

CAT TALES



Friends of Cats, Inc. | San Diego County, CA

Summer 2024

Saving our Feline Friends Skye and Danny

Meet Skye! This incredible 10 year old boy was relinquished to Friends of Cats and upon his return, we quickly noticed a pronounced limp in his back left leg. Our primary vet performed an x-ray and examination, revealing a large mass occupying most of his upper thigh. Given the mass's size, a standard amputation wouldn't suffice; he required a specialized surgery to remove his entire leg up to the pelvic bone. Thanks to the expertise of All God's Creatures Teaching Hospital & Surgery Center, Skye underwent a successful amputation in March. The biopsy confirmed the mass was cancerous, but the timely surgery saved his life by preventing the cancer from spreading. Now, Skye is thriving at the shelter and has made a full recovery.



Skye



Danny

Meet Danny! This extraordinary 1 1/2 year old boy lives with a rare condition in cats, known as an Intrahepatic Liver Shunt. Most cats with this condition struggle to reach adulthood, but Danny is defying the odds. His liver has a vein that bypasses its natural function, allowing toxins to build up in his body instead of being filtered out. So far, we've been able to manage his condition with medication. However, if this approach ever fails, our last resort would be a highly risky and costly surgery to block the shunt, a procedure that could only be performed at UC Davis. Despite his challenges, Danny is a quirky and endearing character. At Friends of Cats, Danny, Skye and other sanctuary cats like them, will always receive the lifetime care they need.

Celebrating 95 Years!

In celebration of 95 years of continued dedicated service to the quality of life for cats in San Diego County, Friends of Cats (FOC) is pleased to announce its successful collaboration with Hatfield Creek Winery of Ramona. On March 24, 2024, Hatfield Creek partnered with FOC to host an incredibly successful fundraising event that included exquisite complimentary wines, hors d'oeuvre's, raffles, silent auction, and hand painted beach rocks, all proceeds benefiting FOC.

Founded in 2006, Hatfield Creek Vineyards is located on a sprawling property featuring beautiful landscaping, rockscape, and various outdoor and interior venues including a carriage house with charming vintage collectibles and library tasting room with very comfortable furnishings. The ambience of the tasting room is intimate and cozy. Hatfield Creek Winery harvests Petite Sirah and Zinfandel grapes on 3 acres of the property, and offers delicious, beautifully finished unique red wines which were available to the enjoyment of all event attendees.

Hatfield Creek Winery co-owners Elaine Lyttleton and her husband, Norm Case, were the perfect hosts for this event and made all the necessary accommodations and arrangements for FOC to thrive at their fund-raising efforts. A somewhat reluctant star of the event was vineyard resident cat, Clifford, who made several stealthy appearances for the event attendees.

FOC was overwhelmed by the generosity of participation and donations generated by this event in support of our shelter. As time during the event progressed and attendees continued to mingle and converse in the cozy confines of the library tasting room, it was apparent that many in attendance shared the same kindred spirit of love for cats, and sincere dedication to support and enrich the lives of all cats at FOC's shelter.

Elaine and her staff at Hatfield Creek Winery were wonderful hosts for this very successful fundraising event, and FOC looks forward to future collaborations that will surely benefit FOC's mission to provide a safe and loving sanctuary for our feline friends.



Clifford





Events of 2024

1/27 – 1/28 – CFA Cat Show hosted by San Diego Cat Fanciers – always fun to see all the cat lovers and amazing cats!

2/10 – Cupids and Canines Adoption Event – La Mesa Grossmont Center- Hosted by our friends at the San Diego Animal Support Foundation

2/17 – Fido Fest in Santee – hosted by the City of Santee

3/24 – 95th Anniversary Wine Fundraiser – Hatfield Winery, Ramona - This year marked our first time hosting this event, and it was a fantastic success! A big thank you to Elaine at Hatfield Winery for her invaluable help in making it possible.

5/4 – Cinco De Meow - One of our most exciting events at the shelter was a huge success this year! We loved seeing everyone, and the kitties adored all the attention they received!

