

*Like a phoenix from the ashes -*

## A Cat Named Soot Survived

**S**oot, an aptly named brave and resilient little cat who encountered a fire, now has a remarkable new beginning thanks to the compassionate nursing skills of his foster Mom, Shereen Prochnow.

Soot was discovered in a chimney during a service call last April, covered in ashes. It was believed that he had the misfortune of being in the fireplace while a fire was burning. Soot was brought directly to Paws and Claws, and after an initial bath it was obvious that he had sustained significant burns involving much of his body. He was sent for emergent veterinary care. After hospitalization and initial treatment of his wounds, Soot had the good fortune of being placed with his guardian angel, Shereen.

Throughout May, Soot endured multiple veterinary visits to treat extensive burns involving his feet, abdomen, chest, scrotum, ears, and tail. He was a little trooper during his vet visits for debridement (removal of damaged tissue) and dressing changes, some of which required anesthesia. Shereen shared, "He showed some spunk by removing his own bandages at times!"

Despite meticulous care, Soot needed to have his penis removed. His urethra is open directly to his body enabling urination, but he is adjusting well. Soot also developed extensive scar tissue on one of his legs, inhibiting healing. Because of this, his foster Mom needed to restrict his activities, confining him to a large crate to facilitate healing. His last wound is slowly healing, and his new life involves a healthy appetite with continued weight gain. "He loves, loves, loves to eat" Shereen is happy to report.



*Soot has endured great suffering, but is healing with the help of Paws and Claws staff, volunteers and the loving care of his foster Mom, Shereen Prochnow. Stay strong Soot, you sweet boy.*

Soot is also fond of lap time, brushings, and "conversations" as he is a talkative little guy. He enjoys watching the birds and squirrels through the window. Currently, Shereen shares her home with Soot, a dog and cats, and he seems to be fine with everyone.

Soot has endured so much in the past several months, but throughout all of this he was brave, resilient, and is such a sweet little boy! Shereen has spent countless hours caring not only for Soot's injuries and subsequent healing, but also nourishing his spirit on his road to recovery.

With consistent loving care, Soot has progressed beautifully from his many injuries. His little ears are "scalloped" from the burns, scar tissue covers his foot pads, and he is still on pain medications. His foster Mom feels that "He will make some lucky person a perfect cat." He is a young male-believed to be approximately a year and a half old, so he will be a cherished family member for hopefully many years to come.

Soot is so lucky that a kind person found him and called for help and doubly lucky to have Shereen care for him as he heals and awaits his Forever Home.

### ***Support the Emergency Fund***

Sadly, Paws and Claws sees many injured animals come through the doors needing medical care. Much of Soot's care has been covered by donations to our Emergency Fund. Donations to this fund can be made via our website, [pawsandclaws.org](http://pawsandclaws.org). Thank you for your generous support and for helping pets like Soot have a second chance at life.