

The Feline Forum

December/January 2008



CARING FOR HOMELESS CATS SINCE 1945

Della wins a second term in record setting CWA Top Cat election!

In our last Feline Forum we posed the question “Who will reign supreme in 2008?” and the answer is...Della! In an unprecedented Top Cat election, Della edged out the other candidates to become the first ever two term CWA Top Cat.

It was a close race from the start and when the polls closed, no one was sure who the winner would be. After the ballots were counted, Della was announced as the 2008 Top Cat by a very slim margin (less than \$10 separated first and second place!).

Thank you to everyone who participated in this annual Cat Welfare event. Your overwhelming support resulted in over \$1800 being raised for the shelter from the Top Cat election!

A special thank you to Della's sugar daddy, Melvin Honeycutt, whose generous donations got his girl the win. Special thanks also goes out to Paul Calderone, Mrs. Bigglesworth's sugar daddy, who gave Della a run for her money with his amazing campaign donations. Finally, a special thank you to Natalie Tyler, DeeDee's sugar mommy, who gave the other two candidates sweaty paws with her incredible donations.

As CWA has a strict two term limit, Della will be retiring from politics after her 2008 Top Cat year. Knowing Della, she will go out in style!

Join us next year for three new candidates who will vie to be the CWA Top Cat!

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Shy Cats make great pets!
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Online Shopping Partners support CWA

Fannie, Sassy, Romeo and Agent 61 selected for Guardian Angels program

Our special Guardian Angels program is getting some new members! Fannie (in the top picture), Romeo (bottom left), Agent 61 (bottom right) and Sassy (pictured on page 3) along with the cats in the Silver Social Club have all been selected for the program.

Guardian Angel cats have a variety of medical and behavioral issues that will most likely prevent them from becoming adopted. They will live out their lives in the care and comfort of our shelter through the generous support of people like you. Guardian Angel sponsorships

are tax deductible and make great gifts for feline lovers. To give a sponsorship as a gift just include this information on the mail in form or in the special instructions section on the online payments.

The Silver Social Club was started in the summer of 2006 to provide a foster home for aging cats as an alternative to spending their final months in the shelter.

Check out all the cats available for sponsorship on our web site under the Guardian Angels tab.



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.

2008 Board of Directors

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Stories from the sun porch

Hello everyone! This is Della reporting from the shelter. No time to bask in my election win (although I do thank my supporters from the bottom of my feline heart - especially my very special friend, Mel) as I have an important topic to discuss with you...Santa Paws! Truth is, I love the holidays! Peace on earth, goodwill to men and...cats! Oh, were you not familiar with that part of the expression?

Last week, after the shelter had closed for the day, the whole group of us wrote our letters to Santa Paws. We have already mailed our letters off to the North Pole but we thought you might like to see for yourself what the CWA cats wrote to jolly old Saint Nick. Below is my letter to Santa Paws and some wishes from my roommates .

Dear Santa Paws,

It's Della! Your favorite cat! I am still here at the shelter along with about 300 other felines. You will see from our batch of letters that some of the cats that wrote you last year are still here, along with a bunch of new faces this year. We all have the same Christmas wish, Santa - a home and family of our own! Don't get me wrong - we love the staff and all the visitors that come to the shelter and we know that we are very lucky to be here at Cat Welfare instead of out on the mean, cold streets. But there is nothing like having a home and family to call your own. It is what every one of us here at the shelter longs for.

Since you are always keeping track of who has been naughty and nice, you know that many of us are here through no fault of our own! Some of us lost our homes due to a death, a move, or the dreaded allergy to cats (which I still can't wrap my head around - how could



Della, 2007 Top Cat

anyone be allergic to a cuddly cat?).

As you know, cats make excellent companions. We are very easy to care for and don't take up much room at all. We don't need to go outside or need to be walked. You don't have to rush home by a certain time because we have our own private bathrooms. We can amuse ourselves with bird and squirrel watching while you are at work or just find a nice patch of sun to sleep in while we wait for your return. We don't even need fancy toys! A ball of paper, milk jug ring or paper bag will provide hours of cat entertainment.

