fill in if needed. Can you help?

If so, contact PAW either by email (pawsociety@shaw.ca) or by telephone (403-328-6700).

Individuals can still email a volunteer application form to PAW for a position. Click on this link for the form:

<https://aglc.ca/forms/casino-volunteer-worker-application>

Again, thank you to PAW's membership for making possible the Society's biggest fund-raiser. It is because of such involvement that we can do what we do.



**Can you foster a cat?
It's the only way the PAW Society can rescue cats.**

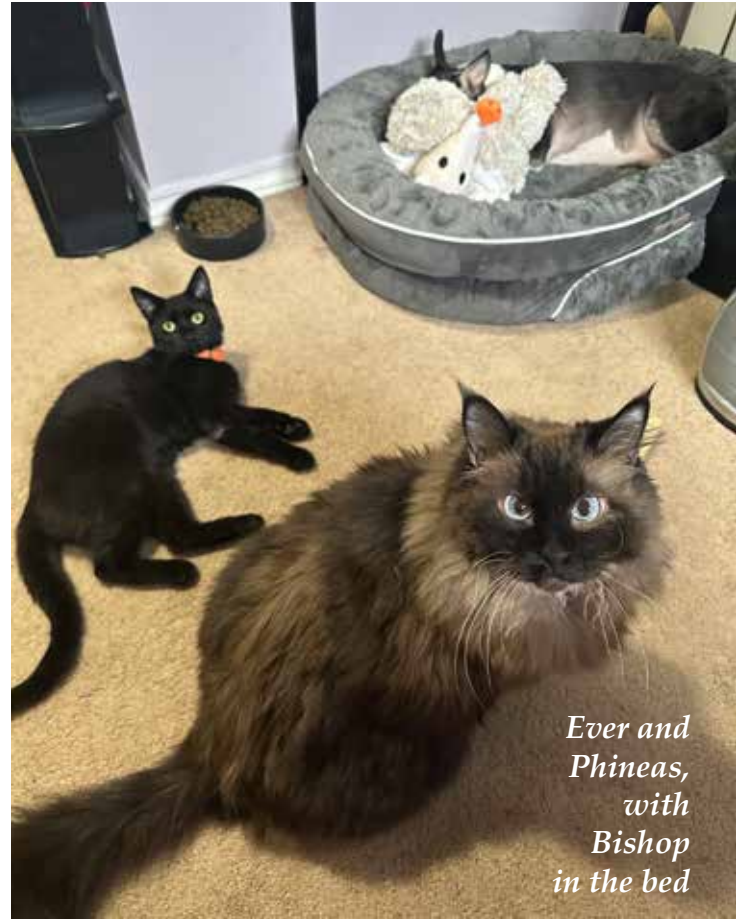
Ever: Whatever She Wants

ADOPTION

In her life, Rhonda had “very, very, very many cats”, including Clovis (adopted from PAW as Bruno), who passed away in March, 2026. The latter had had a strong effect on the household, as his was a big personality, though he grew quieter as he aged. With his departure, Rhonda and her husband, Wayne, still had a full pet family: three Siamese cats and Bishop the dog.



Ever



*Ever and
Phineas,
with
Bishop
in the bed*

Nevertheless, the situation was rather quiet. The Siamese were all very shy, and what was wanted was, in Rhonda’s words, to “bring some life back into the house.” When they saw Ever on the PAW Society website, they “had to have her.”

In her hitherto short life of six months, Ever was not one to stay cooped up. Ten minutes was enough time in the safe-room Rhonda and Wayne had devised for her. After that, she was free in the house. Such is her personality - as lively as it is - that the other cats accepted her almost right away.

This applied even to Miko, one of the Siamese whom Rhonda described as “very jealous” of her place in the home. Soon, though, she and Ever were sleeping on a pillow together. And then there is Phineas, a middle-aged cat of extended weight (22 pounds), who had suffered much trauma in his life. Though the “sweetest” of cats, he was scared of everything. Ever and he now

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Kitten adoptions!
See next month’s issue of PAWPrints.

