

Celebrating our 15th Anniversary!



Loving Touch, Inc.

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Dear Member,



Fifteen years ago we fell in love with an old beat up dog. Her body was covered in fleas & ticks & the few teeth she had left were broken. She was very sad & worn out. Although each of us had been rescuing animals for several years, there was something about this particular dog that touched our hearts & inspired us to think about starting our own rescue group. In the winter of 2000, Loving Touch was created. Duchess, the elderly dog, eventually became our mascot & touched the lives of so many people with her beautiful smile. Her story is sad but has a very happy ending. Most of all, this senior Shepherd mix proved that *Love is All You Need* to change the life of the saddest animal.

It's hard to believe that 15 years have gone by & we have helped hundreds of needy animals. Your continued support, confidence in us & the help of so many wonderful volunteers, is what make it possible. As the years go by, it becomes a bit more difficult to keep up with all the demands of running a rescue group, adoption events, and fundraisers. Although we can't jump fences, chase dogs or climb garages as easily as we did back then, we still continue to help the community. We also continue caring for many of our rescues that were difficult to adopt, for one reason or another. Some of our rescues live upstate in a retirement facility & some are with us. Some are elderly & have been with us from the start of our journey.

Foster homes are always needed to make it easier for us to say yes to a needy dog or cat, or maybe even a bunny or guinea pig. In addition to having a few foster homes, we have been able to help re-home many pets that still reside with their owner until the right match is made. There will always be a need for help & we want to continue doing our part, even if it's not as much volume as we did in the past.

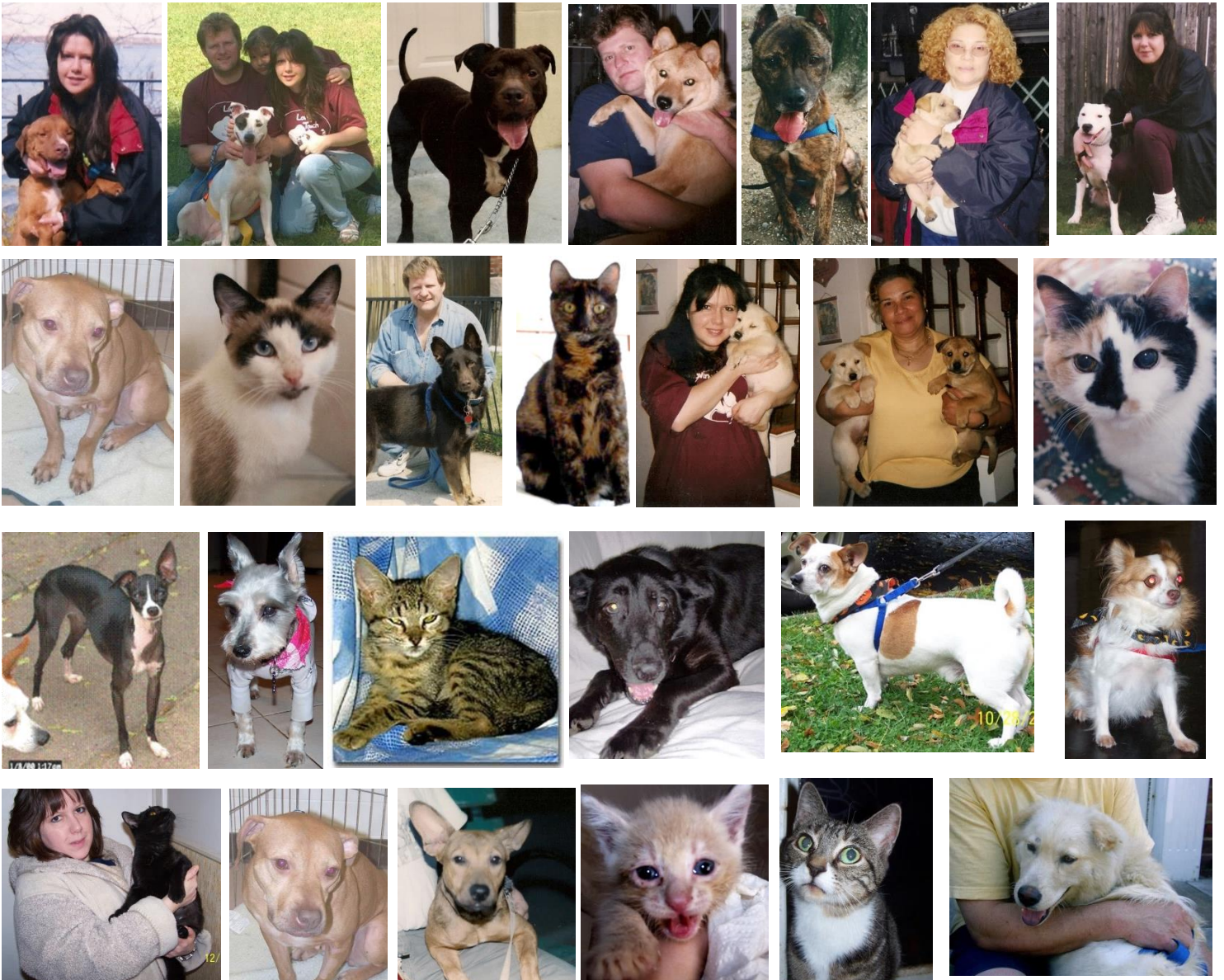
We hope you will enjoy looking back at some of our most memorable rescues & adoptions. We continue to put our new website together. It will feature all our rescues with lots of photos & beautiful music to listen to, as you view our first 15 years. You can see that on www.lovingtouchrescue.org.

Your Friends at Loving Touch

Let's Go Back in Time to Some of Our Very First Loving Touch Rescues.



