



## LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT BURTON'S STORY

In September of 2011, a local family moved away and left their two beautiful male tabbies behind. They had both been neutered and declawed. These two guys were found at the corner of Burton and Orville streets, and brought to HART. Their names became Burton and Orville.

Orville settled into shelter life, but Burton didn't like the other cats. He didn't fight with anyone, he just howled. A month later, in October, a lady came to the shelter and fell in love with these two handsome guys and



adopted them. But the story didn't end there for Burton. Burton's declawing was not done properly and his feet hurt. He felt very vulnerable with other cats, even Orville, so he continued to verbalize his problem by howling. He was eventually returned to HART.

Burton was gently eased into the community of cats, first with a room to himself, and finally he settled in to the Adult Patio. There he could find a very high perch away from the other cats. But we began to notice that Burton was getting thin, and a vet visit told us that

he had stomatitis. This disease attacks the gums in the mouth and becomes so painful that a cat can't eat. The only way to make him well was to pull all his teeth. Thanks to HART's Guardian Angel Committee members, who raise money to pay for extraordinary medical expenses affecting the health of our cats and kittens, Burton received his surgery.

Bonnie, a volunteer, brought him home after his surgery in order to give him his medications. Bonnie and Marilyn, who takes all of the cat portraits for the website, were trying to figure out a new home for handsome Burton. Marilyn mentioned that her neighbors, Darlene and Neal, had lost their cat a year ago and were still looking for just the right cat to add to their home. She emailed them Burton's picture, indicating that Danny Boy's Mom, Bonnie, was taking care of him. Danny Boy, a HART rescue, visits everyone in the neighborhood so Darlene and Neal knew just where to come. The next day they knocked on the door at Danny Boy's house and asked to visit Burton. It was love at first sight! Those beautiful green eyes and loving disposition were just what they were looking for. They adopted him as soon as HART opened the next day.

Darlene and Neal came to visit Burton every day for the next two weeks, bringing him special treats and getting to know him. When it was finally time to go to his new home, he walked out of the carrier, casually explored the house and gave his approval. It was love at first sight for all of them!

## The H.A.R.T. of the Matter



### GIVE A SPECIAL GIFT OF LIFE--BE A GUARDIAN ANGEL

Guardian Angel Certificates from HART are a wonderful gift option for the holidays this year. HART's Guardian Angel program is dedicated to care for the most urgent cases that arrive at our shelter: painful or debilitating conditions that require expensive medical care. Without treatment many of these animals would be euthanized needlessly.

Contributions to the Guardian Angel Fund are restricted and go specifically to relieve an animal's suffering, giving them the opportunity to live a full and pain-free life. Burton's heartwarming adoption tale (left) illustrates the power of the Guardian Angel Fund at work.

Certificates are available on our website at [www.slohart.org](http://www.slohart.org). Go to the About Us tab, then Programs. Thank you for your help with this very worthy fund!

#### Haiku for You

A fearless huntress  
silently stalks in the wood.  
Tonight, sweet lap cat

Soft rhythmic kneading  
mesmerizes to a calm  
What spell has she wrought?

--Anonymous HART volunteer

HART's mission is to rescue domestic animals in need, place them in good permanent homes and eliminate surplus animals from being born through active spay/neuter programs. HART provides a unique, cage-free, free-roam environment.

HART is a non-profit, tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

Tax I.D. 77-0018508

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## NEW HART INTERN SCHOLARSHIP

HART volunteer and all-around handyman Paul Yeager has set up a scholarship fund for high school students who qualify for an intern program at the shelter. One student per year will be selected and upon completion of their internship, the scholarship money will be forwarded to the institution of their choice. Please consider joining Paul in this great way to contribute--helping youngsters with academic costs while they learn the rewards of volunteer community service and provide another pair of helping hands at HART.

## VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

We desperately need volunteer "Cat Room Housekeepers". For two hours, one day a week, you would be working with other cleaners (in the morning) scooping litter boxes, sweeping, mopping and feeding the kitties. They will love you for it.

Volunteers are an integral part of HART and without them there would not be a shelter in Cambria. Please consider giving a little of your time and gain the satisfaction that you are making a big difference in the lives of these animals.



Find us on our Facebook page  
SLO HART CAMBRIA

## NEW HART MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM IN DEVELOPMENT

The Board of Directors and volunteers are working on a membership program for the shelter. Moneys raised would provide an annual source of income while providing members, at varying levels of participation, with special opportunities for HART merchandise and special events. Details in 2014.

## FROM THE HART MAILBOX -- LETTER FROM ELLIOT, ADOPTED HART CAT

Hi, Everybody! Four years ago you rescued me from the Kern County Shelter, where my time was up. I very much appreciate you taking me in and giving me so much love. I've been with my People in the County of Orange Cats for over 2 years now. It feels like I am "home" now. This is a BIG birthday celebration, I am 6 years old. My Mom and I are great partners and I feel like I am reaching my true potential! Thank you for helping me on my journey!! I reached into my Mom's pocket and am sending a little something to help all the other fabulous felines in your care. Much love, Elliot

---Submitted by Elliot's owner, Karen O.



## SAVE THE DATE!

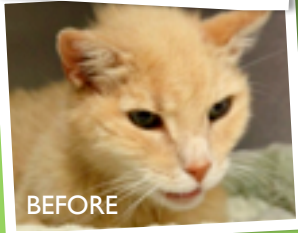
WINES, PINES & FELINES APRIL 6, 2014

### SHELTER CAT SPOTLIGHT — MILTON



HART received a call from an employee of a local vet, who rescued this handsome boy after he was tossed out the window of a moving truck. After checking to see that he was not injured, he was brought to HART. With unusual swirl markings on his side, Milton is very distinctive. He has had to have a few teeth removed since arriving at HART, but he is in great shape now. All he is looking for is a forever home where he can get some loving attention, and lots of petting.

### SHELTER CAT SPOTLIGHT THOM



I may not be the most stylish cat around but I have a deep inner beauty. A long time ago I found myself on the deck of Lily's Coffee House, hungry, scared and lonely, where Virginia saw me. She called Cindee, HART's office manager, and Cindee and Volunteer Angel Diane came right away with food and a cat carrier. They made me feel safe, then they took me to the hospital to be sure I was okay. I am now living at HART, hoping someone will notice me and take me to their home. I must confess I do talk a lot but only because I like you people and your touch so much. My name is Thom but you may give me a different name if you wish. I am old but please, please notice me....