

The Feline Forum

April/May 2007



CARING FOR HOMELESS CATS SINCE 1945

Open House set for May 20 at the shelter

Join Cat Welfare's staff, friends, and felines for our annual Open House on Sunday, May 20 from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the shelter.

You are invited to a party filled with food and fun! There will be a summertime cookout lunch available for a \$5 donation to the shelter. For the kids, we will have face painting and fun games available.

Those finicky feline artists of ours are once again being asked to create some of their fabulous masterpieces. We hope that we will be able to entice some of last year's artists to make more eye-grabbing works of art while inspiring some new kitties to get in touch with their creative side.

Our Open House is a great way to see

the shelter facilities, meet our Guardian Angel cats and all our other wonderful feline residents, and connect with other people that love cats and support Cat Welfare's role in the community. Be sure to look for more info about the event on our web site and in the shelter in early May. We hope we'll see you there!



Elwood & Petey named King & Queen of Hearts

Congratulations to Elwood & Petey (*see photos at right*) for being voted King & Queen of Hearts at our Valentine's Day fund-raiser. Elwood & Petey are two of CWA's senior residents. They have lived at CWA for a number of years and are dearly

loved by the staff and volunteers. It is very comical to find the grumpy yet tolerant Petey being cuddled up to by skinny Elwood.

Photogenic felines needed for 2008 calendar

If you've always wanted to make Sammy a star, now is your chance!

Cat Welfare is accepting photo entries through May 31 for its 2008 calendar. A \$10 entry fee is being charged for each photo submitted. All entries will be entered into a drawing to win one of three Harmony Ball gift baskets (worth over \$200 each).

Have a photo that shows off your special kitty? We'd love to have it be a part of our contest! Photos that

have been in the Happy Homes section of the Feline Forum and those that appeared in the collage sections of our 2005 and 2006 calendars are eligible for the contest.

The full-color, professionally-designed calendar is a keepsake. Entering our contest is a wonderful way to help our shelter cats while getting a chance to make your kitty famous! Entry form and contest rules are available on page 6. The clock is ticking, so start clicking!

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Our Mission

Cat Welfare
Association is

dedicated to the care of and education about cats and kittens. Our pledge is to cherish, nurture and provide veterinary care for homeless, abused, injured and abandoned felines. We strive to find each cat an appropriate, safe and loving home, allowing those not placed to live their lives in the care and comfort of our shelter.



**741 Wetmore Road
Columbus, OH 43214
(614) 268-6096
www.catwelfareohio.com**

The shelter is open seven days a week from 11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (closed 1st Wednesday for cleaning).

Adoption fee of \$60 for adult cats and \$70 for kittens includes spay/neuter surgery, initial vaccinations including rabies, testing for feline leukemia and FIV (adults), microchip identification, flea treatment & deworming.

The shelter has established an Altering Fund to subsidize spay/neuter surgeries for cat owners with limited incomes. Contact 268-6096 for an application.

2007 Board of Directors

RoseAnn Ballangee, President
Sharon Hebenstreit, 1st Vice President
Doug Laber, 2nd Vice President
Kathryn Hart, Corresponding Secretary
Anne Riley, Recording Secretary
Cathi Easley, Treasurer
Nancy Flanagan, Assistant Treasurer
Rita Burns, Member-at-Large
Joan Derstine, Member-at-Large

Lorella Middaugh, Shelter Manager



Stories from the sun porch

“Hello everyone! This is Della reporting from the shelter.

Things were really busy here around Valentine’s Day. Some of my friends came in and hung hearts and streamers and made the shelter look extra special. I helped by inspecting the decorations before they were put up to make sure that everything was okay. Boy did it look great here! There were even photos and stories of Powder & Pammy, Elvis & Fannie, Booger & Graham, Miss. Kitty & Simba, and Elwood & Petey posted. They were nominated to run for the 2007 Cat Welfare King & Queen of Hearts. As you may have already read in the newsletter, Elwood & Petey got the most votes and won! It was a lot of fun that weekend and I want to say thanks to everyone that came in to help make the event a success. I just love seeing all of you!

