

The Feline Forum

February/March 2007



CARING FOR HOMELESS CATS SINCE 1945

Volunteers vital to shelter's success

Cat Welfare has been an important part of central Ohio's animal welfare community since 1945. Without the dedicated and continued support of volunteers, the shelter would not have been able to survive. We are thrilled with all our volunteers were able to accomplish in 2006 and know they will help the following programs become even more successful in 2007.

- 523 free spay & neuter surgeries were performed with the help of volunteer led programs and mobile clinics in 2006. In 2007, we will be increasing the number of clinics to at least one mobile clinic a month to further help low income residents.
- Volunteer led outreach fund-raisers, like the successful Cat Caper 5K, raised money for our kitties while also

introducing Cat Welfare to people that might otherwise not know about us. These activities helped raise almost \$20,000 for our feline friends.

- Our weekly garage sale, Catique, got a new look and increased sales to almost \$50,000 in 2006 alone.
- Various fund-raisers like recycling aluminum cans, making and selling catnip pillows, and much more raised thousands of dollars.
- Shelter cats got extra TLC and their emotional needs were met through petting and grooming, socialization programs, and pet therapy visits to local nursing homes.

None of the above initiatives would have been possible or successful

Find a purr...fect sweetheart

If you don't have someone special to share Valentine's Day with, adopt a purr...fect sweetheart from Cat Welfare! Already have someone special? Then stop by Cat Welfare to pet the kitties and, on Saturday, February 10th from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., to enjoy a bountiful Valentine's Day bake sale! All proceeds from the bake sale will benefit the Vincent Fund, which provides funding for unexpected vital and emergency medical care for our shelter cats.

Cat Welfare has over 200 felines hoping to be adopted. Staff and volunteers will be on hand to help answer any questions you might have and to help you find the perfect match for you and your family.

Not looking to adopt? Our felines are always looking for friends to give them some extra TLC and attention. So if you're looking for someone to be your Cool Cat or Love Bird, then adopt or start a special friendship with a Cat Welfare cat.



Brenda Martin and a CWA kitty making a friend while raising money for our cats.

without the hard work of volunteers. As we start 2007, Cat Welfare would like to say a heartfelt thanks to all our wonderful volunteers. If you're not currently a volunteer, then stop by the shelter to pet the kitties and to find out the many ways you can help on-site, at outreach events, or from home.



Inside this issue:

Stories from the porch

Page 2

Calendar sale

Page 2

Food allergies

Page 3

Spring flower sale

Page 6



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.

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



Stories from the sun porch

“Hi! It’s me, Della. Cat Welfare certainly has had a wonderful holiday season. We had a record breaking 115 adoptions in December! All I can say about that is WOW! I, and all the felines here at the shelter, would like to thank everyone that brought in toys, donations, and shelter supplies over the holidays. It really warmed our hearts to know so many people care about us. Now it’s almost Valentine’s Day, which means love is in the air... or maybe that is just the litter box I smell.

In celebration of the holiday, be sure to stop in and see the shelter’s most famous couple, Powder and Pammy. It is too cute for words watching Pammy nuzzle Powder while he is eating or trying to sleep. He is the only one, feline or human, Pammy wants to bond with. The only problem is that Powder cannot stand her! He growls and hisses at her when she gets close to him, which never fails to make the staff, volunteers, and visitors that are in on the joke laugh.

2007 calendar on sale & 2008 contest begins

Time to pick up your 2007 Cat Welfare calendar and ring in the new year! Filled with captivating photos and interesting facts about Cat Welfare, the calendar is now on sale for \$8.81 with an additional charge for shipping. Order today by stopping by the shelter or visit our web page at: www.catwelfareohio.com.

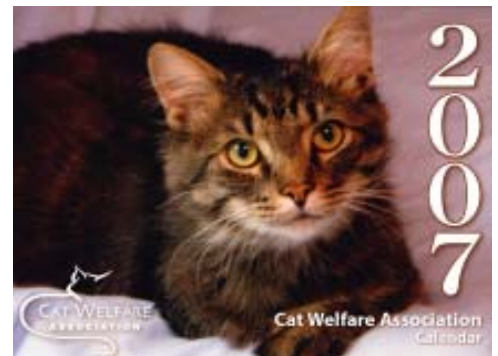
While you’re at it, why not submit a few snapshots of the cat in your life



Della, 2007 Top Cat

Don’t worry though, he doesn’t hurt Pammy and eventually gives in and lets her cuddle next to him. (See photo of Powder and Pammy in the lower right hand corner of page 3). The staff often jokes that if you adopt one of them that you should get the other one for free so that this odd couple will not be separated!

