

A Rough Start Ends Well



care. The little male tuxedo kitten was expertly fed, cleaned and kept warm.

Neonatal kittens are a challenge to foster due to their immature systems and, on

several occasions, Palmer caused his foster mom some worry. Palmer showed early symptoms of low-blood sugar and fortunately responded to the addition of Karo syrup to his kitten milk formula. One particularly difficult weekend Palmer's foster mom was afraid he would not survive. He developed severe diarrhea. With emergency veterinary care hours away, foster mom tried several treatments for

intestinal parasites and infection. Subcutaneous fluids kept him hydrated. He continued to take his kitten milk formula well and he showed marked improvement over the next several days.

As Palmer grew, he displayed the neurological symptoms and sight deficits that he deals with today. His movements were often stiff and slow. He would walk into walls or off a step. He did not show interest in toys. His foster mom suspected he was having seizures when his vocalization and the sound of his movements caught her attention, but she never reached him in time to observe the seizure.

A potential adopter was looking for a black and white tuxedo male kitten. She had recently lost her 15-year-old tuxedo cat whom she'd had since he was a three-week-old orphan. She had visited the kittens in GRI's care, but none of them "spoke" to her.

A couple of weeks later, this potential adopter saw Garfield's Rescue Inc. post on Facebook of a tiny kitten being bottle fed. It was a male black and white tuxedo! She knew instantly that this was going to be her new feline companion.

Palmer's future mom and his foster mom kept in close contact about Palmer's progress.

His adoptive mom-to-be never wavered in her commitment to give Palmer his forever home. She regularly visited Palmer until in early November when she took him home. Palmer has thrived.

Palmer's new mom reports that, "We adore this boy. He is special in many ways. He has a pretty significant visual impairment and has seizures. He gets medication twice daily and the seizures have been under control. He has a much older feline sister, an older canine

brother and a younger canine sister. He is fearless! He brings us such joy and we are so very happy that he's ours. We can't imagine life without him and we are so very grateful that Garfield's saved him." *Garfield's Rescue, Inc. is a*



home-based feline foster-to-adopt rescue, established as a nonprofit 501(c)3 in March of 2020. GRI is 100% volunteer based and relies solely upon donations, grants and fundraising. You can find us on the web at www.garfieldsrescue.org or on Facebook www.facebook.com/garfieldsrescue. You can also call 804-480-2066 or email garfieldsrescue@gmail.com.

By Kathy Haurand and Ginger Tinsley

Five day old Palmer was found alone, hungry and vulnerable to predators. Fortunately, a caring person discovered him and contacted Garfield's Rescue, Inc. (GRI). One of GRI's fosters, who specializes in caring for neonatal kittens, immediately took him into her

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