

# The Feline Forum

December 2006/ January 2007



CARING FOR HOMELESS CATS SINCE 1945

## Spay/neuter outreach efforts reach communities

A shift from primarily housing homeless animals to proactively stopping their overpopulation has been the focus of animal welfare organizations in recent years. Starting in 1972 with a small fund to assist needy families in altering their pets, Cat Welfare has branched out over the years to serve other populations with three additional spay/neuter efforts in our community.

Our original altering fund subsidizes spay/neuter surgeries for cats and kittens in low-income families needing assistance. Surgeries are arranged through six local veterinary clinics and hospitals. The altering fund has subsidized **451** surgeries so far this year.

The feral cat population has also been served through a special fund. The



*Dr. Laura Miller of NOMAD operates on a cat during the spay/neuter clinic on April 15.*

Spay/Neuter Clinic has performed **65** surgeries in 2006 for this group.

And our new monthly mobile clinic program, with large-scale, one-day surgery events, has served **193** cats in 2006. For free spay/neuter surgeries at other times of the year, our voucher program has filled the gap by issuing **224** vouchers to low and fixed-income cat owners.

## Inside this issue:

**2007 Top Cat results**  
*Page 2*

**In memoriam**  
*Page 2*

**Silver Social Club**  
*Page 3*

**Business adopts cats**  
*Page 3*

**2007 calendar form**  
*Page 6*

## Call for nominations, election of 2007 Cat Welfare Board of Trustees

Electing strong leaders is very critical to the future success of Cat Welfare, and as a member your voice and vote play important roles in that process. We encourage all shelter members to attend two upcoming meetings that will determine the 2007 Cat Welfare Board of Trustees.

On **Tuesday, January 16 at 7:00pm**, a special nomination meeting will be held at the Cat Welfare Association shelter. Individuals who have demonstrated commitment to the

organization and its mission, and possess expertise, knowledge or experience valuable in helping carry out the Board's constitutional responsibilities are invited to run. A Board term lasts two years starting in February 2007. Cat Welfare is looking for individuals willing to represent the shelter community, and are dedicated to the organization's long-range plans. **Members must attend this January meeting for voting eligibility at the February election meeting.**

On **Tuesday, February 20 at 7:00pm** a Board election meeting will be held at the Cat Welfare Association shelter. Those who have paid their current Cat Welfare membership dues are eligible to vote. This includes persons over the age of 18 at the individual, senior, family (including all eligible family members living at the same residence) or life membership levels. Nominations can also be made from the floor at this meeting. Please plan on attending this important election meeting.

## 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

RoseAnn Ballangee, President  
Sharon Hebenstreit, 1st Vice President  
Jennifer Parker, 2nd Vice President  
Kathryn Hart, Corresponding Secretary  
Anne Riley, Recording Secretary  
Rita Burns, Treasurer  
Nancy Flanagan, Assistant Treasurer  
Carol Smith, Member-at-Large  
Sheila Zirkle, Member-at-Large

Lorella Middaugh, Shelter Manager  
Jill Baltes, Editor

**CoSMO\***  
Community Shares of Mid Ohio

## Stories from the sun porch

Cat Welfare is pleased to announce Della as our 2007 Top Cat. As the first female in office at the shelter, we asked her to give readers some words of encouragement for the next year:

“What a year we’ll have in 2007 with me as the new head honcho! I’m so glad my supporters voted for me. It was a close race, but I think the last-minute bucket-riding speeches pulled my campaign ahead.

Part of my official business is keeping readers updated on the happenings at the shelter. Right now we’re in full swing for the holiday season. Shelter

staff and volunteers are gussying up all the cats to prepare for those holiday adoptions. The Catique is selling pretty gifts and decorations (I’ve even been back there to see them!), and our ever-popular catnip pillows and 2007 calendars are flying out the door like hotcakes. We can’t wait until the holiday visitors stop by to visit us and drop off some extra treats! Gotta run for now.”