Can you believe that spring is already here?! That means it’s kitten season and all the visitors to the shelter want to know when Cat Welfare will have kittens ready for adoption. I’m sure our cages will be packed with the little rascals any day now if they aren’t already by the time you are reading this. However, please don’t overlook us adult and senior citizen cats! There are a lot of benefits to adopting an older cat over a kitten.

It is better to adopt an adult cat if you are looking to have just one kitty that will be home alone during the day. Kittens often prefer lots of attention and want to play so if they don’t have a playmate they will try to create one out of objects in the house. Adult cats are usually content being by



Della, 2007 Top Cat

themselves for longer periods of time. Kittens are also more easily frightened and do not always know what is appropriate behavior. They may instinctively bite or scratch children, whereas adult cats are typically more forgiving towards a child’s curiosity.

Just like humans, adult cats have already developed their personalities while kittens are still molding into theirs. So if you are looking for a specific kind of personality for your new fur baby, an adult cat may be a better choice. To help you search through the hundreds of cats at the shelter, Cat Welfare has started placing detailed personality profiles on some of the cages that rate each cat on whether they like to be held, sit in laps, play, and whether they get along with young children or other cats. Most cats are at the shelter for no fault of their own and for those that do have quirks that will require extra patience (such as not always using the litter box), the staff will inform you of their special needs.

So remember, although kittens look all cute and adorable now, there are many advantages to adopting an adult cat. Please consider giving one a second chance at a loving home! I hope I’ll see you at our Open House. Maybe you’ll give me a cart ride. I love those! Till next time, Della
P.S.- Thanks to my kitty translators Anne & Kelly ”



Addressing nocturnal activity: dealing with your cat's nighttime play

Every cat household has one - a beloved feline that loves to rough house all hours of the night, waking everyone from a peaceful slumber. How do you curb kitty's night play?

It seems that cats tend to sleep the majority of their life away, but when they are awake cats can be very active. Cats tend to be more active during the night. They will assert energy because they want to play, eat, or because they crave attention.

It is important to note that if you have a cat that has not bothered you in the past and they are now wandering around the house crying, there may be an underlying medical problem and you need to take him to the vet. However, if you have an active feline

ruining your rest, there is hope!

Schedule times to play with your cat before you go to bed. Interactive toys are best, use toys that mimic the movement of mice and birds. Try to play with your cat until he tires. Feeding your cat a main meal before bedtime is also a great way to curb nighttime play. Cats tend to sleep after a big meal. Incorporate a variety of enrichment activities during the day for your pet. The more active your cat is during the day the more he will sleep in the evening.

Do not get up and attend to your feline unless, of course, you suspect something is wrong. If you feed, play with, or even interact with your cat after you wake up, you are rewarding

their behavior for waking you. Your cat will often become more persistent each subsequent night once you involve yourself in their night recreation. Just remember, scolding your cat will more than likely not work either - negative attention is better than no attention for some cats. Follow these easy steps and you and your cat will be sleeping peacefully night after night!

Source: www.asPCA.org, Lisbeth Harper



Enter our handmade quilt raffle

Enter to win this beautiful handmade quilt (*see photos at right*). The size of the quilt is 75 1/2" x 87 1/2". Special thanks to Elizabeth Bowling & Sharon Warrington for making this unique quilt and donating it to Cat Welfare. Tickets are 1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20. The drawing will be held at our spring Open House on May 20, 2007. All proceeds go to the shelter cats. Tickets can be downloaded from our

web page or you can also enter by printing your full name, phone number, and e-mail address on slips of paper and mailing them with the appropriate dollar amount for the number of tickets you are sending in to:

Cat Welfare
Attn: Quilt Raffle
741 Wetmore Rd.
Columbus, OH 43214

See color and additional images at:
[www.catwelfareohio.com/
quiltraffle.htm](http://www.catwelfareohio.com/quiltraffle.htm)



New Board & Trustees elected at February membership meeting

The Cat Welfare Association would like to extend it's gratitude to outgoing Board members Sheila Zirkle, Carol Smith, and Jennifer Parker. Cat Welfare would also like to thank outgoing Trustees Mary Jane Ryan & Rita Burns. We appreciate all your hard work and dedication to the

shelter and our feline residents.

