

CAT TALES

FRIENDS OF CATS, INC.



Vol. XXXX No. 3

San Diego County, CA

Fall 2014



Cookie in her carrier after the long flight.

Cookie's Return to FOC

On August 22nd, Friends of Cats received a call from The Buddy Center, an animal shelter in Castle Rock, Colorado. The shelter had found a cat whose microchip identified it as coming from FOC, and wanted to know if we would like the cat returned to us. The owner, an elderly woman, had relinquished Cookie because the cat was diabetic and required an insulin injection twice daily.

The Buddy Center is a branch of The Dumb Friends League in Denver, Colorado, a city/county organization which does not shelter potentially unadoptable animals. Cookie's advanced age of 13 years and her diabetic condition made her an unlikely candidate for adoption, and put her at risk for euthanasia after the holding period of 10 days.

Unfortunately, the shelter could offer no assistance in retrieving Cookie or make provisions for transport. A Friends of Cats Board Member reached out to her sister, Gail Brooks, who fortunately lives only a 30-minute drive from Castle Rock. Gail picked Cookie up from the shelter and then took her to a veterinarian for a health certificate, which would enable the cat to fly to San Diego. Upon receipt of the certificate one week later, Cookie was driven on August 29th to Denver International Airport for her plane ride.

At 1 pm that same day, she was picked up from the United Airlines Cargo office in San Diego. She was alert and in good spirits after her two-hour flight.

Cookie is currently back at Friends of Cats, where records show that she originally arrived on May 6, 2003 with four kittens in tow. She was later adopted on December 19, 2009 by the person who relinquished her in Colorado. Cookie will spend the remainder of her life in residence at Friends of Cats, where she will receive her daily insulin shots, and lots of love and attention from our staff.



When considering your charitable donations for 2014... please don't forget Friends of Cats.

Donations are our primary means of funding our shelter operations. As the cost of food, litter, and medical care increases, your contributions are important to maintaining our cats' health and welfare. Our shelter renovation still has far to go to upgrade our hospital area and adoption center, and funds are greatly needed to complete the work. Your generosity can help. **Remember that you can maximize your donation amount by participating in your employer's matching gifts program!**

Other ways you can support FOC: • **Become a member.** Your membership fee, renewable each February, brings you the shelter newsletter *Cat Tales*, our e-mail blast, and the satisfaction of knowing you are supporting a no-kill shelter. • **Join our Pledge Club.** You can show support by giving a monthly contribution (by check, via PayPal, or direct debit) in the amount of your choice. • **Leave a bequest** in your estate plans to benefit FOC. What better way to leave a legacy than to help our feline friends for years to come.



Our Mission Statement

To maintain a Shelter for homeless and unwanted cats with the goal of placing all healthy cats into loving, adoptive homes while providing a sanctuary for cats that are terminally ill, considered unadoptable, or whose owners have prearranged for their continued lifetime care. In a nurturing, rehabilitative environment, we ensure the health of all cats entrusted to our care, promote spaying and neutering, and resort to euthanasia only as a matter of compassion for cats whose terminal illness causes suffering.

Board of Directors

President: Terry Hogan
Vice-President: Ed Kane
Treasurer: Roy Degurse

Corresponding Secretary: Gayle Kane

Recording Secretary: Jean Foster

Cat Tales Editor: Lydia D'moch

Accounts Payable: Christine Hogan

Member at Large: Chris Degurse

Member at Large: Karen Hansen

Member at Large: Gina Stevens

Member at Large: Julie Tirpak

Cat Tales

Published Quarterly

Editor: Lydia D'moch

Printing: Streeeter Printing, Inc.

Mailing and Distribution:

Mail Management Group, Inc.

Contributors:

Ed Kane, Christine Hogan, Janet Tobin

Cat Tales welcomes your photos, letters, and stories, as well as queries regarding ideas for articles. Please send to us at: cattales@friendsofcats.org. Images should be high-resolution for publication. We reserve the right to edit or condense content due to space limitations or for clarity.

'Tis the Season for
WHISKER WONDERLAND
A Festive Evening at Friends of Cats



Saturday, December 13, 2014
5 PM to 7 PM

Bring a gift of unopened canned cat food for our kitties!

