



Ten Years of Companion Partnerships!

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In 2003 two cats and a dog needed help finding their forever families. A small group of volunteers decided that the coast side communities needed a rescue and adoption group with a visible presence.

And so Companions In Waiting (CIW) was born. In 2007 we became a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. 2013 marks our tenth year of helping dogs, cats, kittens & puppies become great companion animals and find the families for whom they were meant. The animals have come from all sorts of venues:

- Streets where they were found wandering lost or abandoned
- Shelters, where they were due to be euthanized
- Shelters, if staff felt a home setting would overcome specific problems
- Feral cat colonies where they didn't belong
- Families who, for one reason or another, couldn't keep the animal.

About 200 cats and kittens and 80 dogs and puppies have found homes since CIW began its work. They have been as young as 2 weeks old with barely open eyes, to 14 years young with significant medical problems. They stayed with

CIW from 5 days to 5 years waiting for the family that was meant just for them. It is simply brilliant when our special friends meet their forever family and you see a connection made.

We always love to hear how all the family is doing. And we are delighted when a new family visits one of our Adoption Fairs with their companion animal. All of us are saddened upon learning one of our special babies has crossed Rainbow Bridge; as each one is dear to us.

Over the years we have found strong partnerships and a wonderful family of volunteers who make these many small miracles possible. They build the bridges allowing the love to flow between companions and their forever families.

We are grateful to our generous supporters for keeping CIW financially stable and allowing us to care for needy animals.

We look forward to many more years of welcoming new animals to the CIW family.

Thank you for supporting CIW.



Highlights!

Every adoption fair, event and family meet-up is a highlight in its own way, but let's look back on a few of the rewarding bright spots of the last ten years.

Official Non-Profit Status: In 2007, CIW gained its 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporate status, thanks to efforts of Randy Silva, Paul Sieben, and Lynna Huang of O'Melveny and Myers LLP. This allows supporters to make tax-deductible donations – much appreciated!

CIW Website: Becoming part of the electronic revolution was a big step for us. Trudy Gardner broke ground, designing our first web site and calendars. Later, Carina Merrick revitalized our look, updating our logo and publications. Tina Stockton created our Facebook page and is our voice on this social media site (Like us! 🍷)

This really amplified our visibility; and we are grateful to be on the map in the eWorld. Wow!

Electronic Donation: This is a convenient, newer feature on our web site. Donors can support the animals and make a donation to CIW through PayPal (use CompanionsInWaiting@yahoo.com).

Senior Companions for Senior Citizens: We launched our program to help and support seniors with animal adoptions, knowing the loving companionship of a faithful friend is a blessing for both (see details, page 6).

Jefferson Award: In 2011, CBS affiliate, KPIX, recognized CIW's achievements with a Jefferson Award.

Calendars: In 2012, CIW produced its 8th calendar. These remind us of why we're here – to create the happy families and cherished memories, as well as raise much-needed funds. The 2013 edition was a sellout success. Thank you to all the volunteers, photographers, and donors who contributed.

Art Fair & Garden Parties: Alena Jean Whiting has a beautiful flower shop, nursery, and garden on Purissima St. in Half Moon Bay. Each year she invites local artisans to one or two Art Fair and Garden Parties. Visitors enjoy art, music, food, and the delightful garden. Proceeds go to a local non-profit, who is invited to attend the event. CIW was honored to be a beneficiary for several years. This gives our animals a special chance to find their forever families at this uniquely lovely event. Thank you, Alena.



CIW at Alena Jean's Garden Party

With Thanks!

We are so grateful to the people and businesses that provide services and space to support us! They truly are our partners in creating connections between families and their animal companions-to-be!

Kibbles and Gifts owner Christa Livingston and manager Amanda Gray, along with the staff host our fairs in Half Moon Bay.

In Menlo Park, owners Lynn and Marc Macy of *The Pet Place* welcome our monthly fairs and keep the public informed by posting CIW flyers.

Half Moon Bay Library is a new partner! The Friends of the Library invited CIW to be at their Book & Art and Pet Adoption Fair on February 9th (see video at: <http://tinyurl.com/HMBFOL-fair>).

Cheryl Calderon's *Bowlicious* animal boutique hosted our fairs back when it was in the Stanford Shopping Center.