Congratulations to our newly elected Board members: RoseAnn Ballangee, Sharon Hebenstreit, Doug Laber, Cathi Eisley, Nancy Flanagan, Kathryn Hart, Anne Riley, Rita Burns, and Joan Derstine.

Congratulations also to our newly elected Trustees: RoseAnn Ballangee, Kathryn Hart, Anne Riley, Jennifer Parker, and Steve Hebenstreit. Board and Trustee terms are for 2007 & 2008. Thanks to everyone who attended our general election meeting.



Happy Homes for CWA Cats

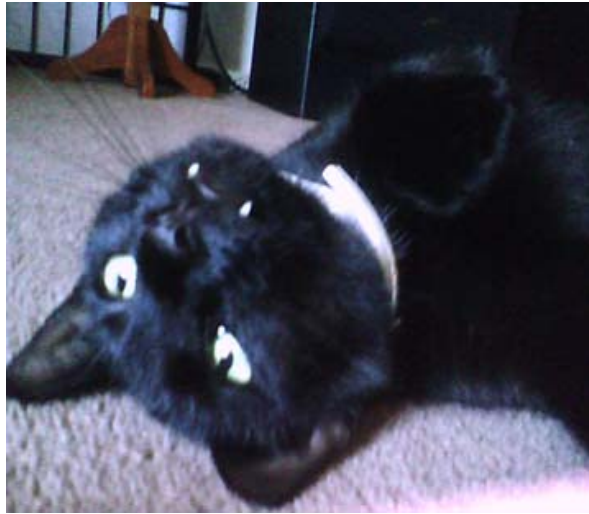


Reggie resides with the Treneff family. “We adopted a former Special Adoptions cat, Rags (now renamed Reggie). He is doing just great. He literally had no adjustment period to our home - he was “at home” as soon as we arrived. He is very happy and healthy and loves spending time on a screened porch (which he has all to himself) and on a special sleeping spot (on “his” quilt on the bed). He plays, naps, and hangs out and is very affectionate. Thanks again to the volunteers and staff at Cat Welfare for pairing us up with Rags/Reggie.”



Elliott found a home with the Penzones. “We adopted a 10 week old kitten that was at Cat Welfare with her two brothers. We chose her because she was so full of energy, playing with the toys in her cage, bouncing around, and generally being a very active kitten. This continued until we got her home (and after she took a LONG nap!) and hasn’t slowed up at all. We decided to name her Elliott. She spent the first few days playing with some of the new toys we bought for her, but typically liked the packaging more than the actual toy! She’s very playful, and for being such a tiny cat, she has a VERY large meow! As she’s started to get older, her tail has grown to an incredible length. It is very large and bushy. We also noticed that she has black “tufts” growing out of the top of her ears. We took her to our vet and she confirmed that she is at least part Maine Coon! What a surprise! Elliott loves spending her day watching our fish swim around, tormenting our other two cats (Sam and Bella), attempting to eat our dinners, and sleeping. She loves sleeping with us at night. She purrs so loud that sometimes it keeps us awake. She is the sweetest cat though and we love her so incredibly much. We can’t thank everyone at CWA enough for being so wonderful.”