5/11 – Paws in the Park – Lemon Grove – hosted by the City of Lemon Grove

6/15 – Dog Days of Summer Adoption Event – La Mesa Grossmont Center- Hosted by our friends at the San Diego Animal Support Foundation

6/22 – Ark Antiques - La Jolla – Thank you so much to Ark Antiques for letting us do a pop up adoption event!

6/23 & 6/29 – San Diego Fair – Del Mar – we were back again this year to participate in the San Diego County Fair's Pet Pavilion with other shelters and animal organizations.

Upcoming Events

9/28 & 9/29 - La Jolla Art and Wine Festival – Join us for a lively adoption and fundraising event! Due to popular demand, we're bringing back our handmade crochet items and hand-painted rocks, available for donations to support the shelter. Plus, look forward to some exciting new handmade art pieces.

11/2 - Ramona Art & Wine Festival – We are thrilled to have this fantastic opportunity to fundraise for the shelter! Join us as we sell unique handmade art donated by our board members and Friends of Cats supporters. Come and be part of this exciting art and wine community event while supporting Friends of Cats.

12/7 - Whisker Wonderland - Join us for one of our most enjoyable fundraising events at the shelter! Come indulge in delicious treats and show your support with donations to help the shelter.



Follow us on Social Media to get notifications and updates on our future events!

Shelter Stories

Holla and Mabel

(now Arthur "Artie" Morgan and Mabel Noodle Becky Lynch)

Holla and Mabel, much like Ed and AppleJacks, were complete strangers when they first arrived at FoC. Holla, initially shy, was a talkative and sturdy boy but felt a bit nervous around the other cats. Mabel, on the other hand, was confident but preferred to stay out of the way, often sleeping in a box-house. One day, Holla ventured into Mabel's box, and she quickly became his protector. With Mabel's support, Holla grew more confident and truly lived up to his lively name.

When Alexis and Edgar visited, they initially hoped to adopt Herbie. However, knowing their home already included Bucky and Sammy, we realized Herbie might not enjoy sharing his space. Instead, Alexis and Edgar discovered Mabel and Holla and instantly fell in love with them. Now, all four cats live together in harmony and bliss. As fate would have it, Alexis and Edgar also met another lovely visitor in the adoption room, who ended up adopting Herbie the very next day. In the end, everything worked out beautifully!

Holla

Mabel

Mookie and Clay

Mookie and Clay, two older kittens from the same litter, arrived at FoC together but had to be separated quickly because neither was fixed. Mookie, who was able to get her spay surgery first, moved into the adoption room while Clay had to wait a bit longer for his turn. When Nicholas came in to adopt, Mookie immediately charmed him by climbing onto his shoulders. Captivated by her, Nicholas learned about her brother Clay and was determined to adopt both. Mookie went home first to get used to her new environment. Just over a week later, Clay moved into the adoption room. Nicholas, who had been checking in on Clay's progress, adopted him as soon as possible. The moment they were reunited, Mookie and Clay were overjoyed, chasing and playing together as if they had never been apart. Now, they are inseparable, and we're deeply grateful to Nicholas for keeping us updated on their joyful adventures!



To Have and To Donate!

Our dear friend Emma, who previously adopted Cheshire (now Franklin) and Wiko (now Willie), recently turned her bridal shower into a wonderful act of generosity for Friends of Cats. Instead of traditional gifts, her friends showered us with donations of food, toys, beds, litter, and other essential supplies. The response was overwhelming, and many of these items have already been put to great use at the shelter! We are deeply grateful to Emma and her friends for their incredible support and thoughtfulness. Congratulations to Emma and Tom on their upcoming wedding – we wish them all the best!



Shelter Stories



Simon & Kabu (formerly Ed Sheeran and AppleJacks)

Ed and Appy were initially adopted together, but sadly returned. However, they formed a strong bond in their first home, making it clear that separating them would be unfair. After waiting for months to find a forever home, Ella and Aaron fell in love with them and adopted them as a pair in February. Now, they spend their days lounging, helping their new parents with work or games, and exploring sinks and showers. They've become the talk of the town, charming everyone who passes by as they sit on the windowsill. It brings us immense joy to see our beloved boys find their perfect home!

