



# S.A.R.A.'s Treasures

**Gift, Thrift, & Cat Adoption Center**

871 River Road Eugene, OR

Open Daily 10 - 6 Daily

541-607-8892

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 41462 Eugene, OR 97404

Online at: [www.sarastreasures.org](http://www.sarastreasures.org)

## Spring Newsletter

May 2016



### Our New Look

"Hey there S.A.R.A. supporters, this is Clifford here to update you about all the fun-filled, and strenuous activities that have been happening here at S.A.R.A.'s Treasures. As promised, we recently installed a brand new building sign, and tasteful new window decals! Sign Pro did a fantastic job with the production and installation process. Spring cleaning really paid off this season, the storefront looks great: fresh coat of paint, new white picket fence, and a fabulous, professional exterior retail sign. S.A.R.A.'s business sign was updated from a quirky hand-painted, wooden sign, to a sleek black vinyl lettering & S.A.R.A. logo on white sign board that reads: "S.A.R.A.'s Treasures, Gift, Thrift, & Cat Adoption Center." The window decals are white vinyl lettering and cat silhouettes adhered to the window exteriors. The decals also inform the public about what S.A.R.A. has to offer: "Volunteer, Donate, Shop, Adopt." Though all the staff and volunteers did a fabulous job preparing for the new sign, I had the most important job: supervising and providing inspiration! I keep telling everyone, now we will attract more people to come in and give me much needed attention and treats (the other cats here can enjoy some too, maybe). My favorite part about the new sign is that it advertises S.A.R.A. as a Cat Adoption Center, in addition to quality gift and thrift store. In the

week following the installation, five cats were adopted! The updates at S.A.R.A. have really improved the image of the organization as well as inform newcomers about what we do, ultimately attracting more shoppers, supporters, and adopters. S.A.R.A. staff has also been working very hard treating sick cats in the program, adopting out healthy cats to happy forever homes, and working diligently in the community to help with overpopulation, using TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return) at feral cat colonies. All in all, things have progressed quite a bit here at S.A.R.A., and we couldn't do it without the support of the community and our followers!"

**Clifford:** Available for Adoption!



### 2016 S.A.R.A. Fundraising Events

9th Annual Mother's Day

### Plant & Artisan Sale

May 7th & 8th

At S.A.R.A.'s Treasures

10am - 5pm (both days)

Featuring:

Hanging Baskets  
Flowers, Veggies & Herbs  
Artisan Gifts & more!

### Lot Sales

Now on Saturdays!

Sat. May 21<sup>st</sup>

Sat. June 18<sup>th</sup>

Sat. July 16<sup>th</sup>

Sat. Aug 13<sup>th</sup>

Sat. Sept 10<sup>th</sup>

at S.A.R.A.'s Treasures

10am - 5pm

### Festival of Eugene

August 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

At Skinner Butte Park, our booth will be in the small business section. Play fun games and win prizes. Ask questions and learn about your feline friends.

Check our website & facebook for festival updates

# Opt to Adopt an Adult

Consider adopting an adult cat next time you are looking for a new furry family member. Adult cats are often a better fit for your home than a kitten.

If you are looking to adopt just one cat and have no other cats at home, consider an adult. Kittens need the companionship and socialization provided by another cat in the household, otherwise they may become destructive or get into trouble. If you are a “one-cat-household,” S.A.R.A. has adult cats that LOVE people but are happiest being the only cat in the home.

If you have small children, are you prepared to supervise your child’s interactions with the kitten at all times? Kittens are fragile and very vulnerable to injury. Roughly or over-handled kittens may bite or scratch without warning. Adult cats, who are accustomed to children, are more tolerant and will give warning or leave when they have had enough.

People often pass up older adult cats, thinking that they won’t live very long. Keep in mind that cats can live and remain active to age 20 and beyond, especially indoor cats!

Kittens are always in demand and usually find homes. In shelters, adult cats are more at risk for euthanasia, simply because they are not kittens. Many of the adults that you see at S.A.R.A.’s Treasures are last year’s kittens who were abandoned or surrendered when they grew into adult cats.



