

# Chesapeake Cats & Dogs, Inc.

Working to provide a life of love and dignity for all animals



March 2009

## SPOTLIGHT

### MEET MELVIN!

Melvin's family moved and left him by himself. For many weeks, a neighbor would stop by on occasion to feed Melvin, but he received no real love or attention. It was a horrible situation for this sweet young man. It was a life of loneliness and suffering. We brought him into the Center, where he continued to struggle. But he is now settling in and is very loving to all visitors, begging them to scratch his head, pet him, and be a cushion for him to sit on. Melvin isn't crazy about other cats but, as I said, loves people—big people and little people—as long as the people agree to carry on conversations with him, play with him, and, most important love him. His front claws were removed in his previous life, and he is getting up in years, but would love to be adopted so that he can have his own bed and human companion he knows won't leave him. Melvin hopes that someone will give him another chance to prove what a sweet, loving family member he can be. 🐾



HOBBO was in trouble when his neighborhood decided they didn't want a stray cat hanging around and they began threatening the little guy. We brought him to CCAD just in time. We are

glad that he doesn't know how unwelcome he was in his old neighborhood. It is better if he just imagines he came to our Center by his own choice. He would love to have a "best buddy" and a new start. Hobo has learned that the presence of people means only good things—food, love, and attention. Hobo is a very nice boy, healthy and approximately 5–6 years old. He is a big dude with a big heart. He is great with other cats and would fit right into your home. If you think you might love him, there is no reason at all he shouldn't be your next cat. 🐾

## ADOPTION STORIES

WE adopted Teddy back in October. He is the absolute sweetest thing and is well loved—sometimes overly loved by our young family! This was our Christmas picture this year. We appreciate all that you did to make this happen for us!—Heather 🐾



### EMMY UPDATE!!!!

Emmy is doing great, although she likes to chew everything! Emmy saw snow for the first time today. I tried to get a picture, but she would not stay still for a second! Of course she came right in and went to her favorite place in front of the woodstove. That is Emmy's official favorite place in the house.—The Doherty Family 🐾



### Dear Sheila,

I am so grateful for our sweet kittens, Prancer (l) and Cupid (r). Every day I say out loud, "It's so nice having a cat in the house again." My boys have also uttered those same words several times. I have always had a cat in my



possession for my entire life, with the exception of the last two years. I have missed the playfulness, the soft fur, the crazy antics, the happy "mews" that greet me when I come home, or first thing in the morning. You, your work, and

your staff have made a difference in at least six lives (me, my three kids, and Prancer & Cupid!) and I am sure many, many more. Most sincerely and heartfelt, Lee 🐾

**H**i everyone! Luna Martin here! I just wanted to send my friends at Chesapeake Cats and Dogs a warm New Years greeting and hope that everyone there gets as lucky as I did in finding forever homes. We have had a busy holiday season with many presents and goings on. I have a



sister Snowshoe Siamese now as well as a brother Snowshoe and a brother Tuxedo DSH. They were left homeless after a family member had to go into a total care facility and, since they do not do well apart, Mom volunteered to find them

a home all together. They were only supposed to stay for a week or two, but I think Mom forgot because Santa Claws brought everybody new collars and tags with our address on them. It's ok—I LOVE my new kitty family, and have already taught them how to play with toys, how to unwrap gifts and how to hide things from Mom; that is her favorite game! There is lots of love here for all of us, and dad says having four cats isn't any harder than one, whatever that means. So don't worry about me. Give everyone a snuggle for me! Purringly yours, Luna. 🐾

## ***THE JOY OF SPECIAL NEEDS ADOPTIONS***

**I**f you are looking to adopt a dog, consider one that has special needs. These dogs may not be perfect, but they are most certainly special. They are a gift that so many of us overlook. I recently adopted an older male Doberman, who happens to be blind. Neither of us looks at his blindness as a disability—that is just part of this magnificent animal, and I'm very lucky to have found him.

I'm amazed at his ability to navigate around the house and the back yard. When I first adopted him, I would tap my leg so he knew where I was as well as what was around him. I kept my movements and actions consistent so he could adapt to the house. I watch him "count his steps" from the family room to the kitchen until he finds his way to the back door. There are several steps down, and, as he has learned what steps are, he is able to run up and down

with my other dogs. Our back yard is large. Once again he learned where all the bushes and trees are, so he moves freely without hitting any of them.



When Charlie first came into our lives, one of my cats would stare at him. I watched him one night reach out to touch Charlie's eyes.

