

The Feline Forum

October/November 2008



CARING FOR HOMELESS CATS SINCE 1945

5K participants stepped up for our cats

Many eager people and canine friends ran, walked, and trotted in our Cat Caper 5K with all money raised going to fund programs offered by Cat Welfare. The morning started out a little nippy (sorry felines but we mean chilly and not catnip) and quickly warmed and was filled with sunshine and a beautiful sky.

Our kitty mascot brought lots of smiles to our kids fun run participants (see photo below of some of the runners).



2009 Cat Welfare calendar on sale now

The 2009 Cat Welfare calendar is here! There were many excellent photos that made the selection process very difficult. Clearly, everyone who entered was already a winner because each of the adorable kitties has a loving home.

Thanks to your help and sponsorship of this calendar and Cat Welfare's efforts to reduce the population of stray cats in central Ohio the cats that find their way to our

A record number of dogs came out to support their four legged counterparts and shelter cat Rusty (see below photo) gave them all a big paws up and thank you.

Special thanks go out to CD101 and all the wonderful vendors and businesses who sponsored our event. Thank you also to the over 170 registered participants and the fabulous volunteers that made this event possible.

shelter in the future will have a chance at finding their own happy homes.

Congratulations to the following cats (and their owners and photographers) for making the top 13 photos for 2009: Shamu, Mindy & Lacy & CoCo, Miss. Callie, Henry & Mary, Scottie, Koko, Joyce, Big Head, Max, Boomer, Snowflake, Aristotle Geig, and George Bailey.

Be sure to pick up your copy soon as they are sure to sell fast!

Annual holiday bazaar

Come join the fun, find your special treasure, and support our kitties on Saturday, November 8 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and on Sunday, November 9 from 12:00 noon - 4:00 p.m. for our annual Catique holiday bazaar!

You will be sure to find the perfect gift for that special someone on your holiday gift list. The bazaar also has many holiday decorations to help you get your home ready for the holiday season.

The drawing for our cruise raffle will take place at 3:00 p.m. during the sale on Sunday, November 9 so if you haven't purchased a ticket yet for our fabulous cruise raffle then be sure to do so soon. Tickets can be purchased by mail (see our website) or at the shelter for just \$5 each.

We hope we'll see you there!

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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. (1st Wednesday 4:00 - 7:00 p.m., other Wednesdays 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.).

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

RoseAnn Ballangee, President
Sharon Hebenstreit, 1st Vice President
Sheila Zirkle, 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
Jill Lee, Executive Director

Stories from the sun porch

Hello everyone, this is Della reporting from the shelter! It's been an exciting and hectic time at Cat Welfare. Naturally, as Top Cat, I am required to keep track of everything that has been happening. I was even going to let my good friend Kitty Couric give you the shelter news, but she got adopted before she could lift a paw! I am very happy that she went to a wonderful home.

Speaking of wonderful homes, it's getting colder outside and the autumn and winter holidays are upon us. Not only does this mean that Cat Welfare is festively decorated for the season, it means that there are still lots of fantastic feline friends here at the shelter looking for great homes. Believe me, as frost starts to gather on the ground and the wind turns chilly, there is nothing better than a purring cat on your lap to warm your heart.

Those of us in the shelter know how lucky we are to be in the warmth this time of year and we ask that you remember our feral friends outside that will have to endure the cold weather. Look for tips on how to create inexpensive, warm outdoor housing for feral cats in our next newsletter.

It makes me happy to announce the success of our annual Cat Caper 5K run. We had an amazing turnout and it was very fun! My buddy Rusty (I told you all about him in our Summer issue) was fortunate enough to go to the event and see it all unfold. Check out the fun picture of him on the front page. I think he's very handsome! By the way, he and Scarlett (see photo to the right) says thank you for all the head pats and chin scratches!