Get a jump on the seasonal spirit by joining us for a festive evening at Friends of Cats. Enjoy hot cider and baked goods, along with holiday music and a fine selection of cat-themed items at our holiday cat boutique that might just make the perfect present for someone on your list. Our Shelter courtyard will feature the lighting of our Angel Tree—which YOU can help decorate by sponsoring a Shelter cat with the purchase of an ornament to hang.

There are other ways to bring holiday cheer to our resident kitties, too. Please bring a gift of unopened canned cat food, or purchase a toy mouse from our selection to give to a Shelter cat. Or you might even consider the ultimate gift—that of adopting a loving new family member who will share happy holidays with your household for many years to come.

Another great gift idea for your cat-loving friends is a Friends of Cats membership! Membership are available at all levels, and provide the recipient with our quarterly newsletter *Cat Tales* and our e-mail blast for all the latest Shelter updates.

So plan to join us at the Shelter on Saturday, December 13th from 5 to 7 pm.



Why Our Cats LOVE Mary Hurley!

The cats know when Mary Hurley arrives. They recognize her voice, and they know what her arrival means: a rotisserie chicken feast! Mary regularly brings a whole chicken to Friends of Cats for the office cats to enjoy. The cats know a good thing when they see and sniff it.

Mary is a flight attendant with American Airlines. She frequently flies from San Diego to China, so her schedule is very demanding. But whenever she is back in town, Mary makes a priority of bringing the much-appreciated chicken feast to our cats—something she has done for several years.

Mary has two cats of her own: Cedrick and Bailey (both males.) However, as we all know, one can never have too much association with cats. So, Mary devotes some of her personal time to the Shelter.

Recently, Mary experimented with feline intuition. Mary put lotto numbers on the floor of one of the adoption rooms at Friends of Cats. Based on the sniffs and attention given to the lotto tickets, Mary won \$11. This is how cats repay the generosity of people like Mary Hurley.

—Ed Kane



On Failure As a Foster

Having just lost a cat, I wasn't ready yet to consider adopting another. Nevertheless, when I stopped by Friends of Cats to drop off a donation, the staff insisted that I look at a cat that was not doing well in the adoption room setting.

They pointed to a large orange and white cat cowering against the wall, crying out pathetically. With huge rounded ears, he looked somewhat like a French Bulldog with lynx tips. One slightly off-center eye added a somewhat dyslectic feeling to its sad expression. "No thanks," I said. "Not my type."

That night and the next day, I kept thinking about that poor creature with no self-confidence and so overwhelmed by his current circumstances that he appeared to be on the verge of a complete nervous breakdown. The following day, I returned to FOC and reiterated that I really didn't want to adopt him, but that I couldn't stand to see him suffering like that. "Perhaps," a staff member suggested, "you could foster him."

So I took him home, gave him his own "safe place", and let him take all the time he needed.

After five months, in his own time and his own way, he was finally fully integrated into the household with the other cats, and even the dog. Although I still didn't know where he was sleeping at night. When I would go to bed, he would disappear.

Because he had come so far, and done so well, I knew that I could not be responsible for exposing him to any more change, stress, or upset. So, one evening, when he was sitting beside me on the sofa, I told him that I was going to Friends of Cats the next day to officially adopt him, so that he could stay here forever. A short time later, when I turned out the lights and headed for the bedroom, he followed me. He came to bed with me that night for the first time.

Most mornings now, I wake up to a gentle patting on my cheek, followed by five to ten minutes of purring and massage. Failure never felt so good.

—Janet Tobin

Catoberfest at Friends of Cats



Kitten races!



Delicious bratwurst with all the trimmings . . .

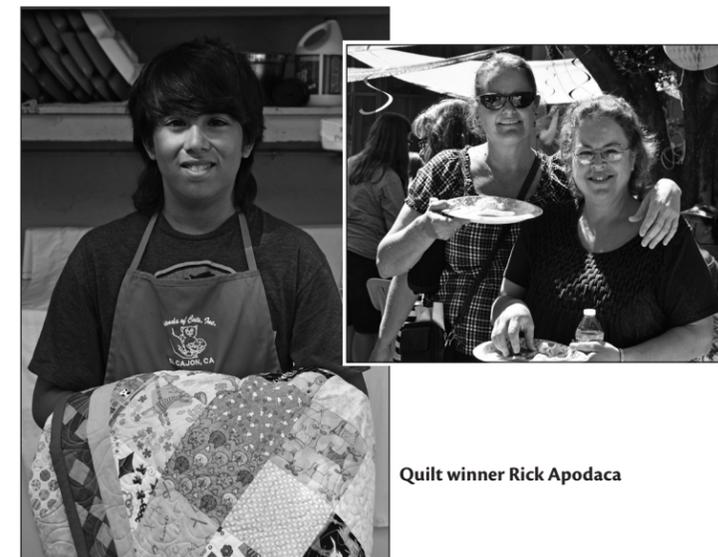
... in our courtyard-turned-biergarten.



