



# THE SCOOP

A PUBLICATION OF THE YAKIMA VALLEY PET RESCUE & ADOPTION CENTER

## GRACIE, PART 3—FINALLY ADOPTED!!!

### IT'S HOT OUT THERE!!!

- Never leave your pets in a car unattended. Temperatures can soar very quickly to lethal levels.
- Please keep pets inside whenever possible.
- If pets must be left outside, always make sure they have easy access to plenty of water and shade.

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For the past two newsletters, we have been tracking the story of Gracie, the YVPR foster dog who was severely injured in a dog attack and nursed to health thanks to the help of many dedicated volunteers, donations, and veterinarian staff. Today we are happy to report, Gracie has completed her long journey of recovery and has finally been adopted. After screening many applications for Gracie, we chose Kathy McCord and Michael Bannick to be her new lifelong companions.



Gracie finally finds her forever loving home with Kathy and Mike!

Sporting a sparkling rhinestone collar given to her by an admirer, Gracie left Yakima for the open spaces of the Methow Valley. In addition to her new humans, she will share her home with 2 cats.

Gracie has lots of acreage for exercise and when its hot, Kathy and Mike plan to take her to the river for a refreshing swim in the cool water.

Thank you Kathy and Mike for sharing your lives with this wonderful and courageous little dog!

Gracie and all of us at YVPR, send an enthusiastic thank you to everyone who donated to her recovery fund. Only because of your kindness and generosity is it possible for the volunteers at YVPR to continue saving sick and injured animals like Gracie.

And to Gracie, we send our best wishes for a wonderful life in your new home. We were privileged to get to know and care for you!

We are so grateful to have success stories like Gracie's, but the struggle continues to care for the many sick, neglected, and injured dogs and cats that come through our door. We appreciate your continued support to help us care for these animals. Please read about Sassy Sue on page 3.

Will you help us help her too?

## Bring Your Creativity To YVPR!!!

### YVPR 1st ANNUAL POSTER CONTEST!!!

We are looking for a poster to celebrate pet rescue in our community and to highlight the work of YVPR. Any 2-D media is welcome: painting, computer graphics, drawing, photography, cartoon, or other.

The winner's name, photo, and poster design will be featured in our newsletter, website, and many other



media uses, and will also be hung in our front office!

See the YVPR website for rules and submission information.

**Due date: December 7, 2009 (deadline extended)**

**ALL STYLES WELCOME!**

There will be a \$75 prize for the first place submission, so get those creative juices flowing!!!



“What do you mean you haven’t joined the YVPR cause on Facebook yet?!”

“Do you Facebook? How ‘bout Dogbook or Catbook? No kiddin’! Check it out!”

### YVPR Hosts Booth at Block Party!

Yakima Valley Pet Rescue volunteers had a table at the Parker Heights Neighborhood Watch Block Party. We would like to thank the Parker Heights Homeowners Association for inviting us. There were over 600



Vice-president Desi Verbrugge and a YVPR volunteer hold the fort!

people there and we were able to hand out lots of important educational information as well as raise money to help with our mission. Thank you to everyone who stopped by!

### Looking To Adopt?

Remember, if you or someone you know is looking for a new pet, adoption is the best way to find just the right pet for you and your family, and save a life!

YVPR offers several ways for people to learn about and meet the many animals looking for a forever loving home.

- **YVPR Website**  
([www.yakimavalleypetrescue.blogspot.com](http://www.yakimavalleypetrescue.blogspot.com))
- **Yakima Farmer’s Market**  
Every Sunday from spring until fall, from 9 to 2.
- **PetCo**  
We are at the Yakima PetCo, the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month, from 1-4 p.m.

## Indoors or Outdoors? - The Kitty Cat Dilemma



“The outdoors can provide numerous dangers for our cats—they are safest indoors.”



We love our cats! And they love their birds! Cats kill millions of birds in the U.S. each year.

Often when we get a new cat, the first question is: Should I keep my cat indoors or outdoors? We often choose outdoors, either because we feel our cats would be happier outdoors, or maybe because we don’t want to deal with a stinky litter box. But there are many reasons to keep your cat indoors.

#### Keeping Cats Indoors is Safer For Your Cat

Indoor cats can live 17+ years, while the life expectancy of the average outdoor cat is 2-5 years. Why? Outdoor life can be perilous for cats. Not only do they have a higher risk of death, they often suffer more injuries and disease. Just some of the hazards outdoor cats face are: cars, attacks from other animals, mean people, exposure to disease and parasites, poison, and traps. Regardless of how much food or love outdoor cats get, they often wander miles from home due to their curious nature and desire to hunt. Which brings us to the second reason cats should be kept indoors.

#### Cats Love to Hunt!!!

Each year in the U.S., cats kill hundreds of millions of birds: song birds, woodpeckers, shorebirds, and even endangered birds. Not only birds are stalked and eaten by cats, but also small mammals, amphibians, and reptiles. Cats can be a serious threat to rarer species, especially in rural areas. Although it may seem natural for

cats to hunt, cats are not native to the U.S., being descendents of an African wild cat. This means that small animals in the U.S. have not adapted to cats as a predator and have little defense against them. So what can us cat lovers do to help our local wildlife stay safe from our fuzzy friends?