Della  
2007 Top Cat

## In memoriam: Gold Eyes & Guido

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of two former Top Cats. Gold Eyes (2006) and Guido (2005) died recently from severe health complications. The cats were ages 12 & 10, respectively.

**Gold Eyes** arrived at Cat Welfare in 1997. Well known for his pensive looks and unusually long “fangs,” Gold Eyes received admiration from



Gold Eyes

many visitors to the Recovery Room, and was a popular Cat Art Show artist. His eloquent prose graced the newsletter’s Top Cat column, and he frequently enjoyed riding on the fire truck with his feline friends.

Found in a local warehouse, **Guido** came to live at the shelter in 1998.

Often leery of people, Guido spent much of his time patrolling the



Guido

Adoption Room from high above in his cheese house. Every morning he would cry until his favorite staff person brought him his daily tuna. Guido led the shelter in a Mafioso-fashion with the help of his boys, Sam and Jackson.

Both cats contributed fondly to the culture that is Cat Welfare. They will be greatly missed by staff, volunteers and visitors to the shelter.

## Shelter seniors retire to Silver Social Club



*Joseph uses a raised food bowl to easily access his dinner.*



*A high-sided litter box with low entry allows George to do his business comfortably.*

Felines reaching senior status often require additional care during their golden years. Realizing a need to serve the aging shelter population, two enterprising volunteers have set up the Silver Social Club to foster older Cat Welfare cats in their home.

“We set up our former mother-in-law suite with lower couches, warm blankets, raised water and food bowls and litter boxes at various heights for arthritic joints,” describes Judy Laber who, with her husband Doug, established this program. Judy has parlayed her career experience in human geriatric care into a new avocation working with older cats.

Fostering four older cats not likely to be adopted, the Labers focus on quality of life and palliative care for their charges. Working with the shelter staff, they choose potential participants for the program and coordinate any daily medications and treatments that each cat receives.

“Doug and I have chosen to look at the shorter life-span of elder cats with compassion and a desire to make the last part of their lives the best we can,” said Judy. Life is challenging for any shelter cat, let alone the geriatric set. We commend the Labers for their important work with our senior population.

## Optic Nerve Art hires two CWA alumni

Evil Eve strolled right into the spacious studio of Optic Nerve Art thinking she had it made. Litter box, water bowl and cat food at her disposal. Her sidekick Eva agreed. Little did they know they had their work cut out for them. Their new positions in the company: studio mousers and office greeters.

“We had a slow, bigger mouse in the studio that we started with,” said art assistant Lauren Donnell. Owners Kristin Drake, Amie Todd and Brian Clemmons knew they needed the services of professionals, so they adopted two CWA cats to assist with their business responsibilities.

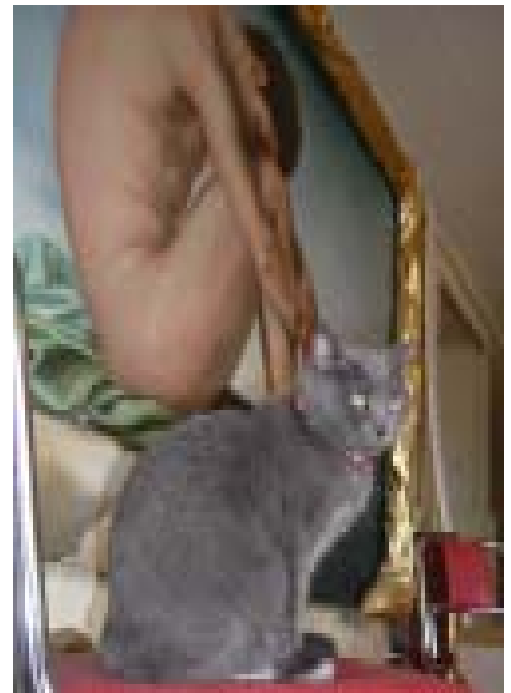
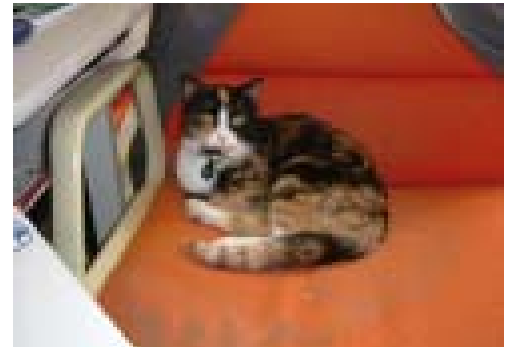
Started in 1994 by Drake and Clemmons, Optic Nerve Art creates unique production artwork that is commissioned by businesses around the world. They specialize in large-