Photos by Lydia D'moch



Coe Lewis reads from a recognition certificate honoring FOC for its work, presented by Richele Helms (right) from California State Senator Joel Anderson's office.



Quilt winner Rick Apodaca



This lucky kitten found its new home.

Catoberfest on September 27th was a fun day for all! This annual event—our traditional Open House recast with a new theme—saw the Shelter's courtyard serving as the perfect Oktoberfest *biergarten* (root beer, that is!)

With bratwurst, potato salad, pretzels, sauerkraut and apple strudel, on a perfect autumn day, visitors enjoyed an array of events and activities: shelter tours, kitten races, and shopping at our cat boutique, as well as our raffle. Wonderful prizes included tickets to cultural events and museums, gift certificates for shopping, food and spa treatments, and two wonderful quilts—including the grand prize quilt made by Board member Christine Hogan. Once again, our mistress of ceremonies, Coe Lewis, kept the day's events moving spiritedly and seamlessly. As a special surprise, Friends of Cats was also honored for its work with recognition from California State Senator Joel Anderson's office, with intern Richele Helms from the senator's office on hand to present certificates to the Shelter.



The Grand Prize quilt



Volunteers Nicole Kovacs, Roz Kovacs, and Kathleen Goff

Thank You!

Monetary Donations

Noreen Anthony-Tabar; Donna & Mike Armstrong; Robert Beard; Evelyn J. Bennett Foundation; Lu Ann Benton; Anthony Bianchini; Sally Ruth Black; Barbara Bordelon; James Bouchonnet; Elaine Burden; Ruth E. Burkhardt Fund; Lillian G. Burt; Amy Campbell; Denise Casino; Aina Celms; Maria Charles-Casarrubias; Jan Charvat; Elizabeth Childress; Devin Chubb; Cristina Contreras; Pamela Crepeau; Joanne Derr; Suzanne Dollar; Janette Elliot; Christine/John Elliot/McNeil; Ann & Sherlock Ellis; Helen Farrer; Gordon Fickes; Susan Finger; Melinda Fisher; Judy Fox; Laura Galdamez; Merrily Goff; Lori Gowrie; Lynn & George Graham; Janet Harris; Sue Heim; Georgann Henderson; Evelyn J. Hiller; Helene Hoffman; Robert Hoffman; Mrs. Sterling Hutcheson; iGive.com; Juanita Jacobson; Jeffrey Jaeger; Marjorie Johnson; Mary Johnson; Jennifer Kaminski; Glendella Karl; Shella A. Kennedy; Yvonne Kenniston; Mary Kern; Faith Kleven; Bernice Kloth; Kathy Klohr; Kroger Stores; Sally & Ed Krosky; Jill Elizabeth Kruse; Karen L; Sheila Laurenson; Melba E. LeBlanc; Laura Lee; Susan Lindsey; Godiva Liu; Fritz Ludwig; Birgit Luehrsen; Donna/Fred Mancuso/Dawn; Betty J. Matkovich; Deborah McCormick; Christopher W. Miller; Marilyn Middleholtz; Betty & Roger Montanus; Rayleen Mullin; Robin Parks; Leslie Pembroke; Frances C. Peregoy; Pet Hospital of Tierrasanta; Elizabeth Poltere; Diane Roll; Edward Rose Jr.; Lois Rutherford; San Diego Cat Fanciers; Felix Sankersingh; Robert Schwab; Linda Sevier; Sam Shepherd; Stacy Sieger; Katie Smith; Bonnie Stein; Joanne Sumption; Gail Takahata; Telles Family; Carol Jean Thompson; Susan L. Valle; Barbara VanHorne; Mary K. Wasemann; Charlette Wedge; Jan & Ronald Weiss; Melissa Williams; Nathan Workman; Wendy Wright; Harriet Zale

Memberships:

