

# Eileen Hawthorne Fund for Animals



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*Helping Animals on the Mendocino Coast since 1984*

## **\*\*Celebrating 40 Years!\*\***

**Forty years ago**, what started as a tribute to a sister has turned into a successful nonprofit animal organization: the Eileen Hawthorne Fund (EHF).

The story is that it disturbed Eileen Hawthorne, a life-long cat lover, to see the high number of homeless cats in poor health when she came to Fort Bragg to visit her sister, Mary Cardiff. Eileen left a small inheritance to Mary and when she passed, Mary, a local retired lawyer, used this gift to honor Eileen's memory. In 1984 she created a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization to help animals in Eileen's name.

EHF's first task was to offer financial assistance to pet owners in need and defray the cost of fixing the area's many stray cats. Mary believed no animal should forego needed medical assistance for lack of money, especially in an emergency. When the inheritance ran out EHF set about raising additional funds. With the help of volunteers and community support the effort continued.

Over the years EHF's mission has expanded. Currently EHF provides year round funding for:

- An Emergency Fund to give financial support for the medical needs of both cats and dogs (Mary herself was the first donor to this fund).
- Education in the community regarding animal care including bimonthly
- Kind News subscriptions for students in the schools.
- Donations of cat food to the Fort Bragg Food Bank to help keep pets in the home and out of shelters.



### **An Emergency Fund Success Story: Hankie**

**By Richard and Martha Carpenter**

Hankie was born 9/25/2017 to a mother who had ingested opioids. He became our puppy 2 days before Thanksgiving 2017 after being fostered by China who worked at the Mendocino Coast Humane Society (MCHS). My daughter, Cheryl, at the same time had adopted his brother, Duke. The puppies ran around playing and entertaining us all the time.

Hankie is Chihuahua and Italian Greyhound and weighs around 7 pounds. His hind legs are very long which cause him to fall often. I do carry him around, but he is able to walk and go outside as needed. In May 2020 Duke had seizures and passed away. After this Hankie declined some but was still able to get around.

December 1, 2023 Hankie had all his teeth removed by the veterinarian at MCHS. We could not have had this done without the financial help of the Eileen Hawthorne Fund (EHF), Second Chance and S.O.S. - Networking for Mendocino Coast Companion Animals. I know without all of their help Hankie would not have survived, his teeth were in such horrible condition.

Thanks to EHF for helping Hankie and spaying and neutering the cats that have come into our yard over the years. Thanks to Second Chance for giving Hankie a Second Chance. Thanks to S.O.S. for being truly helpful saving Hankie. Thanks to Hankie for giving us joy and all his love.

HERE’S RUSTY

By Joselyn Bartlett

I called him “Weekend Kitty” because he always showed up at my door on weekends. He vocalized a lot (asking for snacks mostly) and was very friendly. Then his schedule got more sporadic, but he was a regular visitor.

One day, on a walk in the neighborhood, I met Rusty’s owner, or actually the mother of his owner. Yes, that was a photo of Rusty. Their problem was he didn’t get along with their other cat, or dog and he was gone a lot. And he was NOT neutered.

Later, I explained the benefits of neutering Rusty. He probably would wander less, not get into fights with other cats or get hit by a car while on the road, and most importantly, he wouldn’t populate the neighborhood with his offspring.

The neighbor agreed, but said it was difficult because she never knew when he would be home and she couldn’t get him an appointment to be neutered. But we felt it had to be done because of recent incidents in the neighborhood that started to form into cat colonies. Thanks to help from Coast Cat Project the mama cat and her two litters were trapped, spayed or neutered and re-homed. Mama cat is still in the neighborhood, now spayed.

The Eileen Hawthorne Fund helped the family get an appointment to neuter Rusty at the Humane Society . But he escaped through a window the day of his appointment. After this, it took all summer for his family to find the right timing to get him in. The Humane Society worked with the family offering to take him on a day when he could be “trapped”. It was truly a group effort!

Then one day, he showed up at my door. He was quieter than usual and was licking himself a lot. Then he showed me that he had been neutered. What a guy! It was as if he wanted me to know. Little did he know I facilitated the deed!

I heard that he yowled up a storm at his appointment, and ran away when he got home, not to return for two days. But a little while after he did, I got the report that he is more mellow and friends with his catmate, even sharing food (and getting used to the dog). Now he is staying home more and visiting less, but he still comes by to say hello once in a while.



In Honor Of:	From:
Shelly Fields & Ruth Rosenblum	Carla Jupiter
Joselyn Bartlett	Elaine Miksak
Grace Kerr & Jes Bishop	Olivia Barrager
Carla Jupiter	Frankie’s
Eleanor Riley	Eleanor & Richard Riley
Rosalie Gjerde	Pat Scott
Wolfie & Natasha- My 2 very Devoted Russian Blue cats.	Deborah Frew

In Memory of:	From:
Tony Miksak	Joselyn Bartlett
Tony Miksak	Paula Mulligan
Jean & Charles Lee	Kate Lee
Ernie	Judy Haun
Clancey, best friend ever!	Steve & Jan Walker
Sammie-Cat	Matthew & Elaine Miksak
Shasta	Anne Bednash
Harry, Estella & Burton Kaplan	Teresa Kaplan
Roscoe	Ronald Campbell
Vinnie	Linda James
Kita Judge	Susan Burke
Raymond Rodriguez	Anne Patton
My Daughter, Kelly Lee Smith	Sandra Smith
Monster	Bonnie Lynn



SPECIAL THANKS:

- Community Foundation of Mendocino County
- Mary Cardiff Trust
- Martha Davis Wagner Trust
- The Mervyn L. Brenner Foundation
- CC Shuett
- Mendocino Coast European, Trevor Sharp (owner)
- Kathy Caspar & David Lackey
- Christine Downing
- Our subscribing donors who give monthly: Scott Menzies, Toby Malina, and April Mason
- Local veterinarians who spay, neuter and provide veterinary care.
- Coastal businesses who display our donation cans and kitty banks.

EVERY DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Please send a check in the enclosed envelope, donate via PayPal on our website, drop cash in our kitty banks found in local stores, or remember EHF in your living trust or will.

Every donation makes an important difference.

Sincerely, The Board of Directors: Joselyn Bartlett, Leslie Humphreys, Susan Johansen and Mary Desautels