Cody and Honey Bee (formerly Magenta)

Honey Bee came to us with a group of cats when their owner faced eviction. After discovering Honey Bee had a mild case of Cerebellar Hypoplasia (a neurological condition also known as "wobbly cat syndrome"), Kelly, a loyal supporter, stepped in to provide a loving home. Later, feeling Honey Bee needed a companion, Kelly adopted Cody, a shy rescue kitten who had been with us for a couple years. Despite his timid nature, Cody bonded with Honey Bee, and they're now inseparable. Thanks to Kelly's compassion, these once-challenging cats thrive, showcasing the transformative power of love.



Rojo

Meet Rojo! He came to us with a group of cats that included Honey Bee. Unfortunately, he was the only one diagnosed with FIV and had to be placed in our special annex cottage. Jaycee, a long-time Saturday volunteer, had recently lost her beloved cat Tattoo to FeLV. When she felt ready to adopt again, she faced a tough decision but eventually followed her heart and chose Rojo. Now, Rojo enjoys his days filled with play, cuddles, and ruling over his cat trees, with a doting mom who spoils him endlessly. FIV+ cats, like Rojo, are just as easy to care for and can lead long, happy lives. If you're considering adopting a solo companion, think about welcoming an FIV+ kitty into your home – after all, Love is Positive!



Prince and T'challa (formerly Salem)

At our Cinco De Meow event this May, the kitten room was a hit, and Salem, the most cautious yet curious kitten, caught the eye of a lovely visitor named Lakeisha. While she initially considered adopting Salem, she thought about her grandkids and opted for Prince, a more social and cuddly kitten who would be great with the children. As we processed the adoption, Lakeisha's daughter-in-law, Melissa, who was also smitten with Salem, asked, "What if I took him?" In a rare and heartwarming twist, we were able to facilitate a double adoption to two separate people in the same household! Salem quickly found his confidence, and now he and Prince are best friends. Salem has even been spotted sleeping on Lakeisha's bed. Both kittens are thriving and grateful to have found such a loving home with Lakeisha and Melissa.





Catnip Mice

In 1997, a dedicated Friends of Cats board member started crafting catnip mice to delight our shelter cats. These toys were also sold to the public for \$1.25 each or five for \$5.00.

For the first time in 27 years, we're updating the price: the new cost will be \$1.75 each or three for \$5.00. Friends of Cats deeply appreciates your continued support in buying these catnip mice for our shelter cats and for your own furry friends.



Donations

Ken Allgeier; Elaine Alvarez; Robert Beard; Barry & Emily Berkov; Patricia Berry; C. Biele; Janet Kelley Bock; Stan Boyer; Burkesmith Family; Jan Charvat; Chinook Cellars Inc.; Ingrid Coffin; Ruth Contino; Cosmic Frogs Vinyl; Joseph S & Lily B Cowen; Anne Cressey; Sheila Curtice; Chris Degurse; Barbara Dow; Christina Durvis; Debbie Dykstra; Louise Ewing; Larry Fernandez; Richard Fisher; Catherine Frazier; Gary & Petrona Gerken; Pamela Gigante-Fliflet; Give Lively Foundation; Rebecca Gray; Alice Gruber; Jacqueline Hart; Sharon Hathaway; George Henderson; Lorena Hodgins; Emme & Reggie Jennings; Bonnie Johnson; April Jones; Sue Jordan; Laurene Kallstrom; Addie Kaplan; Kendra Scott; Anita M Kirkpatrick; KitNipBox ; Kroger; Jill Kruse; Brian Lashchuk; Richard Laycock; Mei Lai Lee; Christy Leung; Dorthory Little; Birgit Luehrsen; Thinh Luong; Christine Manzella; Joan K McCormick; Joan McKeena; Curtis & Virginia McKenzie; Linda McLaughlin; Melvin & Joan Miljour; Martin Mill; Lisa Miller; J. Miller; Nancy Muruahan; Lois Navolt; Lorraine Nelson, SD Cat Fanciers; Jackie Noel; Diane Nordstrom; Gary Olson; Roberta Opdyke; Frances Perego; Marci Phelan; Patricia Piercey; Darcy Reed; Diane Roll; Edward Rose; Karen Russell; Julia Russell; Marina Ryzhkova; Brigid & Russell Schnapp; Patricia Shepherd; Wendy Simon; Al Smithson; Anna Sorriso; Susan & John Stearns; Angela Stuht; Donald Switzer; Laura Telles; Brenda Thompson; Kelly Thornbury; Valerie Traina; United Way CA. Capital Region; United Way San Diego; Catharina Van Hoek; Sandra Vary; Alan Vigeant; Alfonso Villegas; Heather Watson; Kimberly Weimer; Guy Wilkins; Gail & Jon Woods; Pamela Worrell; Samantha Wright; Debra Wright-Wille; Steven Yerkes; Harriet Zale