Touleh Pet Boutique owner, Shima Deilani hosted CIW fairs in Palo Alto for two years; and we wish her luck in her new venture.

Many CIW companion animals found the families that were meant for them from our web site or through *Petfinder.com* and *Adoptapet.com*.

Palo Alto Humane Society provides spay and neuter vouchers, and previously offered office space for fairs.

Palo Alto Animal Services spays and neuters CIW animals, supplies low cost vaccination; and releases dogs to CIW for home socialization, training, and adoption.

Peninsula Pet Hospital supplies health care and tests for future adoptees.

Volunteers - More than 50 people have volunteered time and talent since CIW began its mission in 2003. In addition to working fairs, volunteers provide foster care, create our online presence and print publications, write thank you letters to donors, provide accounting and legal services, create data tracking files, serve on our board, build habitats, walk dogs, help with socialization, animal care, and, even, with scooping poop! Thank you to the Cat Whisperers and Dog Gurus who work their special magic!

This work could not be done without the dedication and passion volunteers bring to each task. Our adoption fairs would not happen if not for the folks who volunteer their time to staff them and transport supplies. They are the "face" of CIW.

"Lots of folks doing one small part means big things happen."

"Do you have time to do one small thing?"



2012 Volunteer Thank You Luncheon at Half Moon Bay Brewery

Back row: Ivor Durham, Carina Merrick, Sheryl Humbert, TLB, David Humbert*, DWG*, Robert Applegate, George Lewis, Dona Thornwall, Janet Vrba, Teresa Morris, Jen Carlos, Steve Sharp*
*attending spouses

Front row: Marilyn Dunn, Roberta Gelt, Jo Hamilton, Bob Hasson, Jeannine Crouse, Patty Trower, Guillie Peterson, Judy Smith, Ruth Berman

Missing: Bruce Hamilton (taking picture), Lorie Coon, Tina Stockton, Norma Avery, Ingrid Diether, Karen Gear-Gale, KC Caswell.

Success Stories! ...and Tales with



Hope and Iris

Hope and Iris are two of four kittens found in a box at a Half Moon Bay plant nursery. We fell in love with the youngsters and happily watched them grow into very social, sweet, happy and gentle kittens. Many people noticed these beautiful kittens, but they were not "the" family meant for these kittens. Then, along came a father and daughter. They fell under the charms of Hope and Iris. Coincidentally, the daughter's name is Iris! While we were completing the adoption, we discovered that the kittens' birthday and daughter Iris' birthday are within 3 days of each other. This was an adoption that was meant to be!



Joey's name should be "Joie de Vivre"! He's an affectionate, healthy, and happy poodle mix. He is eager to please! Joey is deaf and learned hand signals to communicate. His forever family will need a securely fenced yard. Come meet him. He's fun!



Cookie and Miley

We get calls from many people. Often, it's about problems with their family animals; but sometimes it is other animals they worry about. So it was with sisters Cookie and Miley. A neighbor felt concerned about the sisters' health and living conditions (one was ill). The neighbor spoke to the family, who surrendered the girls to CIW. The neighbor and CIW treated the ill sister, vaccinated and spayed the girls; and taught them good indoor manners. They learned social skills and their wonderfully sweet personalities emerged. All they needed was their forever family. A family appeared. After meeting Cookie and Miley, they knew they had found animal companions that were meant to be a part of their family!



Meet Monty at an upcoming adoption fair. This friendly bundle o' fun wants to greet his very own forever family!

He says, "Come see me; come soon!"

Happy Endings Waiting to Happen!



Rooney, Reggie and Riley

You know how your heart sinks if there seems to be nothing you can do? That is how we felt when a lady came to the last Adoption Fair of the year with a tiny bundle of grey fur in her arms. She said, "I have two more at home. Can you help?" The kittens were so little, helpless, and scared; and the window of opportunity was so small! But Fate stepped in. Later that day, another lady came looking for two kittens --a match was in the making! When the new Mom learned about the third brother, she felt she couldn't leave him behind. So all the boys got to stay together. Thank you Fate -- You do wonderful work!



Dancer and Tabitha are adorable shorthair rescue kitties. "These sweet sisters are very bonded. Their foster father says they both like to snuggle, and are affectionate conversationalists.

