

# The Feline Forum

August/September 2006



CARING FOR HOMELESS CATS SINCE 1945

## New surgery room debuts at shelter

With a grant supplied by the All Life Foundation of Columbus, Cat Welfare has equipped a new surgery room located in the south end of the shelter building. The Naomi Dempsey Surgical Room will make it possible for our part-time veterinarian, Dr. Therese Allen, to perform more on-site surgical procedures and tests for shelter cats and kittens.

The surgery room provides a sterile environment where basic procedures can be performed, especially spay/neuter operations. The room is equipped with a surgery table,

anesthesia machine, overhead surgery light and autoclave for sterilizing instruments. An adjacent bathroom was converted into a wash area for surgery preparation.

The room is reserved for surgeries and examinations for Cat Welfare cats, and is not open to the public.

Surgical procedures are being performed on a limited basis for now, with the hope of increasing the room's use in the near future. We thank the All Life Foundation for their support of this project.



## Join the fun at the 2006 Cat Caper 5K

Save September 30 to catch a cake, toss a can and cross the finish line all to support Cat Welfare.

The second annual Cat Caper 5K will be held at the Central Ohio Special Education Regional Resource Center, located at 470 Glenmont Avenue in Clintonville. A picturesque and challenging ravine course awaits runners, walkers of all ages and levels, as well as friendly leashed dogs. Registration for the event begins at 8:30am with the Kids Fun Run starting at 9:15am and the main 5K commencing at 10:00am.

The entry fee for early registration (before Sept. 9) is \$18 and includes a T-shirt, grab bag of coupons, raffle ticket and post-race goodies. After

Sept. 9, the entry fee is \$25. **See entry form located on Page 6.** Prizes will be awarded to top male and female runners in each age group and to the top three fund-raisers. A post-race raffle is set for 11:00am.

New to this year's event is breakfast served by ChrisCakes. Interactive and entertaining, ChrisCakes will serve up airborne flapjacks and fun for the whole family. A ChrisCakes meal includes all-you-can-eat flapjacks, sausage (meat & vegetarian), juice and coffee for a small donation to Cat Welfare. Numerous vendor booths and kids activities including a cat food can toss, face painting and basketball game will finish out the event's activities.

## Inside this issue:

**Off-site adoptions**  
*Page 3*

**Arthritis in older cats**  
*Page 3*

**Cat Caper 5K form**  
*Page 6*



With generous support from area businesses, the Cat Caper 5K is presented by CD101 and Mozart's Cafe and Bakery. Other top sponsors include Janie Eckardt of Century 21, Columbus Shure Pets, VCA Animal Hospitals, Whittaker Dental Group and WOW! Wide Open West.

For more event information please contact Ann Turk, aturk@pirnie.com, and to volunteer for the event contact Gail Harbert, Jrhda@aol.com.



## 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 am - 3:30 pm  
(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.

### 2006 Board of Directors

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## Stories from the sun porch

Ahhh...summer! You can only do so  
much staring out the window at crazy  
birds, erratic garbage trucks and  
passersby, so my sun porch friends  
and I have started a literary club.

No, we can't read, but we'd like to  
imagine ourselves as the cherished  
feline companions of famous authors.  
We've got a lot of time on our paws  
to daydream, so why not imagine who  
we could have been....

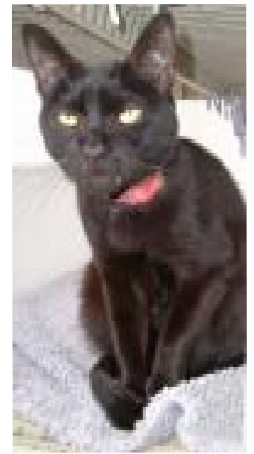
**Calvin**, the Maltese stray who sat on  
Harriet Beecher Stowe's shoulder as  
she wrote.

**Catarina**, the black cat Edgar Allen  
Poe took everywhere and inspired  
him to write *The Black Cat*.

**Mr. Feather Puss**, the yellow-eyed  
cat so trusted by Ernest Hemingway  
that he allowed the cat to baby-sit his  
infant child.

