Winner of the Ontario Outstanding Achievement Award for Volunteerism

Burlington Humane Society
Formerly Animal Aid

Tail-o-Gram

SPRING 2011

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Visit The Attic Store – 479 John Street, Burlington – Phone: 905-333-5885
The Loft Store at our Adoption Centre - Phone: 905-633-8143

Ariel

Ariel was found in June 2010 and never claimed. Although she did not appear to be in pain, she did have an obvious problem with her back legs – she hopped like a bunny when she walked. It was determined Ariel had bilateral luxating patellas – where the kneecap slips out of its normal position. Ariel was going to need surgery on both legs or this would most likely cause lameness as she aged.

Only one knee could be repaired at a time, and her first surgery was scheduled in July. The knee was a "real mess" - and she remained on cage rest for another month. The second surgery was done in October. By November, it was determined that the second surgery did not work and another surgery was scheduled for January 2011.

Ariel went to a foster home where she was supposed to remain "quiet" and not jump around. However, no one told Ariel that and the first hour at the foster home, she jumped the baby gate and headed upstairs to the bed! From then on there was no holding her back. When Ariel went for her re-do surgery, the muscle tone in the leg had improved so much that the problem didn't seem to be affecting Ariel's quality of life, so the surgery was cancelled.

Ariel was finally ready for adoption, even though she still walked a bit "oddly". Ariel was very vocal and social, looking for attention from everyone. She was allowed to roam the lobby and hallway for awhile each day to give her the exercise she needed to keep the muscles toned and firm.

Many days she would visit in The Loft, sleeping on a chair or preferably, someone's lap! Other days she ran up and down the hallway, up onto the front desk, up a ladder when a light bulb was being changed in the lobby, even onto the top cabinets in the kitchen to "help" the feed and clean volunteers. She never knew her legs were a problem!

A designated fund has been set up to cover costs for cats that need extra and unusual surgeries – and we have named it the Ariel Fund, in honour of Ariel.

by Maria, Al, Filomena and Jersey

Ariel has recently gone to her forever home and this is her happy ending!

This little monkey joined our family the beginning of March 2011 and she has been a great addition. I would see her at the shelter and thought to myself - she has a great personality. She would walk up and down the hallway with her "duck legs", meowing and screeching, calling out to anyone to find out where everyone went; she does the same in her new home! After a few days I had to have a sit-down talk with Storm (as Ariel is now called) to let her know that when it's dark outside it's time to sleep and not time to play, run around and meow in her screeching way that she does.

Storm fit in very quickly with my dog Jersey and my cat Filomena. Within days, all three were playing together and passing on kisses with each other. She loves to run around, running up and down the stairs, jumping from one item to the next and playing soccer. I do, however worry about her because of her little "duck" legs (her back legs), on which she had her surgeries. I want to make sure she does not get hurt and I want her to feel and be safe. Storm loves the heat, she sits on the vents when the heat is on and then just lays there and sleeps. I must say she does like to lounge quite a bit, little lazy monkey, and boy does she snore! Storm is very smart; she picked up on the "TREAT" routine very quickly within days. She now knows when we leave the house, and when it's time for bed, it's TREAT time.

You are probably wondering why we named her Storm, well let me tell you. She is named after one of the X-men (superheroes). To us she is a SUPERHERO and the name fits her well - she is like a hurricane running around the house.

Thank you very much to the Burlington Humane Society and all the volunteers that took very good care of her.