Della, 2008 Top Cat

You may be wondering where all the Top Cat Election information is and who will be running for the position of Top Cat this year. With all the craziness going on with the federal and state elections heating up and this being a Presidential election year, we are delaying our election until December. So, be sure to check out our next newsletter to see who is running and to pick your candidate!

Though it saddens me to do so, I feel I must remark about a not so delightful subject. The number of cats left outside our door continues to increase and there are still countless kitties out in the community needing to be spayed or neutered to help control the population of homeless cats. Thank you for supporting us in any way that you do. We are so thankful whether you periodically visit to pet us for awhile, donate supplies or funds to the shelter, or just spread the word about our mission. Your generosity makes me purr! Well, on that note, I think I hear a can opener and I just caught a whiff of tuna in the air. Until next time! Your friend, Della



Gifts, bequests, and planned giving

A bequest to Cat Welfare Association, Inc. will ensure the gift of life for abused, abandoned, and neglected cats. Please, consider including the work of Cat Welfare Association in your will.

There are many options for planned giving. These options can provide you with tax benefits while helping the cats. Through a planned gift, you may be able to increase your current income or provide additional retirement income, while reducing income and estate taxes. Some types of gifts virtually eliminate estate taxes while others greatly reduce the amount of tax you are responsible for during your lifetime. It is important to explore all options so that you and the cats receive the full benefit of any gift.

Some options include:

- Bequests through your will.
- Charitable Gift Annuities: May provide numerous tax benefits to you

and you are guaranteed income for the rest of your life.

- Life Insurance Gifts: Make Cat Welfare Association, Inc. the owner or beneficiary of a life insurance policy.
- Retirement Plans: Donate your interest in an IRA or other qualified savings plan.

If you are considering a gift or would like more information, please call Jill Lee at 614-404-2287. You can also reach her via e-mail at: jlee@catwelfareohio.com. We will be happy to discuss your planned giving and bequests options and work with your attorney or other financial expert of your choosing.

Thanks to all of our wonderful staff, volunteers, members, and supporters for your continued support and for caring about our feline friends.

Bylaws meeting

Cat Welfare's existing bylaws have served us well without substantial changes for over fifty years. They are, however, obsolete in a number of respects. Therefore, the Board of Directors hired a consultant as well as an outside counsel to rewrite them to serve us into the future. The new bylaws, as proposed, are much more in keeping with those of other non-profits and should receive greater acceptance by the Attorney General's office, which must approve them, and the courts, which could be called upon to interpret them at some future time.

The proposed bylaws along with a summary of the major revisions will be available for review on our website and at the shelter no later than November 1. A meeting to vote on the proposed new bylaws will take place on Tuesday, November 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the shelter garage.

Boo at the Zoo

Please, join us for a delightful, frightful Halloween celebration at the Zoo! We will be handing out special goodies at our own treat station Friday, October 24 (5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.), Saturday, October 25 (10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.), and Sunday, October 26 (10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.). If you would like to donate candy, please mark it "ZOO" and drop it off at the shelter a week before the event. Boo at the Zoo features storytellers, rides, and other thrilling activities. The event is merry, not scary, so even the youngest guests will have a spooktacular time! Admission is \$10 for mummies and daddies, \$7 for children (ages 2 - 9) and seniors 60+. There is no admission fee for children under 2 or Columbus Zoo & Aquarium members.

COSMO campaign

Community Shares of Mid Ohio connects workplace campaign donors to local non-profits working on the issues and causes they care about most. Cat Welfare is one of fifty member agencies that will be participating in several workplace campaigns in 2008.

You can help by remembering Community Shares and Cat Welfare in your workplace giving campaign. It's easy to give and easy to help when you give through payroll deduction. If you receive a bi-weekly paycheck, then just \$2 per pay period ensures that one cat gets spayed or neutered!

Board openings

Do you have special skills in organizational management, finance, law, computer programming, or other areas? Do you enjoy fundraising? Then consider being a Board member of Cat Welfare. Board members are required to attend scheduled meetings, work on committees, fundraise, and be ambassadors for Cat Welfare. The Board of Directors will be voted upon at our meeting in February 2009. If you are interested, then please contact Jill Lee at 614-404-2287. The deadline for applications is November 1, 2008.