**Flower-face**, the Siamese talked  
about in James Mason's *The Cat in  
Our Lives* (1949).

*Gold Eyes,  
2006 Top Cat*



**Hinse**, a tomcat who tormented Sir  
Walter Scott's dogs.

**Sizi**, a stray living with Albert  
Schweitzer in Africa, for whom the  
doctor would write right-handed so  
not to disturb the cat sleeping on his  
left arm.

**Taki**, the black Persian to whom  
author Raymond Chandler read first  
drafts of his murder mysteries.

**The Master's Cat**, a kitten known to  
snuff out Charles Dickens' reading  
candle for attention.

Oh well, maybe in another lifetime.  
Guess I'll go knock Della off the fire  
truck for kicks.

## August cookout, calendar cover cat announced

Dig a dog? Hot dog, that is!

Join us as we fire up the grill and  
cook some weenies at the Cat Welfare  
August 19 cookout from noon - 2pm.  
Hot dogs (meat or vegetarian), drinks  
and bake sale items will be available  
for a donation to the shelter's spay/  
neuter clinic program. Bring the  
whole family and celebrate the close  
of a great summer!

The votes are in...Oscar, a three-  
legged, CWA rescued cat, is the 2007  
calendar cover cat!

The Cat Welfare 2007 Calendar will  
feature twelve other fabulous felines  
in a slick, four-color spread sure to  
amuse any cat lover. Remember your  
family and friends for holiday gifts;  
the calendars are scheduled to go on  
sale late August.

## On the road again: off-site adoptions

When Sheila Phillips loads up her car, she hopes to come home empty-handed.

Phillips, along with a crew of eight other volunteers, comprise the off-site adoptions brigade for the shelter. Four times a month, these volunteers pack up their cages, kitty litter, food and toys, and tote precious cargo to area pet stores in hopes of finding their charges a new home.

“I love the opportunity to meet fellow ‘cat lovers’ and the chance to find a perfect match between cat/kitten and adoptive parent,” said Phillips. She staffs the PetPeople-Dublin store.

Since 2003, a group of six regulars and three substitutes have visited

various off-site locations, now focusing on PetPeople in Gahanna and Dublin, PetSmart on Brice Road and Moochie & Co. at the Tuttle Crossing Mall. According to Gail Harbert, volunteer coordinator, adoptions stay at about 15 each year from the off-site visits.

While finding good homes for the adoptable cats and kittens is the main goal, the off-site adoptions also generate much-welcomed publicity and goodwill toward the shelter.

And each visit is not without some adventure. Phillips recalls a time when one of her young charges “escaped” an unlatched cage and sailed down the aisle to do some quick shopping. The escapee hid



*Off-site volunteer Cathi Eisley prepares an anxious kitten for an off-site adoption day.*

under a large shelving unit alluding authorities. Because Phillips was by herself and needed to watch the other playmates, a kind customer who witnessed the escape retrieved the offender and returned him to his accomplices. Case closed and lesson quickly learned.



## Senior cats require extra care when arthritis strikes

Fourteen-year-old Sugar moves a little slower these days when she rises from her morning nap, and has lost a little spring in her once agile step.

Age can signal various changes in your cat’s health. Osteoarthritis, a degenerative joint disease, can cause discomfort and pain in older cats. Major joints such as the hip, shoulder, elbow and ankle are often affected. While dull pain and aches stay hidden from detection, common signs can indicate the disease’s progression:

- ◆ altered gait when walking
- ◆ stiffness/lameness after rest
- ◆ limping
- ◆ hesitancy to jump
- ◆ personality changes

If osteoarthritis is suspected, an exam by a veterinarian should be the first course of action. Gentle manipulation of the cat’s joints will offer evidence of the disease. The vet may ask about changes in the cat’s daily routine: is she more reclusive and quiet, quicker to agitate or having trouble accessing favorite spots?

If the diagnosis is arthritis, the vet may suggest two courses of action: medical treatment and palliative care. The two common drugs prescribed for arthritis are Glucosamine (a major component of cartilage) and Chondroitin (enhances cartilage formation and inhibits enzymes in the joint). Both are found in prescription medications such as Cosequin and Syn-flex.

Home care can also ease the symptoms. Weight control is very important because excess weight puts added strain on joints and muscles; a diet that slowly decreases weight is recommended. Increased exercise may loosen stiff joints, while warm places to relax and gentle massage may lessen any dull pain.