Our favorite Christmas carol here at the shelter is "I'll Be Home For Christmas" - you know the words, Santa - *I'll be home for Christmas/ You can plan on me/I'll be home for Christmas/If only in my dreams.* Please make our dreams come true Santa Paws.


Della

"My wish is to wake up on Christmas morning with my new family" - Iris

"My wish is to be a Christmas present for a little girl" - Polly

"My wish is to have a home in time to enjoy a family Christmas tree" - Bushka

"My wish is to find a family who thinks a three legged cat is a treasure" - Camille

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!
Della 

Don't overlook a shy cat! Cat Welfare has many who need homes!

Were you ever shy? Were you afraid that the teacher would call on you in class? Were you afraid of rejection and avoided asking others out on dates? Do you prefer small dinners with great conversation to noisy cocktail parties? Would you rather have a small number of close friends than a huge circle of acquaintances? There are cats who can identify with you. Think about adopting a shy cat and you might have an eternal soul mate!

CWA is home to many shy cats. It's easy to overlook them because they won't get in your face or beg for your attention. Instead, they will hold themselves back while observing you with keen interest. They are the romantics, quietly waiting for a true love. They are passionate, looking for a great person

that they can adore. Shy cats typically have enormous hearts and deep wells of love and loyalty waiting to be appreciated by a discerning person. Nurturing a shy cat is like growing a beautiful plant. You need to wait a while to get the gorgeous results but finally the blossoms are spectacular!


Adopt a shy cat. It may take weeks instead of hours, but eventually you'll have an unbreakable bond. The shy cat will slowly learn to trust you, to care for you, to be loyal to you, and to love you with unswerving affection and loyalty. If you have a large family, the shy cat will cherish every member of the family. Shy cats generally get along well with other shy cats so you easily can have more than one cat. You and your shy cats will mutually have forever friends and cherished companions.



Sheeba is a beautiful smoky gray shy cat who would love to make your quiet house a home.



Sassy (also called Vincene) is a shy little tortie who would love a forever home!

Article written by Natalie Tyler 

Avoid the long lines and shop online with CWA Shopping Partners!

'Tis the season of long lines at the mall, crowds around every corner and endless circling of parking lots looking for a place to park! You can skip all that holiday hassle and shop online from the comfort of your own home while supporting Cat Welfare Association!

Cat Welfare has many shopping partners that can be accessed from our web site. Simply log on to our great web site at

www.catwelfareohio.com and click on the shopping partners tab. You can select from a variety of different programs and retailers, including our new shopping partner, Bring Pets Home, which is a division of HomeAgain.

You might be surprised to see the popular retailers that you can shop with while helping the CWA cats. Target, Macy's, Walmart, and KB Toys are just a few involved in our charitable cause.

And don't forget that CWA cat merchandise make great gifts for all the feline lovers on your list! Click on the banner for Brian Gryphon and you can select CWA ornaments, note cards, magnets and much more! Shop till you drop (out of your chair that is!).



Microchipping Clinics a great success for CWA!


Cat Welfare partnered up with HomeAgain, PetPeople and Columbus State Community College to host seven low cost microchipping clinics in all seven PetPeople locations during September and October.

This was a new venture for CWA and

what a great success it was! We helped protect 170 pets in central Ohio with a microchip and raised over \$2500 for the shelter! A big thank you to HomeAgain, PetPeople and CSCC for making this community outreach fundraiser possible!

Look for our clinics again next fall!

The Catique now accepts credit cards!

Attention Catique shoppers! The Catique now accepts credit cards! Shoppers may now use Visa, MasterCard, Discover and debit cards for purchases at the Catique. Only purchases of \$20.00 or more qualify for credit card payment! 

Happy Homes for CWA Cats



Charlie (above) lives with the Morris family. "We adopted a baby tiger tom from your shelter just before Christmas 2006. He was so new to your shelter that he had not yet been named. I was looking at a kitten in one cage when I heard a big yowl from another cage down the row. Expecting a much bigger cat for the fuss it was able to make, I was quite surprised, as I pressed my face up close to the cage, to encounter a wee paw reaching out to gently touch my face. It was love at first pat.