scale murals, backdrops, signage, sculpture and “all that is art.” Driving through the Short North, their Mona Lisa reproduction covers the side of a building. Other local commissions include several Roman sculptures at Easton Town Center and educational signage at the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium.

While Evil Eve favors the mouser tasks, Eva amicably sits at the front desk and greets visitors with an air of importance. “We share the chair,” quipped Donnell.

Besides their utilitarian roles, Eve & Eva fill a greater purpose for the business, notes Donnell. “They are social cats, cut the tension for clients coming in and definitely keep you company.”

*Eva (top) and Evil Eve (bottom) on duty at Optic Nerve Art.*



# Happy Homes for CWA Cats

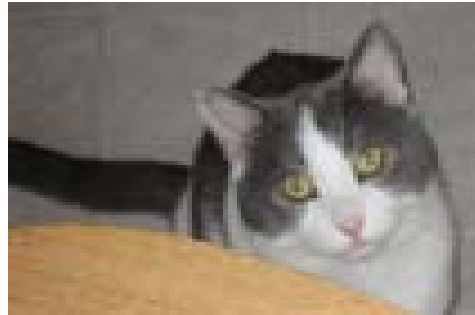


**Paddy** resides with the Tiefertal family. “Our family adopted Paddy from Cat Welfare about four years ago. My brother had adopted a cat from the shelter years prior who couldn’t have been sweeter so we stopped in ‘just to look.’ A mother cat and her two five-month-old kittens had just been brought in from a foster home so we went to see them in a back room. We wanted a

kitten to assure success with acclimation with our 11-year-old beagle. Paddy instantly took to my daughter, crawling right into her lap - the call was made to dad for final approval and we brought her home that day. She and our dog got along just fine and eventually formed a sort of friendship - Paddy liking the dog much more than the other way around. Our dog passed away last July and Paddy was obviously sad. We’re now thinking we may need to come out ‘just to have a look’ and see if there’s a new friend to bring home!”



**Henry** lives with Cynthia Greenleaf and James Weaver. “We adopted him in February 2006 and he has been quite a happy addition to our household. He’s incredibly affectionate—a loud purrer and an enthusiastic head-butter and kneader. He’s also really playful and a total goofball at times. Henry’s older sister, Alice (also from Cat Welfare), isn’t quite as taken with him as we are just yet, but these things take time. Thanks for all the good work you do and for bringing Henry into our lives!”



**Susannah** (top) & **Figaro** (bottom) were adopted by Abby Schwartz.

“I adopted Figaro and Susannah as kittens over 3 years ago, and as you can see, they’re happy, healthy, and spoiled rotten. I can’t sit down at my desk or lounge on the couch for more than a few minutes without having one or the other curled up on my lap. Every morning Susannah waits outside my bedroom door and follows me around like a puppy the entire time I’m getting ready for work. This includes sitting on the toilet and tapping me on the elbow while I’m brushing my teeth just waiting for me to finish so I can pick her up. When I’m working on my laptop, Figaro just loves to get between me and the screen so he can chase around the cursor. I am so grateful I came to Cat Welfare. Susannah and Figaro have truly become part of my family.”