Smokey was adopted by the Lowe family. “When I lived at CWA I was known as Stevie. I liked my dad right away. I rubbed against the cage and showed my daddy that I was a kitty to take home. (Daddy really wanted a dog, but mommy talked him into a kitty.) Daddy stood there and played with me while mommy walked around and looked at other cats. But she kept coming over to me and daddy. They decided to take me



home. I was so happy! If they only knew then that I’m not a picky cat. Give me some hair ties and I’m happy. When I got home it took me a few days to get used to it. I’m very well behaved. I don’t get up on counters or tables. Although sometimes I will get on the coffee table if mommy leaves her hair ties there. I like to wrestle with daddy although I know when to stop. I don’t want to hurt him. Mommy is my best friend. I sleep with her and lay on her blankets when she is not in bed. When she is home by herself, I like to be close to her to make her feel safe. I think daddy knew that I was what she needed. We just bonded and I’m glad to be here with my new family.”

Mr. Smith sent in this cute photo of **Princess & Cotton** resting on the bed together.



Thanks to everyone that has given a Cat Welfare cat a happy home!

Happy Homes for CWA Cats



Violet lives with the Hensons. “I started going to Cat Welfare for a kitty fix on the weekends. I first spotted Mary (now named Violet) when she first arrived. What a sweetheart! Very affectionate and a little purr machine. I fell in love with the little diluted tortoiseshell girl. After months of visiting, I came to claim her one day and she was gone. The staff thought she had been adopted. I was heartbroken! I went back the following week to look for

another diluted tortoiseshell girl. I asked the staff if I could look in the sun room area. Lo and behold, there was Mary in a cage recuperating from a cold. As soon as she was ready, I adopted her. I thought she would be afraid in the car but she just kept sticking her paw out & touching my arm. When I let her out in the house, she didn’t run or hide. She just casually walked around checking things out. She is a great cat. Thanks for the wonderful work you all do for the homeless kitties.”

Lexie found a home with Erin Hritz & Patrick Nance. “Hello! My name is Lexie, but you may remember me as Elle. When my mommy and daddy came to Cat Welfare, mommy kept coming to my cage because she had always wanted a gray cat and she loved that I was so petite. However, daddy wanted a kitten and was really set on that. But mommy got me out of my cage and I jumped right into daddy’s arms and started climbing on him. I guess that is all I had to do because they ended up taking me home. So thank you Cat Welfare for taking me in and finding me a great home!”



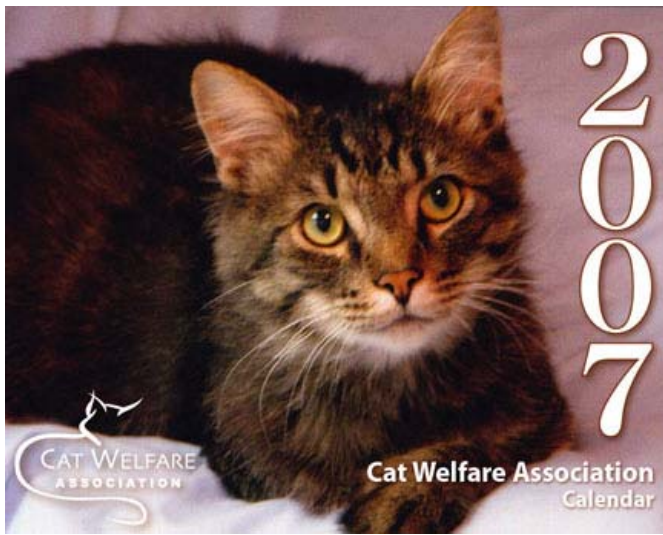
Smudge lives with the Geig/McKinney family. “He loves to run around the house and play fight with dad. When he wants to play he will just come and attack your hand or foot. He also likes to irritate his sister and brother when he knows they are not in the mood to play.”