## Meet Fred & Lucy

Fred & Lucy are two of the cutest, most playful adults at S.A.R.A., these two put on the goofiest show when their favorite toy comes out: the cat charmer fleece wand. These darling cats were adopted to a family as healthy kittens. Within a year, after growing into adults, they were returned. Lucy has been diagnosed with Pica, a eating disorder consisting of the consumption of inanimate objects such as bedding, toys, and wires. Upon inspection of the situation, it turned out that as kittens, Fred and Lucy were not given enough stimulation, resulting in destructive behavior. The behavior was not addressed by the adopters and Lucy’s condition worsened to the point of consuming and, luckily passing a variety of household objects. A common cause for Pica is anemia or an unhealthy diet. Fred & Lucy’s diet was switched from a healthy, species appropriate diet as kittens at S.A.R.A. to a less-than ideal diet at their previous home. This drastic change may have left Fred & Lucy feeling malnourished, resulting in the consumption of other items, in an attempt to feel whole again. S.A.R.A. has contacted a behaviorist, who recommended clicker training to help redirect Lucy’s thought pattern to healthier options. Clicker

Training is an animal training method based on behavioral psychology that marks & rewards desirable behavior. Desirable behavior is usually marked by using a clicker, a mechanical device that makes a short, distinct ‘click,’ which tells the animal exactly when they’re doing the right thing. This clear communication, combined with positive reinforcement and lots of treats and love, is an effective, safe, and humane way to teach any animal any behavior, and redirect from unhealthy behaviors. Additionally, improving Fred & Lucy’s nutrition has helped to eliminate the possibility of nutrition deprivation causing the disorder. **Though these exceptionally friendly, and bonded, special needs sibling have had some difficulty finding a home, with a healthy diet and consistent clicker training, Fred and Lucy are on their way to perfect health for the adopter!**  
=^..^=

## Senior cats need homes too!

“Hello, I’m Skipper, a senior cat living here at S.A.R.A.’s Rescue Facility. I can attest that senior cats are awesome and there are plenty of benefits for choosing a mature adult to adopt instead of a kitten. When adopting a senior cat, you avoid the crazy kitten. It may be fun to watch a kitten play and race through the house, but remember that the playing and racing can happen at all hours, including 3 am. Kittens may be adorable, but too many of us adult cats are stuck living our golden years in a shelter. Senior cats end up at shelters for any number of reasons, most of which reflect on the owner’s situation and not the cat.

We Seniors have tons to offer a household, and adopting one of us can be very rewarding—for both us! One thing I know for sure is that we make the best napping partners. At S.A.R.A.’s Treasures, there are some really great cats over 10 years old, and we all still have plenty of pep. Since seniors are always the most difficult to find homes for, when you adopt a senior, you’re truly saving a life!”



**Skipper:** Available for Adoption!

## Meet Gonzo



Gonzo is a truly unique and friendly guy. This sweet boy loves snuggling on your shoulders, being dangled upside-down, and massaging your head with his cheek. Even though Gonzo is an awesome companion, he is still considered a special needs cat, and has been in the program longer than any other cat currently living at S.A.R.A.'s Treasures. As a special-needs adult cat, Gonzo is overlooked by adopters, even though he is perfectly friendly and loving. This cat is the Feline Houdini, master escape artist, and due to his lack of street-smarts, has a very specific need: an outdoor enclosure. Everyday, Gonzo enjoys the world safely inside his 8'x10' enclosed area. He still manages to escape outside periodically, and every staff/volunteer who has ever chased after him will attest that Gonzo is the opposite of street-savvy, trying to play with anything that moves, be it a larger animal, cat, or automobile. It is very important, for his safety, that Gonzo be adopted to a home in a quiet neighborhood, with an outdoor enclosure available (they are easily built or can also be purchased at a hardware store or Costco). Gonzo was returned to S.A.R.A. years ago after his adopter, ignoring the signed contract, allowed Gonzo to be an outdoor cat. Poor Gonzo was badly injured by a raccoon, and when the adopter refused to take him to the vet, Gonzo was returned with maggots growing in abdominal wounds that required over 30 stitches to be properly healed. Now that Gonzo has had a taste for outside, spending time everyday in his enclosure keeps him relaxed. **Our goal is to find him a forever home so when he is done soaking in the smells and sun outside, he can come cuddle with a family member.** Until the perfect adopter finds Gonzo, he can live with us as long as it takes.

## Benefits of Adopting an Adult Cat

- Adult cats have developed personalities and appearances, so you know exactly who you are adopting.
- A mature cat is the ultimate low-maintenance pet.
- An adult cat is often a better choice if you are adding a second cat to your household.
- Adult cats are calmer and less destructive than kittens.
- Adult cats are often a better choice for households with young children.
- Adult cats do better as "only cats."
- Senior cats (8 yrs and older) make wonderful companions.
- Most importantly you are saving a life!