Oh, I forgot to tell you! I get to go on special cart rides at the shelter. I’ve always loved to ride on the supply and trash carts as the staff rolled them through the shelter. Now I have a special cart that they give me extra rides on. I just love that! Well, gotta run. One of my favorite visitors is here and he just might give me a ride on my cart. Hope to see you at the shelter sometime soon.”



and enter our 2008 Cat Calendar Photo Contest. The deadline to enter is May 31. Entry forms can be found at www.catwelfareohio.com or in the April/May newsletter. Enter as many times as you like. The winners will be announced after October 1, 2007.

Health focus: Food allergies in cats

Food allergy in cats is the third most common feline allergy behind flea bites and atopy (inhalant allergy). It can affect cats and kittens ages 5 months to 12 years. Allergic reaction to specific food proteins, such as fish, beef or dairy, are the main culprits. Symptoms can include severe itching, dry skin, hair loss and small, crusty bumps with redness.

After ruling out other potential allergies or infections, a food trial is performed to initially confirm a food allergy, and then to determine what specific food proteins are causing the problem. A 12 week diet of a new food protein (duck/potato or venison/potato) is given to the cat. Symptoms clearing during this period and then

reappearing after the old diet is reintroduced confirm a food allergy.

Treatment for a food allergy is avoidance of suspect food proteins. Veterinarians often recommend adhering to a high quality, skin sensitive diet that is available from several commercial diet sources.

Homemade diets provide another option where different protein sources can be reintroduced individually, dependent on the tolerance of the cat. It is important to make sure the proper vitamins and minerals are included in such diets. Supplements such as essential fatty acids (Omega 3 & 6) and biotin (B vitamin) are also safe to use for improving skin health.

Source: www.peteducation.com



Job opening: Marketing coordinator

Have fun working with a great team for a great cause! Cat Welfare seeks an energetic, self-motivated and compassionate animal lover with marketing experience to help us meet the growing demand for Cat Welfare services. This part-time position is responsible for marketing planning and budgeting, newsletter production, promotional materials, media relations, and community events.

We're looking for leadership, teamwork, and a creative approach to building Cat Welfare's marketing programs. For more information go to www.catwelfareohio.com.

Please send a cover letter and resume to: Cat Welfare Association
Attn: R. Ballangee - Mkt. Coordinator
741 Wetmore Road
Columbus, OH 43214



A special thank you to Jill Baltes

The Cat Welfare Association would like to extend it's gratitude to Jill Baltes, who served until recently as our part-time marketing coordinator. Jill was our spokesperson whenever the shelter or our cats were featured by the media and always represented

us in both an enthusiastic and professional manner. We thank you Jill for all you have done to promote our shelter and our feline friends and wish you the very best in your upcoming endeavors.



Common household plants causing a toxic reaction in cats:

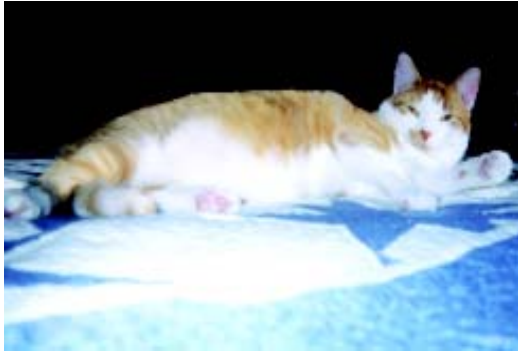
Aloe Vera
Amaryllis
Azaleas
Caladium
Castor Bean
Dumbcane
Daffodil
Easter Lily
& all lilies
Elephant's Ear
English Ivy
Hyacinth
Lantana
Mistletoe
Oleander
Philodendrons
Poinsettia
Rosary Pea

Source: www.hsus.org

Famous CWA feline couple, Powder & Pammy (for more info, see Stories from the sun porch on page 2)



Happy Homes for CWA Cats



Bruno resides with the Dodson family. “Hi everyone! It’s Bruno, reporting in. I was adopted by the Dodson family in March 2006. I was so excited to have a home that I purred in the car all the way. But when I got there, I thought I was gonna die when I saw the 70+ lbs. bulldog! What a monster! But it turned out he

was a rescue also and before long we were the best of friends. We love to cuddle! I also enjoy bird watching and playing with string. I still have scars on my neck, but my coat has gotten so plush that I can do a pretty good comb-over! Thanks again for saving me.”