**Snickers** was adopted by the Lewis family. “We adopted Snickers on June 17, 2005. He was no bigger than a pop can when we took him home. He is now 19 months old and 14 pounds. He loves to cuddle, sit at his favorite spots in our windows and nibble on feet! He is a wonderful, loving cat who is grateful to have a good home and we love having him!”

# Happy Homes for CWA Cats



**Moby** lives with the Wisniewski family. “My husband and I came to Cat Welfare looking for an outdoor cat to help keep the mice at bay at our new home in the country. When we saw ‘Roscoe’ for the first time in his cage we knew he was the cat for us. He was a BIG, beautiful gray male with a powerful presence. The staff members said he was in a cage because he played rough with the other cats, which we figured would be great since we didn’t plan on having any other cats around and he’d most likely be a great mouser. I don’t think

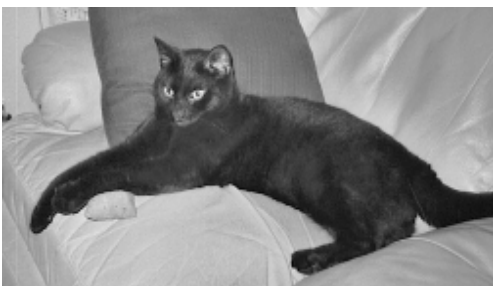
Moby will be bringing mice home anytime soon, just the lightning bugs we find every morning, but we couldn’t be happier. Thank you so much for helping us find such a great cat! We love him very much and will recommend Cat Welfare to anyone!”

**Bella** lives with the Gillom family.

“We adopted “Angel’ from your shelter in May and we just love her! We renamed her ‘Bella’ and she is the perfect kitty for us. She wasted no time fitting herself right into our home and family. She is playful, affectionate and smart. She loves being around me, often snuggling up in my lap on the couch, following me from room to room, and even patting my head in the morning when it’s time to wake up. I recently took a trip out of town to visit family and took Bella with me, much to the delight of all of my family members- even they fell in love with her just over the span of 2 days! I just want to thank Cat Welfare for being so accommodating, and for having a kitty as wonderful as Bella.”



**Larry** resides with Kim Barajas and family. “We adopted (Larry) in March after seeing him at the Pet Expo. He has adjusted wonderfully. We have all quickly learned that he is the boss of the house! He has an older sister Baby Kitty, an 11-year-old, five-pound tux. They run around the house like crazy and he knows not to be too rough on her. She mothers him and helps him groom on a daily basis ~ it’s hard to reach all those parts when you weigh 18 pounds! He also has two brothers, Conner and Brady, both dogs ~ but it’s ok because he doesn’t know that he’s not a dog himself sometimes. They all get along great. He wakes up his other Mom, my partner Melissa, every morning by sitting on her chest. He’s also taken over her side of the bed and her recliner. He is such a joy and a wonderful addition to our family! Thank you for all of you do.”



**Lucky** was adopted by the Cress family. “Lucky is doing well and is a welcome addition to our family. He is playful, smart and loving. He carries his toys all over the house. Thanks for bringing us together.”

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).



# Cat Welfare 2007 Calendar

CARING FOR HOMELESS CATS SINCE 1945

741 Wetmore Road Columbus, Ohio 43214  
614-268-6096 catwelfarecats@yahoo.com

## ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Number of calendars \_\_\_\_\_ x \$19.16 Total = \_\_\_\_\_

Price includes sales tax and shipping  
Make check payable to: Cat Welfare Association  
*Thank you for supporting this important fund-raiser!*



Calendars can also be purchased on-line at:  
**www.catwelfareohio.com.**  
Stop in the shelter and save the shipping fee.  
Calendars purchased at the shelter are just  
\$15.96 (tax included).

