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## Update-A-Rama: Of Happy & Sad Endings & Hopeful Beginnings

Thu, 2012-04-12 19:05 — Robin Olson

**It's been quite the roller coaster over the past 48 hours since I found out that Amberly had bolted out the front door of her family's home and hadn't been seen again.** After her family, myself and many of you worked on getting the word out, the call I made to my friend, Katherine, ended up being the one thing that turned this story around. Katherine met with the family and searched for Amberly. Not finding anything, she left to trap another cat who needed to have his tail amputated. She picked up Leo, who we worked together to rescue last week, and got him to the shelter. *[If you recall, Leo is 13 years old. His owners dumped him outside when he peed out of the pan. Then they had premie twin babies which made them decide (due to Doctor's orders!) to get rid of the cat for good!]*



Leo.

Leo is better off. Once I saw him, filthy, thin, with bad teeth, I knew he was a diamond in the rough. I got him his initial vetting, then AID covered the cost to have a dental done, some blood work (*which was surprisingly perfect!*) and an EKG! Leo also got a bath. I can't wait to see him again. I hear he's looking just lovely now.

**After Katherine got everything settled, she could have just gone home. It was about 7pm, but something was bothering her. She just HAD to go back and look for Amberly again.**

The second time was the charm. **She called out to Amberly and heard her meow back!** Amberly had somehow got locked in some sort of weird, storage thing, which I still can't understand what it was based on Katherine's description. All I know is Amberly went in, a door got shut behind her and she was trapped. **For two days she was across the street from her own home!**



©2012 McGarty Family. Amberly, Jack and Mama.

Needless to say Amberly's family was thrilled to get her back. **I have to admit I considered telling Katherine NOT to let Amberly return home, but to bring her to me.** The family had let her get out a few times before and the area they live in is NOT safe for a cat. I was going to think it over overnight, but by the time I reached Katherine to speak with her about it, Amberly was already with her family.

This morning I got an update from the family and a few photos. **Once I saw Amberly with her son, Jack, I realized she**

**needed to stay where she was. The family said she was following everyone around, purring, eating like a champ.** Clearly she was happy to be home, but I fear she will forget this happiness and try to get out again. I plan on speaking with the family about building her a "catio" or leash train her and take her for a walk. Amberly needs more stimulation, play time, cat grass. All of this can help soothe her desire to get outside.



©2012 McGarty Family. Amberly is dwarfed by her son, Jack LiLac! They're so happy to be back together.

### **Bobette**

Bobette has healed from her surgery and Dr. Mixon believes she may always limp, but her leg is now straight when she walks, instead of curved outwards. She seems to get along very well, but after playing for a time, stops wanting to jump. I'm sure she's bored, sitting in her room, alone for most of the day now that Jakey and Teddy are adopted. **I only got one application for her so far and it fell through.**



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. Bobette has recovered from surgery, but is still waiting for her forever home.

**There's a lot of pressure to find her a new home. With kitten season here and King and Miss FP waiting in the wings, I need the space.** Two days ago I started to leave the foster room door open. Bobette has **NOT** been thrilled seeing my cats. Though her tail puffs comically, her growling and hissing is no joke. She hasn't been violent, but she puts on a good show and my cats are giving her space. So far she just stays upstairs. Seeing her outside her room makes me laugh because she's so excited by having room to run. She stops and plays with every toy she sees even though she's nervous about running into my cats. **I'm taking it slowly with her, but I hope we can let her mingle my cats so that room can be freed up for the SIX ADDITIONAL kittens I'd like to rescue! (wait 'till you see them!)**



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. She loves getting petted!

### Miss FP

I have a lot of guilt about Miss Fluffy Pants. She's in Maria's foster room all by herself. **I need to get her out of there, but not sure where to put her. Miss FP's western blot test came back positive for FIV. The only thing we don't know is if she really has FIV or was immunized against FIV, which would show up positive as a test result.** Miss FP is in good spirits and Maria tells me she is **VERY affectionate**. She may be ok with another cat or not, but since King has been moved out of the room, Miss FP has come out of her shell.

**I've got to find an additional foster home for her in CT** so we can bring her up here and start looking for her forever home. I hate that she's just waiting, but with no room at my home, I'm stuck for now.



©2012 Maria S. Miss FP. Sweeter than ever.

### King

King continues to shine bright. He's hanging out with Maria's cats and is loving life. **He gets to sleep on a real bed, get good food and is in a loving home.** I can't wait to meet King and I hope we can move him north soon. He's already on [Petfinder](#) <sup>[1]</sup> and I've had one or two inquiries, but so far nothing solid.



©2012 Maria S. King, relaxing on the first bed he's ever known.

I'm so glad he's off the streets. **King's rescuer, Bobby Stanford, sent me some sobering photos of the palette factory where King and Miss FP were living.** The folks who work there asked after the cats and Bobby gave them an update. I think if they could see how gorgeous the cats are they'd be very happy. Though they were kind enough to give the cats what they could. **It wasn't ideal for them and they wouldn't have survived much longer in that location- especially King. There was no way he could get around very comfortably or safely.**



©2012 Bobby Stanford. King used to sleep under these stairs.