Visit us on the web at www.catwelfareohio.com for more information on upcoming events.

Happy Homes for CWA Cats

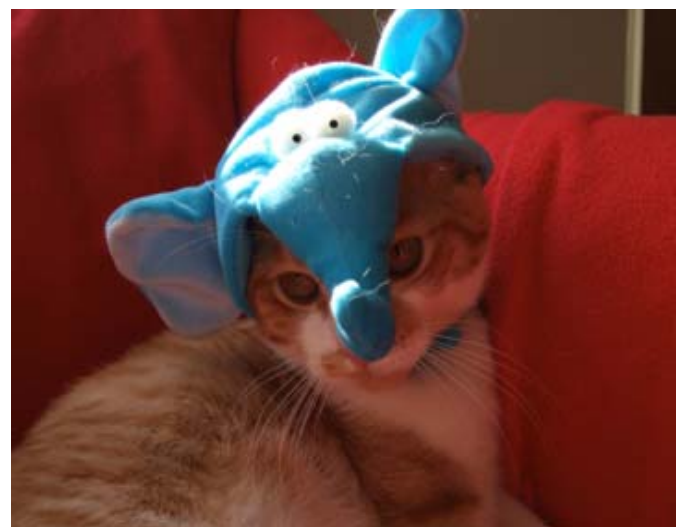


Bootsy (above photo) lives with the Richards family. "A recent trip to the vet brought back the memories of adopting Boots aka Bootsy and Boo Boo Kitty 13 years ago. He was about 4 months old then and had been very sick. In spite of his diagnosis soon after of a heart murmur, he is still healthy for a senior the Doc says. Bootsy has been a wonderful friend and companion and has brought great joy to our lives. We hope he will for many more years. We now live in Florida and are retired. Boots has retired many hours a day to our sun room to watch the geckos, listen to the birds and lay in the sun when he isn't nudging for some petting and attention...he is so loving. Thank you Cat Welfare for not only what you do for cats but for people like us too."

Chelsea (photo right) was adopted by the Stonick family. "Chelsea is really liking her new home. She's made great friends with Pedro, another CWA alumni. She's also highly tolerant of Jessie the dog. Chelsea's favorite activity is playing with a bottle cap in the bathtub. She also enjoys removing the screen from the bathtub drain - she carries it around the house. So far I've found it when it's gone missing, which is a good thing! I know she spent months at CWA and all I can say is she must have been waiting for me because she's a perfect addition to the household!"



Kaatje and Klaas (see photos below) live with the Renkes family. "This is Kaatje. I have taken over my mother's computer to write you and give you an update. I was adopted on December 20, 2006 along with Klaas (see the below right photo). We both recently celebrated our second birthdays! My owner suggested that I send you this picture because she thinks it is funny. I love to take naps in front of this museum quality artwork she purchased at Cat Welfare during an art auction! I love my new home. Klaas and I are the only pets here and we rule the roost! During the day we love to play pranks on our owner. Lately we've been putting socks in the toilet while she is gone! I don't know what we'll do next. I also love to watch out the window at what is going on outside. Klaas likes to steal our owner's balls of yarn that she leaves laying around. Sometimes he even steals them and runs away when she's busy crocheting! We're both very happy at our new home. Thanks so much for letting us stay at Cat Welfare for the day and a half it took us to get adopted! Love Kaatje (it's pronounced Kaht-ya) and Klaas"