- **Keep Your Cat Indoors!** Cats love to hunt. No matter how well you feed your cat, they will hunt. Even putting a bell on a cat rarely works, as cats are smart and figure out how to hunt with a bell on.
- If there are feral cats on your property, try to trap them (be careful!) and get them to your local veterinarian to have them spayed or neutered. Feral female cats can have 2-3 litters per year, so help stop the cycle. YVPR offers discounted spay/neuter certificates for cats.
- If you must let your cat outdoors, be considerate not just of wildlife, but of your neighbors - they may love the birds in their yard, and not want your cats chasing them. Consider a leash for your cat, or an outdoor screened enclosure.

For tips on making your outdoor cat a happy indoor cat, and other information about the Cats Indoors! Campaign, visit:

<http://www.abcbirds.org/abcprograms/policy/cats/>



**Thank You!** Our thank you's go out to the **Selah Animal Clinic, Dr. Rowen** and all of the people and volunteers that helped with the shot Clinic at the Co-Op. Dr. Rowen and staff raised \$400.00 for YVPR!



Successful Adoption! Shirley and her new adopted human.

## The Adoption Corner

### Lives Saved

2003 - 274    2004 - 208    2005 - 245  
 2006 - 421    2007 - 448    2008 - 649

To help animals, we do both direct adoptions from our foster home network and other adoptions events, and transport of homeless animals to other rescue groups and no-kill shelters.

2009 - Saved So Far: 678

Adoptions		Transports	
Jan.	25	67	Feb. 11
March	17	44	April 46
May	26	132	June 28
July	09	20	82

## The Story of Sassy Sue

Last month, Catherine, YVPR board member and volunteer, rescued Sassy Sue from the local shelter. YVPR commonly takes dogs and cats from the Human Society Shelter, as they are frequently overfilled.

Sassy Sue was seriously underweight, sick, her ear had been torn, and she was continuously fainting. With much care, she is doing better now. She likes to sleep, play, and spend time with her foster mom. She is house trained and knows how to let someone know when she wants to go outside or if she is hungry. She is a very sweet and affectionate dog that just wags her tail when her foster mom comes home.

Fortunately she is finally starting to gain a little weight, despite her low white blood count and chronic

diarrhea. The vet said her heart is strong and is one happy dog, and is still amazed at how far she has come from the first day he saw her in the parking lot. She cannot yet be made available for adoption until her health issues are resolved. Because of severe neglect from a previous owner, her future is still uncertain. But we won't give up on her, not when she has fought this hard to still be alive. Because her medical bills are expensive, YVPR is asking for donations to help us help her. Thank you!



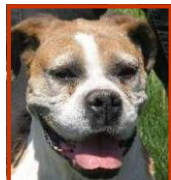
Sassy Sue just after she was rescued

**YVPR attended the annual WOOFFSTOCK adoption event in Tacoma on Sunday August 9th.** The event is put on by the Dugan Foundation & Pawsitive Alliance. There were dog, cats, ferrets & other small critters at this event. The total for the day was 115 adoptions!

We adopted out 14 of the 15 dogs we took to the event. Some of the dogs had been waiting for their forever homes for several months.

The adoption events are an all day job but so worth it. When you can witness the happiness of the dog & adopters it is a very rewarding experience!

**Country Critters - Join Tom, Thane, and Desi every Wednesday at 8:20am on FM 92.9 - The Bull**



### Adoptable Pet of The Month! Mercedes!!!

This sweet older girl needs a home. She loves people and dogs, but not cats! She is housetrained and loves to be inside. Come check her out on our website!

### General Meeting

1st Monday of every month, **6:30 pm, Jackson's Sports Bar (meeting room in back)**, 432 S. 48th Ave, Yakima, 98908

## Board of Directors

- Shelley Cort**, President
- Desi Verbrugge**, Vice President
- Beth Swan**, Secretary
- Coreen Thomas**, Acting Treasurer (thank you!)
- Tambra Shuler**, Events Coordinator
- Catherine Leonard**, Adoption Coordinator



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*"Consider Adoption First!"*

The **Yakima Valley Pet Rescue** greatly values each and every one of our readers. We strive to inform, educate, and entertain our community through our newsletter. Our newsletter is also a critical way for us to raise support and funding for our mission.

Unfortunately, the cost of printing and mailing of our quarterly newsletter is expensive. This is why many non-profits are beginning to utilize electronic newsletter formats.

We offer this newsletter on our website. We also hope in the future to be able to e-mail newsletters directly to our supporters through a listserve, as we work on developing our new website.

We are still happy to continue to send hard copies of our newsletter to those who would like to receive them, but if you are interested in reading our newsletter on our website instead to help us save on our printing costs, please let us know.

You can contact Heather at [heathersr@charter.net](mailto:heathersr@charter.net), and let her know if you wish to receive the newsletter electronically and no longer wish to receive a hard copy. We also greatly value any comments or story ideas you have for our newsletter.

**Thank You!!!**

**Heather Simmons-Rigdon, YVPR newsletter editor**



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