New—Lois Brody; John & Peggy Cathcart; Pamela Crepeau; Natalie Folwell; Carol Genovese; Catherine Jaffe; Jessica Patterson; Elizabeth Rose; Sydney Sigur; Mary Ann Sullivan; Toni Yturalde; Cindy Zizzi
Renewing—Mary E. Anderson; Curtis Awbrey; George Brown; Lesa Carroll; Tina Cerasoli; Mick Donahue; Patricia Donovan; George Drain; Zita Emerson; Martha Evans; Jeff Kronen; William Laudani; Dorothy Little; Jess Loya; Nona Belle Paulsen; Rochelle Rubinstein; Barbara Stringer

Monthly Pledges

Pledge Club Members are a very strong and important part of our donation program. We are very much aware of all that you do. FOC staff, Board of Directors, volunteers, and, of course, our kitties all extend sincere thanks for your generosity: Christine Hogan; Jan Howard; Edward & Gayle Kane; Lynette Kaplan; Johnny & Rose Keene; Mary Kern; Thelma Lacy; Jean Landis; Jeannette Landis; Katherine Lazzaro; Dave & Sally Loucks; Bob Martin; Robert McClellan; Dolores McPherson; Virginia Miller; Laurie Orange-Bishop; Eileen & Bill Quarles; Patricia Ray; Alice Singleton; Charlotte Spahn; Jan Turner; Rene Valencia; Julie & Jeff Walker; Jean West; Darlene Whorley

In-Kind Donations

Melanie Arledge; Jennifer Baldwin; Laurie & Michael Bishop; James Bouchonnet; Natalie Bullock; Kathy Cashchuk; Diane Cullinan; Michelle Dalton; Sandra Deakins; Jana Deford; Suzanne Dollar; Randy Eichmann; William Gore; Betsey Gowing; Kathy Herrington; Nancy Johnson; Kathy Kennedy; Yvonne Kenniston; Merrie Lamb; Terry Lechien; Eric Lee; Sally &

David Loucks; Phyllis Parslay; Ann Pollock; Jaclynn Reifman; Ruth Rudesill; Gerald Shepherd; Gail Takahata; Carol Thompson; Cheryl Thompson; Victoria Williams; Toni Yturalde; Marybeth Zanin

Donations in Honor of the Following People:

Leyana Kafalas—Rita-Maria Kafalas-May

Donations in Honor of the Following Cats:

Apollo & Daphne—Lucille Hodges • **Spice**—Betty Maynard • **Chelsea**—Dolores McPherson • **Shoshana**—Leslie Pembroke • **Shoshana**—Maxine Quinn • **Blackie aka Buster**—Maria Turnage

In Memoriam

Donations in Memory of the Following People:

Patricia Cosgrove—Rose Cosgrove • **Lois Jane Smith**—Dolores Downs • **Gloria Landi**—Mario Guglielmelli • **Debra Zeledon's Father-in-Law**—Meryl Livingston • **Janet Stone**—Keith Galasso; Laretta & Linda Messier; Jacqueline Petersen, keeper of Temple Street Family Fund; Susan Straub • **Dr. Alice M. Cox**—Niki Shaffer

Donations in Memory of the Following Cats:

Amadeus, Annabelle, Aubrie, Baffi, Beanne, Brewman, Cali, Charlie, Dixie, Dora, Ghostface, Hermes, Hopper, Keebler, Lucky, Maki, Nuit, Opie, Orphie, Pooh Bear, Precious, Quincie, Radar, Rocky, Rusty, Samantha, Smittens, Taz, Timmy, Wanda—Cheshire Cat Feline Health Center • **Kellie**—Cindy Firkins • **Mitzy**—Becky Graul • **Vincent**—Claire Marcus • **Cammie**—Peter Maxwell • **Mow Mow**—Elizabeth Rose



Letters to Friends

CAT TALES welcomes letters and photos from readers. Because of limited space, we can publish only a representative selection, some of which may be edited or condensed.



I adopted my girl from FOC in July of 2009. Her name was Jane and she'd been in your shelter for two years when I got her (she was 4 years old.) I've had her just over 5 years with her now, and I've been so happy with her from day one. She is the most loving cat I've ever had. I want to thank you guys for treating her so well and letting me provide her a forever

home. Can't imagine life without her! I've attached some pictures of her and our family.