Amber lives with Stacy Hatfield. “I just wanted to thank Gail for finding me such a loving home. Even after my mom found out that I had cancer, she still loved me unconditionally. I am very happy here. I miss everyone at Cat Welfare and all the traveling I got to do while I lived there.” *(Note: Amber gave birth to kittens after arriving at the shelter. The photos of kittens Tyler & Edward in the 2007 CWA calendar are two of her kittens.)*



Aphrodite lives with the Geig-McKinney family. “This is Aphrodite aka Afro and we adopted her in February 2005. She likes to be left alone if she doesn’t want attention. If she does, we know it. She will rub against your leg and meow until she gets the attention she wants. Afro doesn’t like to be bothered by her 2 brothers. She would rather lay on the big comfy bed or on the back of the chair looking out of the window. Believe you me, if Aphrodite is out of food she will let us know. Even waking us up in the middle of the night to follow her downstairs to fill her bowl. She is just the queen of the house and she knows it.”



Emily & Ezra reside with the Ellison family. “Ezra (the red cat on the right) seemed lonely and bored and was getting into all kinds of trouble, so I decided he needed a friend. I adopted Emily (the gray tiger on the left) about 1 year ago. It took awhile, but they settled in with each other and really like each other. They keep

each other from being lonely when I’m gone and are fun to watch play together. While Ezra tends to be aloof, Emily is my lovey-dovey cat. She is still a little shy with company, but not at all when it’s just me, her, and Ezra.”



Mr. Bo Jangles was adopted by the Sells family. “Bo has made our lives so extra special. We love staring into his big eyes and listening to him “talk” to us every morning and night. Finally, our other baby, Tippy, has someone to keep up with her. Thank you for making this newlywed family complete!”

Happy Homes for CWA Cats



Yolanda lives with Cheryl Lamasa. “My name is Yolanda, but my friends call me Yolee - olee - olee - o! I came to Cat Welfare in early 2003 for about 5 months before being adopted in August 2003. My adopted mom had 2 other cats, so I instantly had a brother and a sister, neither of whom I liked. I hid in the basement for 2 months until I felt safe, but I still leap in the air at unexpected noises. I still think about Cat Welfare. It was a nice place to be. I was warm and safe and always had a full belly (one of my favorite things!). But I’m really happy to be where I am now. I tell my mom this by purring in her ear while she sleeps.”

Emma Bean & Ezra live with Beth & Joe Harper. “Ezra (white and black cat) has been our little boy for six years. Ezra was getting lonely during the day while we were at work so we decided to get Emma Bean (orange tabby) in 2000 from Cat Welfare. We also have a 10 year old tabby we took in back in 2005. All of our cats love to chase one another around the house. They are very funny to watch. Ezra likes to hide behind things and jump out as Emma walks by and often he knocks her to the ground in play. Emma loves her brothers and often licks them on their foreheads. She has been a very loving and friendly cat since we brought her home from Cat Welfare. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication at Cat Welfare. Cats are so precious and they bring such joy to our lives.”



Basil lives with the Dyer family. “This photo is of Basil whom we adopted from your shelter last July. I believe you called him Curly. He has adapted himself wonderfully into our family and even our 11 year old Chloe (also from Cat Welfare) accepts him. He has a sweet nature and seems to be delighted with his new home and playmate.”



Gus & Chip were adopted by the Ryden family. “I wanted to send you this picture of our two cats, who are both CWA alumni. Gus (left side of photo) is five years old. I brought him home the summer of 2001. Chip (right side of photo, with her horde of catnip mice) is only a year old and just joined our household in July 2006. The photograph shows the two cats in an unusual state of quiescence. Usually Chip is chasing Gus or vice versa. However, Chip is gradually learning the valuable life lesson that the big cat’s tail is not a toy!”

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.

2007 Cat Welfare Spring Flower Sale

<u>Potted Plants</u>		<u>Cost</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
African Violets	4" pot	\$ 6.00	
Easter Lilies	6" pot	\$ 13.75	
Hyacinth	6" pot	\$ 13.75	
Mums	6" pot	\$ 13.75	
Tulips	6" pot	\$ 13.75	
Pansies	round terra cotta pot	\$ 15.75	
Pansies	white plastic basket	\$ 15.75	
Azaleas	6" pot	\$ 16.00	
Geraniums	8" pot	\$ 16.75	

Hanging Baskets

Begonias	10" basket	\$ 23.00	
Boston Ferns	10" basket	\$ 23.00	
Fuchsia	10" basket	\$ 23.00	
Impatiens	10" basket	\$ 23.00	
Vining Geraniums	10" basket	\$ 23.00	
Wave Petunias	10" basket	\$ 23.00	

Orders must be received by Monday, March 19, 2007.