We had some adjustments at home, but he soon caught on to the litter box, and began to eat so that his skinny frame filled out. We put him on high quality kitten food so he would have all the right nutrients. It's a little more expensive, but his soft, shiny coat and his high energy antics make it all worthwhile. We named him "Charlie" after Charlie Chaplin, because he tends to walk quickly with a similar "side to side" off balance gait. He has had all his shots and will soon be ready for the next big adventure at the vet's office, but shhh, we're not telling him what that means. Charlie is a playful, loving companion. When he plays, he zooms all over the house. When he sleeps, he loves to cuddle up right under my chin, or sink into the couch comforter. He has the biggest purr

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

I have ever heard, much like his meow. He is still a little guy, but he possesses heart and personality way beyond his size.

Thank you for sheltering these precious creatures so they can find homes where they are not only loved, but also return their own portion of affection."



Star (above) was adopted by the Boston family. "My name is Star. I was adopted when I was only 6 weeks old back in 1998. Since then my life has been much like that of a princess. I have a calico sister, named Stella, who is also my best friend. We love to cuddle and sit with our mommy, Melissa. The three of us, and our step dad, are a very close family. I love attention and especially love to talk. My mommy didn't realize when she named me Star exactly how much that name would fit me! My sister and I are spoiled rotten and we love life. My mommy says she wouldn't have it any other way than to spoil us because she loves to see us happy. She considers us her kids and wouldn't know what she would have done without us. Thank you for helping me find a happy home! Once we move to a bigger home, my mommy tells us that we will be able to adopt another brother or sister! Stella and I are looking forward to having a new member of our family!"



Say hello to Jubilee! "We adopted Jubilee on Valentine's Day in 2006. He was an adorable and active kitten weighing around 7 lbs. Just over a year later he's grown to 16.5 lbs! He's a beautiful boy who is still just as active, playful and cuddly when he wants to be. He attempts to rule the roost with his brother and sister cats (both rescues from Kentucky) but is not successful in bullying our house rabbit Buns. It is not unusual to see Buns chasing Jubilee from his pen or even to see them sharing hay from the same basket!"



Henry (above) lives with the Tonetti family. "We adopted a kitten in January 2006 from Cat Welfare. Here is a picture of Henry with his first pumpkins at Halloween 2006 (right around the time he turned 1!) He's enjoying a wonderful and spoiled life as an indoor kitty in Clintonville."

Happy Homes for CWA Cats



Babe (above) was adopted by the Henry family. "Hi, my name is Babe and my mom adopted me from Cat Welfare in 1988. I was just a few weeks old, and I spotted her walking around in awe of all the homeless kitties. I meowed as loud as my little lungs would allow, and stretched my leg as far as possible through the cage door with my little toes spread far apart. There was no way she was getting out of there without me, I made sure of that! A few years later Mom got married, and now I had a Dad too, but along with my new Dad came some changes. You see, he is very allergic to kitties and he has asthma so it was decided that I would live in the recreation room in the basement. It is a nice finished basement with carpet, a television, a bar, a fireplace and best of all, a wooded ravine right outside the sliding glass door where I could sit and watch the wildlife. Although it was an adjustment for Mom and I, there was no way she was going to let me go. I am glad that she loves me so much; after all, I was here first. In 2000, Mom noticed that I was not eating very well so off to the vet we went. Mom thought maybe my teeth needed cleaned because my gums were a little red but the vet insisted on some blood tests to make sure there was nothing else going on. Well, there was. I had kidney failure. The vet said Mom could give me fluids every day (to help preserve what kidney function I have left); along with half a Pepcid (you see kitties with kidney failure have a sick stomach so the Pepcid helps me to feel

better). So that is what she did for the next six years, and I did very well, without my kidney failure progressing. In 2006, I was diagnosed with cancer and the vet said that he could do surgery. Mom decided it would be putting me through too much pain; taking into consideration my age along with my failing kidneys, the surgery would have been too much for me. You see, for kidney failure to show up in my blood tests my kidneys would only be functioning at 25% or less and the anesthesia would do even more damage to them. Mom decided she would keep a close eye on me and when it was time for me to go live in kitty heaven she would make sure my journey was as easy on me as possible. The time came and Mom had a talk with me the night before my last visit to the vet. She explained to me that my body was tired and she had done everything she could for me. She hoped that I understood how much she loves me but she did not want me to be in any more pain. She told me that she wished I could talk to her so she knew how I felt. The next morning I was waiting in my carrier cage - my way of letting her know that I understood. I was ready, actually looking forward to my journey. You see, Mom had explained to me that Damascus (my big brother, a 190 lb Fila dog that went to heaven about 8 years earlier) would be waiting for me. We used to sleep together and he would play with me by wagging his tail and allowing me to play with it, all the while turning and laughing at me while I played. I am in heaven now with Damascus and we will be waiting on Mom and Dad to join us one day. Until then, we watch over them and now we know what they do when they are not home - we always wondered! Mom still talks to me sometimes and I listen. I come visit in her dreams so she does not