Happy Homes for CWA Cats



Sasha (photo left) lives with the Banfield family. “We adopted our mainly Russian Blue cat from Cat Welfare back in April 2007. She had been in the shelter for about 5 months. Although she is very beautiful, one of the volunteers told us that interested people wouldn’t adopt her because she was unfriendly. Even after opening her cage and reaching in, she was responsive towards us. My husband wanted a gray cat and this one fit the bill in his mind perfectly. I wanted any cat that was lovable and friendly. He convinced me that maybe if she was in our quiet home, with no other pets and our children all grown, she would respond better. Though the volunteer tried to get us to reconsider the many other friendlier cats,

we decided to take a chance with her, knowing we could bring her back for another cat in a few days if it didn’t work out. We took her home, named her Sasha and within 2 hours she was rubbing on our legs, wanting us to pet her, etc. After a few more weeks she started climbing into my lap the minute I sat down. She follows us around the house until we sit down so she can climb in one of our laps. She is very lovable towards us and friendly with visitors. She will climb into any available lap if I am busy. She sits by my husband’s side of the bed every morning waiting for him to feed and pay attention to her. Apparently that is their special time, because she is not happy if I try to interfere or feed her. She has turned out to be the most lovable and affectionate cat we have ever owned. She came to us from the shelter with upper respiratory problems. The vet told us there was no reason why Sasha couldn’t live a long and happy life - if we could get used to her wheezing. It is just a part of who she is and we love her. She makes us laugh everyday with her antics and we are happy to have her in our home. Thank you Cat Welfare for a wonderful pet!”

Bacardi & Optimus (below photo) were adopted by the Burnette-Wilson family. “Bacardi (calico cat) was adopted back in 2005 and Optimus (black cat), was adopted in 2006. When I first saw and held Bacardi she just curled up in my arms and I knew I had to have her! A year later my boyfriend and I went looking for another cat. There we found Optimus. He and his brother were in the same cage. Optimus was full of life. They live in the best house possible and have two other brothers (Aaron & Elvis) and a half brother (Sebastian). Bacardi loves everyone and loves to chase pieces of string. Optimus loves to get into trouble! On the cold nights they love to lay between mom and dad to keep warm. Well, we are out to play now and we just wanted to drop in and let you know we are doing a.o.k.!”



Thanks to everyone who has adopted a cat from Cat Welfare! If you can't adopt, then come in to visit our kitties. They love the extra T.L.C. and would love to have you as a friend.

Send your “Happy Homes” photo(s) and short story (200 words or less if possible) 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.

Happy Homes for CWA Cats



Bobblehead lives with the Harster family. “My name is Bobblehead. My mom adopted me from CWA in 2002 because I was beautiful and special. My mom says special is a good thing because I was born with a disorder that makes me walk in circles sometimes and fall over occasionally. But, it doesn’t keep me from getting where I want to go. I suffered from some upper respiratory problems at CWA, but I am quite healthy now. My brother is Louie, a big orange fellow who is a cat my mom fostered from CWA. He chose to stay and was named after mom’s favorite place in the whole world, St. Louis, Missouri. My dad calls him “The King of the Forest”. That might be true, but I run the house. My sister, Emmy, was named for “MJ”, the best aunt in the whole wide world. She works at Cat Welfare and takes care of all of the kitties

that haven’t found their homes just yet. In this picture you see me in the middle of my sister and brother. Sometimes the middle is the best place to be. Thank you to all of the wonderful people at Cat Welfare who help special cats like me.”

Ishie Memorial Fund

for care of long-term shelter residents

Beth Swick "For all the cats I've loved"
Barbara Mann "In memory of Murphy Brown"
John Gall "In honor of Jean & Joe Cook"
Norma Hermann "The Hermann cats"
Irene Miller "Mary Jo Snyder"
Donna Boiman "In loving memory of Grady"
Mary Beth Snapp "In memory of my Sammy"
James Scott "In memory of Olive B. Scott"
Anna Teichmoeller "In memory of Muffie-Reed's baby"
Nancy Sue Irwin
Regina Port

