

SALT SPRING CAT

2022 Newsletter



Happy Holidays to you, friends of Salt Spring Cat. Reflecting on the past year, we are grateful to our community: Natasha for the stunning photo shoots, Leanne and John for donations, assisting with kitten care, friends and family collecting bottles, and offering support. Special thank you to Jo and Alison of Rest.Q Animal Sanctuary, the SPCA, donors and especially the adopters of these adorable kittens.

Enjoy some highlights from 2022.

HOBBITS

We took in a litter of 3-day-old kittens at the end of April. Eyes closed and umbilical cords still attached: these were very fragile kittens. The kittens required subcutaneous fluids and antibiotics to combat diarrhea and related issues. A constant temperature and high humidity were critical for their survival: the loan of an incubator from the SPCA was life saving.



SAMWISE ~ PIPPEN MERRY ~ FRODO

At this age, the kittens required syringe feeding every two hours, We noticed suckling behavior: a dangerous and life threatening situation for the recipients. Clear plastic panels separated the kittens but let them still see each other. We gave each kitten a stuffed animal for comfort. Due to diarrhea, the kittens also required tiny butt baths and a blow dry after most feedings. The average length of stay in care was 93 days.



SANDWICHES

Two short weeks after receiving the Hobbits, we took in another litter of kittens whose feral mom rejected them. A young cat herself, she had not developed the maternal skills to care for her kittens. Concerned for their safety, the kittens were removed from the situation.



REUBAN MONTE ~ CRISTA

We provided ten bottle feedings daily for the next four weeks for all seven kittens. This required special syringes/bottles, nipples and significant quantities of KMR formula. The average length of stay for the Sandwich litter was 97 days.



BOTANICALS

In late August, property owners noticed a feral mom had abandoned her three young kittens. Concerned for the kitten's welfare, they reached out to the SPCA for help. Shortly after, the kittens were transferred into our care for monitoring and socialization. Found on a flower farm, we named these the botanical kittens.

INDIGO~ASH~CLOVER

At six weeks of age, the kittens ate solid food, could use a litter box, but were cautious of people. We slowly introduced enrichment activities and exposed the kittens to all the sights and sounds of a home.

Sponsored by the SPCA, we cared for the Botanical litter for an average of 82 days.





HOLIDAY

The holiday litter came into care when spotted on the side of the road on Mayne Island. Volunteers immediately went out to the location in search of the kittens. With the sounds of a meowing cat playing on a phone, three kittens came wandering out of the bush.

PUMPKIN ~ OREO MINI NIP

Approximately 4-5 weeks of age they were quickly picked up and brought to safety. Before adoption, the kittens will receive veterinary wellness check ups, microchips, vaccinations, spay or neuter surgery. Each adopter will receive a video demonstrating how to trim their kitten's nails.



Salt Spring Cat has specialized equipment required to care for very young kittens. We provide round-the-clock feeding and toileting, monitor kittens via nanny cams and record their progress throughout the day. Kittens are in our care for an extended period, giving us a unique perspective on selecting the best placement for their forever homes. Each orphaned kitten receives a cozy blanket and a stuffed animal to comfort them when they arrive in our care. In addition, we record each kitten's growth in series of photos which are posted on our website. Salt Spring Cat practices fear free methodology, taking only a limited number of kittens to ensure the best possible care. If you feel so inclined, please help share our contact information.

Warmest thoughts and best wishes for this Holiday season and the coming year.



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