This is a tale of 3 kitties, who have nine paws amongst them. Oh, don’t feel sorry for them. You see, in this case, nine paws are better than twelve.

First came Edward, a sweet orange and white boy who had been hanging out at a woman’s house. She gave him a little food and noticed he had something wrong with his leg. Three long weeks later, he arrived at FieldHaven in a small carrier. You see, the kind women who worked at FieldHaven and heard his story worked with the woman to bring him there. When he arrived, after much exclamation about how handsome he was and what a trooper he had been, he was rushed to one of FieldHaven’s wonderful veterinary partners, Banfield Lincoln. After all, the FieldHaven team could see bone and other bad stuff and knew he shouldn’t wait another minute without being helped. His injured leg was wrapped and surgery scheduled. A couple of weeks later a wonderful woman and her son came to FieldHaven to interact with the cats. They had already adopted one from FieldHaven and thought they might like another one sometime in the future…but not right then.

Then it happened. They saw Edward and immediately fell in love. In a matter of days Edward was at his new home, getting all the love and attention he had always deserved.

Next came Gracie. Her guardian had lost her home and was working tirelessly to try to find Gracie new accommodations. Because Gracie was older, just nine years (Continued on page 2)
old, and people tended to want kittens or younger cats, there was no rescue group that wanted to take her in. In addition, Gracie limped due to an old injury to one of her front legs. The poor woman was desperate to find Gracie a safe and loving place to go. She knew turning her into a shelter would mean languishing in a cage until it was her turn to be “Put to Sleep.” Such a nice term for such a final and heartbreaking end. The woman mustered all her courage and decided she could not leave her friend to such a fate.

If Gracie was going to kitty heaven, the woman vowed to take her to the vet herself and stay with her so she knew she was loved. The woman’s tears were tears of sadness. Then a miracle happened, and the tears became joyful tears! One of the very kind women at Field-Haven heard of Gracie’s plight. The next thing Gracie knew she was safe in a warm cage with lots of fluffies and tasty food. Next came the vet visit to remove the injured leg which had been causing her so much pain. Now, pain free and loving life, Gracie waits for her final loving home in her own suite at FieldHaven. She is not fond of other cats, so thank goodness Field-Haven’s shelter is designed to accommodate lovelies like Gracie until her new family comes to meet her and falls in love.

Last, but certainly not least, came Kingsford. He was loyal and extremely smart in his previous home. He did not understand why the child was so rough with him. After all, he gave head butts and kisses. He was playful and great with other cats and dogs. When the child was too rough with him and tragically and traumatically injured his leg, his family took him to the vet to be euthanized. The wonderful vet thought Kingsford had a lot of life left and called FieldHaven. That’s when his luck changed. After the amputation, he still scampers and runs even though he is 3 legged. Kingsford is looking for a home where he is able to sleep on the bed with you. He wants to be the love of your life because that is truly the kind of cat he is. A once in a lifetime kind of pet. Yes, he is a little older at 10 years of age, but doesn’t he deserve to have the most amazing home ever to love him and pamper him for the rest of his days?

Wouldn’t it make you happy to do that for him? Or for Gracie?

Update: Gracie and Kingsford have now been adopted!

These three cats with nine paws between them are recipients of services provided by FieldHaven’s Tenth Life Club (TLC). This fund provides life-saving veterinary care for cats that most likely would otherwise be euthanized. In 2010, a very generous donor provided the seed money to begin this fund. If you would like to be part of this life-saving and life-changing work, just earmark your donations for the TLC fund.

Visit our web site to purchase tickets for the Third Annual Classics Cats and Cabernet! Saturday June 16, 2012 2:00 to 7:00 pm Food, wine, entertainment and much more all on the beautiful FieldHaven grounds.
The most common disease that is seen in older cats is kidney disease. Clinical signs would include weight loss, decreased appetite, increased lethargy, increased urine production, and increased thirst. Causes of kidney disease can be infection, ingestion of toxic substances, or congenital problems. Unfortunately, the absolute cause of kidney disease is often never determined.

The kidneys control several vital functions in the body including maintaining an appropriate water and salt balance, calcium and phosphorus levels, and red blood cell production. Hypertension (high blood pressure) is a common problem associated with kidney disease occasionally causing retinal detachment and blindness. Anemia (decreased red blood cell count) is also frequently seen.

In order to diagnose kidney disease, blood tests must reveal elevations in the blood urea nitrogen (BUN) levels and the creatinine levels at the same time that the cat’s body is producing a non-concentrated or dilute urine. If the urine is concentrated with these elevations, the increased levels are due to dehydration and not kidney disease. Urea is a by-product of protein metabolism. The liver breaks down the protein and produces urea and the kidney is supposed to send the urea out into the urine. If the kidneys are not functioning properly, the urea level will rise in the body and act as a toxin. Extreme elevations in the urea level can cause stomach ulcerations, oral mucosal ulcerations, nausea and vomiting, and seizures. People that have kidney disease often will begin a dialysis program. Dialysis removes urea from the bloodstream in an effort to minimize its toxic effects.