New Members

Alisar Bazarto; Cinda Caine; Dr. Stephen Colston; Robert Daren; John Davis; Vlad & Ryan Degurse-Morales; Hugh Gruber; Elaine Lytleton; Grant Madden; Patricia McCutcheon; Diana Papa; Gregory Stengel; Allison Stewart; Frances Swartz

Membership Renewals



Dr. Alfred Aberle; Elaine Alvarez; Bonnie Anderson; Dana Apodaca; Rayna Bailey; Molly Anne Ball; Kandi Baxter; Luann & Richard Benton; Mollie Bigger; L. Brody; Michael Bronson; Beverly Bruff; Ilse Carey; Lesa Carroll; Tina Cerasoli; Doris Coiner; Ruth Contino; Carol Culkin; Tami Curtice; Dana Denson; Michelle DeYoung; Robin Dishon; Elizabeth Drees; Diana Drummey; Diane Erk; Anthony & Paula Everhart; Judy Gibb; Maryann Gibson; Ed Greene; Alice Gruber; Lupe Gutierrez; John & Denise Harrington; Jacqueline Hart; Bonnie Johnson; Hank & Bonnie Jones; Vay Kaplan; Elaine Lamb; Barbara Larsen; Karen Lawrence; Elaine Manning; Christine Manzella; Mollie Martinek; Betty Matkovich; Ellen Miles; Marilyn Mittleholtz; Dr. & Mrs Leonard Naiman; Barbara Neff; Meta Neuschuler; Jennifer Nickles; Gladys Pearson; Livia Peterson; Nancy Petitti; Patricia Piercey; Edward Rose; Edward Rose; Theresa Scutellaro; Tracy Shaw; Jim Skelly; Sharon Slofkosky; Lucinda Smith; Anna Sorriso; Thomas Sullivan; Tom & Linda Summer; Frances Swartz; Lea Torregiano; Valentina Valente; Dr. Meris Von Jenef; Jack & Cammie Wagner; Bobbi Weaver; Tami West; Melissa Williams; Gail & Jon Woods; Susan Woolard; Wendy Wright; Cameron Yeager; Toni Yturralde





Winery Event Supporters

Stacy Allsup; Nancy Bernstorff; Catherine Castaneda; Elizabeth Comer; Aaron Cooper; Brad Cooper; Michelle Cooper; Helen Dowdy; Janet Emerald; Rose Ferraro; Shar Fulton; Debbi Harrington; Jane Harrison; Ashley Hausner; Alison Hennessey; Becky Lafreniere; Judith Lihosit; S. Elaine Lytleton; Gina Morin; Kimberly Morin; Hilary Murphy-Rice; Iris Neal; Barbara Patenaude; Jean Pehrsson; Chris Pikus; Nina Reeve; Dirk Rice; Kristina Starkey; Hannah Stevenson; Daniel Taryane; Jeanee Telles; Carissa Toro; Sandra Warney; Claire Wynn; Katie Wynn