Better access to daily routines is also necessary. Food and water bowls should be raised to reduce straining and bending. Litter boxes with lower sides offer easier access; placing the litter box close to where the cat stays eliminates extra climbing of stairs.

An older, arthritic cat can enjoy her senior years in comfort with a little extra attention to the details.



# Happy Homes for CWA Cats

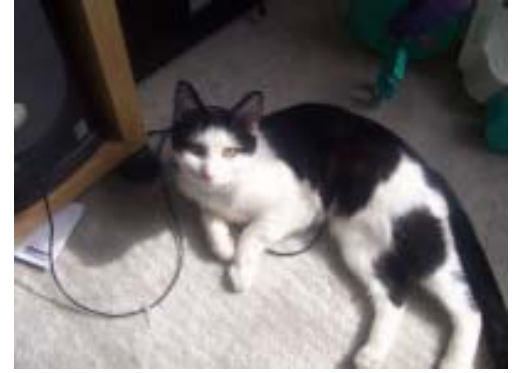


**Sweetpea** was adopted by a CWA supporter in November 2004.



**Baby Girl** resides with Sara Strong. "I was a 'special adoption' kitty and came to live with sisters Vicky Sealock and Sara Strong in the summer of 2005 and have thrived since then. I had an operation to remove a large cyst behind one of my ears, and now that is fine. Vicky and Sara love to pet me and have me sit in their laps. They say my fur is 'cottony soft' and call me Baby Girl Cottontail. I love to eat and have become a round little girl since coming here! I also just love to sit in their laps and be petted, play with the flying bird toy and look out the windows. In the summer, I love to go out on the screened porch and watch the birds at the feeders and the bunnies and squirrels who eat the critter food and peanuts my meowmys put out on the grass."

**Annie** resides with the Jackson family. "We adopted Betsy (now Annie) from you (in April 2006). What a personality that little girl has. When we stopped in at Cat Welfare that Saturday afternoon we were looking for a young female cat. I really wanted a Grey short hair cat, however my husband found Betsy. She was pawing him from inside her cage. We took her out and she just curled up on my shoulder like a baby. Aw, it was love immediately. She was perfect. We decided to adopt her. At first she was very shy. She hid in our basement. After a few days she was right at home. She plays with our one-year-old male cat Phantom like they have known each other forever. She is very unique. She likes to sleep on our hardwood dresser and on the cold floor and she doesn't meow. She makes a sound like she is saying Maaaa, Maaaa."



**Eddy** was adopted by Sara Strong. "I adopted Eddy over the July 4th weekend in 2003 and he lived with me until November 12, 2005, when he crossed the Rainbow Bridge. Eddy was an elderly gent, a blue point Siamese boy with the sweetest spirit imaginable. I gave him the middle name of Li Po, a Chinese poet, because he was like a little poem himself. He added such joy and softness to my life and then my sister's life too after we bought a house together. This very special little fellow had great courage, a quiet, deep love and a true spiritual quality that we will never forget."



Clockwise:  
Macho Man,  
Mama (Miss Prissy)  
and Miss Muffet

**Macho Man, Mama (Miss Prissy) and Miss Muffet** live with Ada Neff. "You helped me once when I wasn't used to cats, but I sure am now! Even as old as I was and used a wheelchair, I kept calico mama and her two beautiful babies who don't even look alike. I take very good care of them. They are lovely cats!"

# Happy Homes for CWA Cats

**Cheeto** was adopted by the Brooks family. “On a volunteer visit December 2005 with my daughter, we had the good fortune of meeting a friendly white and orange tabby cat who had a pin put in his broken back hip after arriving at Cat Welfare. While our visit that day was meant to simply give some attention to the residents, that sweet little boy stole our hearts and came home with us. We named him Cheeto (aka Cheeto Esposito from Toledo) and our whole family is smitten. In particular, we’re all quite taken by Cheeto’s tendency to lick us—repeatedly and vigorously—to show his affection. He’s also become fast friends with one of our other cats, Twinkle, and they love to watch the birds and squirrels together each morning at the window. Thank you, Cat Welfare, for all that you do for all of our feline friends!”