Treatment for kidney disease varies depending on the severity of the problem. In early kidney insufficiency, often treatment consists of altering the diet to a low protein, low salt diet. Several commercial diets are now available for cats with kidney disease. Two thirds of all kidney patients have hypertension or high blood pressure. Blood pressure can be easily assessed with equipment that uses a cuff placed on the cat’s tail or leg to obtain readings. If your cat is determined to have high blood pressure, medication such as Amilodipine has been successful in controlling this problem. Some patients with more progressive kidney disease may require fluid therapy, potassium supplementation, or medication to stimulate their appetite. If anemia is present due to kidney disease, a hormone replacement medication called erythropoietin may be used to replace the hormones not currently being produced by the kidneys.

Our ability to treat kidney disease has progressed so that kidney disease does not always mean the quick demise of the patient. Longevity depends upon the progressive nature of the disease and the treatments initiated to maintain the most function possible. Many of these treatments including fluid therapy can be taught to the owners and done at home.

SIGNS OF SIGNIFICANT HEALTH CONCERNS IN CATS:

- CHANGE IN NORMAL BEHAVIOR OR ROUTINE / HIDING
- WEIGHT LOSS
- DECREASED OR INCREASED APPETITE
- INCREASED URINE PRODUCTION
- INCREASED FREQUENCY OF URINATION (STRAINING TO URINATE)
- LETHARGY
- BREATHING DIFFICULTIES
- COUGHING
- VOMITING
- DIARRHEA OR CONSTIPATION
- INAPPROPRIATE URINATION OR DEFECATION (OUTSIDE OF THE LITTER BOX)
- HALITOSIS (BAD BREATH)
- HEAD SHAKING
- ITCHINESS (RASH/SCABS)
- HAIRLOSS
- INCREASED MATTING OF HAIRCOAT
- MASSES (LUMPS/BUMPS)
- WOUNDS
- LAMENESS
- WEIGHT GAIN (OBESITY)

Be sure to contact your vet promptly if you notice any of this symptoms in your cat.
Gemini arrived at FieldHaven exactly a year ago, on April 15th of 2011. Just 4 pounds 12 ounces with stomach issues, an injured eye and in pain. A dear friend of FieldHaven who works with other shelters alerted us to her plight and we could not say no to saving her. After her eye was removed, she went to live with Donna, a wonderful foster home, who has helped other hardship kitties thrive.

Here is what her foster mom, Donna, had to say about her. “Gemini has come so far. I’ve been fostering her for almost a year now and she’s always been terrified of the outside world for unknown reasons. NEVER wanted to go out or be out. But today…..yippppeeeeee!!

If FieldHaven didn’t rescue her that day, she would have never experienced this moment. She was in very bad shape when FH took her in. Losing her eye has been a challenge for her as well as all her stomach issues she deals with on a daily basis. This moment yesterday was HUGE for both of us! So I say thank you to all of the FH family. You all have a part in Gemini’s recovery. Not just me. XO”

FieldHaven is an adoption driven shelter that goes the extra mile whenever we can thanks to our amazing volunteers. As long as the kitty has a good quality of life, FieldHaven provides care and love until that new forever home is found. With our limited capacity and more importantly, with limited dollars we can only go so far. Any contribution – no matter how small – ensures that we can go above and beyond and beyond!

Cats like Gemini and Brian thank you, and so do all of us at FieldHaven for helping cats like Gemini and Brian through us.

As long as the kitty has a good quality of life, FieldHaven provides care and love. You can support us with confidence in knowing that the cats that make it to our door will be safe, loved and cared for.

Brian was transferred from Placer County Animal Shelter to be a barn cat, but when he arrived at FieldHaven and started his purr engine, we knew he needed a chance for a loving inside home. He had a flea allergy which left his coat sparse and he was undernourished. With good food and medical attention, his fur is growing in and his happy nature is growing too! He may be a little shy to start, but once he knows you are his friend, he can’t get enough of you. Brian is just an amazing little guy looking for the perfect home. Brian needs a safe secure home as he was stressed and lost his fur due to stress and lack of flea control. Could it be yours?

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Cats like Gemini and Brian thank you, and so do all of us at FieldHaven for helping cats like Gemini and Brian through us.

Adoption Venues

**PetSmart Lincoln**
920 Groveland Lane next to Target
Saturday 9-5 and Sunday 12-4

**Petco Rocklin**
96672 Lonetree Blvd.
Saturday and Sunday 12-4

**PetSmart Roseville**
10363 Fairway Dr
Saturday and Sunday 12-5