He knew they looked different, but he realized they're the same as his! There is no pity or feeling sorry for him, just acceptance. The love and joy we have in our lives because of Charlie is an experience I would recommend to everyone. —Pam Godsell 🐾

**H**ere is a story of a blind cat. He came to CCAD from the Caroline County Humane Society. Willis has brought our home a new and wonderful experience. He is learning to get around our house, and find his food and litter box and us. We clap our hands to get him to come to where we want him to go, and he finds his way. We almost changed his name to "Boink" because in a new path he does run into walls until he remembers the way. As his health improves, he is becoming so much more playful; toys with noise attract him and we found out (accidentally) that he loves to play with a dish towel on the floor—he slides around on it and bats it all over the floor. He now has an old one to call his own. His handicap does not stop him from being a funny, playful kitty. He sure makes us laugh!



He will be going to our vet to remove his stitches (he had surgery on his eyelid), and I know everyone there will fall in love as much as we have with his sweet, gentle nature. We are so grateful to have the opportunity to give a home to one special kitty, and look forward to adopting more in the future. We thank you for all you do and are sending the word out to others about how much you all do for those you foster. When we saw how much Willis's eye surgery cost you, we gained an even greater appreciation of your care. Thank you from the Mosher family—all four of us! 🐾

**Kitten bottle baby season is approaching and we will need foster homes for them. If you can help a bottle baby, please call the Center.**



# UPCOMING CCAD EVENTS

**April 25—Monster Sale & Bake Sale**  
Safeway parking lot in Chester, 9 AM-1 PM.

**May 1-2—True Value's 50th Anniversary— Centreville, 9-5.**

**May 2—Spring Fling Western Auto Car Show & Bake Sale**  
in Stevensville, 10 AM-3 PM.

**May 17—Longaberger Basket Bingo at American Legion**  
in Stevensville. Doors open at 12:30 PM.

# RECENT PET ADOPTIONS

Many cats and dogs were adopted during February. The adopted cats are Harry, to Charity King of Laurel, DE; Blitzen and Dancer, to Melissa Steele in Grasonville; Biscuit (now Nick), to Lisbeth Haarhoff in Stevensville; Muffin, to Christy Lee in Chester; Miranda, to Jennifer Kane in Greensboro; Rudy, to Colleen Schultz in Centreville; Isis, to Emily LaCivita in Stevensville; Karma, to Bill & Sherrie Oertel in Easton; Cherokee, to Debbie & Rudy Lukacovic in Chester; Latte and Paprika, to Adam & Jodi Watkowski in Centreville; Charm (now Rosie), to Jason & Catherine Goucher in Baltimore; Prince, to Neil & Regina Ellick in Stevensville; Jewel, to Linda Walsh in Arnold; and Belize (now Oxford), to Cynthia Miller of Easton.

The dogs that were adopted are Lexi (now Maggie), to Scott & Stella Claferty in Whiteford; Sassy, to Jennifer Crosby of Ashburn, VA; Serafina (now Ginger), to Debbie Burnett of Portsmouth, RI; Ohio, to Mr. & Mrs. David Edwards of Severna Park; Benjamin, to Brenda Insalaco of Chester; Carlotta, to Elaine Dell of Stevensville; and Topper (now Cooper), to Pat Ransom in NJ.

Congratulations to all these families and their new pets! 🐾



**Congratulations to Kate Halla on winning BOTH raffle prizes at CaPOOCHino Day at JPJ's on Feb. 21.**

**She won the McCormick spice goodie basket AND the Pooch Prize Pack. Way to go Kate, and thank you for your support!**

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## BLACK CATS



Did you know that black cats have the lowest adoption rate and the highest euthanasia rate? We're not sure quite sure why, maybe it's the superstition factor. For folks browsing the Internet for pets, black cats don't always show up in photographs as well as lighter colored ones. Whatever the reason, black cats are statistically less likely to be adopted than more brightly colored felines.

Black cats may all look the same, but each one is different, with its own personality. Chesapeake Cats and Dogs does not discriminate based on color. It is true that our black cats often take longer to find homes, but our philosophy is that black cats need and deserve love and a safe home too. So, if you are thinking of adding to your family, here are the top 10 reasons to pick a black cat!

10. Black goes with everything!
9. Black cats look like little panthers. Their regal breeding is very apparent.
8. Holding a black cat is very slimming.
7. A black cat will match any décor. You won't have to redecorate your house to coordinate with your cat. They are totally willing to add taste and beauty to any room of your home. They're that kind of cat.
6. A lint brush isn't required for a black-tie affair.
5. Black cats have more fun. You think only blondes have more fun. Black cats are fun-loving, playful, full of spark and energy. They try harder to make up for the image that most people have of them.
4. Black cats are like onyx, a beautiful gem.
3. Black cats are loving. Look, they know their reputation. They've seen the illustrations. And they're nothing like that.
2. They are the least likely to be adopted.
1. And the #1 reason to adopt a black cat...  
Love knows no color. Your cat doesn't care what color YOUR hair is! They'll love you anyway.