Ever: Whatever She Wants (*continued*)



play together. Rhonda stated that Phineas has “come out of his shell” with Ever’s arrival, and is “rejuvenated”; the pair chase and play-fight, the big boy letting little Ever “beat him up”.

The third cat, Loki, “doesn’t care” about the newcomer,



Ever is a ‘shoulder-cat’.

which appears to be the worst of the residents’ reactions.

Meanwhile, Ever’s friendliness has crossed the border between species: Bishop, the ten year old dog, has become “best buds” with the little black cat.

And her relations with her new humans?

“Ever does whatever she wants,” Rhonda revealed.

She is a “shoulder cat”, climbing up to that bodily perch, even if her person is trying to ascend stairs at the time. Interestingly, this was something Ever did even in her foster-home. Her places of rest - when she rests - are often beds on the desks where her people work. She isn’t one for being parted from her new family. She “will claw her way out of any locked room!” - though one suspects Ever is not made to endure such separations for long or often. She also loves her time at the windows.

And a growing cat needs her nutrition: “You cannot leave any food, anywhere.”

So has this little kitten - whose ‘official’ name is now Nevermore Onyx - found her home?

“She is the sweetest little demon you’ll ever meet,” wrote Rhonda.



**Can you be a substitute-volunteer at PAW’s Casino Days?
We might need someone to fill in at the last moment.**

Editorial: Little Fuzzy Lessons

I am currently fostering kittens. It was my choice but not my preference.

The PAW Society seeks to help control the population of cats through neutering and spaying. There are too many homeless cats in the world for us to stand by and watch more being born. Sometimes, however, a situation arises in which newborn kittens must be welcomed.

Rhapsody was living on a farm just outside of town, where she had undoubtedly been dumped; she was not feral and, though shy, liked human attention. A dilute calico, she was surely a female and, having been abandoned, was probably unspayed. Few people are going to take the trouble and expense to fix a cat and then toss her away. PAW decided to take her in before she became pregnant. We were able to bring her in too late.

On her first veterinary examination, Rhapsody ('Rho' for short) was found to be pregnant. She was staying with me until she could be adopted; that meant her kittens would be staying with me until they could be adopted.

It was rather an exciting time when the babies were born, the night of 9th/10th April. I watched the first two, saw how conscientious Rho was in caring for them, and how easy their births were, and then left to sleep a bit, returning a couple more times before I had to wake for work, to see the progress. Five kittens were born.

I had fostered kittens once, previously - the fondly remembered 'Felons' - who arrived at two or three weeks without their mother. They taught me much. But helping to raise the 'Tempos', as this new generation has been nicknamed, has taught me much more.

Watching them and their mother has been a great lesson. Even before they were born, I learned about a pregnant cat, how she would eat non-stop, yet not seem to take her extra girth into consideration while

jumping and running.

The births themselves were instructive, watching Rhapsody grab each one as soon as he was free and wash him, so that, with the application of tongue and saliva, the newcomer was, paradoxically, dry and fluffy within minutes. (Rho has continued cleaning her children, usually against their will, until the present.)

Watching them develop their sense of adventure, seeing which ones were more independent of their parent than others, seeing that change, one kitten overtake another; this has all instructed me in cat development.



Mundane elements of fostering, such as feeding, have been explained to me by experience. I learned that coming to know what a litter-box is for seemed to be a combination of instinct, watching their mother, and timely placement by a foster-guardian.

Knowing when and how the kittens will try to access every nook and corner becomes vital to the kittens' survival - and the human's mental health. There comes a time when nowhere is off limits to their abilities, and that comes sooner than one might think. Interaction with

strange, adult cats is also a lesson; once the actual meetings are arranged, I've found that the older beasts' reaction tend to instruct the kittens in boundaries. Unless a cat is violent toward youngsters - and that is rare - complete supervision is often unnecessary, and impossible.

Watching the kittens discover how to be cats is, I think one of the best lessons a member of a rescue-group can acquire. Though deliberately creating a new little family is, of course, not advised, raising one that already exists is invaluable experience.

But I wouldn't recommend doing it while one already has six other cats...

~ James Thorne

Editor's Note: the staff of PAWPrints welcomes all comments regarding this and past issues, and suggestions for the benefit of future issues.