

Grader

When Grader and the other Caterpillar kitties came to CARA a couple years ago they were all very scared and feral. Grader was by far the most cared of the four kitties. The good folks at CARA even considered neutering him and finding a feral colony he may be more happier living in. A CARA volunteer decided to foster Grader and bring him her to her home (of two other cats, two dogs, and two children...) to see if this scared little cat could adjust to normal pet life. It did not happen overnight, but Grader began making progress and becoming more trusting, especially with the family's young daughter. Grader then transferred back to the shelter to be neutered but soon after developed an eye infection which led to him losing his eye. A local vet helped CARA with this expensive surgery and the foster family took him back home to help him recover from this surgery. It was not long after Grader recovered that the family decided to adopt Grader. He was still skiddish and it was clear it would be difficult finding a forever home for this special needs kitty.

About a month after this family adopted Grader he developed an eye infection in his remaining eye and after several vet trips and a visit to the Feline Ophthalmologist in Greensboro, it was discovered that Grader was born with eyelid agenesis - a part of his eyelid was missing since birth and his eye infections were caused by small hairs rubbing his cornea. He would lose his remaining eye without a special surgery which grafted a section of his lower lid onto his upper lid. Grader's family scheduled his surgery and he recovered perfectly.

Grader now spends his days chasing cat toys, batting at anything that moves, and cuddling with his doggy fur sister Haley. He and his older kitty fur brothers get along well, and since his second surgery he has had no problems with his vision.

While he only has one eye, he is a fat happy silly kitty who while still a little skiddish at times with the rest of the family, is putty in the hands of the young girl he attached himself to nearly 3 years ago. Grader is the perfect example of what good works CARA does. Grader was homeless and feral, and nearly doomed to being put to sleep at animal control - however due to the support and care of those from the Sanford Caterpillar plant who gave money to the Holly Fund for his care as well as his first eye surgery, he was given a chance to find a home where he will be forever loved and taken care of. Without CARA and all those involved none of this would have happened.

Thank you CARA,

Grader Resnick and his family who love him more
than words could ever express.