©2012 Bobby Stanford. This was King's former home. I don't know how he walked around on his stunted back legs. To read more about King's amazing journey go [HERE](#) <sup>[2]</sup>.

**The good news is there's no need to be sad for King or MissFP.** They're in good hands. From the looks of it, King is starting to get a little bit feisty with Maria's cats now that he feels safe. **The video below is a hoot! Make sure you watch it to the end!**

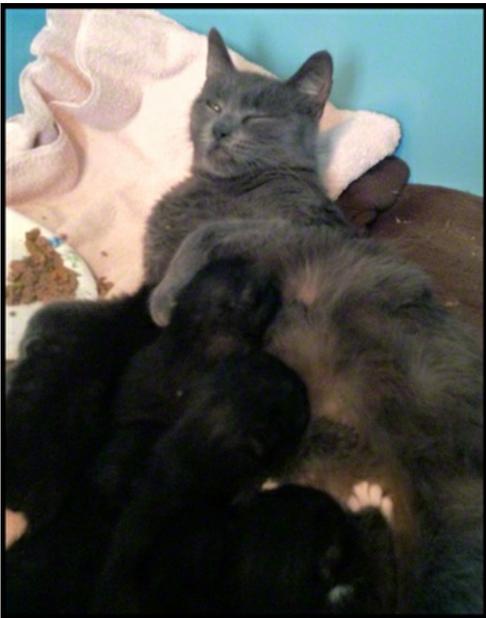
©2012 Maria S. King, also known as, Mr Mischief!



©2012 Maria S. See the video, above, to find out what happens a few seconds after this photo was taken!

### April & Her Six Kittens

I forgot how much I worry about kittens! It's been a very long time since I've had kittens this young. Lately I've been fostering them after Maria does all the tough work and the kittens are old enough to be spayed/neutered. Now I get to fret every morning. Will I walk into the bathroom, where the kittens are living, and find one of them gone? **Today is day 17 and I still have six kittens. They are all gaining weight. I'm still confused as to which one is which. I believe I have ALL GIRLS, but after using a 8x magnifying lens to look at their private parts, either they ARE all female or I just can't tell one sex from the other.**



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. Poor April is exhausted.

**The kittens all have their eyes open and are starting to look more like cats than hamsters.** I think they can sort of see me and I've caught a few looking up at me. It melts my heart. I can't believe in another week or so they will be wobbling about even more and starting to play.



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. April and the family.

**I believe that three of the kittens are polydactyls; one has bizarre shaped paws!** The only tuxedo kitten has very cute markings, pink & black toes and likes to squawk when I pick her up. Another kitten has big paws like a bear and always seems to be belly-up. **It's about time to name the kittens. I think I may ask for help with that, but first I'm going to get photos of each one to help us with the naming. I've named their mother, April.**



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. Tinkies! (not a typo-that's what I call kittens)

Today I noticed that April was dwarfed by her kittens. She's a small cat and with six kittens who are about 11 oz each, it's getting crowded around her belly. **She's clearly exhausted and I feel both terrible and worried about her. I feed her many times a day, but some times she just doesn't eat very well for me.** I've opted to leave her grain-free dry food so she has something to eat 24/7 even if I'm not a fan of kibble. **I hold a plate out to her to eat because most often she's got kittens nursing on her and the poor thing won't get up to feed herself.**



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. What is that thing?

Clearly April is devoted to her babies because she still gives me these short little growls when she's not sure about something I'm doing. I don't worry any more that she's going to attack me. She's been nothing but friendly. Some times I rub her neck or

scratch her cheeks. She purrs right away and her body relaxes for a moment. I want to take her away from the babies so she can rest, but it's not possible right now. **I'm half tempted to start bottle feeding the kittens, but I don't see any of them losing weight or crying. If they are ok and she is just tired, then it will only be another week and a half and I can start weaning them off her. I just hope she can endure this stress. I'm doing everything I can think of to support her.**



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. We so cute!

As Day 17 for the kittens draws to a close, I got the news that our friend Janea from [Paws & Effect](#) [3] has to make the difficult decision to put her cat Dahlia to sleep. Dahlia has atypical large t-cell lymphoma that is not responding to treatment and Dahlia has fluid building up around her heart that has to be drained every so often or she will pass away in a lot of pain. It's the most difficult choice any cat-parent has to make. **We send Janea all our love and support and ask Dahlia to Fly Free to the Rainbow Bridge when it's time to go, but not a moment sooner.**

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## **Comments**

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### **LOVE Those Little Polydactyl Black Kittens!** [23]

We already have two cats, but now I want to adopt one of these!

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[1] <http://www.petfinder.com/petdetail/22541578>

[2] <http://coveredincathair.com/content/not-my-watch-rescue-fit-king>

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