Duchess lived in a vacant lot in the S. Bronx before she was rescued. She then became our mascot & joined us at our First Luncheon. A family member adopted Duchess and she continued to join us at events. Everyone Loved Duchess and Duchess enjoyed being the center of attention. But her story is much more detailed than this – Duchess was about to be adopted by an elderly lady in Connecticut. After spending one day in her new home, Duchess escaped & tried to get back to us. She ended up in the Long Island Sound. Luckily, a very kind couple saw her in the water & saved her from drowning by throwing a raft out to her. That's when we knew that Duchess had to somehow stay with us. We had four wonderful years with her. Read her story www.lovingtouchrescue.org



It's time for our Summer Raffle

We hope you will participate.
Every book sold helps with the funds needed to rescue a needy animal.

Summer 2014 Raffle Winners
Brenda Chiarello - Queens, N.Y.



Milo and Beau have been living with a Loving Touch member, Barbara, for several years now. They started out as foster cats. Barbara, who has no family and is very lonely, fell in love with them and begged us to let her keep them. She took them on as her own cats and has paid for food and vet care, even though she is on a very tight budget and in poor health. All she asked was that we be there for the cats if she could no longer care for them. Lately, Barbara has been in and out of the hospital. A neighbor, who is a LT member and adopter, has been caring for the cats. Unfortunately, she cannot bring them to her tiny apt. because there is no way to separate them from her cat (who will not accept other cats). She is concerned about Barbara's health and also concerned about the cats. We don't want to take Milo and Beau away from Barbara, as she would be very hurt and depressed. But we want to get the word out about the cats now, just in case the day comes when she can no longer care for them. Here is some info on Milo and Beau, along with their rescue stories.

Milo, a handsome and very large red tabby was rescued many years ago by a Loving Touch member. She rescued him from a busy area in Flushing after finding out that he was going up to strangers and begging for attention. We took Milo in and found him a home. After several years, we received a call from the family that adopted him explaining that they were being evicted from their apt. and could no longer keep Milo or their dog, who was Milo's companion. The couple also explained that Milo had been acting out and urinating out of the litter box. We arranged to pick Milo up and began our search for a foster home. Milo was very depressed and missed his family and canine companion, with whom he had snuggled day and night. We were very lucky to find Barbara, who felt very bad for Milo and took him in immediately. She soon discovered that Milo was having a problem urinating, so she rushed him to the vet only to find out that Milo had been suffering with a condition that was left untreated. He was severely blocked and needed immediate medical care and a special diet. This is why he was urinating out of the box. We then discovered that Milo had been declawed by his previous family. The more we found out about Milo's recent history, the more sympathetic Barbara became. She wanted to help Milo, but he was so distant and sad.

Not long after taking in Milo, Barbara and her neighbor were asked to help a stray cat that was wandering around inside the Beaumont Apt. Building in Flushing. The porter that was feeding the cat was told to stop putting food out and call animal control; he begged the ladies to help the cat instead. We received a call that afternoon from these two panicky women asking if we could take this cat, who they named Beau, into our group. Barbara offered to Foster Beau, but ended up falling in love with him and he has been with her ever since. **Beau** is a big, friendly, gray tabby who is now about 4 – 5 years-old.

A Touch of Vegan - a bit of food... a tad of insight...



Zulma, Doreen, Paul, April Lang, Liz Dee, Harris Bloom & Adrienne Borgersen

Although Loving Touch is primarily a dog & cat rescue group we also have a love & respect for “all animals”. With that in mind, & with the help of a Loving Touch member, we decided to try something a little different in hopes of enlightening our guests to a very important topic – veganism. We knew very little about the subject, only that vegans don’t eat meat or dairy & don’t wear leather or fur. What we didn’t know was that every day we contribute to the torture of innocent animals through the food we eat, the clothes we wear & the items we purchase. After learning about what we could do to help these animals we knew that we needed to do something to educate the animal lovers around us. Our member, April Lang, coordinated this event for us & did a wonderful job. Not only did we have 3 great speakers we had 5 tables of donated Raffle & Auction items & a delicious variety of Vegan Food & Drinks. This event took place in Manhattan but we are hoping to have a similar event that can be held in Queens so more of our local members can attend. To view photos from this event & links to great educational websites go onto our website at www.lovingtouchrescue.org

So Many Homeless Cats – How Can We Help Them?



From time to time we meet up with many wonderful people that rescue animals on their own. We have been able to help in many situations throughout the years. One particular elderly woman residing in Queens has been helping strays for many years. Neighborhood kids call her for help with newborn kittens & adult cats that were put out on the street by their owner. Other cats find their way to her welcoming doorstep. She has never turned a cat away & asks for help spaying/neutering & finding homes. Now, this kind lady who is in her 80’s & finding it difficult to get around, is concerned about what will happen to these cats when she can no longer care for them. We recently visited with her & got to meet many of the cats. Four bonded senior cats live upstairs in a vacant apt. They were extremely nervous when they saw us, especially a big black cat that is considered to be feral, he was scared to death when we approached him. There was no heat in the apt. & the cats are not fed daily due to the elderly lady not being able to climb the stairs. The cats are lonely & cold & just need a safe place to call home. When we stepped outside we were greeted by many beautiful cats, some friendly & some very scared, but all deserving of a home. Some sat inside carriers filled with blankets, one particular cat just sat on a felt chair trying to keep warm & some were laying on rooftops. Last by not least, was an overweight, nervous Chihuahua that kids in the neighborhood begged her to help. The dog had been passed from home to home since he was a puppy & has a cigarette burn on his body. The poor dog finds comfort hiding under a blanket or in his kennel. Help with any of these pets would be greatly appreciated.