Pledges

Rob Abrom; Kristen Barnhill; Elaine Barrett; Danielle Bartholomew; Alisar Bazarto; Sharyl Beaton; Cecilia Berg; Barbara Blanchard; Terry Carpenter; Anthony Cerone; Robert Clay; Heather Coate; James Colbert; Elizabeth Comer; Carol Culkin; Allyson Darroch; April Decker; Renee Differ; Mike Dodge; Hussain Elhaouli; Carin Elliott; Richard & Melinda Fisher; Catherine Frazier; Nancylee Friedlander; Patti Gentes; Sherry Gettmann; Sherry Gilbert; Harriet Goldstein; Teresa Haas; Sue Heim; Helene Hoffman; Christine Hogan; Gina James; John Jontry; Bernard Juleson; Edward & Gayle Kane; Jaycee Karl; Rose Keene; Karen & Alan Kent; Rita Koda; Jeannette Landis; Katherine Lazzaro; Nathan Lessani; David Lloyd; Dave & Sally Loucks; Bob Martin; Peter Maxwell; Michele's Musivation; Mindy Miller; Dana Christine Murphy; Ness Commissions; Laurie Orange; Robin Parks; Laura Pederson; Sonia Podvin; Eileen & Joe Quarles; Patricia Ray; Denise Reesha; Ruth Rudesill; Marina Ryzhkova; Eleanna Sakoulas; Jill Schaeffer; Danielle Schulte; Virginia Schultz; Teresa Steele; Kathryn Stirlen; Danene Twyman Brown; Barbara VanHorne; Kristine Vickery; Julie & Jeff Walker; Jacqueline Whaley; Darlene Whorley; Robert Wiggins; Wendy Wright

Donations in Honor of the Following People

Hugh Gruber—Chris Degurse • Claudene Garmon—Kim Johnson • Darlene Whorley b'day—Jeannette Landis • Jane & Ed Damrose—Virginia Lissandrello • Blythe Beisigl—Shirley Voss • Vera Dolansky & IMO of kitties Packy, Tortie, Jennifun & Buddy—Toni Yturralde



Donations in Honor of the Following Cats

Zoey's 9th Birthday—Louise Ewing • Punkin—Connie Iverson • Mama Katt—Gerry Nordstrom • Cody & Honey Bee—Kelly Riseley • From Bubba—Lorna Samuel • Cinco de Meow—Joann Sumption • Cinco de Meow—Dolores Woodford

Donations in Memory of the Following People

Alisa Stolz & her 4 cats—Bruce Bair • Serina Hernandez—Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Boyer • Helen Culkin—Carol Culkin • Don Reese—Roseann DeMartino • Jose Jenkins—Louise Fuller • Jeff Hedberg—Paula Jolley • Barbara J. Lang & cats Cricket and Bettlejuice—Curtis Lang • Jose Jenkins—Kathie Pelletier • Patricia Houghton—Joan Watanabe

Donations in Memory of the Following Cats

Cohen; Jill; Harry; Boo; Pippin; Muad'Dib; Rags; Niko; Sugar; Brie; Westin; Sylvie—Kensington Veterinary
Little Girl—Patty Kepple
Rocky—Barbara Manion
Jill "the sweet one-eyed cat"—Donna Orabona
Tigger & Bobby—Don & Carol Plath
Tori—Nancy Varah
Duke & Derek—Jack & Cammie Wagner



Memberships, donations, and tributes received after 5/30/2024 will appear in Fall/Winter Cat Tales.
Cat Tales is edited by Becki Gibson

Friends of Cats, Inc.

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

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Lakeside, CA 92040

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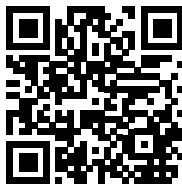


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A Word About Friends of Cats

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

Membership Coupon

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email address _____

Telephone _____

Membership Status:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth: \$5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining: \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior: \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting: \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular: \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life: \$1,000 |

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