Lenny was adopted by the Parkers. “Lenny adopted us a couple of years ago and is a funny, loving, and silly boy. His cat friends are Lloyd (who hails from CAHS) and Lucky (who is from the Bryanville shelter). They are always with us, love each other, and keep us sane. We couldn’t have a house without at least one cat! Lenny is about the 4th kitty we got from your shelter over the past 20 or so years. Lenny loves watching Catnip Video and sitting on my husband’s lap. You all do a great job!”

Send your “Happy Homes” photo(s) and short story (200 words or less) to the editor at “Happy Homes” c/o Cat Welfare; 741 Wetmore Road; Columbus, OH 43214, or online at catwelfarecats@yahoo.com.

View these and many more “Happy Homes” stories at our web site: www.catwelfareohio.com.



CWA 2008 CAT CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST

Would your kitty like to be famous? Well, actually would YOU like your kitty to be famous? Cat Welfare invites you to submit your best photo(s) of your favorite kitties. If your photo is chosen, it will be published in the CWA 2008 Calendar which will be on sale this fall!

CONTEST RULES:

- Photos should be in color, printed on professional photo paper, and at least 4" x 6". Be sure your photo is focused and of good quality. If your picture is blurry, then it is not likely to be selected for the calendar.
- The contest is open to everyone. You can submit as many entries as you want, provided you pay the entry fee for each photo. Photos may be taken from any place or time, but the subject must be a cat(s). Other animals may be in the photo. Sorry, no humans allowed in the photo.
- You must own the rights to the photo. Photos that have appeared in Cat Welfare's newsletter (the Feline Forum) or in the photo collages in the front or back of our previous calendars are eligible provided they have not been published elsewhere.
- A panel of judges selected by the Cat Welfare Association will determine the winning photos and their decision is final. Winners will be notified via the contact information listed below no later than October 1, 2007.
- You must complete and sign the below release statement granting Cat Welfare Association the rights to use your photo(s). You may submit your entry in person or mail it to the shelter. **Entry form(s) must be received before May 31, 2007 to be eligible for the contest.** Please, be sure to attach a detailed caption and/or story (150 words or less) along with each photo. Each entry will be entered in a drawing to win one of 3 Harmony Ball gift baskets. The drawing will take place on June 15, 2007 and winners will be notified by phone.

Your Name: _____ Kitty's Name: _____

Street: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Photo Title: _____ Photographer's Name: _____

Number of photos enclosed: _____ Entry Fee enclosed: _____ (\$10 for each photo)

I heard about your contest from _____ I obtained my entry form from _____

I have the original negative or digital file for this photo: yes no

By signing, I accept the below disclaimer

MAIL TO: Cat Welfare Attn: Calendar Contest

741 Wetmore Road

Columbus, OH 43214

Signature: _____

Disclaimer: By submitting this photo(s), you agree to transfer to Cat Welfare Association (CWA) all rights to the photo(s) without license, limitation, or compensation. All submitted photos are property of CWA, who may do with the photo(s) what they please. If you want the photo returned, you must enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with your photo. CWA is not responsible for any errors, loss or damage regarding the photo entry/entries. All contestants agree to release and hold harmless CWA, all sponsors, and representatives from all claims or actions, they, their heirs, executors or assigns may have arising directly or indirectly from the contest. Winners consent to the use of their name, for advertising and publicity purposes without compensation.

Ishie Memorial Fund

for care of long-term shelter residents

Janice Bailey
Janet Parady
Rosemary Bringardner "Gone but not forgotten - Bob, Whimpy, Tiger"
Debbie & Todd "In memory of Montgomery"
Peg Mosher & Sandy Shollman "In memory of Joe"
Dorothy Reinstetle
Staci Allison "In loving memory of Beatrice, the best friend I've ever known"
Staci Allison "In loving memory of Fang, our company's very own feline friend"
Lynne Harrington "In memory of Nicky"
Wanda Rogers "In memory of my best friends, Felix & Fang"
Kim McCanney "In loving memory of Fang - the friendliest cat ever!"
Pamela Holladay "In memory of Big Red"
Leslie Sawyer
Marilyn Logue
Erin McCarthy "In memory of Dudley, Kristin & Norman - 3 extraordinary kitties who are dearly missed"
Sue Piatt "Alexis DeLong Newman"
Martha Montgomery
Donna Boiman "In loving memory of Bebe & Buddy"
Martha Mahlie
Marion West "Biff, Kiki, & Noelle"