## Meet Dahlia



Dahlia is a miniature 11-year-old adult black cat, with a sad past that tugs at our heart strings. This adorable, little girl was rescued from an automotive repair shop by Life9 Rescue, a group that primarily works with feral cats. Being such a friendly lap-cat, Dahlia was transferred into S.A.R.A.'s program so she could be adopted into a comfortable forever home, the absolute opposite from her living situation at the auto shop. When innocent Dahlia was rescued, she was covered in antifreeze, creating numerous health complications. She lost 90% of the fur on her body, and her skin was severely damaged by the chemicals and a rampant flea infestation. Upon her arrival at S.A.R.A., her skin symptoms were treated, but the damage to her hair follicles was so bad that most of her fur may never grow back. With proper nutrition and warm shelter, Dahlia's condition has improved drastically, her skin is healthier and she has even grown back some of her fur. This poor girl wants a lap to sit on so badly, we can often hear her calling to the nearest person she can see. Dahlia would be the perfect cat, for a quiet single-cat household, but due to her age and the prolific kitten season, she is overlooked by adopters. The bustling atmosphere at S.A.R.A. is stressful for Dahlia, she has already been through so much turmoil in her life. Dahlia was featured in the Register Guard Article written about S.A.R.A.'s Expansion, bringing in many new people to meet her, but did not land an adopter. Having experienced so much neglect already, sitting with various shoppers and volunteers just isn't quite enough. **This petite feline has so much love to give and would be so happy to have a stable home for the first time in her life!** =^..^=

## Help Us Continue Our Life Saving Mission!

**A donation in any amount will be greatly appreciated.**

*We've enclosed an envelope for you to rush your support.*

## Thank You!



**Rafters: Available for Adoption!**

# FIV+ Cat Facts

**Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV)** is a retrovirus in the lentivirus subfamily (“slow virus”). The primary mode of transmission is deep bite wounds. FIV infection leads to a state of immune deficiency that hinders the cat's ability to protect itself against other infections. The same bacteria, viruses, protozoa, and fungi that may be found in the everyday environment--where they usually do not affect healthy animals--can cause severe illness in those with weakened immune systems.

## FIV+ Cats Live Long, Healthy Lives with Other Household Pets.

### Common Misconceptions

**FIV+ Cats in Shelters:** Previously considered unadoptable and often euthanized, it is now believed that FIV+ cats live long, healthy lives, without any health problems. These cats are adoptable and do not infect other household pets.

**Positive & negative cats living together:** It is commonly mistaken that FIV+ cats cannot live among other household pets. FIV+ cats can lead happy lives in socialized, multi-cat households. Transmission does not occur through casual non-aggressive behavior in households with stable social structures.

**Lifespan:** A diagnosis of FIV infection is not cause for alarm. Medical studies show that FIV+ cats live just as long as FIV- cats.\* Since the virus has a long incubation period, a cat who tests FIV+ may live free of FIV related disease for a lifetime.

**Transmission:** FIV is not transmitted through nursing, mutual grooming, sharing food/water bowls, or from mother to kitten. Deep Bite wounds are the most common mode of transmission. Sexual contact can transmit the virus, but occurs less frequently. Outdoor cats are at higher risk of being infected due to aggressive fights and territorial disputes between unaltered cats.

**Vaccine:** There is a vaccine to help prevent the transmission of FIV, but the vaccination is not 100% reliable and will generate antibodies that make it very difficult to determine later whether the cat is infected or only vaccinated. The only sure way to protect your

cat is to prevent their exposure to the virus, by keeping cats safely indoors--and away from potentially infected cats that might bite them.



**Bob & Saul (FIV+):**  
Available for Adoption!

\*Addie, et al. *Veterinary Record*. 2000

\*Gleich, et al. *Journal of Feline Medicine & Surgery*. 2009

More info about FIV at Cornell Feline Health Center Website:  
[www.vet.cornell.edu/fhc/Health\\_Information/brochure\\_fiv.cfm](http://www.vet.cornell.edu/fhc/Health_Information/brochure_fiv.cfm)

*Buddy is a cat in S.A.R.A.'s Rescue Program who has tested positive for FIV. Buddy was rescued from an outdoor feral colony with high risk of infection (due to other un-altered, infected males in the area). Living indoor only, with a healthy, species appropriate diet, Buddy has shown no symptoms of FIV virus or symptoms of illness. His calm nature makes him a perfect candidate to live with other housemates.*



**Buddy (FIV+):**  
Available for Adoption!

### Progression & Transmission

In the initial stage of FIV infection, the virus spreads to the cat's lymph nodes, leading to a transiently reduced white blood cell count. During the second stage of infection, the cat is often completely asymptomatic for many years. The virus typically remains dormant for years, which may explain why many cats live a lifetime without symptoms.

If disease develops, this will occur during the third stage. In this stage the cat may develop signs of immunodeficiency, hindering the cat's ability to protect itself against other infections. Secondary conditions, such as opportunistic infections, stomatitis, ocular inflammation, cancer, and respiratory tract infections often develop. All of these conditions also occur in cats without FIV, so an association with FIV is often speculative. A blood test is the only way to determine if a cat is infected.