miss me too much."



Leo (above) lives with the Kron family. "The gray, sad-eyed, listless lump in the cage was 'last kitten left', but I had promised Spot, my 10 year old fat cat, that I would return with a companion. Soon, the dull coat turned to smoky silver, his green eyes sparkled with life and his energy level kept both Spot and I on our toes. The *Cat Encyclopedia* identified Leo as an Oriental Shorthair - he had a Siamese cousin. That explained how he could race around a room so fast that we didn't see him, leap a full three feet in the air to open doors, why he never got roly-poly like most kittens, and why he squeaked and yowled instead of meowing. His favorite toy is "mousie" which he daily drops into his water bowl and leaves on my keyboard to dry. His favorite sport is harassing Spot, who secretly loves it, and his favorite food is whatever Spot's having. Leo is a loving and loyal friend and Spot and I are grateful to Cat Welfare that he was 'the last kitten left'."

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.

Light Up Your Life Ornaments

Back by popular demand! Our special Light Up Your Life tree will hold ornaments purchased in the name of a companion animal or person who lights up your life! Each light is \$5.00.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone number: _____

Name of person/animal light is for: _____

Below is our beloved Della dressed up as Catula! Della was entered into a Halloween costume contest at Petco



with her with good friend Jonathan Harbert. Even though Della did not win, she is always first place in our hearts! Thanks for being a good sport Della! You make a great Catula!



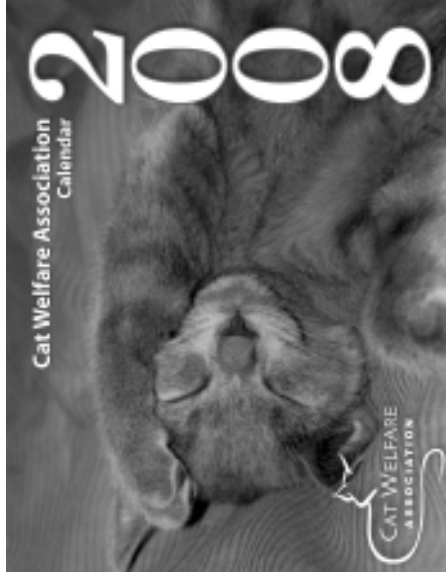
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Cat Welfare 2008 Calendar

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

ORDER FORM

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____



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).

Number of calendars _____ x \$19.16 Total = _____

Price includes sales tax and shipping

Make check payable to: Cat Welfare

Thank you for supporting this important fund-raiser!

Ishie Memorial Fund

for care of long-term shelter residents

Chad Reed "In memory of Meemo - a loving kitty who still lives in my heart!", Regina Port, Rosemary Bringardner "Remembering all Bringardner pets", Katharine Levis "In memory of Blackie and Pooker", Natalie Tyler "In memory of Britney, a beautiful cat of courage, sweetness and tenacity. You will be missed but will live forever in our hearts", Mark Pearson "Billy and Bobbie", and Norma Hermann "The Hermann family of cats".

The Vincent Fund

for emergency care for shelter cats

Judy Malenick, Jennifer Stancei "In loving memory of Milo", Dick and Linda Hamilton, Eileen Richardson, Regina Port, Diana C. Fisher, Sylvia Kolbe, Nancy L. Flanagan, Marlyn Randall, Julie & Nathan Wolfe "In memory of Zachary Franklin", Nancy Lang, Barbara Dunham, Maryann B. Gall, Kathleen Brooks who saved her pennies to make her donation "For great cats like Cheeto", Jean Hoffman, and Sharon Porter.