These girls are looking for a home together. They will surely make their forever home a happier place. Is that place your home?

Can't wait?

Call (650) 328-0474 or email: companionsinwaiting@yahoo.com.



Shiloh

Shiloh is a foxy redheaded sweetie who bounced around through many homes in her 7 years. The longest Shiloh was in one home was 4 years. Some years, it was 5 or 6 different homes. Through it all she has emerged smiling. She loves to sit on the couch close to her person. She loves to be brushed. She loves to be loved! Now Shiloh has found her perfect forever family. She has found just what she needed - a family who needs her and loves her - where she can curl up and feel safe, warm and happy. She can give all her special brand of love to her very own family!!!! How happy are we for you all!



Cinder and Ashley, wonderfully social babies, are ready to win your heart. They are finding out how to be great companion kitties and are ready to fill that empty place in your family. Are you ready to invite Cinder and Ashley to join your family?

See the back page for Adoption Fair dates.

Stories to Share

Senior Companions for Seniors Program: So many seniors want and need a companion animal, but worry about managing the costs and care. What if veterinary bills are too high? What if the animal has too much energy? What if circumstances change and it becomes too difficult to care for the adopted pet?

CIW understands these concerns and wants to help! The Senior Companions for Seniors Program matches qualifying seniors with loving senior pets so both can enjoy warmth and companionship, along with the emotional and health benefits associated with this special kind of friendship. The program assists with veterinary expenses (up to \$500 per year) and matches seniors with wonderful pets who share their energy level, possess wisdom and grace, and bring lots of warmth and love into a home. If you are a senior and would like to apply for this program, please contact CIW at (650) 328-0474 or CompanionsInWaiting@yahoo.com.



Popo
(formerly known as Freddy)

A Medical Emergency: In 2009 CIW had an unexpected emergency. We had a call about a very social, starving cat recently rescued from a drainage pipe. We were asked if we could help re-home the cat. The answer was "Provisionally, Yes." but the rescuer was told that the cat needed to have a health exam. Meanwhile, a lady had come into the Adoption Fair asking if we had a single, black and white cat. She visited Freddy, and decided she and her husband would like to adopt him. YES! (arm pump!)

But, during his exam it was discovered that Freddy, otherwise healthy, had a fractured pelvis. To repair the damage, he needed a very expensive surgery. Not the rescuer, nor the new family, nor CIW could afford this cost, so fast action was needed. The surgery was to take place in 3 days. CIW called some friends. The rescuers called some friends, and talked to the vets involved. The vets donated surgery time, anesthetic, and surgery space. Friends made donations; and within two days, we had covered the reduced surgery cost. But, the vet needed to delay the surgery. Later, X-rays taken just before surgery showed that his pelvis was healing! The surgeon decided the painful surgery was not needed. Everyone's money was returned with grateful thanks. And, Freddy, now called Popo, completely recovered and scares his new Mom with his amazing cat tree acrobatics.

Network at Night: CIW's participated in the Half Moon Bay Chamber of Commerce Network at Night event in June 2012. The event, held at San Gregorio Gardens in San Gregorio, was well attended by local coast side business people. Two nonprofit organizations were highlighted that afternoon, Companions In Waiting and Relay for Life.

Ruth Burman, Marilyn Dunn and Jo Hamilton represented Companions, along with canine ambassadors Joey and Sheba. The women staffed the CIW exhibit, mingled with the event attendees, explained the Companions In Waiting Mission and discussed animal issues. Joey and Sheba enjoyed mingling and acted as great ambassadors. They did a grand job representing the purpose and work of CIW. Public outreach and networking events can help in unexpected ways or provide unanticipated opportunities. If you know of an event that may be interested in CIW's story, please contact CIW at (650) 328-0474 or CompanionsInWaiting@yahoo.com.

Farewell to Friends



Sometimes we lose. Over the years, two cats and five kittens were lost to illnesses before finding their forever families. We were grateful they were in our care when they crossed the Rainbow Bridge.

Here are some of the beloved animals who touched our hearts as they crossed the Rainbow Bridge in recent years.