Contact Sharon Hebenstreit at (614) 431-3538 if you have any questions.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____

Mail this form with a check payable to

Cat Welfare Association to:

Sharon Hebenstreit
 1200 Carriage Road
 Powell, OH 43065
 Fax (614) 431-3681
 Phone (614) 431-3538
 e-mail: shebens@aol.com

Pick-up flowers at the shelter:

Thursday, April 5 Noon - 7:00 p.m.
 Friday, April 6 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 Saturday, April 7 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

*Spread the word at your place of employment, worship or neighborhood.
 We are also in need of volunteers to work at the shelter during pick-up days.
 Thank you for supporting the Cat Welfare Association!*

Ishie Memorial Fund

for care of long-term shelter residents

Robin Field "Pearl - In honor of Elizabeth Fleisher"
Eloise Richards "In memory of Kitt"
Janet Wilson
Wes & Nancy Wedell
Mary Liff "In memory of Peachie"
Diane van Schoyck "In memory of Tom, Amanda, & Ruby"
Kelly Norton
Anita Dean
Gary Stoneking & Richard Troutwine "In memory of our buddy & great friend Rags"
Jane Reeves "In memory of my beloved Roz"
Norma & James Anderson "In loving memory of our dear Thomasina"
Jill Fenstermaker "For Helen & Donald Kaepner"
Michelle Buyer
Andrea Johan "In memory of Necco & Magnet"
Jodi Peck "In honor of my birthday in lieu of presents"
Anna Teichmoeller
Cynthia McCormick "To help others find the happy families owned by rescued Tico (20) & Elsa (19)"
Dawne Brooks
Debra & Lee Martin "In memory of Cleo, Perkins & Maggie from Bogar, Lucy & Elvis" & "In memory of Nipper & Colsie from Pete, Snickers & Josie"

The Vincent Fund

for emergency care for shelter cats

Anita Dean, Angela & Gerald Ferraris, Barbara Bates, Nancy A. Mayle, J. Pratt, Judd & Karley Depew, Jennifer Martell, Patricia Schwirian, Constance Harvey "In honor of Skip Harvey", Norman Booth & Gail Zink, Darlene Hawkins, and Frances Feldmiller & Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Nikoncyk "Puddy, Suki, Thiki, Gretel, Chessie, Odie, Itty Bitty, and Toby"

Spay/Neuter Fund

for assistance with the spaying/neutering of shelter cats

Anita Dean, Lucile Seabrook, Shirley Tobias, Michelle Isroff, Shirley Marie Barker, Angela & Gerald Ferraris, Steve & Karlene Weyl, Nancy Rudd, Holly W. Roby, Susan Keller "In memory of David Youman's cat Captain, love and licks from Skitter", Robert Chosy, MD, Crystal Mirth, and Nancy Betz

Special Thanks!

Oscar, Sammy, & Anna Lisa, young violinists, played before adoring crowds at Easton Town Center during the holidays to raise money for the shelter. Thank you!

Congratulations and thank you to **David Campbell** for being awarded RentWay's 2006 Bill Morganstern Spirit Award and donating the \$500 prize money to Cat Welfare.

A special thank you for the over \$500 in donations sent in by the friends of **Debby DeChant**. Sadly, Debby unexpectedly passed away recently and some of her friends donated to the shelter as a way to honor her memory.

Thanks to **Strader's Garden Center, PetPeople, Barnes & Noble, Gentle Winds, and Liberty Books** (Lane Avenue) for supporting Cat Welfare in 2006.

Thanks to **Brenda Martin** and all the volunteers that helped raise just over \$1,250 during the holiday season by wrapping purchases at area bookstores.

A big thank you to **Anne Baker** and over a dozen of her friends. Anne asked guests at her birthday party to bring cat food, litter, and toys for the Cat Welfare cats instead of gifts for her. Way to go kids!

Important Shelter Information

In 2006, we adopted **963** cats to loving homes.

In 2006, we subsidized **1,139** spay and neuter surgeries - **525** through our Altering Fund, **523** through our free & mobile clinic programs, and **91** through our free feral cat altering program.

Interested in volunteering for Cat Welfare? Join us on **April 5, 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: *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 formula), Clorox wipes, and Science Diet dry cat food.*



EBBY (#25380)

Ebby is a short haired tortoiseshell, adult, spayed female with declawed front paws. She was brought to the shelter when her owner decided she didn't want Ebby any more. She was then adopted by a nice family that had a member with cat allergies. They really wanted to give Ebby a good home, but couldn't handle the one member's allergies so with sadness they had to return Ebby. They said Ebby was a joy to have. It took her a little while to feel secure in her new home, but once she did she was super friendly. Some of her favorite things to do was pick-up, carry, and collect hair bands along with sitting on her back legs and reaching up with her paws for attention. Ebby would do best in a home without young children or dogs. She says other cats are okay as long as they respect her space. Ebby hopes the third time is the charm.

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

We make
friendships
for life!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Columbus, OH 43214
741 Wetmore Road



February/March 2007

The Feline Forum

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