Altering Fund

to subsidize low-cost spay/neuter surgeries for cats of low-income families

Lynda Sass, Tom Bottomly, Ashley Bowling, Robert Hawkins, Kari McCoy, Barbara Laymond, Rebecca Kirk, Judith McKinney, Kri Vanperson, Lynn Groves, Sandra Scott, Kristen Jackson, Lynn Laurick, Angela Kipe, John Bolin, Maura Cole, Elaine Decker, Deanna Dague, April Mills, Marissa Moore, Colby Wertz, David Angle, Teresa Flores, Brenda Fox, Bill Hicks, Kenda Kaiser, Brenda Kramer, Steve & Jeni Kropp, Cassidy Price, Eleonor Shults, David Walker, Susan Wittman, Amy & Jeff Carter, Tracy Evans, Lea Tarleton, Adam Pursley, Vicki Craig, Margaret Munch, Elizabeth Gerling, January Adams, Hannah Becker, Delorise Crouthers, Jennifer Hartley, Geore Hughes, Sherry Kocak, Nichole Sloan, Rebecca Stafford, Barbara Weinstock, Shirley Hiles, and Margaret Munch

Vincent Fund

for emergency care for shelter cats

Patricia Williamson, Paul Dawson, Diana Fisher, Dennis Fisher, Jason & Eileen Koler, Dorothy Cobb, Mary Alice Susi, and Regina Port

New Funds News - Litter League & Can Do Club

Cat Welfare cats use 700 pounds of litter per day! The cost is a major shelter expense. Brenda Martin has agreed to chair the new Litter League - a special fund sub-committee dedicated to raising cash specifically earmarked to offset litter expenses. The old Litter Box Crafts will be taking on a new look with an exciting new inventory just in time for the holidays. The annual gift wrap project at local book stores is also slated for this new fund. If you'd like to link up with the Litter League, then contact Brenda Martin at 486-0410.

Join the clan of the Can Do people! The aluminum can recycling project has been quietly chugging along. We need you to help us expand our can collecting efforts. The current monthly revenue average is \$300 - proof that your cans can make a difference. Our goal is to increase this to at least \$500 per month. Our very own "can man", Paul Calderone, has agreed to chair this sub-committee. You can reach Paul at pcalderone@insight.rr.com.

Important Shelter Information

Between January and the end of August, we **adopted 594 cats** into loving homes.

Between January and the end of August, we **subsidized 1312 spay and neuter surgeries** through our various Altering Fund programs.

Interested in volunteering for Cat Welfare? Call or mail your name and contact information to the shelter, or send a message to Gail Harbert, volunteer coordinator, at cwivolunteers@gmail.com.

NEW! Evening hours - Cat Welfare will be open until 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. The first Wednesday of the month the shelter will be open 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. only. Other Wednesdays hours will be 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.!

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, house wares, pictures, jewelry, candles, bedding, towels, and gift items. We do not accept computers, exercise equipment or other large, heavy items.

Shelter Wish List:

Brown paper bags, paper towels, Windex, clean newspapers, canned or wet (in pouches) cat food, clean towels for bedding, clay litter, dryer sheets, bleach, liquid dishwashing soap, instant hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, Mr. Clean Magic Eraser pads, liquid hand soap, laundry detergent, large sponges, stainless steel Chore Boy scrubbies, and Mr. Clean with Febreze.



We make
friendships
for life!

Chief Whitefoot (#26114)

Hi! My name is Chief Whitefoot and I'm a 4 year old tabby boy with white "socks" on my feet, hence my name. I'm a pretty outgoing boy. I like to make my daily rounds at the shelter greeting everyone along they way while checking to see what's been going on around here. I quietly and politely wait for my turn to be petted. I originally came into the shelter with my mother and brother. My mom was quickly adopted and sadly my brother passed away. Don't worry though. As I love other cats, I quickly made some special pals here. I was adopted two times and was returned each time for reasons the staff say were not my fault so I'm hoping that the third one will be the charm. I'm already neutered and all ready to go so stop in to see me sometime soon!

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



October/November 2008

The Feline Forum

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CARING FOR HOMELESS CATS SINCE 1945

Cat Welfare 2009 Calendar

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

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).