Saddened as we feel when one of our CIW animals passes, we are deeply thankful they did not die alone and unloved. We'll share two stories here.

Fondly Remembered



Dexter

Dexter and his brother, Winston, came to CIW as seniors. Though diagnosed with a thyroid problem, that never stopped Dexter! For 2 years, Dexter was Mr.



Winston

Meet and Greet at the adoptions fairs before he found his forever family. He won over all members of the family before joining his brother at the Rainbow Bridge. His Mom said it best, "five months with Dexter was not enough."



Annie

Annie reached a starved and neglected state before being turned in to the Humane Society of Silicon Valley. A CIW friend on the staff recognized Annie needed more time and care than she could get at the shelter. By Christmas, she

found her forever Mom. Through the years, Annie would come for visits, and Mom became a CIW supporter. In 2009, Annie succumbed to kidney cancer. We all miss her gentle spirit.

If you've lost a companion animal, our hearts go out to you. And, we thank you for "just being there".



We invite you to share your memories or express a tribute to your animal friend on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/CompanionsInWaiting>.



Noir
Aug. 2009



Daysie
Jul. 2009



Bart & Violet
Jul. 2009



Rocky
Nov. 2010



Kirby
Feb. 2011



Abby
Jun. 2011



Maverick
Jun. 2011



Christy
Jul. 2011



Sasha
Jul. 2011



Puck
Nov. 2011



Sheba
Jan. 2012



Kitna
Mar. 2012



Maximillian
Apr. 2012



Charlie
Sep. 2012



Spencer
Jan. 2013

Companions in Waiting is a 501(c)3 non-profit animal rescue and adoption organization based in San Mateo County, California



Companions In Waiting

P.O. Box 213

Half Moon Bay, CA 94019



If you can help...

Companions in Waiting relies on donations to feed, house, and care for homeless pets.

We are grateful to all our supporters who make this possible.

Kindly send donations to:

Companions In Waiting
P.O.Box 213
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

Or donate through Paypal to
CompanionsInWaiting@yahoo.com
Or see our Paypal link at
www.CompanionsInWaiting.org

2013 Adoption Fairs

Come visit us soon!

Feb. 1-2	Pet Place, Menlo Park	Jul. 19-20	Pet Place, Menlo Park
Feb. 3	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay	Jul. 13-14	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay
Feb. 9-10	Half Moon Bay Library	Jul. 24	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay
Feb. 16-17	Touleh Pet Boutique, Palo Alto	Aug. 2-3	Pet Place, Menlo Park
Mar. 1-2	Pet Place, Menlo Park	Aug. 4	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay
Mar. 3	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay	Aug. 10-11	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay
Mar. 9-10	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay	Sep. 6-7	Pet Place, Menlo Park
Mar. 23-24	Half Moon Bay Library	Sep. 8	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay
Apr. 6-7	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay	Sep. 14-15	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay
Apr. 12-13	Pet Place, Menlo Park	Oct. 4-5	Pet Place, Menlo Park
Apr. 14	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay	Oct. 6	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay
May. 4-5	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay	Oct. 26-27	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay
May. 10-11	Pet Place, Menlo Park	Nov. 1-2	Pet Place, Menlo Park
May. 12	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay	Nov. 3	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay
May 18-19	Half Moon Bay Library	Nov. 9-10	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay
Jun. 1-2	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay	Dec. 6,7,8	Pet Place, Menlo Park
Jun. 7-8	Pet Place, Menlo Park		
Jun. 9	Kibbles & Gifts, Half Moon Bay		

Visit www.CompanionsInWaiting.org for additional fairs and schedule updates

Locations and Hours

The Pet Place

777 Santa Cruz Ave
Menlo Park, CA
(650) 325-7387

Hours: Fridays 12 pm - 3 pm
Saturdays 10:30 am - 3 pm

Kibbles & Gifts

80 Cabrillo Hwy N # B
Half Moon Bay, CA
(650) 726-3700

Hours: Saturdays 11 am - 2 pm
Sundays 11 am - 2 pm

Half Moon Bay Library

620 Correas Street
Half Moon Bay, CA
(650) 726-2316

Hours: Saturdays 11 am - 3 pm
Sundays 1 pm - 3 pm