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Tue, 2011-08-16 09:36 — Robin Olson

John Edwards saw three little kittens, stumbling on the streets of Babylon, New York (Long Island). He had no idea what was wrong with them, but he knew he had to do something to help. He brought the kittens home. Something was wrong with the little ones and to make matters worse, his dog wanted to eat them as a snack, so John knew he couldn't do more than give them a temporary home. He worked frantically to get them the help they needed.

John contacted the local shelter in Huntington. Sadly, they couldn't help. They were more than full up and had no fosters. The Director recognized the telltale shake and the difficulty one of the kittens had in walking. The kittens had CH or Cerebellar Hypoplasia ^[1]. Luckily for the kittens, the Director was also a member of the CH Kitty Club! ^[2] and had other resources, outside of the shelter, to help.



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. *Josephine wonders what's going on.*

Word spread quickly about these little darlings on Facebook. They needed a foster family, quick! They needed vet care! They needed a rescue to take them and folks to get them to the rescue!

Normally, each phase of doing this sort of rescue takes a lot of time and coordination. Lots of folks offered to do their part and within a few days a rough plan was hatched and donations started to come in from all over the country!



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. *Thumper is so cute, but don't get too close to her just yet!*

Someone stepped forward to foster the cats and deliver them to Connecticut. Jennifer and I offered to drive them from the Bridgeport Ferry (*which travels to and from Long Island most days*) and drive the kittens close to the Massachusetts border

where a rescue group was going to take them into their program!

While I'll admit there was a lot of back and forth, date changes, time changes, then poor Jennifer got sick a few hours before she was to pick up the kittens-somehow we pulled it off!

Okay, so the foster mom decided to KEEP one of the three kittens at the very last second, which is normally not done once a transport is set up, but a good home is a good home. So we took the remaining two kittens, Josephine and Thumper, to meet their new foster parents, Anne and Joe.



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While I was driving, I told Jennifer to put the cat carrier on her lap so she could take a better look at the kittens. Jennifer unzipped the top of the case and started to talk this cute baby talk voice to the kittens. Now Jennifer loves EVERY cat, but within seconds I heard one of the cats SPIT and hiss. Oops! Jennifer pulled her hand back quickly, then blurted out, "I hate this cat!" She zipped up the case and returned the kittens to the backseat.

One of the kittens was clearly feral. Guess this rescue was going to get a surprise! I started to worry they wouldn't show up at the pickup location. The last thing I need is to have to socialize a kitten right now! Jennifer said out loud what I was thinking about being stuck with the kittens and we both giggled about it. I know she didn't hate that kitten and someday the little girl will like people, just not today and not after a ride on the Ferry and a long drive! Josephine said quietly, unlike her sister, but we knew that was because she can't really walk on her own and maybe it was tough for her to express herself, too?

Anne and Joe arrived to pick up the kittens. What super-awesome folks they are! They actually specialize on rehabilitating CH kittens! Anne told me she had a kitten who could only do backflips. That was the only movement he could make. Her Vet said to put him down, but she said, No. His name is BOB!

She built a carpeted ramp for him, used a sling under his belly and helped him learn to walk. The ramp allowed him to build strength in his back legs and the carpet lets him dig his claws in to get traction. Today he can walk on his own! He does not have the gait of a CH-free cat, but he does well. Anne felt she could help Josie walk and she didn't bat an eye when we told her about Thumper! Both kittens will get what they need for as long as they need it. Then one day, they too will find their forever home with a new family.



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. Jennifer (left) hands off the kittens to Anne.

They say, "it takes a village," and boy is that true. If John hadn't taken a risk to help those kittens, we know this story would have had a sad ending. He just did what was right and found a solution. It's tough to stick your neck out for stray cats because you don't know how it will go, but we have to try.

There are many more kitties out there who need help. Next time you see one, I hope you'll consider taking a chance to create your own rescue story with a happy ending.

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Tue, 2011-08-16 11:29 — [Random Felines \(not verified\)](#) ^[11]

YEAH for cat guys, YEAH for ^[12]

YEAH for cat guys, YEAH for great rescue groups, and YEAH for transports!!!

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Love ^[14]

Lovely and amazing! People who really make a difference!

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Links

[1] [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cerebellar_hypoplasia_\(non-human\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cerebellar_hypoplasia_(non-human))

[2] <http://www.chkittyclub.com/>

[3] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/32>

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[10] <https://coveredincathair.com/category/cich-content-categories/jennifer>

[11] <http://randomfelines.blogspot.com/>

[12] <https://coveredincathair.com/comment/3782#comment-3782>

[13] <http://repositoriodamarilia.blogspot.com>

[14] <https://coveredincathair.com/comment/3785#comment-3785>