**Paulie** was adopted by the Dee family.



**Chewy** resides with Richard Beckley. “My new Papa is a Star Wars fan, so he named me Chewbacca (Chewy for short). My Papa takes very good care of me. We live in an assisted living community and I have all the nurses and aides as friends. I have a screened-in porch. I like to go out and watch the squirrels and birds. My favorite pastime is chasing Papa’s laser light. I now weigh 12 pounds and am healthy & happy. As you can see from my picture I like to talk.”



**Kalie** lives with the Erlanger family. “You were my first home—I was born there! I will never forget you and appreciate you finding me a new home. I love my new family and I’m getting a little spoiled. I have two big sisters—one tries to mother me, the other one chases me, just playing. I even get to go outside, supervised of course. Climbing is my favorite sport. I hope all the other kitties find caring homes like mine.”



**Samantha** lives with Sara Strong. “I came home with Sara in August 1998 and have lived with her ever since. Now we live with Sara’s sister Vicky Sealock and her cats in a big house. I am a very good companion, a real one-meowmy girl. I love to eat, sleep, cuddle and play with Sara and sit on the table and look out my window and I plan to spend many more years doing all of these things! I stay upstairs in Sara’s sitting room and bedroom because I’m not that crazy about the five other cats in Sara and Vicky’s household. Here is a photo of me on the floor with lots of my soft toys that I like to use as pillows.”

Send your “Happy Homes” photo(s) and short story (100 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](mailto:catwelfarecats@yahoo.com).

View these and many more “Happy Homes” stories at our web site: [www.catwelfareohio.com](http://www.catwelfareohio.com).



8:30 - Registration

9.30.06

10:00 - Race Start

The Central Ohio Special Education  
Regional Resource Center  
470 Glenmont Avenue

Presented by



## Race Day Schedule

8:30 Registration begins

Packet pick-up available at registration tent or early packet pick-up is available at Fleet Feet Polaris beginning 9/27/06.

9:15 Kids Fun Run

Ages 12 and under.  
\$5 race day registration fee.  
Prizes for top finishers by age group.

10:00 5K Run & Walk

Each 5K Participant will receive:

- T-shirt and grab bag with special offers from race sponsors (guaranteed to first 400 registrants).
- Refreshments from our sponsors.
- One raffle ticket for the post-race raffle.

11:00 Chris Cakes

Re-fuel after the race with pancakes and other delicious treats at a great price.

11:15 Raffle

Stick around after the race for a chance to win great prizes from local businesses.  
Tickets available for \$1 each or 8 for \$5.

## More about the Cat Caper 5K

The 2<sup>ND</sup> Annual Cat Caper is a 5K (3.1 miles) run and walk including a kid's fun run prior to the race. The family-friendly atmosphere will include food from Chris Cakes and a post-race raffle with lots of great prizes.

Friendly, leashed dogs are also welcome to join us in having a good time while helping out our feline friends.

## Cat Nappers!

### What if I can't make the race?

Even if you can't make the race, you can still help raise money for the Cat Welfare Association.

Enter as an official "Cat Napper" by filling out the attached registration form. Check the "Cat Nappers" box, and send in your donation and/or pledges to the address on the form. You may pick up your t-shirt and grab bag at the shelter after the event.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M F Shirt size: S M L XL

### How did you hear about the Cat Caper 5K?

- Race Sponsor       WBNS 10TV  
 Premier Sports       CD101  
 Cat Welfare Association       Poster / Flyer  
 Other

Count me as a Cat Napper.

### How to Register:

- Fill out & return this form to: Cat Welfare Association  
c/o Premier Sports  
401 Charmel Place  
Columbus, OH 43235
- Online - [www.premierraces.com](http://www.premierraces.com)
- Race Day at the Registration Tent

**Waiver and Release:** I agree that by participation in this physical activity, or event (the "Event") or the use of any event facility/premises, I do so at my own risk. I assume all risk of injury, illness, damage or loss to me or my property that might result, including without limitation, any loss or theft of personal property. I consent to medical treatment in the event of injury, accident, and/or illness during the Event. I agree on behalf of myself (and my personal representatives, heirs, executors, administrators, agents, and assigns) to release and discharge the organizers of the event, its principals, its officers and directors, its employees, all sponsors and their representatives and employees from any and all claims or causes of action (known or unknown) arising out of their negligence. I acknowledge that I have carefully read this Waiver and Release and fully understand that it is a release of liability. By my signature below, I am waiving any right that I may have to bring legal action to assert a claim against any and all Event sponsors for their negligence.

