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Holiday Season 2008

Dear Friends:

Last year in our annual giving newsletter I talked about hope, forgiveness, and blessings. I also recounted how Winston, our very special cat companion, had prospered after years of neglect and desperation. He was a wonderful and challenging blessing.

Mid 2008 Winston died as a direct result of his years of starvation. He died of sudden heart failure. Cat hearts need lots of nutrition and being starved for so many years had weakened Winston's. He hid his weakness from us and our Vets. In the end there was little to do that day but say goodbye. He had only lived with us for 4 years.

We were soaked in grief, frustration, and deep anger. We still miss him. This is, of course, the risk of love-- the true risk of caring. Each time one of our pet companions moves on we wonder how we can possibly risk loving another complex and fleeting spirit, and always we do. It is as if our first pet love makes a way for others to follow.

We will always remember Winston and how he learned to be at peace and to accept comfort and love. We are far better people for having known him. Most of you who are reading our newsletter have stories like ours—some one in your life that you will never forget. We honor these memories and lives when we give our love to another or help an organization with loving intentions.

We wish you many opportunities to love and the courage to embrace them!

Pam Wheelock
Owner, Purrfectplay.com
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Each year we dedicate a full 5% of retail sales to no-kill and rescue organizations. These are some of the places we gave the 5% we generated in 2007.

<http://www.lifelinepuppy.org/> Puppy rescue for the Rocky Mountains

www.hssv.org Human Society of Silicon Valley

<http://indyferal.org/> Central Indiana, trap/spay/return of feral cats, colony management

<http://spayneuterservices.org/programs.htm> Indiana

<http://www.happytails.org/> Sacramento, CA

<http://bestfriends.org/> National. Major player in Katrina rescue

<http://www.strayrescue.org/history.html> St. Louis. Saves/rehabs stray dogs

<http://www.catsociety.org/about.htm> Westville, Indiana
<http://www.pawdsquad.org/index.html> Los Angeles. Rescues abandoned animals
Humane Society of the Dunes 219-929-1514 Chesterton, IN
<http://www.meowaid.org/> Meow-Aid Shelter for Homeless Cats, Vancouver, B. C.
<http://felinesinc.org/> Felines Inc. Chicago, IL
<http://www.animalarkshelter.org/> Animal Ark No-kill in St. Paul, MN
<http://www.animalhavenshelter.org/> Animal Haven Shelter, Inc. Flushing, New York
<http://www.thehaven-nc.com/about.html> Raeford, NC
http://www.santapawstotherescue.info/index_files/Page2077.htm Santa Paws to the Rescue
<http://www.pawsandclaws.org/> Paws and Claws Humane Society Rochester, MN
<http://www.mainecoonrescue.net/> Maine Coon Rescue—Chesterton IN Members
www.alleycat.org Alley Cat Allies
<http://www.petneutering.com/> Pet Neutering and Adoption Services DeMotte, IN
<http://loveyourpetexpo.com/charity.htm> Love your Pet Expo/Charity Auction Event
<http://www.hhforcats.org/> Harmony House, Chicago