**The primary mode of transmission is through bite wounds. Casual, non-aggressive contact does not spread FIV; as a result, cats in households with stable social structures, where housemates do not fight, are at little risk for acquiring FIV infections. Sexual contact is not a major means of spreading FIV.**

Website: Alley Cat Allies: FIV-Care and Treatment  
<http://www.alleycat.org/FIV>

# Annual Mother's Day Plant & Artisan Sale



**May 7th & 8th**  
10am - 5pm (Both Days)  
at S.A.R.A.'s Treasures



Proceeds raised at this event support S.A.R.A.'s life-saving mission to rescue, assist, and advocate for shelter animals.



## Flea Control Tips

Controlling flea infestations is a multifaceted process, and includes eradicating the adult fleas living on the pet, as well as the egg/larvae/pupae found in the environment.

To control fleas living **on your pet**, the first line of defense is healthy skin. Feeding healthy, species appropriate food promotes healthy skin, creating a better barrier to defend against fleas.

Use natural flea products whenever possible. Natural Chemistry Flea Spray works great for pets who will allow weekly application. Vet's Best brand Neem Foam can be substituted for cats that do not like Flea Spray.

If chemical products are a must, only use vet-trusted brands. Alternating products helps to avoid fleas being able to build up a resistance to one product. S.A.R.A. uses Advantage II & Revolution.

NEVER, EVER use grocery store spot-ons or flea collars. These items DO NOT WORK and often have serious side effects!

Regular flea combing is recommended to check for signs of fleas.

\*Additional information @ our website: [sarastreasures.org](http://sarastreasures.org)  
under Flea Control Tips

Treating the pet's **environment**, such as carpet, bedding, and grass, is essential to control an outbreak. In fact, 95% of the flea population are the eggs/larvae/pupae that are not visible to the human eye.

Hot temperature kills and vacuuming easily removes eggs/larvae/pupae from the environment. Regularly washing/drying pet and household bedding and linens manages flea populations. Placing cat trees and other un-washables in the hot sun for the afternoon also works.

Use Flea-Go! Magic Crystals 1-2 times a year. This safe boric acid product is sprinkled into carpet, cat trees, under mattresses, in hardwood floor cracks etc. and kills flea eggs, larvae, & pupae.

Indoor pets are not immune from flea infestations. Fleas can jump over 100x their height and easily enter homes on clothing or through small cracks, seeking out any pet inside. Outdoor flea repellents exist to treat yards such as Natural Chemistry Yard & Kennel Spray or Diatomaceous Earth.

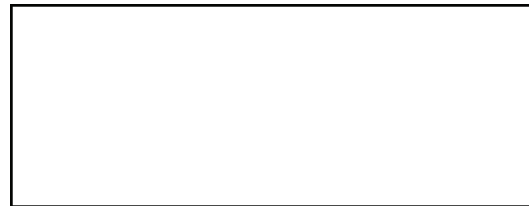


**Shelter Animal Resource Alliance**  
**P.O. Box 41462**  
**Eugene, OR 97404**

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# **S.A.R.A.'s Wish List**

**Caring for our animals requires a lot of time, love, money and supplies. We use all of the items on our wish list nearly every day, and these ongoing expenses can really add up. With your donation, we are able to save money so we can dedicate the greatest amount of our resources directly to the animals who are relying on us.**

- Postage Stamps
- New Cat Toys
- Cat Beds & Cat Trees
- AA & AAA Batteries
- Sharpie Markers
- Plastic Folding Tables
- Feliway Refills
- Monetary Donations for Veterinary Bills and Medical Supplies
- Rubbermaid Roughneck 18 Gallon Storage Tubs & Lids
- Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Garbage Bags (All Sizes)
- Advantage II Flea Treatment, Dog & Cat (All Sizes)
- Environmentally-Friendly Dish/Hand/Laundry Soap
- Cat Litter (Unscented/Scoopable) & (unclumping)
- Tape (Packing, Scotch, Duct, or Double-Sided)
- Microwavable Heating Pads (Snugglesafe)
- Household Surface Wipes (Kirkland)
- Printer Ink (HP950 XL + HP951)
- Light Bulbs (LED/CFL-Any voltage)
- Canned/Dry Cat & Dog Food
- Simple Green Concentrate
- Cat & Dog Carriers/Kennels
- Cardboard Scratchers
- Live Box Traps



**Snookie:** Available  
for Adoption!



**Clifford:**  
Available for  
Adoption!

**Donated items can be dropped off at  
S.A.R.A.'s Treasures 10:00-6:00 Every Day**