I hereby grant full permission to any and all of the foregoing to use my name and likeness in any broadcast, telecast, video or print media reporting or advertising of the Event without compensation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (parent or guardian if under 18)      Date

Registration is \$18 prior to September 9<sup>th</sup>, \$25 after September 9 and on race day.

Collect at least \$25 in pledges and no registration fee is required!

Make checks payable to Premier Sports

Sponsor's Name	Address	Total Pledge	Paid
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
		TOTAL	

## Ishie Memorial Fund

*for care of long-term shelter residents*

The Pequignot Family "In memory of Rollie Miller"  
Rosemary Bringardner  
Carl & Colleen Clark "In memory of Carolyn Russell"  
Duane Buck & Ellen Rapkin  
Janet Parent "For Sam"  
Kelly Norton  
Helen & Donald Kaepfner "In memory of Buford"  
Regina Port

## The Vincent Fund

*for emergency care for shelter cats*

Regina Port  
Maryalice Susi  
Anna Teichmoeller  
Grace Shillinger  
Cheryl Lamasa  
Janice Bailey  
Patricia Eiben

## Spay/Neuter Fund

*for assistance with the spaying/neutering of shelter cats*

Patricia Eiben  
Ann Boer  
Connie Coultrap

## Bequests & Endowments

John Aldo, Joyce Boughton, Dorothy Cook,

## Special Thanks!

A sincere thank you to all **foster home volunteers** who have provided invaluable help during this busy kitten season. They give patience, tender care and love to kittens not yet old enough to enter the shelter for adoption.

Thanks to **Mrs. Nancy Casto Benson** for her generous donation of cat food and supplies to the shelter.

**Sarah Nesmith & Gen Gualtiere** of Troop 1583 donated homemade toys and blankets. Thank you girls!

Artist **Tina Watman** created two original lithographs of shelter cats Lia and Teddy, and is donating to the shelter a percentage of the proceeds from the sale of the prints. Thank you Tina for publicizing the plight of homeless animals through your artwork. To order prints online, see [www.davidmyersart.com](http://www.davidmyersart.com).

A cool thanks to **Ohio Mechanical** for providing immediate assistance when our heating or cooling systems are on the fritz!

Thank you to **Louise Guthman** who purchases all of the paper cat food dishes used at the shelter.

**Melvin Honeycutt** brings new bath towels, paper towels and other supplies to the shelter on a regular basis. Thanks Mr. Honeycutt for your donations!

## Important Shelter Information

Between January - June we adopted **440** cats to loving homes.

Between January - June we subsidized **296** spay and neuter surgeries through our Altering Fund, and **80** surgeries through our monthly mobile clinic program.

**Interested in volunteering** for Cat Welfare? Join us on **October 5, 2006** 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](mailto:Jrhda@aol.com) to register. We hope to see you there!

**Shelter Wish List:** *Dry kitten food, canned and dry cat food*, tall kitchen trash bags, clay litter, baby food (chicken or turkey), paper towels, bleach, brown paper bags, liquid hand soap, KMR (kitten milk), Clorox wipes, Science Diet dry cat food, plastic cat toys.



We make  
friendships  
for life!

**BAXTER (#25266)**

“My title says it all: acting feline Office Manager. I keep the front office staff working hard all day, and make sure that I get to see everything that is going on. I’m a gregarious, declawed, gray & white male, around 5-6 years old, who’s been at the shelter since March 2004. I like to be petted and love to be the center of attention. I’m very persistent in that I don’t take ‘no’ for an answer when it comes to taking up my post in the front office. The girls here seem to think that makes me charming... even though I know sometimes I get in the way when I stretch out on the desk. I like to be petted, but sometimes people pet me too much or I’m not in the mood so I get a little nippy. If you’re looking for a handsome office assistant to help out in your home office, then come on in. I’m sure I would be the perfect guy to fill the position.”

**Visit other Special Adoptions cats online at [www.catwelfareohio.com](http://www.catwelfareohio.com).**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

**Columbus, OH 43214**  
**741 Wetmore Road**



August/September 2006

**The Feline Forum**

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
COLUMBUS OHIO  
PERMIT NO. 407