Spay/Neuter Fund

for assistance with the spaying/neutering of shelter cats

Dick and Linda Hamilton, William Lutz, Steve and Mag Ranft, and Natalie Tyler.

Special Thanks!!

Thank you to **Girl Scout Troop 1543** from Annehurst Elementary for their interest in learning about CWA's mission and for the donations they gave to the shelter. Nice work girls!

With gratitude to **Rutherford Funeral Home** for taking such good care of our cats who have crossed over the Rainbow Bridge.

A big round of thanks to **all of our volunteers** who devote their time and resources to many on site and off site programs! We are very lucky to have such a wonderful group of people involved with CWA! You are the best!!

Thank you to **Mrs. Casto-Benson** for Della's "carriage", a stroller for the rest of the cats, dry food and tuna. You always take such good care of our cats!

Special thanks to **Don Wentz** for all the CWA banners and signage he provides. Don sure makes CWA look good both at the shelter and at off site events!

A very special thank you to **Natalie Tyler** for her generous donations towards a new shelter washing machine and for Frankie's medical needs. You are an angel to our cats!

A very big thank you to **everyone who donated items** for our charity tree, including **Elizabeth Bowling** and **Sharon Warrington** who quilted a beautiful tree skirt! Pictures of the tree will be in the next Feline Forum!

Important Shelter Information

Between January and October, we adopted **734** cats into loving homes.

Between January and October, we subsidized **1387** spay and neuter surgeries through our various Altering Fund Programs.

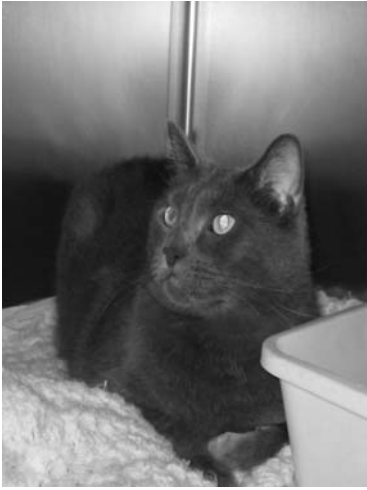
Interested in volunteering for Cat Welfare? Join us on the **third Thursday of every month at 7pm** for an introductory volunteer session. Please RSVP at least five days prior as seating is limited. Call or mail your name and contact information to the shelter, or send a message to Gail Harbert, volunteer coordinator, at cwavolunteers@gmail.com. We hope to see you there!

Interested in hosting a fundraiser for Cat Welfare?
Inviting CWA to an event? Corporate sponsorship or

team building activities? Please contact Kindra Hill, marketing coordinator, at catwelfarepr@gmail.com.

The "**Catique**" (aka garage sale) is in need of **clean, gently used items for resale**. This includes (but is not limited to) clothing (in season), books, housewares, pictures, jewelry, candles, bedding, towels, and gift items. We do not accept computers, exercise equipment or other large, heavy items. **Any questions on donations** can be directed to Alice Lahrmer 882-5561.

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), **bleach**, brown paper bags, KMR formula, Clorox wipes, Mr. Clean Magic Eraser pads, **laundry detergent and Hav-A-Heart humane traps**.



Logan (#22552)

Jim Tressel has been recruiting me as a linebacker for the Buckeyes because he admires my muscular, athletic body. With all due respect to Coach Tressel, I would prefer to watch the games on a nice comfortable lap. I don't want a group huddle, unless it's with you! My name is Logan and I am a short-haired gray cat of about 4 or 5 years of age. I hope to find a forever home with a one-cat person or a small family. The staff members at Cat Welfare love the way I help out in the office. I am most definitely people oriented. I make the ladies swoon. I can be a great best buddy for a guy. But I just cannot get along well with other animals because I admire people so much. If you come to meet me, I might be rude at first if there are too many cats around. But I truly crave a new life with you. Some cats think that food is the thing, but I prefer people, to paraphrase a great author. The staff thinks that if I find a home I will make an ideal pet--loyal, devoted, and loving. Choose me if you need a good-luck charm for 2008! Happy New Year!

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

We make
friendships
for life!

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

Columbus, OH 43214

741 Wetmore Road



December/January 2008

The Feline Forum

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