The Vincent Fund

for emergency care for shelter cats

Janet Parady, Ann Bauman, Nancy Flanagan "In memory of Ms. Piggy", Jane Velzy, RoseAnn Ballangee "In the name of Dr. Marnin Forman", Cheryl Lamasa, Marc Coleman, Brenda Martin, Margot Reichle, Mitzi Segall, Kim Foster, Nicole Trimner, Joanne Kron, and Jill & Lyle Schumacher

Spay/Neuter Fund

for assistance with the spaying/neutering of shelter cats

Janice Bailey
Janet Parady
Kathleen Johnson
Gary L. Burns
Jill & Lyle Schumacher

Special Thanks!

Thanks to **Colerain Elementary school staff, students, and parents** for donating over 200 food and cleaning supply items to Cat Welfare.

A special thank you to **Paul Calderone** for being such a good friend to our shelter cats & Guardian Angel kitties.

Thank you to **Rita Burns, Brenda Martin, Sue Godsey, Sue Kasson, Colette & Don Baird, Jennifer Lanning, and Joan Derstine** for making the Catique booth at Pet Expo a big success.

Thank you to **Michael Patterson** for going door to door to collect donations for CWA as part of a school project.

A big thanks to the **Columbus Dispatch** for inviting CWA to operate the coat check at the Central Ohio Home & Garden Show. Thank you to the many wonderful **volunteers** who made the coat check such a success and to **Peg Wentz** for her organization of the event.

A special thank you to the **team of volunteers** that staffed the Cat Welfare info booth at Pet Expo. Thank you also to **Don Wentz** for his time and talent in creating banners and signs for the shelter and Catique.

Important Shelter Information

In January and February, we adopted **151** cats to loving homes.

In January and February, we subsidized **240** spay and neuter surgeries through our various Altering Fund programs.

Interested in volunteering for Cat Welfare? Join us on **July 12, 2007** for an introductory volunteer session. Please RSVP at least five days prior as seating is limited.

Call or mail your name and contact information to the shelter, or send an e-mail message to Gail Harbert, volunteer coordinator, at Jrhda@aol.com to register. We hope to see you there!

Shelter Wish List: *Purina Kitten Chow, canned and dry cat food, plastic cat toys, tall kitchen trash bags, clay litter, baby food (chicken or turkey), paper towels, bleach, brown paper bags, liquid hand soap, KMR formula, Clorox wipes, and Mr. Clean Magic Eraser pads.*



We make
friendships
for life!

CINDY (#27157)

Cindy is a short haired black and white, adult, spayed female that is hoping for a second chance. She was brought to the shelter in October 2005 and has been patiently waiting for someone to notice what a wonderful girl she is. She is between six and eight years old and cute as can be. She gets along fine with other cats but would not turn her nose up at being an only cat. She would love to be someone's lap cat and just sit quietly while purring to show her love and appreciation for her special person. Cindy likes to be brushed and petted. She doesn't mind being held, but sometimes she can get a little nervous when being carried around. Cindy has seen a lot of kitties get adopted since her arrival at the shelter. She hopes one day will be her special day and that she will find herself a happy home. Even if you're not looking for a new feline friend, be sure to say hello to Cindy the next time you're at the shelter. She'd love to meet you!

Visit other Special Adoptions cats online at www.catwelfareohio.com.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Incorporated Under Law: As a non-profit, charitable organization

Columbus, OH 43214

741 Wetmore Road



April/May 2007

The Feline Forum

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
COLUMBUS OHIO
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