—Alex Majcher

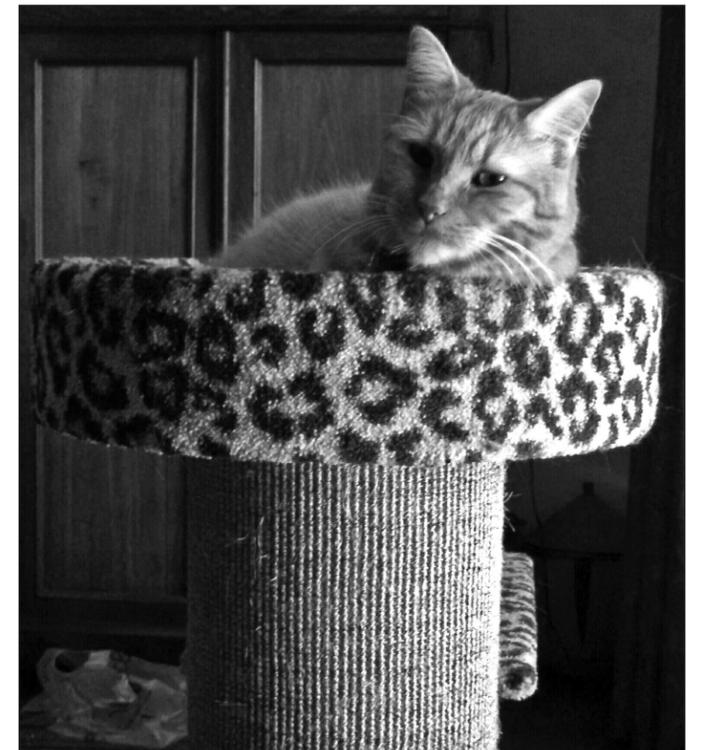


Editor's note: We LOVE to receive your wonderful updates and photos—but unfortunately many digital photos are not usable because they are not the proper resolution for publication. What works on the web may not produce satisfactory results in print. Please remember to shoot at your highest dpi setting, and remember that dimensions count—the larger the image in both pixels and size, the better it will reproduce.



It's hard to believe that Toby has been with us for two years now! His mission in life is to be a lover—to us, to Boris our other cat, and to whomever. Thanks again for making it possible for us to adopt him!

—Paul Carmona



Since we are short on photos from readers this issue, I am sharing this picture of my own two boys, both adopted from Friends of Cats. Mangia, age 15 (top), is a purebreed Ocicat. Rudy, age 12 (bottom), is a gray domestic shorthair adopted at 10 weeks of age. They are the dearest of friends and the sweetest cats imaginable—and the latest in a long list of kitties I have adopted from FOC over the years.

Happy Holidays to you and yours—from all of us at Friends of Cats.

—Lydia D'moch, Cat Tales Editor

A Word About Friends of Cats

FRIENDS OF CATS is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to providing shelter and medical care for homeless cats. Once their health is assured, we find homes for as many of them as we can. The cats in our care are never euthanized except as a matter of compassion if they are terminally ill. We depend primarily on membership fees, donations and bequests to continue our work. Inquiries are welcome and we are always eager for new members. If you would like to join us or to make a tax-deductible contribution, please use the coupon at right. When you become a member of Friends of Cats, you will receive each issue of our newsletter *Cat Tales*.

Shelter Location

15587 Olde Highway 80
El Cajon, CA 92021
619-561-0361

Hours

Tues-Sun 10am-4pm
Closed Monday

Mailing Address

P.O.Box 1613
Lakeside, CA 92040
E-mail: info@friendsofcats.org
www.friendsofcats.org

Membership Coupon

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail address _____

Telephone _____

Membership Status:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth: \$5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting: \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior: \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting +: \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular: \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life: \$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining: \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life +: \$10,000 |

Contribution (non-membership): \$ _____

Pledge Club: \$ _____ per month for a minimum of one year.

Mail to: Friends of Cats, P.O. Box 1613, Lakeside, CA 92040

Membership does not guarantee acceptance of a cat by our shelter. Please call for details: 619-561-0361

Editor/Designer: Lydia D'moch

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Lakeside, California 92040
Post Office Box 1613
Corporate I. D. 10773-A
NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

Friends of Cats, Inc.

You can't buy love—but you can adopt it!



Non Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 700
San Diego, CA