## Light Up Your Life Ornaments

During this holiday season, purchase a special ornament on our **Light Up Your Life tree** for a companion animal or person. Each light is \$5.00.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Animal/person: \_\_\_\_\_



## Attention camera- loving cats!

Only photogenic felines need apply! We are stocking up on great photos and stories for our Happy Homes section. Help us keep this popular section going for the new year by sending your story (100 words or less) and high-quality photo to Cat Welfare, 741 Wetmore Road, Columbus, OH 43214 or to catwelfarecats@yahoo.com.

## Ishie Memorial Fund

*for care of long-term shelter residents*

William & Gloria Adams  
Rosemary Bringardner  
Marye Berry "In memory of Carolyn M. Russell"  
Regina Port  
Mary Criswell  
Yolanda Nelis "In loving memory of Tiggy"  
Norma Hermann "For a needy cat"  
Bonnie Rosemire "For Smoke - this was home"  
George Kroupa "In memory of our mother, Grace Ertner"  
Deborah Dunham  
    "In memory of George, the smartest cat ever"  
Ruth & Janice Stabler  
Erich & Mary Hunker  
    "In memory of Boo, our cat we adopted from  
    Cat Welfare 20 years ago"  
Jill Fenstermaker "For Helen & Donald Kaepner"  
Kimberly Woodard "In memory of Josephine Klun"  
Evelyn Entler "In loving memory of our little Punkin"  
Linda Oberberger  
Sharon Porter  
Ruth Savolaine "In honor of Carol Savolaine"

## The Vincent Fund

*for emergency care for shelter cats*

Linda Oberberger  
Diana Fisher "In memory of Mary Ann"  
Nancy Flanagan "In memory of Goldie & Garbo"  
Rose Ann Ballangee "In memory of Goldie"  
Rose Ann Ballangee "In memory of Garbo"  
Mary Feather  
Ilisa Nodelman  
Jane Velzy  
Boris & Irina Pittel

## Spay/Neuter Fund

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

Linda Oberberger, Jean Haycook, Sharon Moss  
Mary Lake

## Bequests & Endowments

Esther Dellenbach

## Special Thanks!

Thank you to the **Capital Referral and Emergency Center** for the donated equipment to supplement our anesthesia machine.

Young supporters **Ellie Mallat, Reed & Taylor Klass** and **Sammy Lisa** asked for donations to the shelter in lieu of birthday presents. Way to go kids!

A special thanks to **Rutherford Funeral Home** for donating their cremation services for those special shelter cats who have passed away.

**Sunflower Market** featured Cat Welfare as their charity of the month, and collected almost \$200 in donations for the shelter. Merci beaucoup!

Thanks to the **Westerville Public Library** for highlighting Cat Welfare during a recent children's story hour held during Shelter Appreciation Week.

## Important Shelter Information

Between January - October we adopted **778** cats to loving homes.

Between January - October we subsidized **451** spay and neuter surgeries through our Altering Fund, and **167** surgeries through our mobile clinic program.

**Interested in volunteering** for Cat Welfare? Join us on **January 4** and **April 5, 2007 at 7:00 pm** 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:** *Dry kitten food, 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 (kitten milk), Clorox wipes and Science Diet dry cat food.*



We make  
friendships  
for life!

**SIMBA (#19038)**

“Did you ever want a cat who comes when he’s called? I’m your man! And I’m a fine, distinguished looking gent at that. I originally landed at Cat Welfare in 1998, was adopted but returned in 2005 because of frequent urination problems. Now that problem has been fixed, and I’m ready for a new shot at home life. My beautiful coat beckons the name ‘Simba’ and is waiting for your caressing touch. I love to sit on laps and kneed with my heart’s content. Because I’d rather be in your company than another cat’s, it’s best if I’m the only cat or one of a pair. This *Panthera leo* look-alike is waiting to meet you in my lair, the shelter bathroom. So stop by and give me a try!”

**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**



December 2006 / January 2007

**The Feline Forum**

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